



8 Things to know about Aviation Exploring

Introduce the next generation to aviation careers



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Aviation Club for teenagers

Affiliate of the Boy Scouts of America

One mission: introduce young people to aviation careers

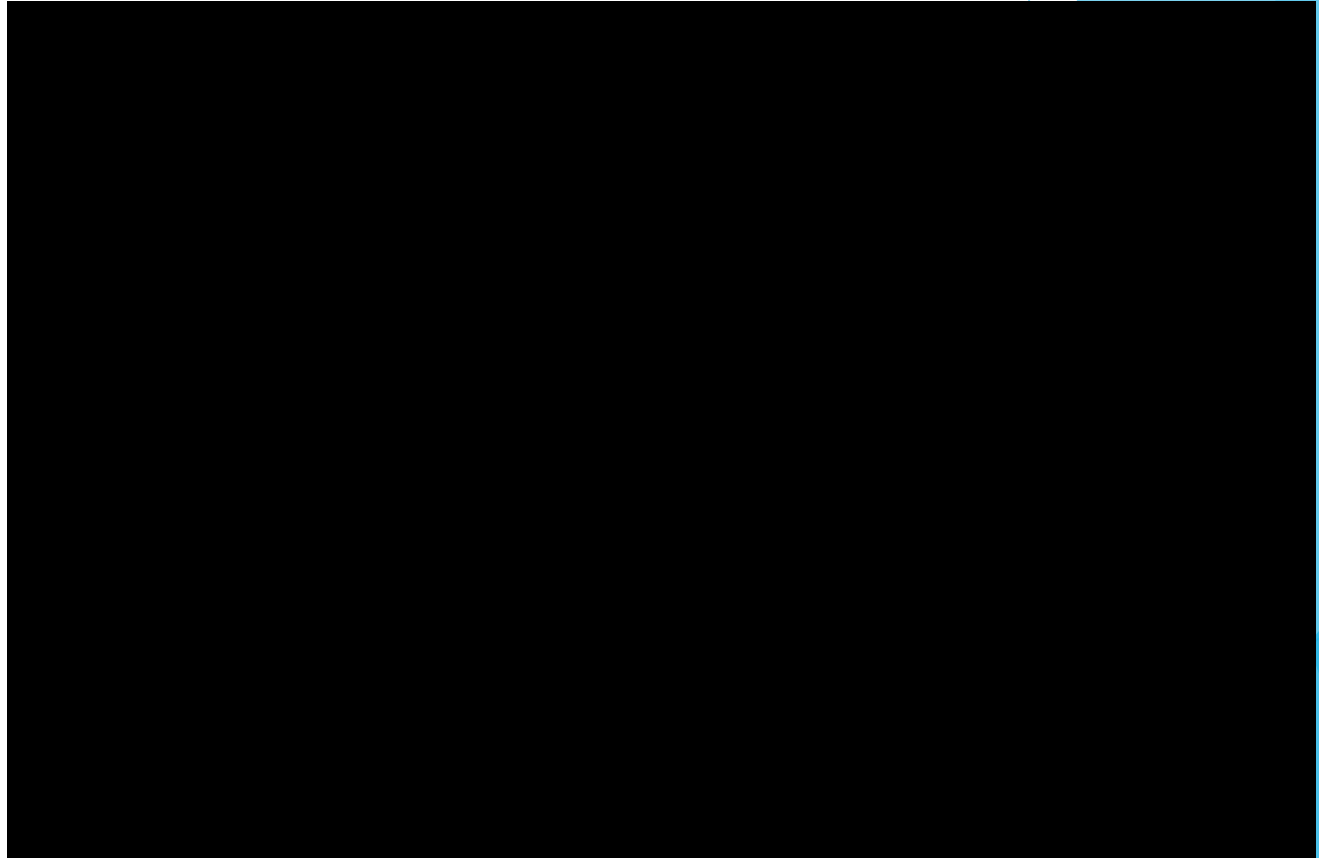


Typical meeting:

