Welcome to Cub Scouts!

This short guide will help you better understand how the Cub Scout Program works as well as all of the fun things your son will get to experience.

Why join Cub Scouts?

Besides all of the exciting programs we provide throughout the year such as camping, racing a model race car, and launching a model rocket, Cub Scouts is a building block to help your son live an enjoyable, balanced life while focusing on family values.

Cub Scouts is a fun and family oriented program. We encourage all of our families to get involved and experience the fun that your child is having. Some of the best memories our families make happen during a Scouting activity.

What is my son going to get out of the Program?

In addition to having fun and meeting new friends, your son will learn many important life skills that he will use and develop in his daily life. Through building character, citizenship, and personal fitness, your son will have a better understanding of:

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 does Cub Scouting Teach?

Scout Oath:
On my honor, I will do my best,  
To do my duty, to God and my country,  
To obey the Scout Law,  
To help other people at all times,  
To keep myself physically strong,  
Mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law:
A Scout is:  
Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful,  
Friendly, Courteous, Kind,  
Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty,  
Brave, Clean, Reverent.

So how does the Program Work?

Your son is welcome to join Cub Scouts at any time throughout elementary school (K-5th grade). Regardless of whether your son is in Kindergarten or third grade, Cub Scouts is designed to give him a great experience and have the opportunity to earn awards!

You son will be part of a den which is a group of boys in the same grade level that meet together. This group of boys work together on achieving the awards appropriate to their grade level. They also work together to set up activities based on the schedule of the den families.

All of the combined dens from Kindergarten to 5th grade make up a pack. Once a month the dens, with their families, are together for a pack meeting. This meeting usually consists of a fun program and recognizing achievements earned over the last month.

The Pack will also get together for special programs such as the Blue and Gold Awards Dinner and the racecar event known as the Pinewood Derby.
What age level is my son participating in?

**Kindergarten - Den Name: Lions**

Lions are kindergarten boys learning about Cub Scouts. They typically meet twice a month and participate in the large activities with the pack. Parents are the most involved at the Lion level as every Lion joins with a caring adult partner. An experienced leader from the pack, known as a Lion Guide, will help the families get started on their adventures. As the year goes on, each family will be asked to host a meeting or outing utilizing the resources provided in the “Lion Parent and Leader Guidebook.” This book comes with the Lion Adventure book he uses throughout the year.

**First Grade - Den Name: Tigers**

Parents are also very involved at the Tiger level. The boy and his parent or guardian join the den together and attend all meetings and activities together. This group is run by the Tiger Cub Den Leader who helps coordinate the meetings. Tigers usually meet three to four times a month which includes the monthly pack meeting.

The first couple meetings for your son will consist of earning the Bobcat badge which is the first award he will receive in Cub Scouts! The Bobcat badge is the introduction to Cub Scouts and helps your son learn the Scout Oath, Scout Law, Cub Scout Handshake, and completing parent and son, age-appropriate exercises to learn about personal safety.
Second and Third Grade - Den Name: Wolf and Bear

If your son is new, he will complete the Bobcat Badge first. Wolf and Bear Scouts begin to become more independent. Each den typically meets three to four times a month which includes the pack meeting and periodic field trips.

Fourth and Fifth Grade - Den Name: Webelos and Arrow of Light

If your son is new, he will complete the Bobcat Badge first. These groups of boys become the youth leaders of the pack as they work to prepare for Boy Scouts. Much of their time is spent working on the advancement program towards the Arrow of Light Award (Cub Scout’s highest honor). Much of this program involves field trips in order to complete the advancement program.

What are some Awesome Activities?

Pinewood Derby - You can build and race a model car with your son.

Blue and Gold Banquet - Cub Scouting’s birthday party - for all pack members and their families - usually in February or March.

Camping - Overnight campout, adventure camp (day camp) or adventure weekends.

Scout Nights - Throughout the year, there are opportunities to attend local sporting events and sleep out on the field. These events are welcomed by the entire family!
So what’s with the Rocket we received?

For joining Cub Scouts, your son received a rocket that will need to be built before attending the Cub Scout Launch.

Cub Scout Launch is a half day event, with an overnight camping option offered, where your son will not only have an opportunity to launch his assembled rocket, but he will also be able to participate in other activities such as BB Guns and Archery.

