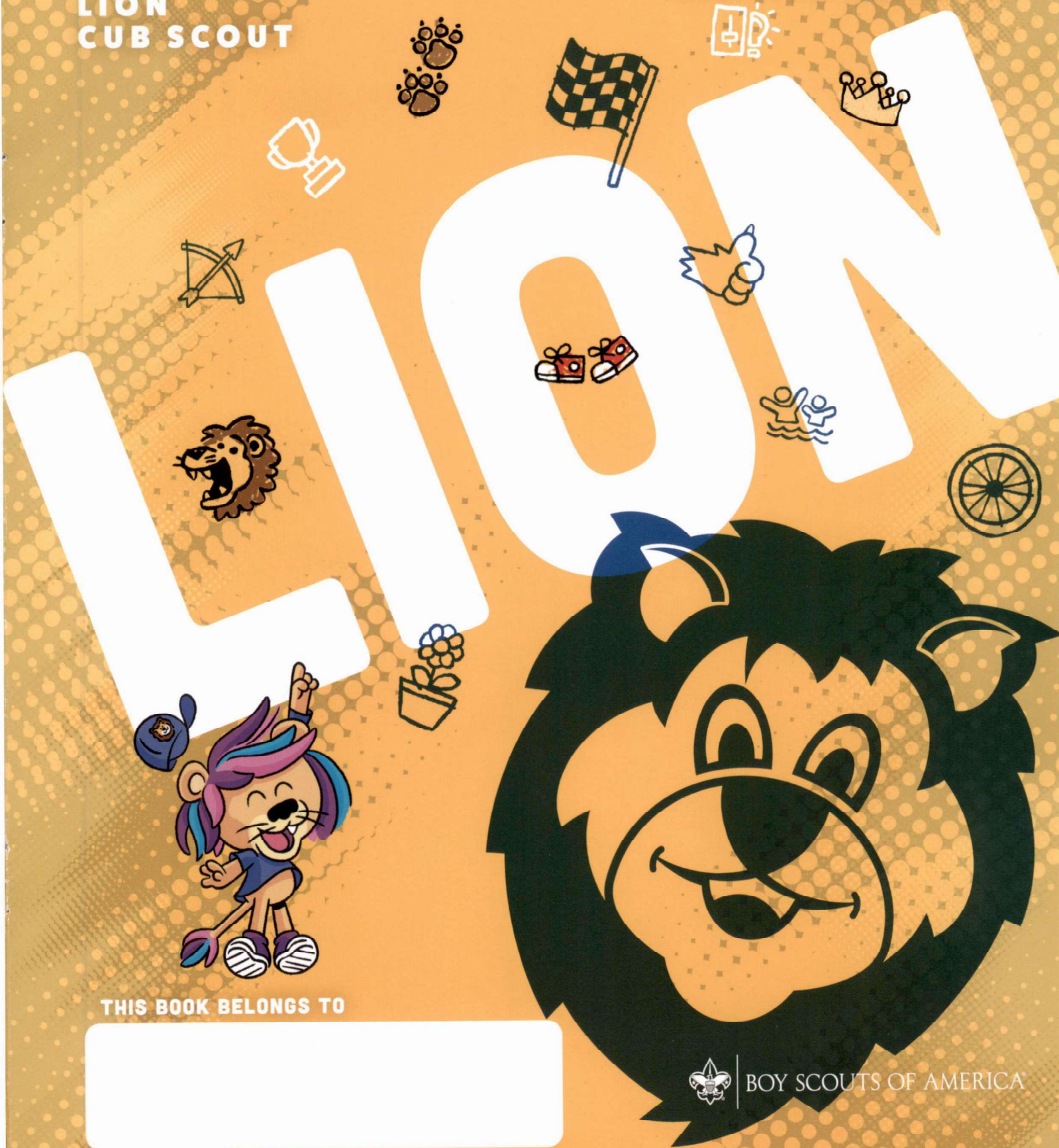




LION  
CUB SCOUT

# KINDERGARTEN ADULT PARTNER GUIDE



THIS BOOK BELONGS TO

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BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



# Help your Lion roar into Scouting with Scout Life™



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# WELCOME TO CUB SCOUTING



Adventures await you and your Cub Scout. Your Cub Scout will have many first moments as the two of you complete the program elements. The best part is that you will be there to share those moments with them.

