

So, you're the Parents of a new Cub Scout...

Welcome to Cub Scouting – Parent's Orientation Packet



**Nashua Valley Council
Boy Scouts of America
Moore Service Center
1980 Lunenburg Road
Lancaster, MA 01523**

Phone: 978-534-3532

Fax: 978-534-4618

Website: www.nashuavalleybsa.org

Cub Scouting, your Son, and You

As a parent, you want your son to grow up to be a person of worth, a self-reliant, dependable, and caring individual. Scouting has these same goals in mind for him. Since 1910 we've been weaving lifetime values into fun and educational activities designed to assist parents in strengthening character, developing good citizenship, and enhancing physical fitness and building self-esteem and ethical values in youth.

Imagine a program that can help your son learn, grow and mature while he is having fun. There are activities in which you and he can participate together with the rest of the family and get to know each other even better. This is exactly what Scouting is. Every activity gives you and your son the chance to discover and share together.

What does your son learn in Scouting? Well, it is a lot more than crafts, games and outdoor skills. All of the Cub Scout programs in which you and your son will participate are carefully designed to teach your son something he will use throughout his life. Here are just a few of the things your son will gain through Cub Scouting.

- ◆ A feeling of belonging to a positive and fun group of boys and caring adults.
- ◆ New social skills that will help him get along with others.
- ◆ Develop new mental skills from reading and writing, to planning and organizing.
- ◆ A greater understanding of other people and the world around him.
- ◆ A system of values that will help him grow and make good decisions.
- ◆ A concern and caring for people, and even opportunities to help others.
- ◆ Self-confidence and stronger self-esteem.

With all the negative influences in today's society, Scouting provides your son with a positive peer group and a program that is fun and adventurous and helps him to "be prepared" to shape his own future.

Cub Scouting is fun! But it is fun with a purpose. Woven through all the fun is an inspired program that really works. Tried and proven methods are used that transfer traditional values, build character, and develop leadership skills--all in the context of fun and family togetherness.



What You Should Do Now To Get Started in Cub Scouting

- ◆ Complete and turn in the Cub Scout application and registration fee to your leader. Subscribe to Boys' Life magazine. (Put a "Y" in the Boys' Life box on the application.)
- ◆ Carefully review this booklet so you know what Cub Scouting is all about and your son can get the most out of it.
- ◆ Purchase a Cub Scout Book now and begin doing the activities in it with your son, especially those related to the outdoors.
- ◆ Find out what kind of activities your Cub Scout Pack is doing in the next few months, and put them on your calendar so you can participate.
- ◆ Fill out the Parent Talent Survey on the last page of this booklet and turn it in tonight so you can share your knowledge, experience and skills with the boys in your son's den and the pack.
- ◆ Scouting is more fun with friends! Talk with other parents and boys and have them join your son's Cub Scout Den now to make Cub Scouting even more fun.
- ◆ Consider being a Cub Scout leader or assistant for your son's Cub Scout den. Your son's experience in Cub Scouting depends on your involvement. Contact the pack secretary at secretarypack37
- ◆ Purchase a Cub Scout Uniform for your son to wear his awards on. Be sure to get a size large enough to last several years as your son grows. You'll need a shirt, kerchief & slide. Hats and Scout issued pants are optional. The Scout store can help with the required patches.

The New England Scout Shop at Lancaster is located in the lower level of the Nashua Valley Council Service Center. The Scout Shop stocks uniform parts, Scouting literature, awards and outdoor equipment. Please direct inquiries to the phone number below. The Nashua Valley Council staff are not able to assist with merchandise inquiries. **1980 Lunenburg Road • Lancaster, MA 01523 Phone: (978) 840-8108 • Fax: (978) 840-8118**

Hours of Operation: Monday thru Friday 9:30am to 6:00pm • Saturday 9:30am to 3:00pm

See uniform checklist on the next page.



New England
ScoutShop at Lancaster
Prepared. For Life™

Scouting Uniform Checklist

Tiger Uniform

Required:

- Shirt, blue (short sleeve is recommended)
- Neckerchief, slide & belt

Patches:

- Council Shoulder Insignia
- World Crest Emblem
- Unit Numerals (3 & 7)
- American Flag
- "Den" and numeral

Tiger book

The shirt can last through fourth grade - so size it appropriately.

