

Parent's Guide To Cub Scouting



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL

www.NCACBSA.org



PURPOSES OF CUB SCOUTS



Cub Scout packs serve boys and girls who are in Kindergarten through fifth grade (or 5 through 10 years of age). Cub Scouts, families, leaders, and chartered organizations work together to achieve the 10 purposes of Cub Scouts:

- ☒ Character Development
- ☒ Spiritual Growth
- ☒ Good Citizenship
- ☒ Sportsmanship
- ☒ Family Understanding
- ☒ Respectful Relationships
- ☒ Personal Achievements
- ☒ Friendly Service
- ☒ Fun and Adventure
- ☒ Preparation for Scouts BSA

What are Cub Scouts?

For more than 100 years the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) has provided high quality, fun and educational programs designed to help young people build moral strength and character, develop fitness, and become active, responsible citizens.

Cub Scouts emphasizes a year-round, home-centered program at the local level that helps to strengthen the family. Cub Scouts - including Lions, Tigers, Wolves, Bears, and Webelos - is the largest of BSA's programs. The other programs are Scouts BSA, Venturing, Sea Scouts, and Exploring.

Starting in 2018 girls can also join Cub Scouts! Working with their chartering organization, a pack may choose to serve just boys, just girls, or both boys and girls in single-gender dens. Contact National Capital Area Council to find a pack that is the right fit for your family!

Your Child's Safety: Our Top Priority

Boy Scouts of America's number one priority is the safety and protection of your child while involved in any Scouting activity. For this reason, we work closely with our chartered organizations to help recruit the best possible leaders for their units. We take great pride in the quality of our adult leadership and in our application review process. Each registered adult leader goes through an extensive background check and is required to take Youth Protection Training courses every two years.

As a major youth-serving organization, the Boy Scouts of America has a unique opportunity to help protect the youth of our nation. In addition to helping families address the problem of child abuse, BSA has adopted a comprehensive set of policies and procedures designed to ensure that Scouting continues to be safe for all participants. BSA is a national leader among youth-serving agencies in addressing the potential threat that child abuse poses to young people.

**For more information visit
www.Scouting.org/YouthProtection.**



Your Child, Scouting, and You... A Parent's Guide To Cub Scouting

As a parent you want your child to grow up to be self-reliant, dependable and caring. Scouting has these same goals. For more than 100 years we have been helping children be prepared for life through fun and educational activities designed to assist parents in strengthening character, citizenship, and physical and mental fitness in youth.

But children don't join Scouting to build character. They join because it is filled with fun adventures!

The Cub Scout Pack

The Cub Scout pack is a group of Kindergarten through fifth graders. Led by the volunteer Cubmaster, the pack meets once a month. There are games, skits, stunts, songs, ceremonies, and presentations of awards earned that month. The pack also runs many special programs, such as Pinewood Derbies, hikes and weekend campouts.

