



3RD GRADE

**BEAR CUB
SCOUT
HANDBOOK**

BEAR



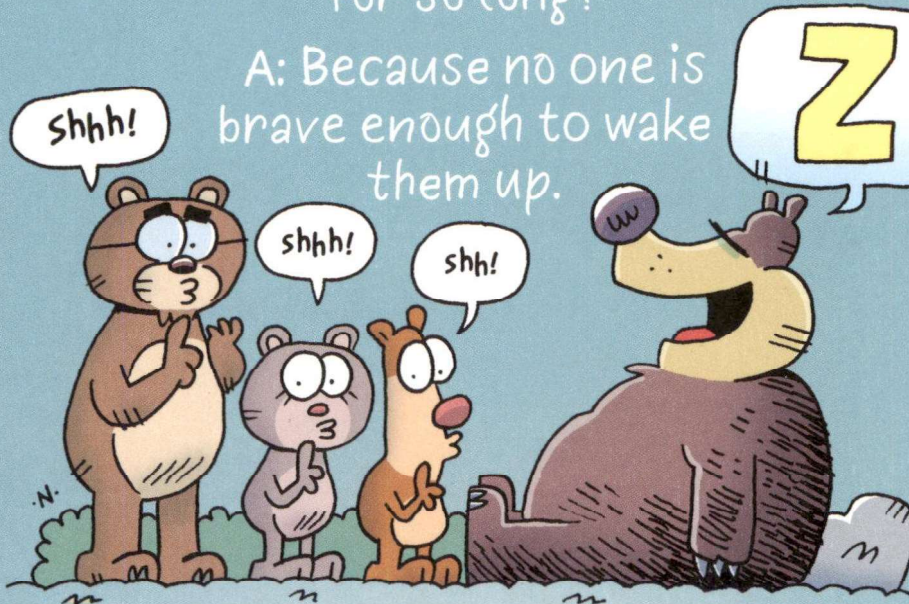
THIS BOOK BELONGS TO



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Q: Why do bears hibernate for so long?

A: Because no one is brave enough to wake them up.



Impress your friends and family with the best jokes. Laugh at the funniest comics. Be inspired by the heroes of Scouts in Action. And learn how to get the most out of Scouting. All in

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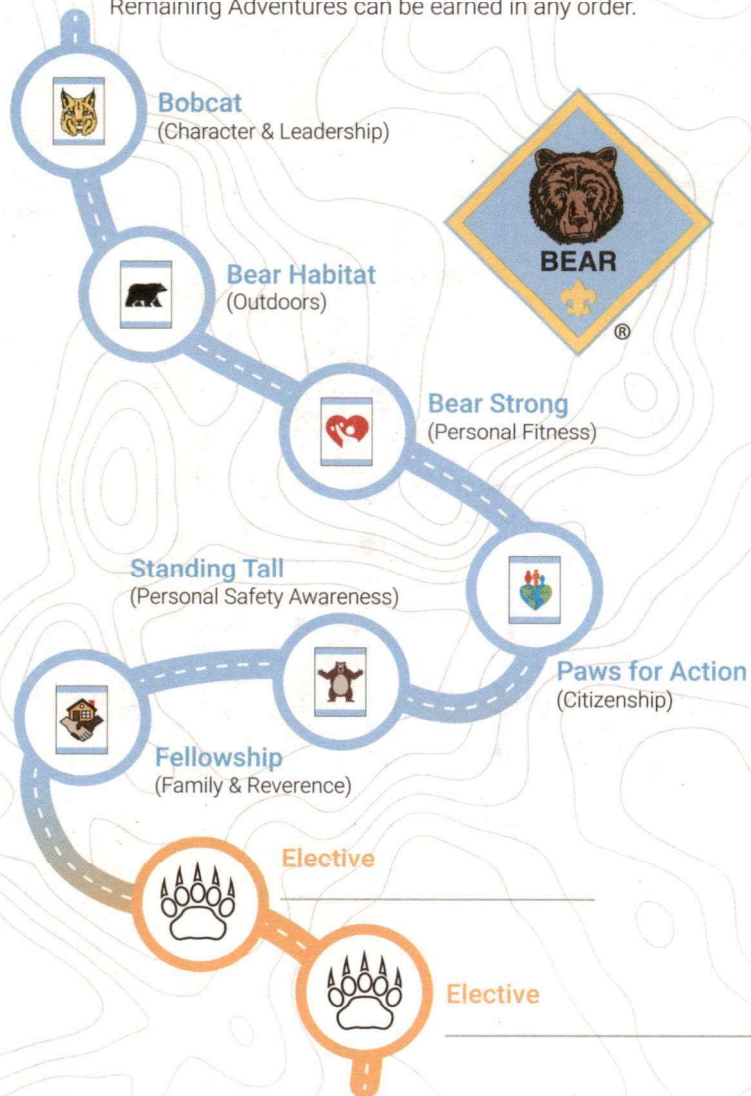
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WELCOME, CUB SCOUT!