Optional:

- Hat
- Pants or Shorts
- Socks

Wolf Uniform

Required:

- Shirt, blue with patches see Tiger list
- Belt

New Each Year:

- Wolf book, neckerchief & slide

Optional:

- Hat
- Pants or Shorts
- Socks

Bear Uniform

Required:

- Shirt, blue with patches see Tiger list
- Belt

New Each Year:

- Bear book, Neckerchief & slide

Optional:

- Hat
- Pants or Shorts
- Socks

Weblos 1 & 2 Uniform

Required:

- Shirt, blue or tan (short sleeve is recommended)
- Neckerchief, slide & belt

Patches:

- Council Shoulder Insignia
- World Crest Emblem
- Unit Numerals (3 & 7)
- American Flag
- "Den" and numeral

Weblos Colors (tri colored ribbon for attached pins to)

Weblos book

The tan shirt transitions to Boy scouts - so size it appropriately.

Optional:

- Hat
- Pants or Shorts
- Socks

Basics of the Cub Scouting Program

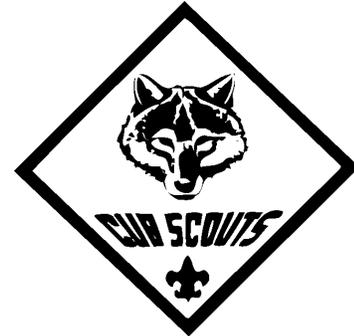


Tiger Cubs, BSA

(For 1st grade boys)

Tiger Cubs is a one-year program for first-grade boys. Each boy participates with a parent (or another adult family member) in family-oriented activities. These include things from family camping to preparing for emergencies.

The time you and your son spend in Tiger Cubs is meant to be fun, a chance to get to know one another better, and do things with your family as well as other members of the Tiger Cub Den whom you see at weekly meetings. Tiger Cubs and their adult partners also participate in the Cub Scout Pack Meetings and Activities.



**Cub Scout Motto:
"Do Your Best"**

(For 2nd -5th grade boys)

Cub Scouting is a home and neighborhood-center program designed to support family life for boys in second through fifth grades. Each Cub Scout learns to respect his home, country, God, and other people. The program also helps boys this age to:

- ◆ Learn new physical skills through sports, crafts, and games.
- ◆ Learn how to get along with others through group activities.
- ◆ Develop new mental skills such as writing and calculating.
- ◆ Develop personal independence.

In a society where your son is often taught that winning is everything, Cub Scouting teaches him to "do his best" and be helpful to others as expressed in the Cub Scout Promise.

A Cub Scout Den provides your son with a group of boys his own age in which he can earn status and recognition. In the Den, he will also gain a sense of personal achievement for the new skills he learns.



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Programs for the Future

When your son graduates from Cub Scouting after fifth grade, there is more in store for him. Boy Scouting and Venturing are awaiting him as he grows older.



BOY SCOUT MOTTO "Be Prepared"

- ◆ A troop and patrol centered program for boys in sixth grade through senior high school designed to build and foster leadership and life skills.
- ◆ Program builds self-esteem, self-respect, and self-reliance through a blend of outdoor experiences, educational and instructional skills, recognition, value building and fun.
- ◆ Among the activities offered are more than 120 hobby and career skills through the merit badge program, year-round camping and outside activities, and honor camping society, recognition, leadership training, service projects, and special events.
- ◆ Boys and adult leaders meet weekly as a troop, monthly for an overnight or weekend campout and other outdoor activities.



V E N T U R I N G · B S A

- ◆ A youth development program for young men and women, 14 through 20 years old, that provides positive experiences to help young people to mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults.
- ◆ Based on unique and dynamic relationships between youth and adult leaders and organizations.
- ◆ A program of exciting and meaningful activities that helps youth pursue their special interests, grow, develop leadership skills and become good citizens.
- ◆ Provides opportunities for skill development in areas of high adventure, sports, arts and hobbies, youth ministries or Sea Scouting.



How Cub Scouting Works

Scouting is Family Oriented

- ◆ Activities are intended for the whole family.
- ◆ You work with your son on his various award requirements.
- ◆ Many skills he will learn are family oriented.

Your son is a member of a Cub Scout Den

- ◆ The Den meets once a 2-3 times a month.
- ◆ The den is led by a Den Leader (usually a parent volunteer).
- ◆ The den leader is usually assisted by an Assistant Den Leader, a den chief (an older Boy Scout), and a denner (a Cub Scout elected by den members)
- ◆ Den meetings have games, crafts, songs, ceremonies, and lots of fun.

