

# Using AI as a Planning Assistant in Scouting

Smarter planning

Less burnout

Same Scout values

# Why This Matters

- ● Planning takes time
- ● Requirements are spread out
- ● Burnout is real for volunteers
- AI reduces busywork so leaders can lead

# What AI Is (and Is Not)

- AI IS:
  - A planning assistant
  - A brainstorming partner
  - A time-saver
  
- AI IS NOT:
  - A replacement for judgment
  - A policy authority
  - A substitute for youth leadership

# Use Case: Meeting Planning

Build a meeting agenda for a regular scout meeting for me, using the BSA Patrol Method, please.

Got it. Here's a **clean, no-fluff Scout meeting agenda** that actually uses the **BSA Patrol Method** instead of just saying it does. This assumes a **60–90 minute** regular troop meeting and puts **youth leadership in charge**, not adults hovering in the background.

## BSA Patrol Method–Focused Troop Meeting Agenda

### Pre-Meeting (10–15 minutes)

**Who runs it:** Patrol Leaders

**Purpose:** Get Scouts engaged *before* the formal meeting starts.

- Patrols gather at assigned areas
- Informal skill practice, game, or challenge
  - Knot relay
  - First aid scenario
  - Gear inspection challenge
- SPL circulates, checks readiness
- Adults observe only

👉 *This is where energy gets burned off so the meeting doesn't derail later.*

### Opening Ceremony (5 minutes)

**Who runs it:** SPL / Assigned Patrol



+ Ask anything



# Example Meeting Output

- • Opening & announcements
- • Skill instruction
- • Patrol competition
- • Reflection & closing
  
- Fully adjustable in seconds
  - Don't like it?
  - Ask for something different!

# Use Case: Campout Planning

Below is what you can realistically **complete or make progress on** during that trip (camp at Camp Doris + hike Mount Scott + Visitor Center / ID time + trail meal on lightweight stoves).

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## Rank requirements you can complete on this trip

### Scout rank

Mostly conference / basics; not really "Mount Scott-specific." (We can ignore unless you've got brand-new Scouts.)

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## Tenderfoot (most of this trip is perfect for Tenderfoot)

### Camping / Outdoor Ethics

- 1a Show camping/personal gear + how to pack/carry it. Scouting A...
- 1b Camp at least one night; sleep in a tent you helped pitch. Scouting America
- 1c Explain how you demonstrated Outdoor Code + Leave No Trace. Scouting America

### Cooking

- 2a Help prep one meal on the campout + explain shared duty. Scouting America
- 2b Demonstrate safe cleaning method for meal gear. Scouting America
- 2c Explain why eating together as a patrol matters. Scouting America

### First Aid + Nature

- 4a First aid items list (cuts, blisters, burns, stings/ticks, snakebite, etc.). Scouting America
- 4b Identify hazardous plants in the local area + treatment for exposure. Scouting America
- 4c Injury prevention for hazards covered above. Scouting America
- 4d Build a personal first aid kit + explain each item. Scouting America

### Hiking

- 5a Buddy system (use it on the outing). Scouting America

+ Ask anything



# Use Case: Risk & Safety Thinking

Can you help me identify risks and any safety considerations I should discuss with Scouts and their parents for this hike?

Absolutely. This is one of those moments where being **direct and upfront** actually builds trust with parents and keeps Scouts safer on trail.

Below is a **plain-spoken risk & safety briefing** tailored specifically to hiking **Mount Scott** in the **Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge**—written so you can use it **verbatim** with Scouts *and* as a parent handout.

## Mount Scott Hike

### Risks & Safety Considerations to Review with Scouts and Parents

#### 1. Heat & Weather Exposure (High Risk)

**Reality:** The Wichita Mountains are exposed, rocky, and unforgiving in warm weather.

#### Risks

- Heat exhaustion / heat stroke
- Dehydration
- Sunburn
- Sudden weather changes (wind, storms)

#### Mitigations

- Mandatory water: **at least 2 liters per Scout**
- Hats, sunscreen, lightweight long sleeves encouraged
- Frequent water breaks (every 20–30 minutes)
- Adult leaders monitor Scouts for:
  - Dizziness



+ Ask anything



# Use Case: Planning Documents

Can you put this into several word documents that I can use as handouts to my youth leadership and any adults?

Done. I split this into **three clean, purpose-built Word handouts**, each written for the audience that actually needs the information (no wasted words, no mixed messaging).

## Downloads

- [Youth Leadership Safety Brief](#)  
*For SPL, ASPL, Patrol Leaders* — focuses on responsibility, buddy control, pacing, and speaking up.
- [Adult Leader Safety & Emergency Guide](#)  
*For Scoutmaster/ASMs* — risks, mitigations, turn-around authority, and a simple emergency action plan.
- [Parent Safety Overview](#)  
*For parents* — realistic risks, what you're doing to manage them, and how they can help prepare their Scout.

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## How I'd recommend using these

- **Youth brief:** Review at the PLC the week before the trip
- **Adult guide:** Carry printed copies or have it on phones
- **Parent handout:** Email as a PDF *and* have copies at the departure meeting

If you want, I can:

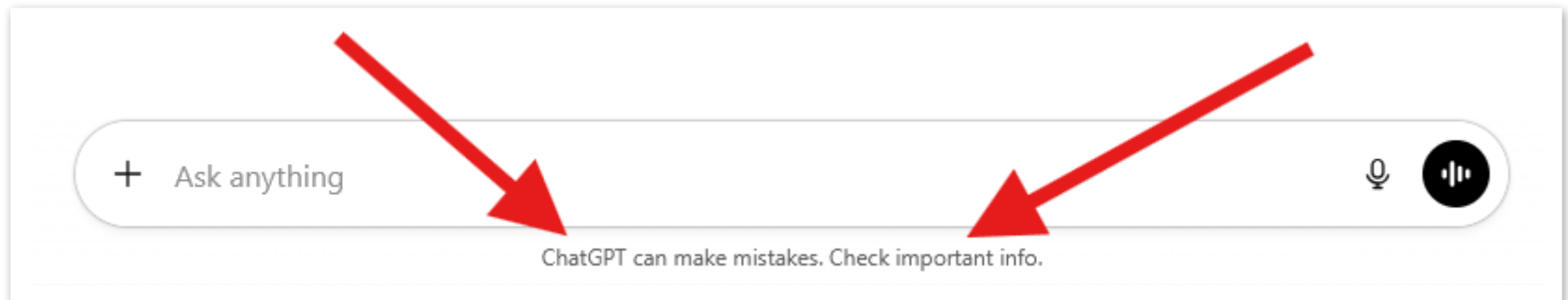
- Add **troop branding/logo**
- Convert these into a **single packet with a cover page**
- Add a **signature/acknowledgement page** for parents
- Tailor one version specifically for **new Scouts (10-11 yr olds)**

+ Ask anything



# Guardrails for Leaders

- No personal or medical data
- Verify against official policies
- Use as draft guidance only
- Never replace youth leadership



# Final Takeaway

- AI doesn't change Scouting.
- It helps us spend more time doing it.