- Welcome
- Educational component
- Program
 - Guest speaker, tour
 - Hands-on component

Didi, Aviation Explorer

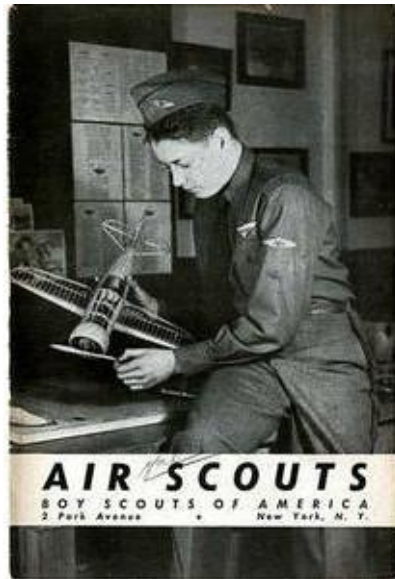
Aviation Exploring,
in her words...



Aviation exploring: a program steeped in history

From Air Scouts to Aviation Exploring

Air scouts & Air Explorers 1941 - 1965



Air Scouts and Air Explorers

Emphasis on military aviation

Flying component

Pilot centric



Aviation Explorers: 1965 - 1985

- ▶ Emphasis shift to civilian aviation
- ▶ Pilot centric
- ▶ Some career mentoring



Aviation Exploring: 1985 - Present

- ▶ Emphasis of program shifts to careers
 - ▶ All career fields; pilot, mechanic, air traffic controller, avionics technician...
 - ▶ Flying primarily in the form of introductory flights



Aviation Exploring: 2014 - present

Exploring Explosion, a renaissance
Initiative launched by national office
of the BSA

New Chief Scout Executive was an
Explorer as a youth

Intensive training to all 250+ local
Scout offices, in person and webinars



#1 Aviation Exploring is for boys and girls

Ages 14 - 20

Recently added Explorer Clubs
for middle school students
(ages 10 - 13)

- Great recruiting tool for
high school programs



#2 Exploring is all about careers...(and more)

STEM based program

Learn about many careers, not only pilot

Get youth “behind the fence”

Fun activities too: orientation flights, drone build, museum tours



#2 Exploring is all about careers... (and more)

- ▶ EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING
 - ▶ LEARN FROM THE EXPERTS
 - ▶ RELY ON STRENGTHS OF YOUR AVIATION COMMUNITY
 - ▶ GUEST SPEAKERS
 - ▶ COMPANY TOURS
 - ▶ SIMULATORS
 - ▶ BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES
 - ▶ AIRCRAFT
 - ▶ DRONES