**This handbook is for you, the Lion adult partner.** A Lion adult partner is typically a Cub Scout's parent or legal guardian. A child in kindergarten enjoys spending time with the adults who care about them and enjoy sharing experiences with them. In Cub Scouting, there are so many new adventures and experiences, it is hard to tell how a child at this age will react. As the adult partner, you provide social and emotional support for your Lion Cub Scout. In addition, you add an important measure of safety.

**FOR THESE REASONS, IT IS A REQUIREMENT FOR YOU, AS AN ADULT PARTNER, TO BE WITH THE LION CUB SCOUT DURING ALL SCOUTING ACTIVITIES.**

The Cub Scout program is designed for you to share adventures together. Be active, have fun, and enjoy the moments you have together. You, too, as an adult partner may make new friends and have opportunities to try new things.

## GETTING STARTED

1. **Find out who your contact person is for Cub Scouting.** The contact person may have a specific title like **den leader** or **Cubmaster**, or they just may be an active parent. This is the person whom you can contact to ask questions as you are getting started.
2. **Confirm the details of the den meetings**, pack meetings, and other activities. Add them to your personal and family calendars.
3. **Plug into the communication channel** that your pack and your den use. Each Cub Scout pack has different ways to communicate with parents; some have multiple ways. It may be as simple as a text message group, a communications app, or a social media page. Make sure that the contact information you give to the Cub Scout pack is accurate.
4. **Download the free Scouting app** from the Apple App Store® and Google Play™ store. The Scouting app gives parents an easy way to stay connected with their Cub Scout's progress and official records.
5. **Read the remainder of this chapter**, Cub Scout Parent Guide, and the Essential Cub Scout Family Activities chapter.

### What is Cub Scouting?

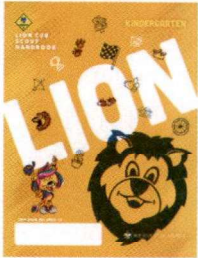
Cub Scouting is the youth program of the Boy Scouts of America® (BSA) for kindergarten through fifth grade. The mission of the program is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. This is accomplished through the aims and methods of Scouting — what we want to teach and how we teach.



The four aims are: character development, leadership, citizenship, and personal fitness.

The seven methods of Cub Scouts are: living the ideals, belonging to a den, advancement, family involvement, activities, serving the neighborhood and the uniform.

Your child wanted to join and will stay in Cub Scouting because it is fun. Cub Scouting has been described as "a game with a purpose." The activities in Cub Scouting serve a purpose deeper than just having fun. Activities are designed to meet the mission of the BSA.



### Lion Cub Scout Handbook

The Lion Cub Scout Handbook contains age-appropriate activities that correspond to the different tasks for your Lion Cub Scout to complete called **Cub Scout Adventures**. The handbook is a supplement to Adventure requirements and can be done as a way to introduce or reinforce a topic.

## LION CUB SCOUT UNIFORM

The uniform serves two purposes. One is to make everyone feel that they are part of something bigger than themselves, part of the same team. The uniform, when universally adopted, also creates an equal playing ground in which the signs of social or economic background are removed and everyone is simply a Cub Scout.

Lion Cub Scouts have options for their uniform. The families in the den should decide together which option works best for everyone.

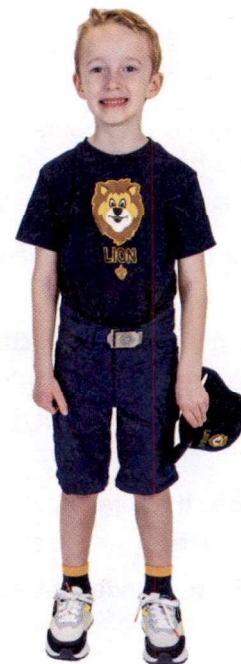
### OPTION A

- ▶ Lion hat
- ▶ Lion neckerchief
- ▶ Lion neckerchief slide
- ▶ Blue Cub Scout uniform shirt
- ▶ Blue Cub Scout uniform shorts, skort, or pants
- ▶ Cub Scout socks
- ▶ Cub Scout belt



### OPTION B

- ▶ Lion hat
- ▶ Lion Cub Scout T-shirt
- ▶ Blue Cub Scout uniform shorts, skort, or pants
- ▶ Cub Scout socks
- ▶ Cub Scout belt



The Cub Scout belt is important, as the recognition pieces your Cub Scout earns will slide onto the belt. The Cub Scout uniform shirt is where your child's Lion badge of rank will be placed when earned, as well as future badges of rank.





