

WELCOME TO **CUB SCOUTS** PARENT ORIENTATION GUIDE



Scouting  **America**
Ozark Trails Council

Welcome to Scouting!

Cub Scouting is fun for the whole family. In Scouting, boys and girls start with their best right now selves and grow into their best future selves. Scouting is FUN, hands-on learning and achievement that puts kids in the middle of action and prepares them for today—and for life.



- Cub Scouting is a fun way to spend time with your child and the whole family. The fun has a purpose: To help reinforce the positive values you want your child to develop—character, leadership, personal fitness, and citizenship. These values are presented in a fun and engaging method along with experiencing the outdoors, learning about personal safety, and discovering your family traditions.
- Cub Scout-age children benefit developmentally from belonging to a small group of peers. Your child will be a part of a den, a small group of Cub Scouts usually in the same grade. Through this sense of belonging, children build self-esteem and learn to get along with others.

How Does Cub Scouting Work?

In Cub Scouting, you and your family join in on the program with your child, and you will help them along the way. Cub Scouts have a different handbook at each grade level, with Adventures that are age-appropriate for their developmental level. As your child advances through these books by working on Adventures, they will earn badges and other recognition that they wear on their uniform. As your child grows in Cub Scouting, your role will change with them, from hands-on involvement to guiding and coaching. Your child's success in Cub Scouting depends on you!

The Cub Scouting program takes place at two levels. Your child will be a part of a **den**, a small group of Cub Scouts in the same grade level. A den typically meets twice a month, although some may meet more often. All dens, from kindergarten through fifth grade, make up a **pack**. The dens, with their families, come together at the pack meeting, where they play games, work on Adventures, and receive positive reinforcement for their achievements.

SCOUTING IS FUN, CUB SCOUTS DO STUFF.
SCOUTS CAMP, WORK TOGETHER, LEARN TOGETHER, & GROW TOGETHER.

Dens - The Lion (Kindergarten) and Tiger (First Grade) Dens

Cub Scouts who join in kindergarten or first grade join with an adult partner, the parent or guardian. A Lion or Tiger den should be no more than eight Cub Scouts and their adult partners. An adult is selected to serve as the den leader (usually one of the parents) and coordinates the meetings. Each adult partner takes a turn assisting or hosting meetings or activities with the den leader. This shared leadership model is a great way to ensure the den leader has the help needed to deliver a quality program. At den meetings, Lions and Tigers work on Adventures that are found in their handbooks and the Adult Partner Guides.



Wolf (2nd grade), Bear (3rd grade), and Webelos (4th grade) dens

Children this age are becoming more independent, and activities are designed to meet their developmental needs. A Wolf (second grade), Bear (third grade), or Webelos (fourth grade) den is ideally no more than eight Cub Scouts, a den leader, an assistant den leader (usually parents of some of the den members), and often a den chief (an older Scout who helps the den leader).



The Arrow of Light Scout Den (5th Grade)

The Arrow of Light den is focused on preparing to join Scouts BSA. Arrow of Light Scouts move to the next level of Scouting, Scouts BSA



Pack Meetings

The Cub Scout pack is made up of all the dens, led by the Cubmaster. There are games, skits, songs, ceremonies, and presentations of achievements and badges Cub Scouts earned during that month. The pack, including families, also participate in other special events throughout the year, including:

Pinewood Derby®—You can build and race a model car with your child.

Blue and Gold Banquet—Cub Scouting's birthday party—for all pack members and their families—takes place in February.

Camping—Overnight and day camp opportunities introduce your family to the camping experience.

Service projects—Packs may participate in food drives, conservation projects, or other community activities.

Field trips and special outings—Den outings are a great way to learn more about the people and places in your community.

A photograph of two children sitting inside a tent at night, illuminated by a campfire. The tent is set up on a grassy field, and the fire is burning brightly in a stone fire pit in the foreground.

Make memories with your child that will last a lifetime!

How Can You Help?

The most important help you, as a parent, can give your child is to work with them on their Cub Scouting Adventures as they work toward their badge of rank. The Cub Scout handbook is full of age-appropriate activities; some of them you do together at home. Den meetings are designed for Cub Scouts to complete Adventures required for them to earn their badge of rank. When you have completed a requirement at home, make sure your den leader is informed so they can properly record it and your child can be recognized for their achievements.