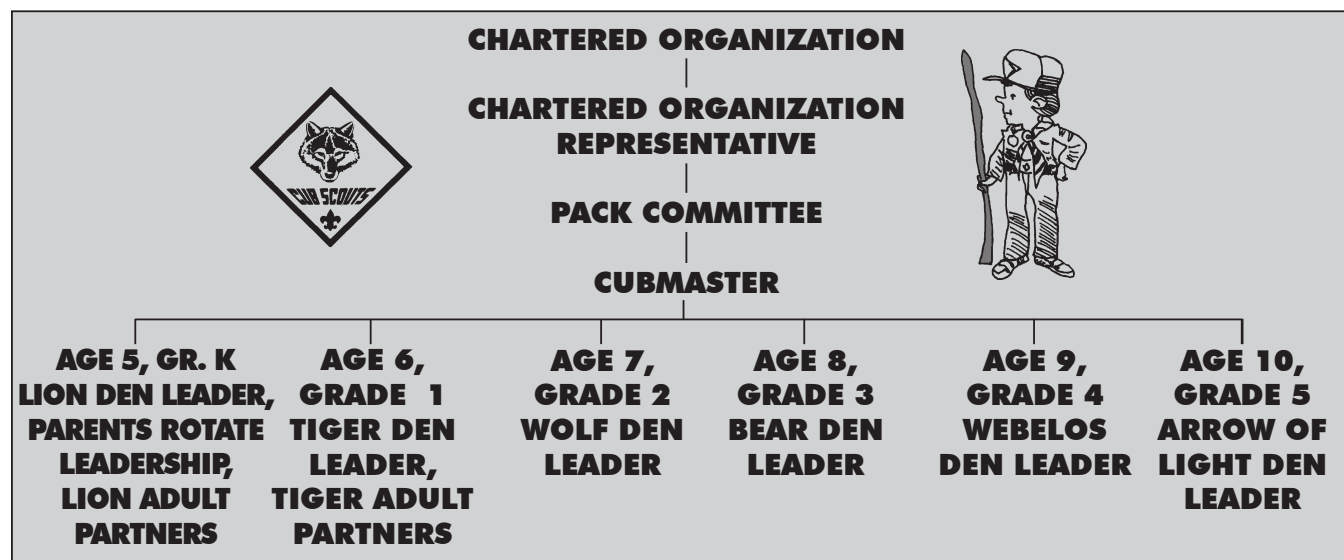


Dens

The larger pack is broken into smaller groups of 6-8 children by grade levels, called dens. Den meetings are led by volunteer den leaders and assistant den leaders with help from the other parents. Den leaders and parents decide on a convenient meeting place and time, and meet weekly to work on age appropriate activities. Lion dens are Kindergarteners, Tiger dens are first-graders, Wolf dens are second-graders, Bear dens are third-graders, and Webelos dens are fourth- and fifth-graders.

The Pack is Run by the Pack Committee Who:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Selects leadership | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manages pack finances | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Helps train leaders |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finds meeting places | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Orders badges and awards | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recognizes leaders |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Performs record keeping | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maintains pack equipment | |



All of the leaders in the pack get together once a month to plan the details of each monthly pack program and coordinate den programs.

Each Pack is Owned by a Chartered Organization Which:

- Could be a parent-school organization, religious organization, service club, or other organization interested in youth.
- Approves leadership, helps secure a meeting place, keeps the pack within the organization's and BSA's guidelines and policies.
- Selects a chartered organization representative (a liaison between the pack and its chartered organization).

The Advancement Plan

Recognition is important to young children. The advancement plan provides fun, gives Scouts a sense of personal achievement, and strengthens family understanding, participation and appreciation.

Lion

The Lion program is for Kindergarteners and their adult partners. They work on Adventures like the older grades, but they do not earn Bobcat first.



Bobcat

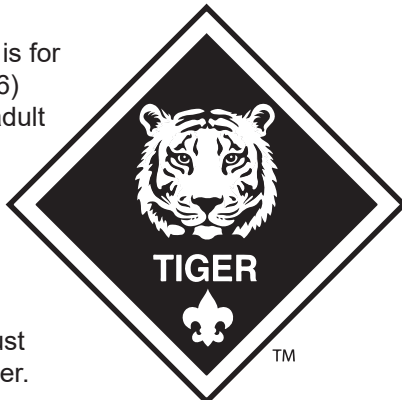
Beginning in Tiger year, all new Cub Scouts earn the Bobcat badge first by learning the Scout Oath and Scout Law, the Cub Scout handshake, salute, sign, and motto, and earning the Cyber Chip Award.

After receiving the Bobcat badge, each Cub Scout works on requirements based on grade level.



Tigers

The Tiger program is for first-grade (or age 6) children and their adult partners. Tigers, working with their adult partners, earn the Tiger badge. Adventures include indoor and outdoor activities just right for a first grader.



The responsibility for a Cub Scout's advancement in Cub Scouting lies with the family, not with the pack. Some advancement requirements are done at den meetings, but most are done at home with the family.

Wolf

A Cub Scout who has completed first grade (or is age 8) works towards the Wolf badge. Scouts learn about the outdoors and Leave No Trace, our neighborhoods and community service, and good health.



Bear

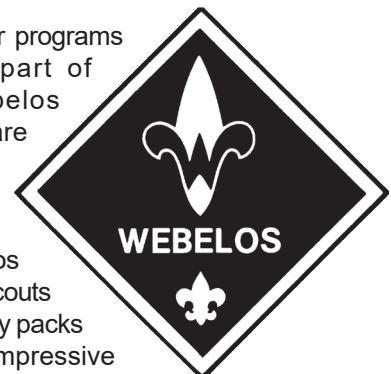
A Cub Scout who has completed second-grade (or is age 9) works towards the Bear badge. Scouts will learn about nature, how to take care of themselves, the value of helping others, having fun, and patriotism.