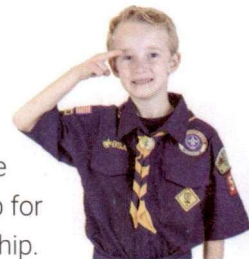
# THE AIMS OF THE BSA

The foundation of all Scouting programs is for it to be a game with a purpose. Activities in Cub Scouting have a purpose, or an aim, aside from just being fun. **The aims of Scouting are fourfold: to develop character, leadership, citizenship, and personal fitness.**



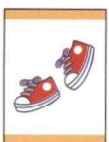
**BOBCAT**

**Character & Leadership** — Leadership is connected to a person's character. For this reason, we first build a young person's character before we ask them to give leadership. Learning about the Scout Law, practicing being friendly, and adopting the Cub Scout motto of "Do Your Best" are the cornerstones of character and leadership for a Lion Cub Scout. The **Bobcat** required Adventure is focused on character & leadership.



**KING OF THE JUNGLE**

**Citizenship** — The concept of citizenship begins at home. Citizenship is about actively participating with those around you to create a community. For Lion Cub Scouts, their community is their home and the people they live with. Learning that they, too, can contribute and have a part in their home is the objective. The **King of the Jungle** required Adventure is focused on citizenship.



**FUN ON THE RUN**

**Personal Fitness** — Personal fitness is learning about proper nutrition, hygiene, exercise, and rest. Children who develop habits at an early age are more likely to continue those habits into adulthood. Basic concepts that include eating a variety of foods, keeping hands clean, being active daily, and getting proper rest are the fundamentals of personal fitness for Lion Cub Scouts. The **Fun on the Run** required Adventure is focused on personal fitness.



## FOCUS AREAS OF CUB SCOUTING

In addition to the aims of Scouting listed above, there are focus areas of Cub Scouting. The focus areas are the outdoors, personal safety awareness, and family and reverence.



**MOUNTAIN LION**

**Outdoors** — The natural environment continues to be the best place for children to learn and discover. Being outdoors has been proven to have benefits for both youth and adults. For Lion Cub Scouts, this means taking opportunities to simply take a walk outside. Lion Cub Scouts will focus on being properly prepared when exploring their local outdoors. Time outside does not need to be in a remote forest; it can be a front yard, a city park, or walking on the sidewalk in an urban neighborhood. The **Mountain Lion** required Adventure is focused on the outdoors.







LION'S  
ROAR

**Personal Safety Awareness** — Helping families keep their children safe in addition to teaching children how to keep themselves safe is an embedded part of the Cub Scout experience. The **Lion's Roar** required Adventure is focused on personal safety awareness.



LION'S  
PRIDE

**Family & Reverence** — Cub Scouting encourages families of all faiths to explore their faith traditions. Some families have formal, structured beliefs, while other families may still be exploring their beliefs. In Scouting, being reverent means you are faithful to your beliefs and respectful of others' beliefs. The **Lion's Pride** required Adventure is focused on family & reverence.



## THE METHODS OF CUB SCOUTING

How we achieve the aims of Cub Scouting are called the methods. Using each method as designed makes for the best possible experience. The methods of Cub Scouting are: Living the Ideals, Belonging to a Den, Advancement, Family Involvement, Activities, Serving the Neighborhood, and the Uniform.

**Living the Ideals** — Scouting values are the values of the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. All interactions in Cub Scouting should reflect the values of the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. This provides a foundation on which your Scouting community can thrive.

**Belonging to a Den** — Children who are Cub Scout age do better in small groups. The den serves as a peer group and is the method by which the Cub Scout program is delivered.

**Advancement** — The advancement program refers to the progress your Cub Scout makes toward their badge of rank. This method works best with instant recognition. When a Cub Scout completes an Adventure, they should be awarded their Adventure loop immediately.

**Family Involvement** — The Lion Cub Scout program is designed for kindergarten-age children to participate with an adult partner. Cub Scouting encourages all members of the family to be involved. **This includes completing home-based Adventure requirements**, as well as inviting those who live with the Lion Cub Scout and extended family members to pack meetings and other pack activities.

**Activities** — The activities that are part of the Cub Scout program are designed to develop a lifelong love of learning. The activities and requirements for the Lion badge of rank are designed specifically for kindergarten-age children.

**Serving the Neighborhood** — Through service projects, Cub Scouts will experience what it is like to give back to their community. Service projects should be small in scope and timed to match Lion Cub Scouts' attention span and skill level.

**The Uniform** — The method of the uniform is twofold. The first is that it is a method to build a team. Just as sports teams have a uniform that identifies them, so does Cub Scouting. The second purpose is that when everyone is in uniform, it covers up differences of social or economic background.