Your role as a parent is the secret to a successful Cub Scouting program!

The den and the pack rely on parent participation to run a successful program. Cub Scouting operates through volunteer leadership. Volunteer leaders are an example of Scouting's principle of service to others. By volunteering in Scouting, you are also giving your child and family the gift of your time. What could be more valuable? You will have an opportunity to be a positive influence in their life and in the lives of their friends. Here are some of the ways you could volunteer:

Den leader. Uses the den meeting resources to lead the den at den meetings. Attends the monthly pack committee meeting.

Cubmaster. Helps plan and carry out the pack program with the help of the pack committee. Emcees the monthly pack meeting and attends the pack committee meeting.

The Pack Committee

Every Cub Scout parent or guardian is invited to become a member of the pack committee. Pack committee members perform administrative functions of the pack. The committee meets monthly and includes the responsibilities below.

Committee Chair. Presides at all pack committee meetings. Helps recruit adult leaders and attends the monthly pack meeting and pack committee meeting.

Advancement Chair. Maintains advancement records for the pack. Orders and obtains all badges and insignia. Attends the monthly pack meeting and pack committee meeting.

Secretary. Keeps records of the pack committee meetings and communicates with families about upcoming pack events and activities.

Treasurer. Keeps all financial records for the pack, including the pack bank account, and gives a monthly financial report to the pack committee. Attends the monthly pack meeting and pack committee meeting.

WHAT I NEED TO KNOW:

My pack number is: _____ My den number is: _____

My den meets on (day): _____

My den meets at (time & place): _____

My den leader's name is: _____

My den leader's phone number is: _____

My pack meets on (day): _____

My pack meets at (time & place): _____

My Cubmaster's name is: _____

My Cubmaster's phone number is: _____

Training

Scouting America offers convenient training for parents who volunteer. As a new parent, you can learn all about Cub Scouting and how quality Scouting programs are built. Log on to my.Scouting.org and create an account to gain access to all available training content. For more information about training at all levels of the program, go to www.scouting.org/training.

Safeguarding Youth Training

True youth protection can be achieved only through the focused commitment of everyone in Scouting. It is the mission of Youth Protection volunteers and professionals to work within Scouting America to maintain a culture of Youth Protection awareness and safety at the national, territory, council, district, and unit levels. Scouting America takes great pride in the quality of our adult leadership. Being a leader in Scouting America is a privilege, not a right. The quality of the program and the safety of our youth members call for high-quality adult leaders. Scouting America has a multilayered adult leader selection process that includes criminal background checks administered by a nationally recognized third party and other screening efforts. Click [here](#) for information on the selection process.



- **Safeguarding Youth training is required for all Scouting America registered volunteers and is a joining requirement.**
- **Safeguarding Youth training must be taken every year. If a volunteer's Safeguarding Youth training is not current at the time of annual registration renewal, the volunteer will not be re-registered.**
- **You do not have to be a registered member of Scouting America to take Youth Protection training.**

To take the training, go to My.Scouting.org and create an account. You'll receive an email notification with your account information, including a member ID/reference number.

From the My.Scouting.org portal, you can launch the Safeguarding Training from the home page. Upon completion, you may print a training certificate to submit with a volunteer application, or wait for an email with your certificate to be sent to your email address. Your training will automatically be updated in our system and associated with the member ID/reference number issued when you created the account.

When your volunteer application is approved, you will receive a Scouting America membership card that includes your member ID number.

You Are Not Alone!

Your **den** is in a **pack** belonging to an organization chartered by Scouting America to operate a Cub Scout pack. The chartered organization approves leadership, helps secure a meeting place, and makes sure the pack works within the guidelines and policies of their organization as well as those of Scouting America.

Many volunteers and Scouting America professionals are interested in the success of your pack. A special volunteer assigned to help your pack is called a **commissioner**. The commissioner helps the pack provide a successful and high-quality program. The commissioner is also the communication link between your pack and the local council.

There are professional staff at your council service center who can help or will get you in touch with someone who can. Local Council Locator: OTCSOUTING.ORG

Ozark Trails Council | 1616 S Eastgate Ave. | Springfield, MO 65809 | 417.883.1636



HOW MUCH CAN MY FAMILY EXPECT SCOUTING TO COST?

