

Chipmunk Leader Guide



Outdoor Service Guides

Scouting for Everybody!

Version 3.0
Copyright 2022 Outdoor Service Guides
All Rights Reserved.
www.outdoorserviceguides.org

Goals for the Chipmunk Section

The Chipmunk Scurry is an informal section of Outdoor Service Guides. It provides purposeful play to the littlest siblings of active scouts. The Chipmunk Scurry can be subdivided into "Nests".

Chipmunk meetings are an opportunity for these littlest scouts to take part in an organized play date and have constructive group time while the Otters and Timberwolves have their meetings.

The goal is to keep Chipmunks engaged and interested in scouting while working on following directions, sharing, playing memory games, and having fun through song and craft, all with an awareness of and attention to the natural world.

Membership Requirements

Chipmunks should be of preschool age (2-4 years old) and have a sibling or a parent who scouting with another section in the group. Chipmunk meetings often pair up with Otter meetings for frequency, time, and place.

Chipmunks are not registered with OSG as members of the organization.

Chipmunk Wranglers are volunteer parents that register with OSG and are background checked. They coordinate an activity for the Chipmunks to work on during meetings. This may be a craft, snack, sing-along, or other activity to keep the Chipmunk Scurry busy and engaged.

Sometimes it makes sense to have Chipmunks do activities, like nature walks or storytime, with the Otters. Have Chipmunks do a simpler craft than Otters with the same theme, to consolidate your planning efforts.

Uniforms

The Chipmunk uniform consists of a yellow t-shirt and a necker. The necker can either be red or a standard group necker.

The uniform is optional. However, most children this age will love getting to have their own scout uniform and enjoy being part of the group.



The uniform t-shirts, red neckers, and badges are all available from the [Quartermaster Store](#).

Originally, since Chipmunks were not officially part of the group and do not register, they got a different color necker to differentiate them. But that can be confusing at large meet-ups with multiple groups. You'll need to decide for your Scurry what necker makes the most sense.

Handbook and Resources

There is a Chipmunk Handbook that is designed for the child to use as a reference and a place to note any awards or badges they earn.

The handbook is designed to be printed at home and made into a small booklet. The handbook and instructions for printing it are on the [Guides4Guides Chipmunk Resources Page](#).



There are blank pages at the end of the booklet for the child to doodle, make leaf rubbings or other crafts.

There is a version of the Chipmunk Handbook in Spanish available, too.

Investiture

There is a short list of investiture requirements in the Chipmunk Handbook. The Chipmunk Investiture Badge should be awarded to the child once they have demonstrated completion of the Investiture Requirements.



Don't let investiture requirements be a stress for you or your scouts. If they can say the motto or the limerick as part of a group or with a bit of coaching, that counts! If the reason they give for why the rock they found is special is "I like it", that's great!

Equipment

The Chipmunk Handbook mentions that Chipmunks carry a spoon on a carabiner. This is meant to be a spoon with the handle bent into a loop that can be put on a carabiner.

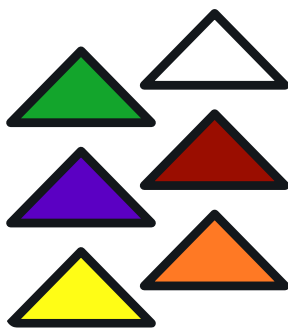
The Handbook also says to give the Chipmunk an emergency whistle at Investiture.

Awards and Badges

Each group decides what recognitions Chipmunks can earn. Groups can award colored beads for the Chipmunks to string on a necklace to wear to meetings. You can choose to order fun patches from various websites, or make your own from felt.

Another choice is to order [triangular flashes](#) from our quartermaster store and use those as awards for specific skills.

The flashes are available in a whole rainbow of colors and Groups/Leaders can decide what is required to earn a color in your group, and then



sew those triangles on the sleeves of the chipmunk shirt.

Here are some examples, but you can create your own, appropriate to the children in your group:

- Green – Go on a nature hike. Collect leaves and flowers. Learn what a plant is.
- Purple – Learn about how people can be the same and different. Listen to a story about a child with a disability. Talk about the different people that can make a family and how not all families look the same. Who is in your family?
- Yellow – Play games with other chipmunks. Play hide and seek, tag, and I Spy.
- White – Learn about safety. Play games that involve taking care of someone who is hurt.
- Red – Camping (given if camping with an older sibling led to the older sibling earning a camping badge).
- Orange – Sing 3 songs, one with hand motions.

Keep in mind that Chipmunk activities and awards need to be appropriate for kids in your group and do not punish or withhold awards for kids who attempt to participate.

Chipmunks are generally most interested in getting their own patches and awards when they see their siblings receiving badges. If your Chipmunks are participating with Otter siblings, you may choose to match the flash colors to the Otter badge a Chipmunk would have completed by doing the activities they did together.