Your son is a member of a Cub Scout Pack

- ◆ A pack meets once a month - all Cub Scout families attend. Usually the 1st Friday of the month.
- ◆ The Cubmaster leads the monthly pack meeting.
- ◆ The pack meeting is the climax of the month's den meetings and activities.
- ◆ Pack meetings have games, skits, stunts, songs, ceremonies and presentations of badges that the boys have earned that month.

A pack committee of parent volunteers runs the pack.

- ◆ The pack committee is made up of the Den Leaders and assistants, Webelos Leaders, and assistants, Cubmaster and assistants, Treasurer, Chartered Organization Representative and other interested parents. Most of these leaders are parents of boys in the pack.
- ◆ The committee meets once a month.
- ◆ The committee plans den and pack meetings around the monthly theme.
- ◆ The committee selects leaders, performs record keeping, manages pack finances, order badges, maintains pack equipment, helps train leaders, and recognizes leaders.

The pack is owned by a Chartering Organization

- ◆ Charter organizations include schools, parent associations, religious organizations, service clubs, and other groups interested in youth. Pack 37 is owned by the First Parish Church.
- ◆ The chartered organization approves leaders, provides a meeting place, and operates the pack within the guidelines and policies of the chartered organization and the Boy Scouts of America.
- ◆ The chartered organization selects a Chartered Organization Representative who serves as a liaison between the pack and the organization.



Important Information Regarding Your Son's New Pack

I belong to Bolton Pack37

My Den number is _____

My Council is: Nashua Valley Council, Phone (978) 534-3532, Fax (978) 534-4618

Website address: www.nashuavalleybsa.org

My Den leader's name is:

Tigers- Steve Schneider

Wolfs- Rae Webb

Wolf Assistant - Steve Rosidini

Bears - Chris Tuck

Bears Assistant - Bill Wilkerson

Weblos 1 - Robyn Smith

Weblos 1 Assistant - Steve Schneider

Weblos 2 - Al Slade

My Cubmaster's name is Danny Potter.

My Pack meets on the 1st Friday of the Month - usually at 6:30 look for details in emails from from the pack secretary.

The Pack Secretary's email is secretarypack37@gmail.com



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The Advancement Plan

There are five “organizing principles” or core content areas around which the new Cub Scout program 2015 would be developed. Within each principle, “desired outcomes” were identified. Those principles and desired outcomes are:

1. **Character Development**
2. **Participatory Citizenship**
3. **Personal Fitness**
4. **Outdoor Skills & Awareness**
5. **Leadership**

Bobcat Requirements (2015-2016 Program Year)



1. Learn and say the Scout Oath, with help if needed.
2. Learn and say the Scout Law, with help if needed.
3. Show the Cub Scout sign. Tell what it means.
4. Show the Cub Scout handshake. Tell what it means.
5. Say the Cub Scout motto. Tell what it means.
6. Show the Cub Scout salute. Tell what it means.
7. With your parent or guardian, complete the exercises in the pamphlet *How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide—Bobcat Requirements*

Tiger Requirements (2015-2016 Program Year)



1. Complete each of the following Tiger required adventures with your den or family:
 - a. Backyard Jungle
 - b. Games Tigers Play
 - c. My Family's Duty to God
 - d. Team Tiger
 - e. Tiger Bites
 - f. Tigers in the Wild
2. Complete one Tiger elective adventure of your den or family's choosing.
3. With your parent or adult partner, complete the exercises in the pamphlet *How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide*, and earn the Cyber Chip award for your age.*

Wolf Requirements
(2015-2016 Program Year)



Complete each of the following Wolf required adventures with your den or family:

- a. Call of the Wild
- b. Council Fire
- c. Duty to God Footsteps
- d. Howling at the Moon
- e. Paws on the Path
- f. Running With the Pack

2. Complete one Wolf elective adventure of your den or family's choosing.

3. With your parent or guardian, complete the exercises in the pamphlet How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide, and earn the Cyber Chip award for your age.

* *If your family does not have Internet access at home AND you do not have ready Internet access at school or another public place or via a mobile device, the Cyber Chip portion of this requirement may be waived by your parent or guardian.

Bear Requirements
(2015-2016 Program Year)



Complete each of the following Bear required adventures with your den or family:

- a. Bear Claws
- b. Bear Necessities
- c. Fellowship and Duty to God
- d. Fur, Feathers, and Ferns
- e. Grin and Bear It
- f. Paws for Action

2. Complete one Bear elective adventure of your den or family's choosing. 3. With your parent or adult partner, complete the exercises in the pamphlet How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide, and earn the Cyber Chip award for your age.* *If your family does not have Internet access at home AND you do not have ready Internet access at school or another public place or via a mobile device, the Cyber Chip portion of this requirement may be waived by your parent or guardian.



