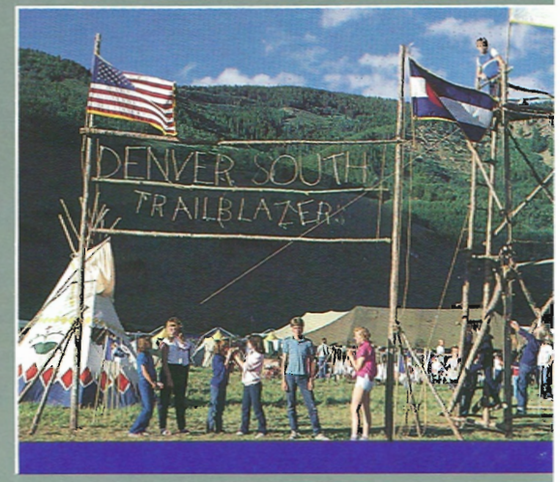
PATHFINDERS

Youth Discovering Their World and Themselves



Welcome to the World of Pathfindering, Where Youth Can . . .

- *Learn Christian values*
- *Develop self-discipline*
- *Make friends*
- *Enjoy safe and exciting adventures*
- *Learn what teamwork is all about*
- *Prepare for church and community responsibilities*
- *Cultivate courage, self-reliance, honesty, loyalty, and kindness*
- *Learn under the guidance and association of mature Christian counselors*
- *Acquire hobbies and skills*
- *Grow in an atmosphere of love and acceptance*
- *Discover their world and themselves.*

Pathfinders say:

. . . I can meet new friends, go camping, earn AY (Adventist Youth) honors, enjoy fun activities, giving me new opportunities to talk about and know God.

Sponsorship

The Pathfinder Club is a worldwide organization sponsored by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Its nearly 30,000 clubs operate in 120 countries around the world. Each year one day is set aside as Pathfinder Day when the churches and communities learn of Pathfinder activities.

Who can Join a Pathfinder Club?

Any youth in grades 5 to 10 who promises to abide by the Pathfinder Pledge and Law can join a Pathfinder Club. Although Pathfindering is sponsored by an Adventist church, youth of any faith-group are welcome to join.

The Pathfinder Pledge:

By the grace of God
I will be pure, kind and true.
I will keep the Pathfinder law.
I will be a servant of God and a friend to man.

The Pathfinder Law:

The Pathfinder Law is for me to —
Keep the Morning Watch
Do my honest part
Care for my body
Keep a level eye
Be courteous and obedient
Walk softly in the sanctuary
Keep a song in my heart
Go on God's errands.

Leaders say:

. . . Pathfindering is the most rewarding form of service. It gives me the opportunity to give back to the Pathfinders that which someone else gave to me as a child: camping skills, AY class work and honors, new friends, love of nature, and a fulfilling relationship with the Creator.

Leadership

All Pathfinder leaders are Christians. Their belief in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ motivates them to spend time ministering to youth. By their teaching and example they show what it means to be a living, vibrant Christian in today's world.

Working hand in hand with parents, teachers, and pastors, Pathfinder leaders provide optimum opportunities for Christian development. They consider the Pathfinder Club to be an extension of the home, school, and church, an experimental laboratory where growth and learning flourish, an environment where failure is not expected but becomes a tool for learning.

Organizational Structure

Pathfinder Clubs consist of individual units — 5-7 boys or girls and a minimum of one counselor. Each member of the unit is assigned specific tasks, such as being captain or scribe. Units normally participate with other units in group Pathfinder activities, though each unit is allowed to pursue activities individually. Through all the planned activities, Pathfinders develop leadership and teamwork skills.

Pathfinder Club meetings, generally held weekly, are an occasion for members to wear either their field uniform or their Pathfinder dress uniform, including hat, scarf, insignia and honor badges.

Club Activities

A Pathfinder Club's imagination and location often determine its group activities — ranging from community and world mission projects to nature and outdoor activities such as parades, backpacking and camping trips. Pathfinders even plan and cook their own meals when camping! Pathfindering challenges the unique talents of each participant.

Clubs often plan day trips to national parks and nature centers, museums, businesses, health and social welfare facilities, and other places of local historical interest.

Community Service

Pathfinders serve their local communities by coming close to people through personal ministries, particularly in providing food and service projects to the poor and shut-in. Some clubs collect food, clothing, and money and distribute baskets at Thanksgiving, Christmas or other appropriate times.

Training

Pathfindering provides a curriculum at six levels of learning: Friend, Companion, Explorer, Ranger, Voyager and Guide.

Leaders provide instruction in nearly 250 areas of arts and crafts, aquatics, nature, household arts, recreation and vocational witnessing. Pathfinders receive a certificate and "AY Honor Badge" upon completion of each course. Such study often helps Pathfinders discover a lifelong hobby or career.

Parents say:

... I see Pathfinders a fulfilling important purposes. The outdoor activities provide recreation and education; the class work and honors teach self-discipline. Above all, Pathfindering gives youth an environment in which to actively expand their personal experience with Christ. They understand sharing, caring, helping others and witnessing because they have learned of the "Master Pathfinder."

An Invitation

Does your son or daughter need to experience achievement, involvement, and have the opportunity to make a contribution in life? Let Pathfindering help your boy or girl become a great man or woman. We want to help you provide the very best for them, because we care.

For a Pathfinder application form, contact:

For Information Call
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Brochure available from AdventSource
800-328-0525 • www.adventsource.org