Follow the trail to earn your Bear badge of rank.

Bobcat is designed to be the first required Adventure.
Remaining Adventures can be earned in any order.



Fill in the circle when you complete an Adventure.

BEAR

HANDBOOK



Cub Scouts is about having fun,
making friends, and doing your best.
Have a great time!

34753 660352
ISBN 978-0-8395-0111-4
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2024 Printing

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BEAR REQUIRED ADVENTURES

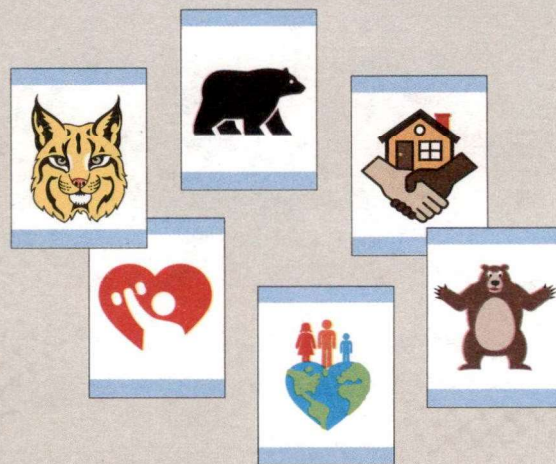
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WELCOME TO THE BEAR ADVENTURE TRAIL

On the Bear Adventure Trail, you will explore the outdoors, make new friends, play games, and do things that only Cub Scouts do. As you are having fun, you will complete a group of activities called **Adventures**. After completing each Adventure, you will be given a metal belt loop that slides onto your Cub Scout belt. To earn the Bear badge of rank, you will need to complete all six required Adventures and at least two elective Adventures. You may earn as many elective Adventures as you like. When you complete the third grade, you will begin your Webelos Adventure Trail.



CUB SCOUT PARENT GUIDE

(This section is for your parent or legal guardian.)

Your child will get the most out of their Cub Scout experience when you take an active part. Cub Scouting is led by volunteer parents, just like you. They come together to plan Cub Scout activities, meetings, and special events. For many parents, this is a great way to get to know the other families in their community. Chances are, you have a lot in common. Your child may attend the same school and some children may even have the same teachers. You may shop at the same grocery store, play at the same park, or may even live within walking distance from each other.

GETTING STARTED AS A CUB SCOUT PARENT

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 a different way they 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.

HOW CUB SCOUTING IS ORGANIZED

Later in this book, we describe how Cub Scouting is organized in a way your Bear Cub Scout can best understand. As an adult, we want you to have a deeper understanding of the BSA.

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 called the 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.



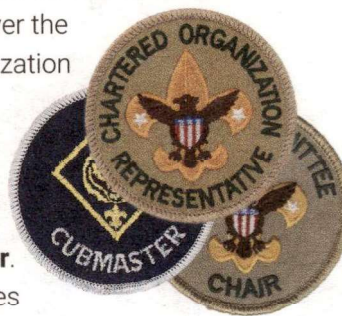
Some councils create geographic areas called **districts**. Districts are designed to provide service and support to local Scouting programs in the designated area. A district committee made up of volunteers does this work and is often supported by a staff member called a **district executive**.