# WHAT CUB SCOUTS DO



Each year, the goal of a Cub Scout is to earn their badge of rank specific to their grade. This is referred to as "advancement." To earn their badge of rank, they complete six required and two elective Cub Scout Adventures. Each Adventure is centered on a specific topic. The six required Adventures are focused on the aims and focus areas of the BSA: character and leadership, citizenship, personal fitness, the outdoors, personal safety, and family and reverence. Elective Adventures cover various subjects designed specifically for Lion Cub Scouts.

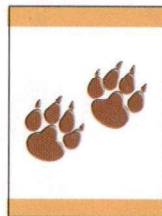
## 6 required

## 2 elective



### BOBCAT

Character & Leadership



### MOUNTAIN LION

Outdoors

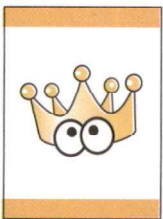


### FUN ON THE RUN

Personal Fitness



### Elective Adventure



### KING OF THE JUNGLE

Citizenship



### LION'S ROAR

Personal Safety Awareness



### LION'S PRIDE

Family & Reverence



### Elective Adventure

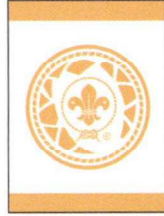


Once your Lion Cub Scout has completed the six required and at least two elective Adventures to earn their Lion badge of rank, they can continue to earn more elective Adventures until they complete kindergarten. Once your Cub Scout completes kindergarten, they begin working on the next rank in Cub Scouts, the Tiger badge of rank.

## Electives



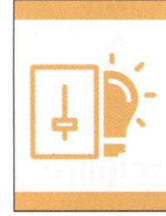
**Build It Up, Knock It Down**



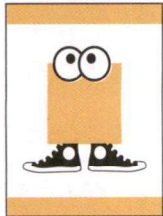
**Champions for Nature**



**Count on Me**



**Everyday Tech**



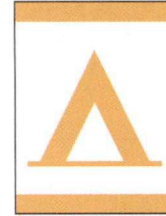
**Gizmos and Gadgets**



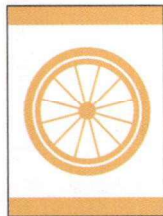
**Go Fish**



**I'll Do It Myself**



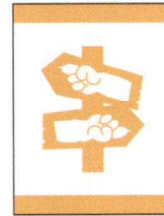
**Let's Camp**



**On a Roll**



**On Your Mark**



**Pick My Path**



**Race Time**



**Ready, Set, Grow**



**Time to Swim**



**Archery \***



**Slingshot \***

\* Range and target sports Adventures are special Adventures that can only be completed at approved events with qualified instructors.



Scan this QR code to learn more about earning the Lion badge of rank.



# HOW CUB SCOUTING IS ORGANIZED

Think of the BSA as an upside-down pyramid. At the base of the pyramid — the smallest part — is the national organization of the BSA. It is designed to support the sections above it. The **National Council** of the BSA is led by a volunteer group called the National Executive Committee along with the chief executive officer, or the **Chief Scout Executive**. Additional volunteers and staff members make up the National Council, which includes departments such as Scout shops, program development, information technology, and safety.



The next part of the pyramid is your local council, a geographic territory that the National Council has granted permission to deliver Scouting programs within that area. The local council is also led by a volunteer group and

a council executive committee, along with a chief executive officer called the **Scout executive**.



On the left sleeve of the Cub Scout uniform is a patch that identifies your local council.

Some councils create geographic areas called **districts**. Districts are designed to provide service and support to local Scouting programs in the designated area. A district committee made up of volunteers does

this work and is often supported by a staff member called a **district executive**.

At the top of the pyramid — the largest part — are the local Scouting programs. Local councils partner with community organizations, called chartered organizations, to deliver Scouting programs. Chartered organizations have an annual agreement with the local council to sponsor one or more Scouting programs.

If a chartered organization wants to have a Cub Scout program, it organizes what is called a Cub Scout **pack**. Packs are organized to best serve the families to whom the chartered organization is looking to deliver the program. Often, this is a school, neighborhood, or community. Your Cub Scout pack is identified with a number. On the Cub Scout uniform, you put your pack number on the left sleeve under the council patch.

