



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
GRAND CANYON COUNCIL

Cub Scout Pack 344

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Parent Orientation Guide

Welcome

Welcome to Cub Scouting. You and your son are beginning on a trail of fun and adventure that will challenge him and allow him to share experiences that he probably would not otherwise have. He may even become an Eagle Scout someday!

What is Cub Scouting?

Cub Scouting is for boys Kindergarten through 5th Grade. It is designed to provide opportunities for boys and their parents to work, play, and have fun together. Parents are an integral part of Cub Scouting.

Cub Scouting's strength is that it is a well-rounded program designed with the following 10 purpose related to the overall mission of the Boy Scouts of America to build character, be good citizens, and develop personal fitness.

The 10 purposes are:

1. Character Development
2. Spiritual Growth
3. Good Citizenship
4. Sportsmanship and Fitness
5. Family Understanding
6. Respectful Relationships
7. Personal Achievement
8. Friendly Service
9. Fun and Adventure
10. Preparation for Boy Scouts

What is expected of me?

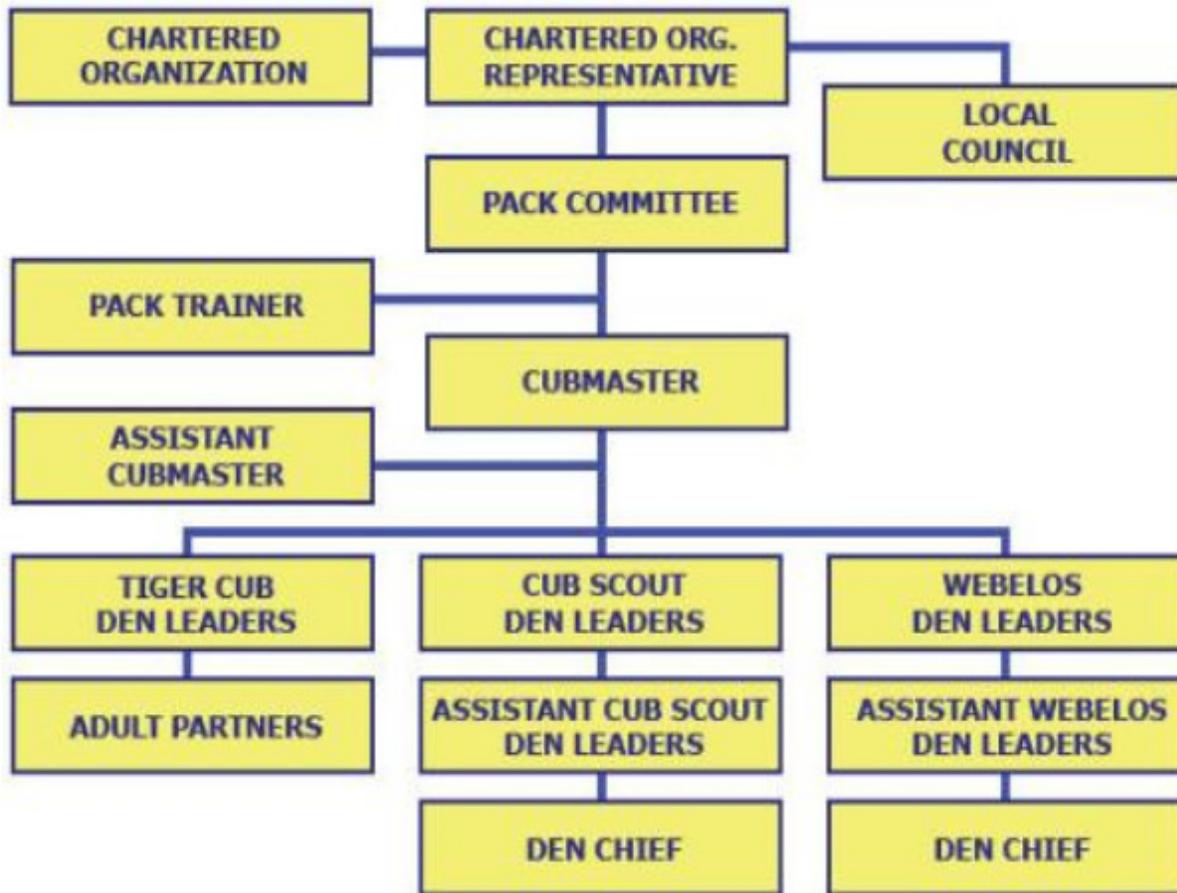
Cub Scouting is a program that parents and boys can do together. It provides a way for you and your boy to grow closer and spend quality time together.

Here are some ways to be involved:

1. Lead at least one den meeting
2. Participate with your boy in Cub Scout activities
3. Attending and assisting in den and pack meetings
4. Assist with special events and outings
5. Coaching your boy's advancement requirements and awards
6. Influencing your boy's continued participating in Cub Scouting

Volunteering helps strengthen the bond between parent and child. Visit <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/CubScouts/Parents.aspx> for more information on how you can be an Scout Parent.

Cub Scout Organization



1. Cub Scout Pack

Every Cub Scout is a member of a Cub Scout Pack. A Cub Scout Pack is led by a Cubmaster and is made up of several dens (Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos I and Webelos II).

The Pack meets once a month and all dens will attend. The monthly Pack meetings are a time for scouts to be recognized for their accomplishments and to have fun with their scout family. The Pack also holds several activities each year.

2. Cub Scout Den

A Cub Scout Pack is divided by age into several small groups called dens.