#3 Aviation Exploring has the support of the aviation industry



#3 Aviation Exploring has the support of the aviation industry

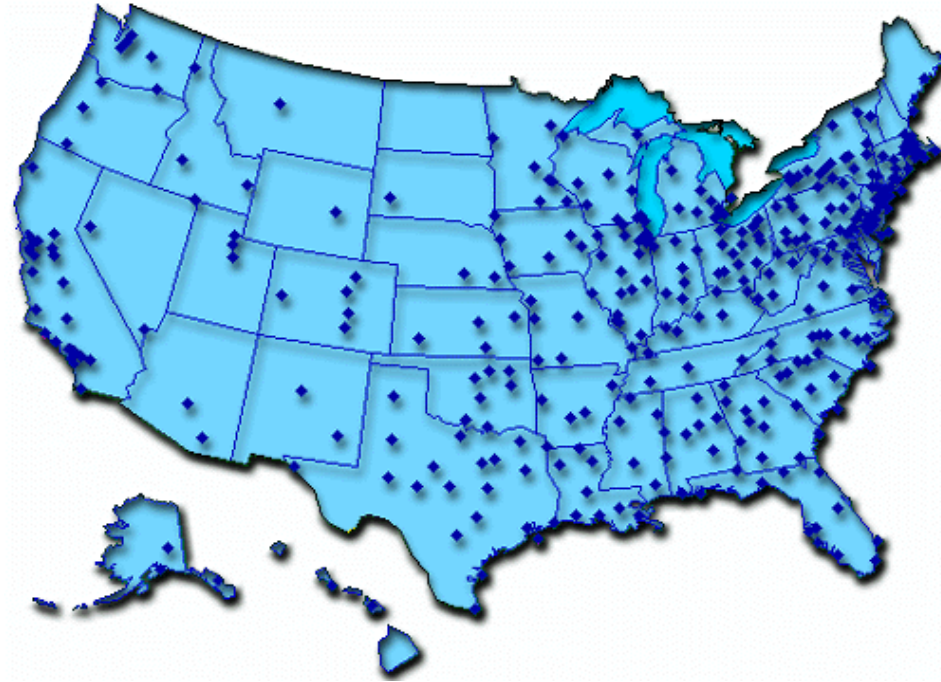
- ▶ More partners to be announced soon
- ▶ Let Aviation Exploring be your youth program
- ▶ \$65,000 industry supported Aviation Exploring Scholarship Program
 - ▶ Scholarships available for a wide range of careers
 - ▶ Pilot
 - ▶ Mechanic
 - ▶ Avionics Technician
 - ▶ Aviation management

#3a Aviation Exploring has the support of the aviation industry (local)

- ▶ Cities have unique aviation industry
- ▶ 20,000 airports in the United States
- ▶ Small or large companies
- ▶ Strengthen the aviation community

#4 There is a nationwide sales force

- Professional sales force
- BSA/Learning for Life
- Fundraising opportunities
- Help with recruiting
 - Youth
 - Volunteers
 - Industry Support



#5 Leadership

- ▶ Adult sponsored/youth lead
 - ▶ Officers
 - ▶ Well rounded
 - ▶ Valuable to future employers



#5 Leadership

▶ Access to BSA library of character and leadership lessons

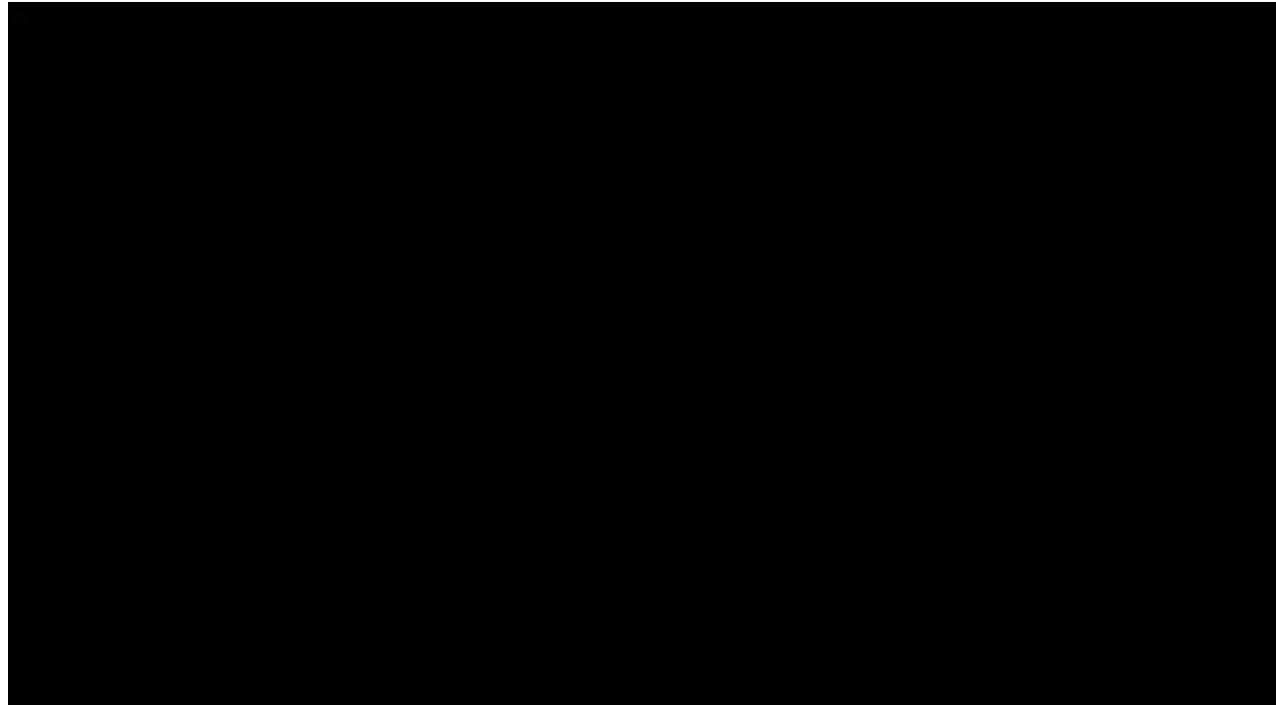
- ▶ Academic Skills
- ▶ Character
- ▶ College and Career Prep
- ▶ Communication
- ▶ Computer literacy
- ▶ Ethics
- ▶ Leadership
- ▶ Social Skills
- ▶ More...



