

Being a Cub Scout

In Cub Scouting you'll have lots of fun, adventure, and activities with your den and pack. But there's more to it than that. Being a Cub Scout means you are a member of a worldwide youth movement that stands for certain values and beliefs. Cub Scouting is more than something to do. It's all about the boy you *are* and the person you will *become*.

What Is Cub Scouting? What do Cub Scouts do? How old are they? What awards can be earned? Look here for the answers.

Cub Scout Values: As a Cub Scout, you do your best and you help others. You learn the Cub Scout Promise and the Law of the Pack. You also learn what they mean.

Cub Scouting Around the World: You meet and have fun in your neighborhood den and Cub Scout pack. Millions of other boys are also in Cub Scouting across the nation and around the world.

Your Den and Pack: Every Cub Scout is a member of a large group of boys called a pack. The pack has smaller groups called dens. Each den has about six to eight boys. All of the Cub Scouts in a den are about the same age and live in the same neighborhood. Most of the things that Cub Scouts do happen in the pack and its dens. You have den meetings and monthly pack meetings. You also go to special events and activities with the members of your pack. You may take part in district and council activities as a member of your pack.

Things Cub Scouts Do: Some of the best things about Cub Scouting are the activities you get to do: camping, hiking, racing model cars, going on field trips, or doing projects to help your town and the people who live there. Cub Scouting means "doing."

The Uniform: (additional information can be found at www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/Home/CubScouts/Cub%20Scouts/UniformsAndAwards.aspx)

The uniform consists of either a Class A (formal) or a Class B (T-shirt) uniform that be worn to all Scouting activities—not only den and pack meetings, but every activity in which you take part with other Cub Scouts. Please refer to the Uniform Information Page for details about the uniform as well as where and what to purchase.

The Handbook: (additional information can be found at www.shac.org/welcome/scout_shop)

The Cub Scout handbooks are designed for boys and their parents to use as they progress along the Cub Scout trail. Each of these books lists the full array of advancement activities appropriate for the age of the youth in each phase of the program. Parents and guardians should read the "Parent Guide" in their boy's handbook so that they will understand the advancement program. All the Cub Scout handbooks are provided by the pack and are available at your local scout shop.

Cub Scouts Earn Awards: While you're having fun, you'll also be earning badges and awards. You'll work on projects with your parents or other adults, and all of you will feel good about the things you accomplish. When you have earned a badge, you and an adult member of your family take part in a ceremony. The badge is given to the adult, and he or she then gives it to you in front of the whole pack. This is a way of saying "thank you" to your family for their help in earning your award.

The most popular awards for Cub Scouts are the advancement awards. Boys do requirements to advance and earn their badges of rank: Tiger Cub, Bobcat, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, and the Arrow of Light Award. The Arrow of Light is the highest award in Cub Scouting. Webelos Scouts also earn activity badges.

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is popular, too. Cub Scouts get to learn about favorite subjects such as art, math, science, and citizenship, or they play individual and team sports such as archery, gymnastics, skating, or soccer. You don't need to be a star athlete to play Cub Scout Sports. You're a winner when you do your best.

Cub Scouts can earn many other awards and medals too, sometimes by themselves and sometimes as members of their pack, such as Quality Unit awards, religious emblems, the Emergency Preparedness Award, the Outdoor Activity Award, or the World Conservation Award.

When you earn an award in Cub Scouting, you learn new skills. You also get to use your new skills and your new knowledge in projects and demonstrations. You show what you know so people get to see what you've learned.

Cub Scouting Has a Purpose: There is a reason for everything boys do in Cub Scouting. Apart from the fun and excitement, the aim of Cub Scouting is to help boys grow into good citizens who are strong in character and personally fit. This is why we say that Cub Scouting is fun with a purpose.