Webelos

A Cub Scout who has completed third grade (or becomes 10 years old) transfers to a Webelos den and works on requirements for the Webelos badge and the Arrow of Light - the highest award in Cub Scouts!

Camping and outdoor programs are an important part of the 18-month Webelos program. Webelos are introduced to Scouts BSA and visit troops. In the spring of the 5th grade year, a Webelos graduates from Cub Scouts into Scouts BSA. Many packs celebrate this with impressive "cross over" ceremonies.



Things To Do In Cub Scouts

Pinewood Derby

Scouts and their parents build a race car made from a block of wood. This is among the best known Cub Scout activities. Be there the night of the big race!



Popcorn Sales

With prizes and incentives, there is no shortage of fun for Cub Scouts as they earn money to help their pack! Past prizes included tickets to Nationals games, an iPad, and college scholarships!

The money they earn also helps reduce the cost of Scouting to the family, and helps support the programs of our Council (see page 11). By setting and working towards individual and pack goals, Cub Scouts learn responsibility and team work.



Blue and Gold Banquet

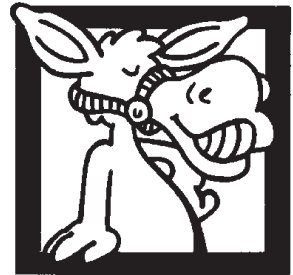
A birthday party for Cub Scouting usually held during February. Families gather with food, fun and games.

Boys' Life Magazine

A monthly magazine for Cub Scouts and adults. *Boys' Life* has interesting features on Scouting, sports, hobbies, magic, science and U.S. history. There are also jokes, comics and short stories.

(The name of the magazine will change in 2019, but the content will remain just as great as always!)

Boys' Life



Magazine

Scouting for Food

Our annual food drive, Scouting for Food takes place on the first two Saturdays in November every year.

Most years Scouting for Food collects over 1,000,000 pounds of food for local food banks!



Outdoor Adventures

Cub Scouts take part in outdoor adventures. Many packs enjoy family camping, picnics, hiking, and/or fishing.

A Cub Scout's first summer camp is usually day camp. Come to one of our local camps and experience a wide range of fun outdoor adventures!

Camp William B. Snyder is a full Cub Scout camp – like the ones older Scouts attend! Open year-round, Cub Scouts, parents, and leaders may camp, eat at the dining hall, and experience an exciting outdoor program. Visit www.GoToSynder.org for more info.

What Will Scouting Cost Me?

Dues vary by pack; ask your pack and den leaders. Some packs do money-earning projects like selling popcorn or camp cards to reduce the out-of-pocket expense. Annual pack dues include BSA registration and insurance (\$39), and may include a *Boys' Life* subscription (\$12) and funds for patches and activities. Some dens also collect dues to cover the cost of den activities. Major activities, such as family camping or Blue & Gold Banquets, may have separate costs.

Uniforms can cost between \$50 and \$100. They can last several years, depending on how fast your child outgrows them. Check to see what your pack recommends. Uniforms may be purchased at the local Scout Shops or online at www.ScoutStuff.org. Used ones may be available at thrift shops or online. Many packs or districts have a uniform exchange. Check with pack leaders regarding financial assistance if needed.

Uniform Checklist:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handbook (annual) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cub Scout hat | <input type="checkbox"/> Insignia: Pack numerals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cub Scout uniform shirt (blue) | <input type="checkbox"/> Cub Scout socks | <input type="checkbox"/> Insignia: World Scouting Crest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cub Scout pants | <input type="checkbox"/> Neckerchief (annual) | <input type="checkbox"/> Insignia: Den numeral |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cub Scout belt | <input type="checkbox"/> Neckerchief slide | <input type="checkbox"/> Insignia: Council shoulder strip |



Everything You Need To Begin Your Adventure!





