



WHAT IS A TIGER SCOUT?

In the early 1980's, as a part of the Foundations for Growth Study, a survey was developed to find out if and how Scouting could meet the abilities, needs, and desires of 7-year-old boys and their families. The boys wanted to have fun, with other boys and their parents. The parents wanted a program in which they could work directly with their sons, exposing them to a variety of experiences. The parents also wanted simplicity and a meeting pattern - once or twice a month - that would fit into a busy schedule.

A group of Cub Scouts and educators gathered the survey results and data from pilot programs to design a program that matches the desires found in the survey with the development needs of boys in this age group. Tiger Cubs BSA was a field tested and approved, and officially became a part of the Boy Scouts of America.

Over the years, parts of the program's structure have enveloped, but the basic elements have remained the same: Tiger Cubs BSA is a simple and fun program for first-grade boys and their families.

Tiger Cubs will introduce boys and their adult partners to the excitement of Cub Scouting as they "Search, Discover, and Share" together.

WHO CAN JOIN TIGER CUBS?

Tiger Cubs BSA is the part of the program of the **Boy Scouts of America** that is for boys who are in the first grade and their adult partners. Seven-year-old boys and their partners may also join Tiger Cubs BSA.

The basic element of Tiger Cubs BSA is the boy-adult team. The adult may be a parent, grandparent, adult brother or sister, aunt or uncle, or even a neighbor. The only requirements are that the adult be 18 years of age or older, care about the boy, and have a strong commitment to his well-being. The boy and his adult partner join Tiger Cubs BSA together.

THE TIGER CUB DEN

Normally, five to eight Tiger Cub teams are formed into a Tiger Cub den, which is part of a Cub Scout pack. The Tiger Cub den meets with the pack for as many activities as the pack feels are appropriate prior to the Tiger Cubs' graduation into Cub Scouting. If a pack has more than one Tiger Cub den, each Tiger Cub den has its own meetings. There is no one Tiger Cub den leader. However, each den should select a Tiger Cub Den Coordinator from among the parents in the den.

THE DEN MEETINGS

Tiger Cub dens meet twice a month. Their meetings are based on the Big Ideas the den has chosen from the Tiger Cub Family Activity Book. One of these meetings should be an activity or field trip, such as attending a community event or visiting a place of interest. (Your council may have compiled a Tiger Cub "Where to Go" booklet for dens to use in planning these activities.) The second meeting can be another big idea, a pack meeting, or an age-appropriate pack activity. When the Tiger cub completes a Big Idea, he is allowed to iron on a Big Idea patch on his Tiger Cub shirt (see **Big Idea Patches** by clicking on this link).

THE TIGER CUB CYCLE

Tiger Cubs follow a school-year cycle. Boys and their adult partners join Tiger Cubs BSA at the beginning of the first-grade school year and remain in the program until the completion of first grade. At that time, they graduate into Cub Scouting and are eligible to participate in Cub Scout summer activities, including Cub Scout day camp. Because one of the keys to success of the program is maintaining the "togetherness" of the den, additional Tiger Cub teams are not usually added once the den has established its identity by conducting Big Idea 1, "Getting to Know You." Instead, a new den should be formed. However, after conducting Big Idea 1, the den may decide to add one or two additional teams in order to bring a small den to a more workable size, or to accept a team that wishes to transfer from another den because of a family move. For the same reason, the den should stay together for the entire Tiger Cub experience and by completing Big Idea 17, "Cub Scouting, Here We Come," in May, graduate as a den into the Cub Scout pack.



WHAT IS A WOLF SCOUT?

The Wolf rank is for boys who have completed first grade (or age 8).

To become a Wolf Cub Scout, a boy must pass 12 skills. His parent must approve each achievement by signing his book. The den leader keeps a record of his progress on the Cub Scout Den Advancement Chart, and gives him recognition at a den meeting for passing each milestone.

WOLF ACTIVITY BADGES

When a boy has completed the 12 achievements to the satisfaction for his parent, the den leader indicates this on the Den Advancement Report, and turns it in. The Wolf badge is obtained and presented to his parent or guardian at the next pack meeting in an impressive advancement ceremony. The parent, in turn, presents the badge to the boy.



ARROW POINTS

After he has earned the Wolf badge, he is encouraged to work on the 22 Wolf electives until he completes second grade (or becomes 9). More than 100 elective projects, he earns a Gold Arrow Point to wear under the Wolf badge. For each additional 10 elective projects completed, he earns a Silver Arrow Point. These are presented at pack meeting in an advancement ceremony.



CUB SCOUT DENNER

The Cub Scout denner is a den member elected by the den for a short period, usually one or two months. His responsibilities are determined by the den leader and den chief. This might include helping to set up the den meeting place and cleanup; helping with games, ceremonies, tricks, and puzzles; leading a song; or acting as den cheerleader. He should be given meaningful responsibilities and recognition to help him learn how to be a leader, so all boys will look forward to their turn as denner. (The short term of office is to give all boys the opportunity to serve. The shoulder cord is worn on the left shoulder.)