Webelos and Arrow of Light Requirements (2015-2016 Program Year)



Webelos Badge Requirements	Arrow of Light Requirements
1. Be an active member of your Webelos den for three months. (Being active means having good attendance, paying your den dues, and working on den projects.)	1. Be active in your Webelos den for at least six months since completing the fourth grade or for at least six months since becoming 10 years old. (Being active means having good attendance, paying your den dues, and working on den projects.)
2. Complete each of the following Webelos required adventures with your den or family: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cast Iron Chef b. Duty to God and You c. First Responder d. Stronger, Faster, Higher e. Webelos Walkabout 	2. Complete each of the following Arrow of Light required adventures with your den or family: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Building a Better World b. Camper c. Duty to God in Action d. Scouting Adventure
3. Complete two Webelos elective adventures of your den or family's choosing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 	3. Complete three Webelos elective adventures of your den or family's choosing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3.
4. With your parent or guardian, complete the exercises in the pamphlet <i>How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide</i> , and earn the Cyber Chip award for your age. *If your family does not have Internet access at home AND you do not have ready Internet access at school or another public place or via a mobile device, the Cyber Chip portion of this requirement may be waived by your parent or guardian.	4. With your parent or guardian, complete the exercises in the pamphlet <i>How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent's Guide</i> , and earn the Cyber Chip award for your age. *If your family does not have Internet access at home AND you do not have ready Internet access at school or another public place or via a mobile device, the Cyber Chip portion of this requirement may be waived by your parent or guardian.

*If your family does not have Internet access at home AND you do not have ready Internet access at school or another public place or via a mobile device, the Cyber Chip portion of this requirement may be waived by your parent or adult partner.



Cub Scout Special Activities



In which you and your son can participate
Please visit www.nashuavalleybsa.org for details on these events and others!

Good Turn

- ◆ This is a pack service project to benefit the community, such as a park clean up, **Scouting for Food**, planting trees, etc.

Pinewood Derby

- ◆ Parent and son work together to build a gravity-powered miniature race car from a special kit. Most packs schedule this annual event in winter or early spring.

Blue and Gold Banquet

- ◆ This is a birthday party for Cub Scouting usually held in February. Most often is a seated dinner, but sometimes it is a covered dish supper. Blue and Gold also traditionally host the rank up ceremony.

Cub Scout Day Camp

Day camp is a local and exciting summertime activity that includes archery, BB guns, crafts, games, skits, songs, and sports. Cub Scout Day camp is an excellent way to introduce youth to the outdoors and teach them new skills. It also helps strengthen the pack's summer program. Bolton Scouts often go to Spit Rock in Ashburnham or Cub Adventure in Bolton.

Webelos Resident Camp

- ◆ Experience fun-filled days of tent camping. Activities include BB shooting, archery, fishing, physical fitness, swimming and more. Meals are prepared by the camp food service and served in the dining hall.
Check out www.nashuavalleybsa.org for more 2016 details!

Webelos Woods

Webelos Woods is an overnight family camping weekend for Webelos and their parents at Camp Wanocksett. During the weekend Webelos will have an opportunity to:

- Earn an Activity Badge taught by professionals in the field and other experts,
- Cook their own supper and spend a night outside

Have fun and get a taste of Boy Scout camp. . Check out www.nashuavalleybsa.org for more information.



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More Cub Scout Special Activities

in which you and your son can participate



Fundraising - Happening in the fall.

- ◆ Pack 37 does not usually participate in the Scout popcorn sale. We do need fundraising to support our activities and for the Fall of 2016 we will be hosting 2-3 bake sales at the soccer field. Sat morning soccer is a tradition in Bolton and many families are down on the Forbush fields on sat morning. We're hoping to take advantage of the crowds and sell water, coffee, hot chocolate and baked goods. Look for a sign up from the secretary to see how you can help.

Boys' Life Magazine

- ◆ This magazine for boys and adults has interesting features on Scouting, sports, hobbies, magic, award winning fiction, science and U.S.
- ◆ history. There are also jokes, comics, and short stories.