The **chartered organization representative** is just that: the person designated to represent the organization that has an agreement with the local council to deliver the Scouting program. The chartered organization approves all those who volunteer to be leaders in the pack, usually parents of Cub Scouts. Each pack has a pack committee made up of leaders and parents led by the **pack committee chair**. This volunteer, usually a parent, organizes the adults to plan and deliver the Cub Scouting program.

The **Cubmaster** is a volunteer, usually a parent, who coordinates the delivery of the program to the youth of all ages at the pack level with the help of **assistant Cubmaster(s)** and other parents.





A Cub Scout pack is made up of small groups called **dens**. How dens are formed is up to the pack. Packs ultimately form dens in a way that best serves the families in the pack. Ideally, a den has about eight Cub Scouts who are all in the same grade and are working on the same rank together. Dens can also be formed with different grades. A Cub Scout pack with three second-graders (Wolves) and two third-graders (Bears) may form a multi-rank den with those five Cub Scouts. Regardless of how dens are formed, Cub Scouts earn Adventures and the badge of rank only for their grade level.

The den is led by a volunteer **den leader** and **assistant den leader**, usually a parent. The den leader coordinates meetings and activities centered around Cub Scout **Adventures**. Adventures are made up of a group of activities. When the required activities for each Adventure are completed, the Cub Scout receives an **Adventure loop** that slides onto their Cub Scout belt as recognition for completing an Adventure.

**Advancement** refers to the progress your Cub Scout is making toward their badge of rank. Cub Scouts work only on the badge of rank associated with their grade level. For kindergarten, this is the Lion badge of rank. Your Cub Scout earns their **Lion** badge of rank by completing the six required Adventures and two elective Adventures. When they complete a badge of rank, they may not work on the next badge of rank until they have completed the grade level associated with that badge of rank. Cub Scouts may not work on a badge of rank for an earlier grade level.





# YOUR CUB SCOUT DEN

## Your Cub Scout Den

In Cub Scouting, a den is a small group of Cub Scouts. Cub Scouting uses different animals as mascots for different grade levels. There is no requirement for den size. We recommend that a den is no larger than 10 Cub Scouts. A den larger than 10 Cub Scouts is acceptable as long as everyone is working together and no one is left out.



**Kindergarten**



**First Grade**



**Second Grade**



**Third Grade**



**Webelos  
Fourth Grade**



**Arrow of Light  
Fifth Grade**



Your Lion den will meet on a regular basis to have fun and complete Cub Scout Adventures together. The time, date, and location of den meetings are determined by the families in your den. How often you meet is also up to the families in your den. Den meetings for Lion Cub Scouts should last between 45 minutes and an hour.

In your den, two adults who are 21 years of age or older will need to serve as the den leader and assistant den leader. If your den has girls, then one of the two adult leaders must be female. The Lion den leader and assistant den leader serve as team leaders and coordinate den meetings with the families in the den. Each Lion adult partner is expected to help the den leader and assistant den leader by either hosting meetings, running an activity, or assisting with other tasks.

A den meeting is simple: a quick opening, some fun activities that help your Cub Scout earn an Adventure, and a closing.



Scan this QR code for suggested activities for required and elective Adventures.



Scan this QR code to learn more about leading a den meeting.





# LION DEN LEADER AND ASSISTANT DEN LEADER

Cub Scout den leaders and assistant den leaders work directly with Cub Scouts and their parents, legal guardians and adult partners to execute the Cub Scouting program in the den.

Dens must have two registered leaders: a den leader and assistant den leader or two den co-leaders. In all situations, den leaders work with parents, legal guardians and adult partners as a team to deliver the program.

## Qualifications for adult leaders:

- ▶ At least 21 years old.
- ▶ Typically, a parent or legal guardian of a child in the den.
- ▶ Recommended by the Cubmaster after consultation with the parents or legal guardians of the involved Cub Scouts and approved by the pack committee and chartered organization.
- ▶ Registered as an adult leader of the BSA and completed Youth Protection training.



## Den leader responsibilities:

- ▶ Carry out the activities listed for each rank in the handbook for Cub Scouts in the den to earn their badge of rank.
- ▶ Work directly with other den and pack leaders to ensure that the den is an active and successful part of the pack.
- ▶ Plan and conduct den meetings with the assistant den leader and Lion adult partners.
- ▶ Attend the monthly pack committee meetings.
- ▶ Lead the den at pack activities.
- ▶ Coordinate shared leadership among the adult partners in the den.
- ▶ Ensure that each child and their Lion adult partner have the opportunity to be the host team, planning and executing the den activities. Rotate responsibilities monthly.
- ▶ Complete den leader position-specific training.