#6 Aviation Exploring is a great partner

- ▶ Works as a stand-alone or complimentary to other aviation programs
- ▶ Start with an Aviation Exploring program as a pre-cursor to your aviation high school program
- ▶ Enrich an existing aviation high school program with an Aviation Exploring program
- ▶ STEM opportunities

#6 Great partner STEM Aviation Exploring



#7 National organization enhances value

- ▶ You get to focus on the youth and the program
- ▶ National opportunities
 - ▶ Scholarships
 - ▶ Conferences
 - ▶ Aviation Exploration Base Camp, Oshkosh, WI
- ▶ Let Aviation Exploring take care of
 - ▶ Insurance
 - ▶ Adult training
 - ▶ Youth protection training
 - ▶ Youth leadership training



#8 Explorers are the future...

- ▶ Explorers are valuable to the community
 - ▶ Attract young people to the aviation workforce
 - ▶ Large and small communities
 - ▶ Visit local airport - ask for support
 - ▶ Airport manager
 - ▶ Airport businesses
 - ▶ Flight schools



Explorers are the future employees and customer for the aviation industry

How to start an Aviation Exploring Post at your school

- ▶ Schedule a meeting with local Exploring professional
- ▶ New Explorer Post Playbook - [Exploring.org/playbook](https://exploring.org/playbook)
- ▶ Research
 - ▶ Choose club type
 - ▶ Aviation
 - ▶ Find youth
 - ▶ Announcements
 - ▶ Surveys (Exploring can administer)

How to start an Aviation Exploring Post at your school (continued)

- ▶ Leadership
 - ▶ Recruit adult leaders - 2+
 - ▶ Train leaders
 - ▶ Youth can help
- ▶ Program
 - ▶ Interactive hands-on activities
 - ▶ Exploring Activity Library
- ▶ Participation
 - ▶ Open House
 - ▶ Youth led

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Without a freshman class, in
just four years there will be no
graduates

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Hal Shevers, Founder/Chairman, Sporty's Pilot shop

Aviation Exploring - Takeaways

- ▶ Aviation Exploring is a great way to start your aviation program or enhance an existing program
- ▶ Help is available to you during program startup and beyond
- ▶ Partnering with Exploring will open doors for young people into opportunities they would otherwise not have access

Getting started

- ▶ AviationExploring.com
- ▶ Mark Wiesenhahn,
mark.w@sportys.com
- ▶ Contact local Boy Scouts of America office, ask for Learning for Life representative