Friends of Scouting

- ◆ The Friends of Scouting campaign is the Nashua Valley Council's annual fund drive. The Council conducts the drive once a year to request financial donations from parents of Scouts, volunteer leaders, Scouting alumni, businesses, foundations, and people in each community who value the Scouting program. Your pack will have a brief Friends of Scouting presentation at an upcoming meeting to request financial support from each of the parents in the pack. Donations of all kinds are welcome. Please consider a donation of \$135 to sponsor one Scout for a year.

Other Opportunities

The Pack 37 tries to offer other interesting activities to our scouts. These are sent out via email when we have details and in the past have included Museum of Science and Battleship Cove sleepovers. We are looking into new activities including Pack Olympics, museum sleepovers,



Pack Leadership Structure

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Scouting operates through volunteer leadership. Volunteer unit leaders are an example of Scouting's principle of service to others. Naturally, parents are a primary source of leaders in the Scouting program. You volunteer not only to serve Scouting, but also to serve your son and his friends, and to have the chance to be a positive influence on the youth in your community.

WHAT DO YOU RECEIVE IN RETURN?

Being a leader is fun, challenging, and rewarding. Leaders find that their experiences help them to become better parents. The following are some of the many dividends that will enrich your life as you dedicate your time, talent, and enthusiasm to Scouting:

- ◆ Fun and fellowship with other families sharing your pride in the boys' accomplishments.
- ◆ The privilege of helping to enrich and strengthen families.
- ◆ A chance to help boys learn good citizenship and to help shape them into men who have strength of character and are sensitive to the needs of others.
- ◆ The opportunity to help make a difference in the lives of boys as they grow strong in mind and body.
- ◆ A code to live by which will set a worthwhile example for both boys and adults.
- ◆ The satisfaction of being a member of a worldwide movement, and pride in being publicly identified as a part of this organization--wearing the Scouting uniform is a visible means of showing you believe in the ideals and objectives of the Boy Scouts of America.

Program positions in the pack are held by adults like you, who work directly with the boys and organize the actual programs they participate in.

Please reach out to the pack secretary if you're able to help!



Volunteer Positions in the Pack

DEN LEADER (S)

Leads the den at weekly den meetings and monthly pack meeting. Attends the monthly pack leaders' meeting and roundtable meeting.

CUBMASTER

Help plan and carry out the pack program with the help of the pack committee. MC's monthly pack meeting, and attends pack leaders' meeting and monthly roundtable meeting.

COMMITTEE CHAIR

Presides at all pack leaders' meetings. Helps recruit adult leaders. Also attends the pack meeting and roundtable meetings.

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Keeps all records for the pack. Including pack bank account, financial records, etc. Attends pack meetings and pack committee meetings.

ADVANCEMENT COORDINATOR

Maintains advancement records. Orders and obtains all badges and insignia. Attends pack meetings and pack committee meetings.

PACK COMMITTEE MEMBER

Every pack is under the supervision of a pack committee, which consists of at least three members (chair, secretary, and treasurer). By handling administrative and support tasks, the pack committee allows the Cubmaster, den leaders, and their assistants to focus on working directly with the Cub Scouts.

PARENT HELPERS

Each year the pack will undertake several short-term projects. Parents and other volunteers are needed for activities such as pack fundraisers (popcorns sale, pancake breakfast, or similar events), Scouting for Food, Pack Good Turn, Pinewood Derby, Blue and Gold Banquet, Friends of Scouting, Pack Graduation, and Camping programs. These jobs are of short duration, and still enable all families to assist with pack responsibilities.



How can I help?

(Please fill out this last page and turn it in to your pack tonight!)

The following positions all need to be filled for our pack to have a successful year. Please indicate your first four choices of committees and positions that you would be willing to work on this coming year? Some of these positions are short-term and others are for the entire year. Each parent must be willing to assist if this program is to work.

Den Leader or Assistant Den Leader

Pack Holiday Party Committee

Pack Parents' Committee

Special Events Committee

Pack Song Leader

Webelos Den Leader or Assistant Leader

Awards Committee

Pack Treasurer

Pinewood Derby Committee

Pack Secretary

Blue and Gold Banquet

Cubmaster/Assistant Cubmaster

Other
(Specify) _____

Cub Scout Camping Coordinator

Scouting Experience: _____

Hobbies: _____

Sports Interests: _____

Job: _____

I have a Truck _____ Van _____ Trailer _____ Station Wagon _____ I have a Workshop _____

Parent's Name: _____ Phone # _____

Scout's Name: _____ Grade: _____