The half day event is free for your son to attend if he is brand new to the program. This event is a lot of fun, and this is a great opportunity for families to build their rocket together.

For event details, please visit: www.wdboyce.org/cubscoutlaunch

As a parent, what am I going to be asked to do?

Your role as a parent is the key to a successful Cub Scouting program. Not only is this program fun for your son, but all families are welcomed to have just as much fun!

Throughout the year, the pack will need help from families in order to make the program run. These tasks can be as simple as ordering food for a campout or taking notes at a parents meeting. The more help we have, the more fun your son is going to have!

Remember, make memories with your son that will last a lifetime!

What could be more valuable? You will have an opportunity to be a positive influence in the lives of him and his friends.
Who were some of the people I met at the joining night?

**Cubmaster:**
Leads the monthly pack meeting, helps carry out the program, and helps the den leaders.

**Committee Chair:**
Leads the pack committee, recruits leadership, and helps with the administrative tasks of the pack.

**Den Leaders:**
Leads the weekly den meetings and attends the monthly pack meeting.

**Secretary/Treasurer**
Keeps all records for the pack, including financial records.

**Lion Guide:**
Experienced Leader that helps the Lions get started with their program.

**Pack Trainer:**
Helps coordinate training opportunities for volunteers.

What training is required?

Youth Protection training is required for every registered adult.

Youth Protection Training is how the Boy Scouts of America continues to create barriers of abuse and to protect your child. We place the greatest importance on providing the most secure environment possible for its youth members. **Youth Protection Training is available by creating a free account at My.Scouting.org.**

In addition, Boy Scouts provide training to help every adult succeed if you should choose to help lead in a volunteer role. **My.Scouting.org** has many online trainings available for you to take at your convenience. Please talk to your pack trainer about what training would be best for you to take.
How much does Scouting Cost?

National Registration Fee:
Annual fee for youth and leaders: $24.00 for 12 months

Boy’s Life Magazine: $12.00 for 12 months

*Not required but highly recommended!*

Books: $9.99 for Lion Book
$12.99 for other levels

Each level requires a new book that your son will use.

Uniform: Varies by program

The uniform and its cost vary by program for both youth and adults. Uniforms may be purchased at our local Scout Shop in Peoria or Bloomington. You may also visit www.scoutstuff.org as well. It is recommended that you buy the shirt slightly bigger so that it will last your son longer.

Individual Pack Activity Fee: Varies by location

Is there a way to help offset the cost of Cub Scouts?

Yes... The popcorn sale is the main fundraiser for the Boy Scouts of America. Most boys that sell popcorn are able to “earn their way” through Scouting. The annual popcorn sale earns commissions for your pack of up to 40% that helps to pay for programming, awards, and supplies throughout the year.

How do we sell?
• Door to door in your neighborhood.
• Parents selling at work.
• Set up an online sales account.
• Show-n-Sell in front of local businesses.
• Military donation to help provide popcorn for our service men and women.

Can a Cub Scout really pay for the entire program year?

Every Cub Scout Pack operates a little differently, however, we know that the average pack spends about $150 per boy throughout the year. The average boy sells between $400 and $450 of popcorn. After the commissions are earned, the answer is YES!
What is discussed at the Parent Orientation Meeting?

- A calendar of activities and meetings for the year.
- Contact information so you can stay informed of what is happening.
- Meeting information and expectations.
- Information for the upcoming Cub Scout Launches so your son can launch his rocket.
- Information about the popcorn sale including ordering information and prize incentives.
- The Cub Scout Uniform and any other t-shirt the Cub Scout pack may wear.
- Any volunteer needs for the year.
- Please be ready to fill out a parent-talent survey in order to help the pack utilize your strengths and skills.

Is there a way to keep me informed?

The Activity Compass e-mail is sent every Tuesday for you to learn about what upcoming Cub Scout activities are happening in the area.

This is a great tool for families to use to allow your son to participate in as many activities as he would like. If you do not receive the Activities Compass, please go to www.wdboyce.org.
What if I have questions?

My Leaders:

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<tr>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<td>Cubmaster</td>
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<td>Den Leader</td>
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<td>Committee Chair</td>
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<td>Lion Guide (Kindergarten)</td>
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