

# **Welcome to Cub Scouting**

## **Pack 221**

Parents of young boys face a lot of choices in after school activities. Boys want to have fun, while parents want them to learn positive values and skills that will last a lifetime. If your boy is about to enter first through fifth grade, Cub Scouting may be exactly what you are both looking for.

Generations of American men have participated in and benefited from Cub Scouting, and the experience of serving millions of participants over a century has enabled us to make Cub Scouting one of the most exciting and rewarding programs available to your family.

As a parent, you can be assured that Cub Scouting:

- Involves a variety of family activities
- Encourages good behavior
- Teaches live long values
- Strengthens the bonds of family

## **The Purpose of Cub Scouting**

Since 1930, the Boy Scouts of America has helped younger boys through Cub Scouting. It is a year- round family program designed for boys who are in the first grade through fifth grade. Parents, leaders and organizations work together to achieve the purposes of Cub Scouting. Currently, Cub Scouting is the largest of the BSA's three traditional membership divisions. (The others are Boy Scouting and Venturing.)

The 10 purposes of Cub Scouting 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

# Membership

Cub Scouting Members join a Cub Scout Pack and are assigned to a den, usually a neighborhood group of six to eight boys that meet weekly to bi-weekly, varied by Den.

- Tiger Cubs – First Graders
- Wolf Cubs – Second Graders
- Bear Cubs – Third Graders
- Webelos – Fourth and Fifth Graders

Once a month, all the Dens and family members meet for a Pack Meeting under the direction of the Cub Master and Pack Committee. The committee includes parents of the boys in the pack and members of the chartered organization.

## Advancement Plan

Recognition is important to young boys. The Cub Scouting advancement plan provides fun for the boys, gives them a sense of personal achievement as they earn badges, and strengthens family understanding as adult family members work with the boys on advancement projects.

**Bobcat** – The Bobcat rank is for all boys who join Cub Scouting

**Tiger Cub** – The Tiger Cub program is for first grade boys and their adult partners. There are five Tiger Cub Achievement areas. The Tiger Cub, working with his adult partner, completes 15 requirements within these areas to earn the Tiger Badge. These requirements consist of an exciting series of indoor and outdoor activities just right for a boy in the first grade.

**Wolf** – The Wolf Program is for boys who have completed first grade. To earn the Wolf Badge, a boy must pass 12 achievements involving simple physical and mental skills.

**Bear** – The Bear Rank is for boys who have completed second grade. There are 24 Bear achievements in four categories. The Cub Scout must complete 12 of these to earn the Bear Badge. These requirements are somewhat more difficult and challenging than those of Wolf Rank.

**Webelos** – This program is for boys who have completed third grade. 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 the Webelos Den to the Boys Scout Troop. As he completes the requirements found in the *Webelos Handbook*, he will work on activity badges, attends meetings led by adults, and become familiar with the Boy Scout requirements – all leading to the Arrow of Light Ceremony.

## Activities

Cub Scouting means “doing”. Everything in Cub Scouting is designed to have the boys doing things. Activities are used to achieve the aims of Scouting – citizenship training, character development, and personal fitness.

Many of the activities happen right in the Den and Pack. The most important are the weekly Den Meetings and the monthly Pack Meeting.

## Character Development

Since its origin, the Scouting Program has been an educational experience concerned with values. In 1910, the first activities for Scouts were designed to build character, physical fitness, practical skills, and service. These elements were part of the original Cub Scout program and continue to be a part of Cub Scouting today. Character can be defined as the collection of core values possessed by an individual that leads to moral commitment and action. Core values are the basis of good character development. In helping boys develop character, Cub Scouting promotes the following 12 core values:

1. Citizenship
2. Compassion
3. Cooperation
4. Courage
5. Faith
6. Health and Fitness
7. Honesty
8. Perseverance
9. Positive Attitude
10. Resourcefulness
11. Respect
12. Responsibility

**Character is “Values in Action”**