Hoodies



Bookbags



Stickers



Handbooks



Pencils

National Capital Scout Shop

9190 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814

301-564-1091 | Fax: 301-564-6028

Hours: Mon. - Wed & Fri: 9 AM - 5:30 PM

Thurs: 9 AM - 8 PM | Sat: 10 AM - 3 PM

Email: NationalCapitalScoutShop@Scouting.org

Northern Virginia Scout Shop

5232 Port Royal Rd, Springfield, VA 22151

703-321-4836 | Fax: 703-321-4838

Hours: Mon - Fri: 9 AM - 7 PM

Sat: 10 AM - 5 PM

Email: NorthernVirginiaScoutShop@Scouting.org

Camp William B. Snyder Trading Post

6100 Antioch Rd, Haymarket, VA 20169 | Phone: 571-248-4904

Hours: Tues - Fri: 11:30 AM - 4 PM Sat: 10 AM - 2 PM | Email: Camp.Snyder@Scouting.org

Cubs Need Leaders... And Leaders Need Support!

Parents

You're a primary role model for your child. Children need your guidance along their Scouting path, not to do the work for them, but with them. All parents help their children with advancement and assist their pack or den with special projects. Here's a look at some of the people and resources available to help you and your child:

Cubmaster

Conducts the monthly pack meeting. Aids den leaders by coordinating the monthly program for all leaders. Attends monthly pack leaders' meeting.

Committee Chair

Conducts monthly pack leaders' meeting to help plan the program. Ensures the Cubmaster and den leaders receive adequate support from committee members.

Committee Members

The pack committee helps plan program and take care of records, finances, advancement and membership.

Den Leader

Works with a group of up to 8 Cub Scouts, meeting 2-3 times a month to work on advancements and activities.

New Member Coordinator

Helps welcome new families into the pack. Attends committee meetings.

Unit Commissioner

This volunteer checks on the health of the pack and is a communication link with the district and council.

District Executive

Your local professional staff member can help you with training, membership, popcorn and a whole lot more!

LEADER TRAINING

Every Cub Scout deserves a trained leader! The local training team conducts regularly scheduled Cub Scout leader training year round. Basic Leader Training, Youth Protection Training, monthly roundtables, and semi-annual training extravaganzas help leaders at all levels succeed. Check with your pack leadership or visit our website www.NCACBSA.org to find the dates and location of the next training course, and check out all great training videos available online for free at my.Scouting.org!

OTHER RESOURCES TO HELP YOU

- ☑ Many packs have a pack library that contains the leader books you need.
- ☑ All registered adults receive *Scouting Magazine* and *The Scouter Digest*, the Council's quarterly newsletter.
- ☑ Resource guides and award winning videos are available to help plan den and pack meetings.
- ☑ Visit the Council Facebook page to ask questions and get information: www.Facebook.com/NCACBSA.
- ☑ Capital Comments and E-Source, our e-newsletters, keep you in the loop with the latest news. To sign up, go to www.NCACBSA.org/Subscribe.



ROUNDTABLE

Roundtable is a monthly leaders' meeting for all adult volunteers in your area. Get help with crafts, games, skits and songs for den and pack meetings, and many other ideas for successful Cub Scout programs. It's a great place to ask questions and share ideas!

POW WOW

When: Every November

What: A learning extravaganza for Cub Scout leaders! It's an annual get-together, hands-on workshop and a convention all in one.

Who: Adults from across the Council who want to know more about Cub Scouting!

Classes: Dozens of "classes" are available, covering topics from A to Z. Each leader chooses exactly what they need to make their volunteer time more satisfying.

Why Be A Leader?

Being a leader is fun, challenging and rewarding. Leaders find their experiences help them to become better parents, co-workers and friends. The following are some of the many benefits that will enrich your life as you dedicate your time, talent and enthusiasm to Scouting:

- Fun and fellowship with other families, sharing your talents and your pride in the childrens' accomplishments.
- The privilege of helping to enrich and strengthen families in your community.
- A chance to help children learn good citizenship and to help shape them into adults who have strength of character and are sensitive to the needs of others.
- A code to live by that will set a worthwhile example for both children and adults.
- The opportunity to help make a difference in the lives of young people as they grow strong in mind and body.
- The satisfaction of being a member of a world-wide movement and pride in being publicly identified as a part of this organization – wearing the Scouting uniform is a visible means of showing you believe in and stand up for the ideals and objectives of the Boy Scouts of America.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION (Hold On to this)

My pack number is _____ My den number is _____

My Scouting district is _____

My council is **National Capital Area Council (NCAC).**

My den leader's name is _____

My den leader's phone number is _____

E-mail _____

My den meets on _____

My den meets at _____

My Cubmaster's name is _____

My Cubmaster's phone number is _____

E-mail _____

My pack meets on _____

My pack meets at _____

My Committee Chair's name is _____

E-mail _____

My pack's website is (optional) _____



www.NCACBSA.org

Parent Help Positions

Please Complete and Turn-in This Form Tonight.

