The story of Scouts

Highlighted words

Baden-Powell fun adventure(s) world Scout(s) or Scouting



The story

Robert Baden-Powell was born in London in 1857. He was the eighth of ten children and he was always going off on adventures with his brothers. Baden-Powell loved having fun in the outdoors.

When Baden-Powell grew up, he joined the army. He was sent all over the world, and he helped to train other soldiers. He wrote a book called 'Aids to Scouting' to teach soldiers outdoor skills such as how to track, take messages, and build useful things like bridges and shelters.

The activities in Baden-Powell's book were so fun that teachers started to use them to run outdoor games in schools. This made Baden-Powell think that children might be interested in being Scouts. In August 1907, he set up a camp for 20 boys on Brownsea Island. The boys had a lot of fun. They enjoyed the adventure so much that Baden-Powell decided to write a book for children. His book was called 'Scouting for Boys' – it gave children lots of fun ideas so they could teach themselves skills including tracking and making things.

Soon, boys and girls all over the country were becoming **Scouts** and having their own **adventures**. The **Scout** movement was born. Two years later, a separate movement for girls (the Guides) was set up. Today, girls can choose to be **Scouts**, Guides, or even both.

Younger children wanted to become **Scouts** and have their own **adventures** too. In 1914, Wolf Cubs began. It was based around Rudyard Kipling's story 'The Jungle Book'.

In 1920, the very first World Scout Jamboree was held in London and Baden-Powell was given the title of Chief Scout of the World.

During the first and second **world** wars, **Scouts** helped the coastwatch, worked on farms, and carried messages.

Baden-Powell became Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell. Even though he died in 1941, the Scout Movement grew and grew all over the world.

Beaver Scouts officially started in the 1980s so people could have fun and adventures before they were old enough for Cub Scouts.

Thanks to **Baden-Powell** and his spirit of **adventure** and **fun**, there are millions of **Scouts** across the whole **world**. If you're a **Scout**, you're a member of a very large family.

Baden-Powell left a message for all Scouts: 'Try and leave this world a little better than you found it.'