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. Put your pack number on the left sleeve of your Cub Scout uniform 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.

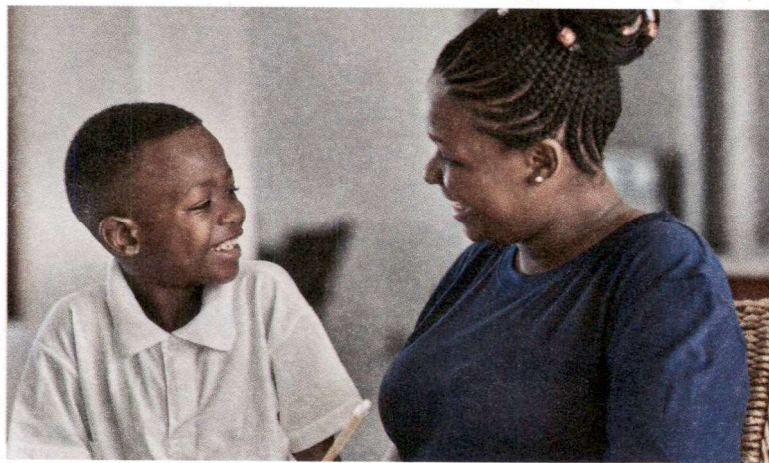


The **Cubmaster** is a volunteer, usually a parent, who coordinates the delivery of the program to the youth of all ages at the pack level, with the help of **assistant Cubmaster(s)** and other parents.

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 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 third grade, this is the Bear badge of rank. Your Cub Scout earns their **Bear** 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.



ESSENTIAL CUB SCOUT FAMILY ACTIVITIES

The Cub Scout program is designed for you to share adventures together with your child. Be active, have fun, and enjoy the moments you have together. As an adult, you will also make new friends and have opportunities to try new things.

Cub Scouting is a holistic program; the positive impact works best when incorporated into your home. One way to do this is for you to be familiar with the Scout Oath and the Scout Law and look for ways to recognize your Cub Scout when they are following these values.

ADVENTURE REQUIREMENTS TO DO AT HOME

Most Adventure requirements will be completed with your den or pack. The following requirements are designed to be done at home. Let your den leader know when you have completed them with your Cub Scout.

BOBCAT

Requirement 8 — At home, with your parent or legal guardian, do the activities in the booklet "How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide."

STANDING TALL

Your den leader may ask that you complete all requirements for this Adventure at home. See the requirements on page 89.

FELLOWSHIP

Your den leader may ask that you complete all requirements for this Adventure at home. See the requirements on page 97.

NORTH AMERICAN BEARS

Several types of bears live in North America. The most common is the American black bear. The black bear can be several shades of black or brown. The black bear is an omnivore, which means it eats plants and animals. You can find black bears in 40 of the 50 states in the United States.

Like most bears, the black bear eats a lot of food before winter. During the winter, there is less food to be found, and the bear will go into a deep sleep called hibernation. During this time, the bear will depend on the food it ate before it began to hibernate.



12 Bear

Black bears like to live in wooded areas that have a lot of vegetation and things to eat. At times, black bears will go into neighborhoods looking for food. Bears are not known to attack people unless they feel they are in danger.

When a mother bear is protecting her bear cubs (sometimes from another bear), she will train her bear cubs to run up a tree as she stands guard. When a bear feels that it or its bear cubs are in danger, it may try to scare off the danger by standing up on its back legs. This makes the bear look larger, which will usually scare off the danger.

The stories in *The Jungle Book* were written by Rudyard Kipling and have been made into several movies. One character in *The Jungle Book* is a wolf named Akela (Ah-KAY-la). Akela finds a lost child named Mowgli (MO-gee) and raises the child like a wolf. Baloo the bear helps teach Mowgli the laws of the jungle so he can live among the animals.

Cub Scouts in the United States used the names of these characters as a fun way to describe the Cub Scouting program. To this day, you may hear words like Akela, Baloo, den, and pack. That is our way of remembering how Cub Scouting began.