- Lion (Kindergarten)
- Tiger den (1st Grade)
- Wolf den (2nd Grade)
- Bear den (3rd Grade)
- Webelos I den (4th Grade)
- Webelos II den (5th Grade)

A den typically consists of 6 to 8 Cub Scouts. The den size and structure let Cub Scouts build relationship with each other and with den leaders. The den meets 2 times a month in between Pack meetings. In den meetings the Scouts work on their adventure requirements, play games, do crafts, learn Scouting skills, sing, and perform ceremonies.

Advancement

A Cub Scout progresses from rank to rank (Lion, Bobcat, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos I, and Webelos II) and learning new Scouting skills as he goes. Each rank has its own adventures.

The responsibility for a scout's earning of rank in Cub Scouting lies with the den leader and family. Most adventure requirements are done at den meetings and some adventure requirements are done **with you!** You can sign off on his adventure requirements when you and your scout feel he has done his best. As a result, the rank and awards he earns raise his self-esteem and confidence.

Lion (Kindergarten)



The Lion is a new BSA pilot program for Kindergarten grade boys. This is a highly supervised program and introduce boys to Cub Scouting at an early age. Lions have their own uniform (a Lion t-shirt). To earn the Lion badge, the Scouts must complete 5 adventures.

Bobcat



This is the first rank badge awarded to a Cub Scout. No matter what age or grade a boy joins Cub Scouts, he must earn his Bobcat badge before he can earn the rank badges of Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, or Arrow of Light.

Tiger (1st Grade)



Tiger den activities are highly supervised with lots of parent involvement. To earn the Tiger badge, scouts have to complete 7 adventures, Cyber Chip award, and complete the exercises in *How to Protect your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide*.

Wolf (2nd Grade)



To earn the Wolf badge, scouts have to complete 7 adventures, Cyber Chip award, and complete the exercises in *How to Protect*

your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide.

Bear (3rd Grade)



To earn the Bear badge, scouts have to complete 7 adventures, Cyber Chip award, and complete the exercises in *How to Protect your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide.*

Webelos I & II (4th and 5th Grade)



Webelos activities are more individual focus and come close to what Boy Scouts are doing. To earn the Webelos Badge, scouts have to complete 7 adventures, Cyber Chip award, and complete the exercises in *How to Protect your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide.*

Arrow of Light (5th Grade)



This is the highest rank in Cub Scouting and the only Cub Scout badge that can be worn on a Boy Scout uniform. Webelos II (5th Grade) can earn this rank when they complete 7 adventures, Cyber Chip, and complete the exercises in *How to Protect your Children from Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide.* There is a special Arrow of Light ceremony for Webelos II who completes all the requirements. There is also a bridging ceremony for those continuing on to Boy Scouts.

Pack Activities

1. Family Campouts

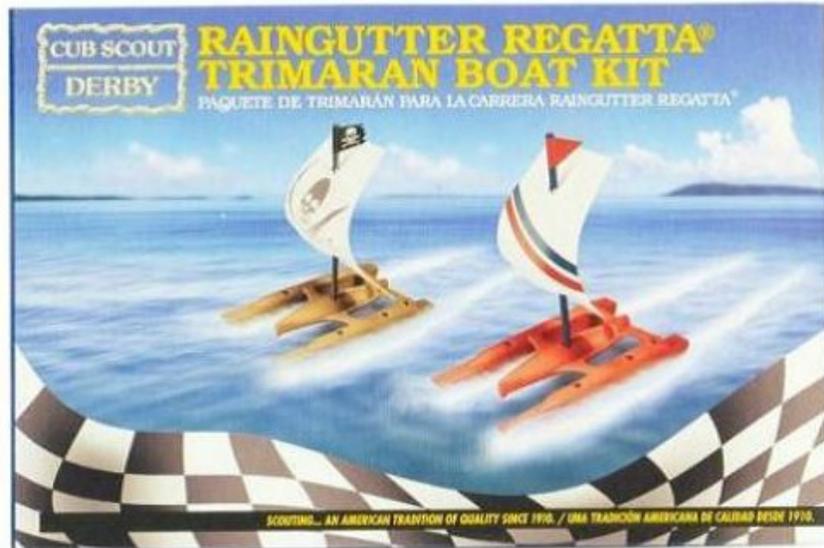
Our pack have two family campouts (September/October and March/April), which is a fun-filled family oriented camping weekend. There will be additional charge for the campout and the scouts will have fun with campfire, songs, kits, crafts, games, and other supervised outdoor activities.

2. Space Derby or Raingutter Regatta

In the Space Derby race, the scout design and make a miniature rockets that “fly” along a suspended line. They are driven by propellers powered by rubber bands.



The Raingutter Regatta is a sailboat race. The scouts design and make a sailboat that is raced in a 10 feet long raingutter. The boat is propelled by blowing on the sail.



3. Pinewood Derby

The Pinewood Derby has been a Cub Scout tradition for nearly 60 years. This is a parent and son project in which you build a race car made from a block of pinewood. Cub Scouts in a den race against each other. The winner of each den will race for the Pack championship. Trophies will be awarded for the fastest cars and for most creative.



4. Blue & Gold banquet

Our pack celebrates the anniversary of Scouting in the US in our February pack meeting. The Boy Scouts of America began in 1910 and Cub Scouting began 20 years later. The Blue and Gold gets its name from Cub Scout colors – blue and gold.

5. Memorial Day

Our pack participate in this community service to place US flags at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona on Memorial Day weekend to honor the brave men and women who have given their lives for our nation.



6. Other community services

Our pack also participates in other community services like leading the Pledge of Allegiance at a City of Scottsdale Council meeting and the McDowell Mountain Ranch community activities. Stay tuned for more info from your den leaders.

7. Field trips

Each den may have a field trip to meet their adventure requirements. Den have visited fire stations, police stations, transfer stations, wildlife centers, etc.