ADVANTAGES OF SCOUTING

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Learning cannot be acquired in school alone. An old cliché “experience is the best teacher” emphasizes that outdoor activities also provide learning for students. This will assure that people will learn from things that happen in real life than hearing or studying things.

Scout is an organization for students and young people that will help them to become independent, responsible, practical and helpful. Annually, schools encourage students to attend backyard camps to exercise themselves to become independent and responsible. This camp is quite simple because it happens inside the school premises. Different activities that measure scouts’ physical strength, intellectual and spiritual are carried out during this camp. The objective of this backyard camp is to prepare the scouts into the bigger organized camp wherein different scouts from other schools are attending.

Morland (2000) cited that scouting complements the school and the family, filling needs not met by either. Scouts develop self-knowledge, explore, and discover a lot of things during camping. They discover the world beyond the classroom; exploit the skills of others to learn and to become versatile people.

In general, the following are the advantage of scout camping to students:

1. Gain Confidence. For students, camping is seemed difficult to deal with, especially for the first-timers. They might think that this is intimidating, scary and they cannot bear with it. Nevertheless, once the activities started, they have found out that camping is interesting and enjoyable. Everyone here is encouraged to participate and give
their best in every activity. Thus, a shy type of person becomes confident after camping because they have overcome those difficult things.

2. Be Independent. Scouting tends to help students to become self-reliance and responsible. They are encouraged to attend their own needs like guarding their pieces of stuff, managing their own money for the first time, mending their bed and blanket, and clean their tent and its surrounding. This will happen because moms are not there for them to attend to. Therefore, camping is the best way to learn things for yourself.

3. Practice Sportsmanship. Students will learn to play and compete with integrity during scouting. Being polite and fair while participating in a game that sometimes is intense and heated is an indicator of a great sportsman. It is also easy for the scouts to accept failures because there are people besides them to cheer them up and gives them hope. They will learn that little setbacks in life are not yet the end of the world.

4. Make friends. Participating in social activities lead students to interact socially with others. Finding themselves singing, dancing and telling jokes with other people. Sometimes sharing life’s experiences and views build a strong friendship and last for a lifetime.

5. Overcome Homesickness. All people experience homesickness when they are away from home. Scouts tend to miss something about home on the first and second day, it is normal. It is a good thing that in camping you are surrounded by people who will distract you from it, encourage you that homesickness will pass later on. Many Scouters overcome homesickness by different activities organized during camping, and later on, find themselves to be sad on the last day of the camping.

6. They Will Try New Things. (Cooney, 2017) The camp is the Super Bowl of Scouting. Scouting gives an opportunity for students to do all the things that they thought they were going to do when they signed up. Maybe it’ll be hiking, tree planting, cooking or basketry. However, they will be exposed to all sorts of things that they would likely
never experience at home or in school. They could go rock climbing. They will sing songs, and may even wind up doing a skit in front of hundreds of people.

References: