

CUB SCOUTS

Parent Orientation Guide



Scouting  America™

(408)638-8333
TRYSCOUTING.ORG

YOUR CUB SCOUT JOURNEY BEGINS



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Looking for more information?

Follow the QR codes in this guide to learn more about the topic!

WELCOME TO THE PACK!

Cub Scouting is built for curious minds, growing hearts, and active families. As a parent, you want your child to grow into a self-reliant, dependable, and caring person, all while having an absolute blast! Cub Scouting is a year-round, family-oriented program for kids in Kindergarten through 5th Grade.

The best part? Kids join simply because it's a blast. They come for the campfires, derby cars, hikes, and high-fives. Behind all the laughter and outdoor discovery, something larger happens. Character building, hands-on skill development, genuine leadership, and supportive relationships take root naturally along the way.

Thank you for taking this exciting first step with us and sharing your child's growth! We are thrilled to welcome your family to the pack and cannot wait to share this journey with you.



We use the Scout Oath and Scout Law as our compass. They guide our Scouts as they learn to do their best, help others, and navigate life with confidence.

SCOUT OATH

**On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
And to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.**

SCOUT LAW

**A Scout is trustworthy, loyal,
helpful, friendly, courteous, kind,
obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave,
clean, and reverent.**

CUB SCOUT MOTTO
Do Your Best

Scouting is a Path to Success

Scouts are **TWICE** more likely to earn a bachelor's degree

(75.6% of Scouting alumni compared to 36.0% national average)



Scouts are **TWICE** more likely to earn an advanced degree

(29.0% of Scouting alumni compared to 13.4% national average)

Scouts are more likely to have higher credit scores

(55.7% of Scouting alumni compared to 39.7% national average)



Scouts are more likely to earn almost **DOUBLE** as an adult

(\$62.5k median income compared to \$33.7k national median)

Scouts are more likely to advance and improve their socio-economic status



Prepared. For Life.™

PACK STRUCTURE

Pack (K-5th Grades)

Meets 1X a month

The Pack brings all grade-level dens together for big family camps, pinewood derbies, games, awards, and songs!

Each Pack uses a unique number (like Pack 123) to identify its Scouting family.

123

Den (Same Grade Level)

Meets about 2x a month

A small group of Scouts in the same grade who work together on adventures and awards. It's where Scouts build close friendships, learn new skills, and earn belt loops based on exciting adventures!

Family

Scouting is a family adventure where parents and guardians join in on the fun! You attend meetings, cheer on achievements, and support your Scout every step of the way.

Pack Committee

Cubmaster

The leader of the Pack meeting is the Cubmaster. In addition to serving as the master of ceremonies, the Cubmaster provides support to Den Leaders.

Den Leader

An adult, usually a parent, serves as a Den Leader. They lead activities related to the adventures as presented in the Cub Scout Handbook and the Den Leader Guide.

Committee Chair

The top volunteer in the pack is the Pack Committee Chair. They ensure enough qualified adult volunteers are in place to run the program. They lead the Pack Committee meetings. (planning meetings)

Pack Committee + Volunteer Jobs

It takes a team of parents to run a great Pack, with small and big jobs to fit every talent and schedule. Stepping up to volunteer or join the Pack Committee is the best way to support your Scout and share in the fun!

RANKS AND ADVENTURES

A **rank** is simply your Scout's grade level, and new Scouts jump right into their current grade without completing past years. To earn their rank, Scouts complete individual **adventures** (hands-on activities like camping, biking, hiking, field trips, and the Pinewood Derby) and earn **belt loops** for every achievement along the way!

Lion: Kindergarten



Skills:

Intro to the outdoors, active play, simple teamwork, family bonding, and community awareness.

Adventure in Action:

Lions explore the Scouting world alongside an adult partner. They play active games, take nature walks, practice basic safety, and build healthy habits together.

Tigers: 1st Grade



Skills:

Outdoor safety, community awareness, physical fitness, teamwork, and service projects.

Adventure in Action:

Tigers start exploring the bigger community! They venture out on group hikes, practice bike safety, splash into water activities, and lend a hand on fun local service projects.

Wolf: 2nd Grade



Skills:

Tool safety, physical fitness, teamwork, outdoor skills, personal safety, leadership, and community service.

Adventure in Action:

Wolves build real confidence by learning hand-tool safety, taking on small Den leadership roles, crafting their Pinewood Derby car, and giving back through Pack service projects!

THE SCOUTING GROWTH PATH

Scouting is intentionally designed to build on itself each year, and you can jump in at any time! New Scouts do not need prior Scouting or outdoor experience to succeed. Through hands-on experiences in outdoor skills, leadership, and community service, they learn the value of service, self-reliance, and teamwork one milestone at a time.



RANKS AND ADVENTURES

NEXT LEVEL ADVENTURES

For 3rd through 5th graders, Scouting builds real-world self-reliance, practical outdoor skills, and teamwork. Every milestone helps Scouts gain confidence, tackle bigger challenges, and learn to lead!

Bear: 3rd Grade



Skills:

Pocketknife safety, outdoor navigation, camp cooking, fishing, and community service.

Adventure in Action:

Bears earn their pocketknife privilege, tie outdoor knots, prep campfire snacks, go fishing, and take on bigger service roles!

WEBELOS: 4th Grade



Skills:

First aid, advanced outdoor skills, den leadership, personal fitness, citizenship, and community service.

Adventure in Action:

Webelos prepare for big outdoor adventures! They work on emergency first aid, plan Den hikes, camp in patrols, and practice Den teamwork.

Arrow of Light: 5th Grade



Skills:

Patrol system leadership, advanced scoutcraft, outdoor self-reliance, service, and Scouts BSA preparation.

Adventure in Action:

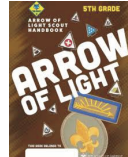
The highest rank in Cub Scouting! AOLs lead their own patrol, visit Scouts BSA troops, do night hikes, and bridge over into Scouts BSA!



This is just a sample of the fun adventures your Scout will participate in! For more in-depth information, grab a copy of your den's handbook and scan the QR code below to explore every adventure along the path!

SCOUT ESSENTIALS: HANDBOOKS

Now that you have identified your Scout's rank and what they are going to learn, getting your handbook is the most important part of starting your journey!



Official Grade-Level Handbooks

Each rank from Lion through Arrow of Light has a dedicated handbook tailored to your Scout's grade level. It serves as a complete guidebook and workbook for the year, helping Scouts record accomplishments and giving parents a clear guide for supporting them at home.

- Features step-by-step instructions, safety rules, and colorful illustrations for every core requirement and elective adventure.
- Helps parents follow along with Den meeting topics, sign off on completed adventures, and reinforce outdoor skills and character building at home.
- Introduces fundamental concepts including the Scout Oath, Scout Law, basic knot tying, outdoor safety, and community service.

Handbooks are available at the local Scout Shops or at [Scoutshop.org](https://scoutshop.org)!



Scout Life is the official magazine of Scouting America, created specifically to inspire young readers. Your Scout will look forward to every single issue and can't wait to receive something delivered in the mail just for them!

- Packed with funny comics, jokes, outdoor survival tricks, and inspiring stories of Scouts across the nation.
- Builds reading confidence with content written specifically for youth.
- Available at a discounted subscription rate through our Pack during annual registration.

SCOUT ESSENTIALS: UNIFORMS

The Cub Scout uniform gives kids a sense of pride and belonging, and they love wearing it! As your Scout grows from Kindergarten through 5th grade, their uniform evolves with each rank.

Pro Tip: Check with your Pack first to see if they have a uniform closet with extra items! Then, visit our local Scout Shop to find all the fun gear, patches, and accessories waiting for your new Scout.



Rank	Shirt	Hat & Neckerchief	Belt, Pants & Socks
Lion (Kindergarten)	Lion T-Shirt	Yellow Neckerchief & Slide, Lion Paw Hat	Blue Belt, Navy Bottoms (Shorts, Pants, or Skort), & Socks
Tiger (1st) Wolf (2nd) Bear (3rd) WEBELOS (4th)	Navy Blue Button-Up Shirt	Rank-Specific Cap, Rank-Specific Neckerchief & Slide. - Tiger: Orange - Wolf: Red - Bear: Light Blue - Webelos: Plaid	Blue Belt, Navy Bottoms (Shorts, Pants, or Skort), & Socks. (Webelos has adventure color ribbons for adventures)
Arrow of Light (5th)	Tan Button-Up Shirt (Scouts BSA style)	Green Scouts BSA Cap & Patrol selected Neckerchief & Slide (optional)	Green Belt, Green Bottoms (Shorts, Pants, or Skort), Adventure Color ribbons & Socks

Our friendly Scout Shop staff is ready to help you every step of the way to get your Scout outfitted with everything they need or shop online at ScoutShop.org!

SAVE 10%

ON UNIFORM BOTTOMS WHEN YOU PURCHASE ANY MATCHING UNIFORM TOP.*

OFFER VALID 7/27/26 - 12/31/26

OR SAVE 20%

WHEN YOU PURCHASE A FULL UNIFORM.*

OFFER VALID 7/27/26 - 10/31/26

*RESTRICTIONS APPLY. QUALIFYING ITEMS AND FULL UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS VARY BY OFFICE. SEE ADVISORY FOR DETAILS. VALID FOR OUR SCOUTS, SCOUTS BSA, AND YOUTHWING.

South Bay Scout Shop (San Jose):

1900 The Alameda, Suite 100, San Jose, CA 95126

Monterey Trading Post:

187 El Dorado St, Unit F, Monterey, CA 93940

COST AND FUNDRAISING

Scouting is an investment in your child's character, skills, and future! We strive to keep Scouting affordable for every family through clear costs and direct fundraising opportunities.

Annual Membership Fee Chart

Member Type	National Fee	Council Fee	Scout Life (Optional)	Pack Fees (Enter in your Packs info here!)
Youth Member	\$85	\$24	\$15	
Adult Member	\$65	\$24		

Scouting America National fees fund organization-wide infrastructure, insurance, and digital tools. Local council fees stay local to fund regional properties, administrative staff, and localized training.



Annual Popcorn & Product Fundraising: Scouts can earn their own way!

Each year, Packs can participate in the Scouting Popcorn Sale to help families offset or fully pay for their annual dues and camp costs. If your Pack does not participate, contact Popcorn@svmbc.org to learn more about individual participation.

Fund Your Scout's Year: Up to 35% of your Scout's individual sales can be applied toward their registration, camp fees, or handbook and gear.

Build Life Skills: Selling popcorn teaches youth public speaking, goal setting, money management, and business ethics.

Financial Assistance: We believe every youth deserves to be a Scout regardless of financial circumstance. Confidential registration assistance and camp scholarships are available through our local Council and Pack.

Please reach out to field@svmbc.org to learn more!

PROGRAMS

Through hands-on activities, outdoor adventures, and time-honored traditions, Scouts build confidence, learn new skills, and create lifelong memories. Whether racing a car built from scratch or sleeping under the stars, every event is designed to give youth exciting new experiences alongside their families.

Pack Events (Local Unit Activities)

Traditional events organized directly by the Pack for member families:

Pinewood Derby: Carve, paint, and race custom wooden cars on a high-speed track.

Blue & Gold Banquet: An annual celebration marking the birthday of Cub Scouting with dinner and awards.

Pack Campouts: Family-friendly weekend camping trips filled with campfires, skits, and outdoor exploration.

Service Projects: Opportunities to give back locally through food drives and community cleanups.



Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council (SVMBC), your regional council, offers extra year-round events and facilities that families can sign up for and attend individually at any time (additional registration fees apply):

Camp Chesebrough & Camp Hi-Sierra Family Camps: Experience fully planned family weekend campouts, from the redwoods of the Santa Cruz Mountains to the majestic Sierra Nevadas, complete with meals, archery, and campfires!

Bullseye Bonanza: A targeted day on the range for Scouts to master archery, air-powered BB guns, and slingshots while earning shooting sports awards.

Cub-O-Ree: A fun, action-packed one-day camp designed specifically to give new Scouts a taste of outdoor Scouting fun.

Boo-Fest: A favorite Halloween-themed overnight featuring pumpkin carving, costume fun, and trick-or-treating down a haunted trail!

Day Camps: Outdoor day and resident camps featuring swimming, climbing, STEM, crafts, and nature.

VOLUNTEERING & PARENT LEADERSHIP

Our Pack is powered by parents like you and supported by our professional Scouting staff every step of the way. Your child loves seeing you involved, and when their Den needs a leader, stepping up is the best way to share their journey!

Direct Den & Pack Leadership

When a Den forms or grows, stepping up as a Den Leader, Assistant Den Leader, or Cubmaster is one of the most rewarding ways to make the adventure happen and share in your child's Scouting journey.



Full Training & Support: You are never on your own! Comprehensive online training, ready-to-use meeting plans, and local Council volunteers are always available to guide you every step of the way.

Co-Lead with a Friend: Many parents pair up to co-lead a Den together to share the fun and split the schedule!

Behind-the-Scenes Committee Roles

Treasurer & Popcorn Chair: Keep the Pack running smoothly by managing finances or organizing our annual fundraiser.

Committee Members: Help plan campouts, pack calendar events, and award ceremonies.

Flexible & Single-Task Helpers

Perfect for fitting around busy work schedules; every small task helps!

Helpers: Bring snacks, take photos, lead a campfire song, or help set up the Pinewood Derby track.



Professional Support System: You don't need prior Scouting experience to be a great volunteer! Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council employs professional staff members whose job is to answer your questions, provide resources, and to help our volunteer leaders.

RESOURCES

Don't go alone; take training! Scouting gives leaders and parents the tools, guidance, and community support needed to run a safe, engaging, and memorable program!

Adult Leader Training

Training equips leaders to guide young Scouts safely and turn every den and pack meeting into an unforgettable adventure.

- **Getting Started:** All adult **leaders** complete Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT) and position-specific training to ensure a fun, safe environment.
- **Online Courses:** Take self-paced video modules anytime at my.scouting.org.
- **In-Person Classes:** Find live outdoor skills workshops, BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation), and training dates at svmbc.org/training.

Scouting's Barriers to Abuse

- Scouting America mandates Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT), two-deep adult leadership, and zero one-on-one contact (in person or online) at all times to keep every Scout safe.

Monthly Roundtable: Connect & Learn

Monthly Roundtables bring together experienced regional Scouters to share program ideas, crafts, games, skits, songs, and practical advice for den and pack meetings. It's the single best way for new leaders and families to learn the ropes and build connections! Check with your leaders for time and dates.

Resources

Website / Link

What You'll Find

Local Council Info.

svmbc.org

Local events, rescourses, SVMBC contact info

Find a Unit

beascout.org

Unit Locator for families joining Scouting

National Cub Scouting Resources

scouting.org

Policies, advancement requirements, & program news

Scout Shop

scoutshop.org

Uniforms, Supplies, Handbooks

Scouting Weekly

go.svmbc.org/ScouterWeekly

SVMBC's weekly email local newsletter

Facebook

facebook.com/SVMBC

Photos, event announcements, & local council updates

NEXT STEPS

- ☐ **Register Online & Submit Registration:** Complete official youth registration and submit annual dues.
- ☐ **Get Your Official Handbook:**
Pick up your Scout's grade-level handbook to kick off their rank adventures.
- ☐ **Fill Out Parent Talent Survey:**
Share your skills, hobbies, or availability to help support our Pack activities!
- ☐ **Attend Parent Orientation Meeting:**
Connect with leaders, learn about our schedule, and get answers to all your questions.
- ☐ **Mark Next Meetings on Your Calendar:**
Join us for your first meeting night and jump right into the Scouting fun!

Notes:

PACK DIRECTORY

Circle Child's Rank:

Lion / Tiger / Wolf / Bear / Webelos / AOL

Den Leader

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Next Den Meeting

Date: _____ Time: _____

Place: _____

Cubmaster

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Next Pack Meeting

Date: _____ Time: _____

Place: _____

Parent Meeting

Date: _____ Time: _____

Place: _____

**We are so glad
you're here!**



Scouting  America™

**CALL OR TEXT US
(408)638-8333**