CUB SCOUT ASSISTANT DENNER

The Cub Scout assistant denner is a den member elected by the den for a short term of office, coinciding with the denner's term. He assists the denner, and usually becomes denner for the next term.



WHAT IS A BEAR SCOUT?

The Bear rank is for boys who have completed 2nd grade (or age 9). The pack will present the Bear book and neckerchief when a boy graduates from the wolf den and then is eligible to begin work on this rank.

BEAR ACTIVITY BADGES

There are 24 Bear achievements in four different categories. He must complete 12 of these to earn the Bear badge. These requirements are somewhat more difficult and challenging than those for Wolf. When he has earned his Bear badge, he may work on electives in the Big Bear Cub Scout Book for credit toward Bear arrow points. He may also complete additional elective credit requirements from the 12 achievements he did not use in earning his Bear rank. His parent approves his work and signs his book.

When he completes third grade (or is age 10), a Cub Scout may graduate in a pack ceremony to the Webelos den.



ARROW POINTS

After he has earned the Bear badge, he is encouraged to work on the 25 Bear electives until he completes third grade (or becomes 10). More than 100 elective projects, he earns a Gold Arrow Point to wear under the Bear badge. For each additional 10 elective projects completed, he earns a Silver Arrow Point. These are presented at pack meeting in an advancement ceremony.



CUB SCOUT DENNER

The Cub Scout denner is a den member elected by the den for a short period, usually one or two months. His responsibilities are determined by the den leader and den chief. This might include helping to set up the den meeting place and cleanup; helping with games, ceremonies, tricks, and puzzles; leading a song; or acting as den cheerleader. He should be given meaningful responsibilities and recognition to help him learn how to be a leader, so all boys will look forward to their turn as denner. (The short term of office is to give all boys the opportunity to serve. The shoulder cord is worn on the left shoulder.)

CUB SCOUT ASSISTANT DENNER

The Cub Scout assistant denner is a den member elected by the den for a short term of office, coinciding with the denner's term. He assists the denner, and usually becomes denner for the next term.



WHAT IS A WEBELOS SCOUT?



The Webelos rank is for boys who have completed third grade (or are age 10). A boy may begin working on the Webelos badge as soon as he joins a Webelos den. This is the first step in his transition from Webelos den to Boy Scout troop. As he completes the requirements found in the Webelos Scout Book, he will work on activity badges, attend meetings led by adults, and become familiar with the Boy Scout requirements--all leading to the Arrow of Light Award.

He passes most Webelos badge requirements to his Webelos den leader and activity badge counselors. When all requirements are completed, the Webelos den leader turns in the Den Advancement Report. The Webelos badge is obtained and presented to his parent or guardian at the next pack meeting in an impressive advance- advancement ceremony.

WEBELOS ACTIVITY BADGES

As he is earning the Webelos badge and the Arrow of Light Award, a Webelos Scout is required to earn eight of the 20 available activity badges. Certain activity badges are required for earning the Webelos badge and the Arrow of Light Award, while others may be selected by the boy. The 20 activity badges are hobby and career fields ranging from science to sports. Most badge requirements are passed to the Webelos den leader or activity badge counselors.



Any activity badge may be earned by any boy during any month. But most Webelos den leaders have found that it's best to have all den members working on the same badge at the same time since more resources and qualified help can be utilized in this way.

When activity badges are earned, the Webelos den leader indicates those on the Den Advancement Report, and the badges are presented to the parent or guardian during an advancement ceremony at pack meetings.

COMPASS POINTS

After completing the Webelos badge, the Webelos Scout may receive compass points for earning additional activity badges. The Compass Points emblem is presented to the boy who has earned four activity badges in addition to those required for the Webelos badge (a total of seven). A metal compass point is awarded for each additional four activity badges earned.



ARROW OF LIGHT AWARD

The next step on the Webelos trail to becoming a Boy Scout is the Arrow of Light Award, which is the highest award a boy can earn as a Cub Scout. This is the only Cub Scout badge authorized to be worn on the Boy Scout uniform when he graduates into a troop.

After he has completed fourth grade and earned the Webelos badge, he is ready to start on the Arrow of Light Award requirements. These give him a chance to practice some Scout skills

which he has already learned about, earn more activity badges, and really find out what a Boy Scout is. He passes the requirements to the Webelos den leader.

When all the Arrow of Light Award requirements are completed, the Webelos den leader indicates this on the Den Advancement Report and turns it in. The award is obtained and presented to the boy and parent or guardian at an impressive pack ceremony. This is a special award, so the ceremony should be special.

WEBELOS SCOUT DENNER

The Webelos Scout denner is a Webelos Scout who has been elected by secret ballot by the Webelos den for a short term of office, usually three to six months. His responsibilities are determined by the Webelos den leader and Webelos den chief, and might include such things as leading ceremonies, preparing equipment, setting up the meeting room, greeting new boys and helping them get acquainted, assisting with tricks and puzzles, or other worthwhile tasks.

WEBELOS SCOUT ASSISTANT DENNER

The Webelos Scout assistant denner is a den member elected by the den for a short term of office, to coincide with the Webelos Scout denner's term. He assists the denner, and usually becomes Webelos Scout denner for the next term.