ANNUAL YOUTH MEMBERSHIP FEE : \$ 85

NEW YOUTH JOINING SPECIAL : \$45*

**Special rate for NEW youth joining in August, September, or October 2026.*

Must-complete registration ONLINE at BeAScout.org to receive special rate.

Membership renews in February 2027 at the standard annual youth membership fee.

ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE- ASK YOUR UNIT LEADER FOR MORE INFORMATION.

MILITARY FEE WAIVERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR QUALIFYING FAMILIES.

Scouting provides families with once-in-a-lifetime adventures and leadership development programs unique to the Scouting program.

\$15 Scout Life Magazine (Optional, but highly recommended.)

Parents do not have to pay a registration fee unless they are becoming a registered volunteer. Adult 12 month membership \$65.

PACK ACTIVITIES/FEES -Cost varies by pack, depending on money-earning projects conducted by the pack.

UNIFORM- The uniform cost varies by program for both youth and adults. See www.scoutshop.org for details and current prices. Uniforms may also be purchased at your local Scout Shop.

BOOKS- Youth handbooks include: *Lion Handbook, Tiger Handbook, Wolf Handbook, Bear Handbook, and Webelos Handbook*. Adult leaders purchase or download Scouting America approved leader guides, and handbooks. See www.scoutshop.org for pricing.

popcorn sale

PAY FOR THE FUN WITH POPCORN

Scouting's annual popcorn sale is a fundraiser designed to assist packs and dens in raising money to pay for Scouting experiences. Entire packs, individual dens, or even individual Scouts can sell popcorn. The sale is an easy way to pay for Scouting events and camping experiences. Scouts who sell can earn great prizes, gift cards, and other great incentives!

Ask your Cubmaster or den leader when YOUR Popcorn Kickoff will be. The sale is simple and very profitable, making paying for Scouting easy!



The council is committed to ensuring all youth benefit from the Scouting program. Every Scout has the opportunity to earn their way by participating in the council-wide popcorn sale. Assistance is also available to those in need.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE
OZARK TRAILS COUNCIL SCOUT SERVICE CENTER
417-883-1636**

Uniform Pricing:

Lion, Tiger, Wolf & Bear (K-3RD GRADE), Webelos (4TH)



LION T-SHIRT:	\$14.99
LION CAP:	\$22.99
CS BLUE SHIRT:	32.99 blank 54.76 pre-sewn
SHORTS:	\$27.99
SKORTS:	\$27.99
PANTS: (OPTIONAL)	\$32.99
CAP: (OPTIONAL)	\$22.99
SOCKS: (OPTIONAL)	\$ 7.99
PACK NUMBERS:	\$ 2.19 EACH NUMBER
DEN NUMBERS:	\$ 2.19
BELT:	\$14.99
NECKERCHIEF:	\$12.99
NECKERCHIEF SLIDE:	\$ 7.99
CUB HANDBOOKS:	\$23.99

Check with the Scout Shop for current promotions when purchasing items. Sewing services & pre-sewn shirts are available. (additional cost, \$4 per patch).

Arrow of Light (5TH GRADE)



KHAKI SHIRT: Youth:	44.99 blank 66.76 sewn / Adult: \$54.99 blank 76.76 sewn
CAP: (OPTIONAL)	\$27.99
SHORT / SKORT:	\$36.99
PANTS : (OPTIONAL): Youth:	\$59.99 Adult: 64.99
SOCKS: (OPTIONAL) STARTING AT	\$10.49
PACK NUMBERS:	\$ 2.19 EACH NUMBER
DEN NUMBERS:	\$ 2.19
BLUE SHOULDER LOOPS:	\$ 4.99
BELT:	\$22.99
NECKERCHIEF:	\$14.99
NECKERCHIEF SLIDE:	\$7.99
HANDBOOKS:	\$24.99

ALL prices are subject to change.

OZARK TRAILS COUNCIL SPRINGFIELD SCOUT SHOP

Items carried: Uniforms, Literature, Scout Awards, Supplies, Camping Supplies, Council Information, Training Materials, Order of the Arrow Information

Springfield Scout Shop Hours

Monday-Friday-10:00 am -6:00 pm

Saturday - 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sunday - CLOSED

Closed all major holidays.

Check us out on Facebook at THE SPRINGFIELD SCOUT SHOP

1616 S. Eastgate Ave.
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