Each parent must be willing to assist the pack for the program to work. The following positions all need to be filled for our pack to have a successful year. Please indicate your first four choices of committees and positions you would be willing to serve on this coming year. Some of these positions are short-term and others are year-long.

____ Den Leader or Assistant Den Leader
____ Pack Committee
____ Pack Song Leader
____ Awards Committee
____ Pinewood Derby Committee
____ Scouting For Food Committee
____ Blue and Gold Banquet
____ Cubmaster/Assistant Cubmaster
____ Cub Day Camp Coordinator
____ Pack Weekend Camping Committee

____ Tiger Den Leader
____ Pack Holiday Party Committee
____ Special Events Committee
____ Webelos Den Leader or Assistant Den Leader
____ Webelos Camp-out Committee
____ Marketing Committee
____ New Member Coordinator
____ Pack Popcorn Sale Committee

Hobbies: _____

Sports Interests: _____

Occupation: _____

I have a Truck _____ Van/SUV _____ Trailer _____ Station Wagon _____ I have a workshop _____

Parent's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Scout's Name: _____ Grade: _____

E-mail address: _____

Who Pays for Scouting?

Youth Members and their families...

Members buy their own uniforms, handbooks and personal equipment, and pay their own camp fees. Some units cover part or all of their fees with money earning projects.

and Packs...

Weekly or monthly dues and funds from approved money-earning projects meet expenses for supplies and activities in the Cub Scout pack. These monies help pay for special activities, and program materials. Some Packs also have scholarships available.

and Community Organizations...

Each chartered organization using the Scouting program provides a meeting place and adult volunteer leadership for its BSA unit(s). The chartered organization and local council must approve unit money-earning projects before the launch of the project.



and...

National Capital Area Council

Each year National Capital Area Council establishes a budget to provide unit service, administration, training, outdoor and camping facilities and quality program activities in the continuing effort to serve more youth. Just as your pack raises funds for unit operation through dues and money-earning projects, the council raises funds for council operation through the United Way/CFC and other methods.

Our council conducts an annual Friends of Scouting campaign to provide opportunities for parents, Scouters and community members to financially support the growth of the Scouting program.

and the National Organization...

Funds to support the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America come from registration fees, local council service fees, investment income, *Scouting* and *Boys' Life* magazines, sale of uniforms and equipment, contributions from individuals and foundation grants. These monies help more than 270 local councils deliver the Scouting program to chartered organizations to meet the needs of their youth.

CUB SCOUT CAMPING



REGIONAL CUB SCOUT DAY CAMPS

- All NCAC Day Camps are inspected and certified to assure the best possible program, safety, and FUN!
- Activities may include archery instruction, target shooting (BB and slingshot), fishing, nature, crafts, aquatic activities, sports, Scout Skills and other activities appropriate to the day camp location.
- Most camps begin at 8:30 a.m. and run until 3:00-4:00 pm, M-F, from mid-June through August.
- Registered Cub Scouts between the ages of 6 and 10 (grade 1 and up) and their siblings are eligible for day camp.

CAMP WILLIAM B. SNYDER

www.GoToSnyder.org

- Day Camp & Overnight Resident Camp!
- Tented Camp Sites!
- Air conditioned dining hall!
- Swimming pool with water slides!
- Day activities for Cub Scouts & families!



- Awesome staff!
- Boating and Nature Trail!
- Campfires!
- BB Gun and Archery Ranges!
- Theme Areas: Western Fort, Indian Village, Nautical Ship, Space Port and The Big Dig!



National Capital Area Council Boy Scouts of America
9190 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 530-9360 | www.NCACBSA.org
United Way | CFC - #48974