YOUR CUB SCOUT PACK

You and your family are part of a Cub Scout pack. A pack is made up of several families that are part of Cub Scouting in your community. A pack includes Cub Scouts who are in kindergarten through fifth grade. The pack will get together for activities, meetings, and outings. The adult leader of the pack is called the **Cubmaster**. To make Cub Scouting more fun, packs form small groups called **dens**.



YOUR CUB SCOUT BEAR DEN

Your den is the group in which you make new friends, play games, and earn Adventures as you work toward earning your Bear badge of rank. Each den is a little different. Most of your Cub Scout fun will be with your den. The adult leader of the den is called the ***den leader***.



YOUR CUB SCOUT ADULT LEADERS

You will see several adults in Cub Scouting; some you will be able to recognize right away because they are wearing a uniform. Other adults may be part of the pack but do not wear a uniform. As a Cub Scout always be respectful to adults in your Cub Scout pack.

At no time is any adult, other than your parent or legal guardian, to be alone with you.



YOUR CUB SCOUT BEAR UNIFORM

Wearing your uniform shows everyone that you are a Cub Scout. Think of it as being part of one of the largest teams in America. Wear your uniform to pack meetings, den meetings, and special activities when you are with other Cub Scouts. There are times when you are going to get dirty in Cub Scouts; for those times it's OK to wear a Cub Scout t-shirt.



The uniform includes the blue Cub Scout shirt, blue Cub Scout bottoms (shorts, pants, or skort), the Cub Scout belt, and Cub Scout socks. Each rank has a hat, neckerchief and neckerchief slide with their own emblem and colors. The Bear hat and neckerchief are blue.

Your Cub Scout belt is specially made so that your Cub Scout Adventure loops can slide onto it.





The pictures below show you where to put badges of rank and patches on your blue Cub Scout shirt. You might receive a patch for attending a special event like a campout or for selling popcorn. These are examples of "temporary insignia" and should be worn centered on the right pocket. Sometimes these patches come with a button loop, so you can hang your patch from your pocket button.



THE BEAR ADVENTURE TRAIL

The Cub Scout activities that you do with your den, pack, and family are called Adventures. Each Adventure has several things you do to complete that Adventure. These are called requirements. You'll have fun completing the requirements with the help of your den, pack, and family.

When you complete a requirement for an Adventure, have your leader, parent or legal guardian confirm that you did your best by signing and dating your handbook like in the sample below.



Sept 15
Date

A. Scouter
Adult's signature

When you complete an Adventure, you are awarded a special metal belt loop. You slide your Adventure loops onto your belt. At the end of your Bear year, you can make a cool display for your Bear Adventure loops out of wooden paint stirrers.

Most of the Adventures you do will be with your den in your den meetings. Your Cub Scout pack may plan some activities that will help you earn an Adventure. You can complete other Adventures at home with your family.

To earn your Bear badge of rank, you must complete the six required Adventures and at least two elective Adventures. You have 20 elective Adventures to choose from.

If you complete an Adventure or a requirement for an Adventure outside of your den meeting, let your den leader know so they can record it and make sure you are recognized for earning it.

REQUIRED ADVENTURES

Must complete each of the 6 required adventures



Bobcat

(Character & Leadership)



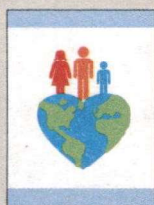
Bear Habitat

(Outdoors)



Bear Strong

(Personal Fitness)



Paws for Action

(Citizenship)



Standing Tall

(Personal Safety Awareness)



Fellowship

(Family & Reverence)

ELECTIVE ADVENTURES

Must complete at least 2 elective adventures



A Bear Goes Fishing



Balancing Bears



Baloo the Builder



Bears Afloat



Bears on Bikes



Champions for Nature



Chef Tech



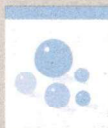
Critter Care



Forensics



Let's Camp



Marble Madness



Race Time



Roaring Laughter



Salmon Run



Summertime Fun



Super Science



Whittling



Archery*



BBs*



Slingshot*

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