Core to succeeding with these responsibilities is the concept that every Cub Scout deserves a trained leader. Being a trained leader helps you deliver the program in a way that is effective and efficient with a focus on the core objectives of Scouting. Becoming a trained leader requires completion of the following:

- ▶ Youth Protection Training (required to be a registered leader)
- ▶ Leader position-specific training

Both training courses are available online at **my.scouting.org** and offered in person through your local council service center. Leaders who have completed these two trainings qualify to wear the Trained Leader emblem.



my.scouting.org



# LION DEN MEETINGS



Meeting Place  
Inspection  
Checklist

## Den Meeting Location

Den meetings should be held in a safe location that the den has permission to use. This can be a private residence, a public facility, or another location. All den meeting locations are to be inspected annually using the Meeting Place Inspection Checklist.

## Den Meeting Schedule

Together, the den leader and the families in the den decide when and how often the den should meet. A typical den meeting schedule is once a week or twice a month.

Your pack may have access to a meeting location that may determine den meeting dates and time.

Your den should meet as frequently as required to meet the needs of the families in the den and provide an opportunity for each Cub Scout to earn their Lion badge of rank.

For Lion den meetings, it is recommended to keep the meeting to an hour.

In addition to den meetings in a given month, your pack will likely have a pack meeting or activity once a month.

Tip: It is best to be consistent with date, time, and location of your den meetings.



Guide to  
Safe Scouting

## Den Meeting Safety

In conducting activities, Cub Scout den leaders must maintain adequate and active adult supervision. As a Lion adult partner, you have a primary responsibility to keep yourself and your Cub Scout safe.

Keeping your Cub Scout safe includes both physical and emotional safety. There may be things that you allow at home that are not approved activities in Scouting. The BSA has developed the

**Guide to Safe Scouting** for information on policies relating to the many activities in which your den may participate. The *Guide to Safe Scouting* is available on the National Council website at [www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/](http://www.scouting.org/health-and-safety/gss/).

# SHARED LEADERSHIP



Lion den meetings work best with a shared leadership model. Each Lion adult partner should agree to help with either hosting a meeting, conducting an activity at a meeting, or assisting with other tasks.

The Lion den leader and assistant den leader coordinate den meetings, but the den will be at its best when every Lion adult partner is helping to the best of their ability. This can be as simple as working with the den leader to gather materials, contacting families to remind them of meetings, leading a game or a craft, or planning for the den to visit a special location. The idea is to work with the Lion den leader and share the load. What that looks like will be different for each den.



# PLANNING ADVENTURES FOR DEN MEETINGS

As you plan your den's program for the year, there are a few important points to consider.

## Bobcat Adventure

Bobcat is designed to be the first required Adventure that a Cub Scout earns each year. The Adventure is designed to be the first meeting with your den.

The Bobcat Adventure does not have to be the first Adventure that is earned, it is just designed to be. After finishing the Bobcat Adventure, plan to complete the other five required Adventures and any two elective Adventures. You may complete these in any order to ensure each Cub Scout has the opportunity to earn their Lion badge of rank.

## Required Adventures

All six required Adventures and two elective Adventures must be completed to earn the Lion badge of rank. The required Adventures are based on the aims and focus areas of the BSA: character, leadership, citizenship, personal fitness, the outdoors, personal safety, and family and reverence. Elective Adventures may be completed prior to completing required Adventures.

Tip: Place the required Adventures on the den calendar first to ensure adequate time to complete.

## Elective Adventures

Elective Adventures add to the fun of Cub Scouting. Two elective Adventures are required for the Lion badge of rank. Some elective Adventures may be planned by your pack, such as fishing, cycling, or the Pinewood Derby®. You may also find that some elective Adventures can be done as an activity with other dens. Elective Adventures may also be done at home, working with the Lion Cub Scout's family.

Before starting an elective Adventure at home, check with the den and pack to ensure that the Adventure is not already on the den or pack calendar. Cub Scouts who miss a den meeting for an elective Adventure may complete the Adventure at home.

When working on elective Adventures at home, check with the den and pack to know how the purchase of Adventure loops will be handled. Packs may have a budget for recognition pieces. The budget may allow for an unlimited number of Adventure loops or may limit the number that the pack will purchase.

Important: When planning the den calendar, keep in mind that six required Adventures and at least two elective Adventures are required for the Lion badge of rank.

Once a Cub Scout has moved (graduated) to their next den level (grade level), **a Cub Scout may not earn Adventures or the rank of their previous grade.**