

Resident Camping for Cub Scouting



Camping for Scouts—A Philosophy

A common thread of purpose and method runs through every part of the Scout program. CAMPING! The aim, to clearly define that thread in each part of our camping program so that the purposes of Scouting will be made clear and the common methods that are followed will unify our units as teams dedicated to the highest ideals of camping and service.

Organized camping is a creative, educational experience in cooperative group living in the outdoors. It uses the natural surroundings to contribute significantly to physical, mental, spiritual, and social growth.

- Camping contributes to good health through supervised activity, sufficient rest, good fun, and wholesome companionship.
- Camping helps develop self-reliance and resourcefulness by providing learning experiences in which campers acquire knowledge, skills, and attitudes essential to their well-being.
- Camping enhances spiritual growth by helping campers recognize and appreciate nature and the handiwork of God in nature.
- Camping contributes to social development by providing experiences in which campers learn to deal practically and effectively with living situations.
- Camping is an experience in citizenship training, providing campers with the medium for democratic participation in making decisions, planning, and carrying out activities at their own level, while improving understanding within the family.
- **Camping at the Cub Scout level introduces boys to and helps them develop skills to be applied and learned more thoroughly as a Boy Scout.**

Since its origin, the program of the Boy Scouts of America has been an educational experience concerned with values. In 1910, the first Scouting activities were designed to build character, physical fitness, practical skills, and service. These elements were a part of the original Cub Scout program and continue to be part of Cub Scouting today. Cub Scout leaders should strive to use Scouting's values throughout all elements of the program, including resident camp.

What Is Camping for Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Webelos Scouts, and Parents?

Camping is the great outdoor adventure of the Boy Scouts of America. As a Cub Scout becomes accustomed to the outdoors with his den, he unconsciously absorbs some of the greatness of nature itself—the quiet of the forest, the cheerfulness of streams, the breadth of the lakes, the openness of the sky, the freshness of the wind, the beauty of the sunset. In working with nature to help provide food and comfort, a boy learns some of the skills, resourcefulness, and self-reliance of the pioneer. The woods, the streams, the trail, and the wild creatures that inhabit them become his friends, and the out-of-doors a lifelong source of recreation. The ideal method of camping for Cub Scouts involves parents and the pack by dens.

Why Camping for Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Webelos Scouts, and Parents?

Camping is an opportunity for the continuation of Cub Scouting throughout the summer (and acquisition of the National Summertime Pack Award). The program is designed to meet the needs and interests of Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Webelos Scouts, and parents; therefore, preparation for achievements, electives, and activity badges should be continuous and consistent with the program in the pack. Resident camping for Cub Scouts, Webelos Scouts, and parents can and should help boys maintain the interest generated the rest of the year and also strengthen den and pack organization for better year round operation. All of Scouting is an educational program, and since education consists primarily of determining the individual's learning needs and proceeding to satisfy those needs, we have every reason to promote a meaningful and educational year-round program for the Cub Scouting segment of the Boy Scouts of America membership.

Types of Tiger, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos Scout Resident Camping

Cub Scout Day Camp

Day camp is an organized one- to five-day program conducted by the council under certified leadership at an approved site. Day camps are conducted during daylight or early evening hours. Day camps do not include any overnight activities. Certification of the day camp director and program director is provided through the National Camping School.

Cub Scout/Webelos Scout Resident Camp

Cub Scout/Webelos Scout resident camping is a council-organized, theme-oriented overnight camping program. Cub Scout/Webelos Scout resident camp runs for at least two nights and is conducted under certified leadership at a camp approved by the council. **Tiger Cubs are, as of 2013, eligible to attend resident camp.** Resident camping typically includes, but is not limited to, the following outdoor program areas:

- Shooting Sports • Sports • Camp Crafts • Nature • Waterfront

Each year, councils change their overall theme to offer different adventures. Examples of themes include Sea Adventure, Space Adventure, Athletes, Knights, Circus Big Top, American Indian Heritage, Folklore, and the World Around Us. Certification of the resident camp director and program director is provided through the National Camping School.

Cub Scout/Webelos Scout Resident Camping Formats

2nd and 3rd Grade Cub Scout Resident Camping

Resident camping is geared toward an introduction to the outdoor program of the Boy Scouts of America by providing council facilities and certified camp staff to Cub Scout packs.

1. The objective is to provide Cub Scouts, parents, and other volunteer leadership with a meaningful, enjoyable experience and to strengthen parent-son relationships.
2. The length of camp can be from two to five nights.
3. The camp ratio of adults to boys is 1 to 4 with BSA Youth Protection policies followed: Two-Deep Leadership.
4. Program facilities are to be developed around Cub Scout needs and skills and should be imaginative and theme-oriented.
5. The program literature is designed to provide a fun-filled program theme cycle capable of keeping the degree of challenge in perspective for 2nd and 3rd grade boys and their parents.

4th and 5th Grade Webelos Scout Resident Camping

Geared toward an introduction to Boy Scout camping and an overnight program for Webelos Scouts and their parents, resident camping is approved for councils electing to provide the following conditions:

1. The length of camp will be from two to seven days and two to six nights.
2. The camping facility should be the best the council has available and meet all Cub Scout camping standards.
3. A Cub Scouting-trained staff member is to be employed or asked to volunteer for the Webelos Scout resident camping program.
4. The Webelos Scout resident camp literature is designed to provide a fun-filled program, keeping the degree of challenge in perspective for the boy and adult.