



WELCOME TO THE WORLD Of TIGER CUBS!

Tiger Cubs BSA is an exciting program of the Boy Scouts of America for first-grade boys (or those who are 7 years old) and adult family members.

You and your Tiger Cub will have many wonderful opportunities to search out new activities, discover new things, and share them with each other. Incidentally, "Search, Discover, Share" is the Tiger Cub Motto.

The activities in this book are designed so that you and your Tiger Cub can take part in them together. Other family members, as well, can participate in many of these activities.

An important goal of the program is to offer your Tiger Cub all kinds of new activities and fun things that he can do with you. But another goal is to strengthen the bond of the entire family.

During the time your boy is a Tiger Cub, we want to impart some of the ideals of the Boy Scouts of America to him - ideals such as personal fitness, reverence for God, love of country and caring for others.

We also want to help you build a closer relationship with your Tiger Cub. We want to offer you opportunities to share your ideals, values, and dreams with your Tiger Cub. In addition, we believe that self esteem and self-confidence are especially important, and building those things in your Tiger Cub is another goal.

Tiger Cub dens are part of a Cub Scout pack, and members of the pack hope your Tiger Cub will become a Cub Scout after his time in Tiger Cubs. It should be noted that Tiger Cubs BSA is a nine month program.

Amid all these goals for your Tiger Cub, there is one other goal we want to stress. And that goal is fun - fun for your Tiger Cub, fun for you, and fun the two of you can enjoy together.

The Tiger Cubs BSA program is designed with a minimum of organization. There are seventeen big ideas. Built around each big idea are family activities that you and your Tiger Cub can do, and family activities for the Tiger Cub den as a whole. Schedule Big Idea 1 for September and Big Idea 17 for May, then in between, your den can pursue other big ideas of its choice.

The Boy Scouts of America wants you and your Tiger Cub to:

1. Have Fun together
2. Know one another
3. Grow together
4. Get along together
5. Discover together

GETTING YOUR DEN STARTED

1. At your organizational meeting, your Tiger Cub Coach will explain the **Family Activity Book** to everyone. Your den should select a Tiger Cub den coordinator from within the group. This person is not a den leader but is a point of contact for the den, the Tiger Cub Coach and the pack. You choose which big idea you would like to be responsible for, and the month you would like to present it.
2. Although most Tiger Cub dens meet twice monthly, Tiger Cubs and their adult partners do a family activity at least once a week. Be sure every den meeting is a fun-filled activity.
3. At one of your monthly meetings each month, be sure to pick the big idea you will pursue in the following month. Then someone should volunteer to handle a den activity centered on that big idea. Your den may want to plan more than one month ahead, and we encourage that.
That's all there is to it. Your coach may attend one or two more meetings, but aside from that, your Tiger Cub den will chart its own exciting, fun-filled course. However, your coach is always available for support and advice whenever you need it and will probably have some great ideas for activities.
4. Tiger Cub den meetings are times for fun and action. We want to help you keep the business to a minimum. We suggest a short opening ceremony, such as reciting the Tiger Cub Promise. Then give a few minutes to each Tiger Cub to let him share the activities he and another member of his family have completed since the last meeting. After that, launch the planned activity for that meeting. Whether you meet in one another's homes, at a central location such as a church or school, or elsewhere is up to you and your den. The best meeting location is where the action is, and it may vary depending on the activity planned.
5. Tiger Cubs are presented a specially designed leather tiger paw belt totem when they learn the Tiger Cub Motto and Promise. The totem can be presented at either a den or pack meeting.
6. For each family activity, you and your Tiger Cub complete, give him one of the Tiger Cub stickers contained in your Family Activity Packet. He can put the sticker on his wall chart at home, or at your Tiger Cub den meetings. Either way is fine.
7. For each big idea completed by the den, an iron on Tiger Track from your Family Activity Packet may be added to the front of the boy's Tiger Cub uniform shirt. Your Tiger Cub will also be eligible to receive activity beads, one orange bead for each den activity completed and one white bead for each five family activities completed. Activity beads may be worn on the specially designed leather tiger paw that is attached to the Tiger Cub belt. This is called a belt totem.
8. Recognition in Tiger Cubs BSA is simple. It is hoped that participation and activity remain the core of the Tiger Cubs BSA program and that incentives are motivators rather than the final goal. The Tiger Cub activity beads should be presented in appropriate ceremonies. As these are earned and received, a Tiger Cub will feel pride in accomplishment and his self esteem will grow.
9. Your coach will contact your den about Big Idea 17 on Cub Scouting. Activities in that big idea include a parents' meeting, attendance at Cub Scout pack activities, and the all-important graduation into Cub Scouting for your Tiger Cub at the end of his time in Tiger Cubs.

TIGER CUB UNIFORMS

Tiger Cubs and Den Coordinators wear an orange Tiger Cubs BSA T-shirt with the Tiger Cubs emblem located on the front of the shirt. Although highly recommended, it is optional for adult partners to wear the orange Tiger Cubs BSA T-shirt. The iron-on Tiger Tracks may be placed anywhere on the Tiger Cub's shirt after completion of a big idea; the front of the shirt is recommended.

Tiger Cub T-shirts can be purchased from your nearest Scouting distributor. Both youth and adult sizes are available. A Tiger cub cap and belt are also available.



OTHER RESOURCES

1. Other members of your family
2. Neighbors and friends
3. Your den coordinator and other members of your Tiger Cub Den
4. Your Tiger Cub Coach
5. Your Cub Scout Pack's Cubmaster
6. Your librarian
7. Your Tiger Cub's teacher
8. Your district or council "Where-to-Go" booklet
9. Tiger Cub Resource Book

ORGANIZING YOUR PROGRAM

Tiger Cub dens operate on a system called "shared leadership." This means that each Tiger Cub/ adult team takes its turn in providing leadership for the den meeting, based on the big idea selected for that month. In this way, every boy has the opportunity to serve in a leadership role with his adult partner one or two times during his Tiger Cub experience.

If you are familiar with Cub Scouting, you know that Cub Scout leadership does not function the same way. Cub Scout dens are organized with one or two adult leaders guiding the activities of a den of six to eight boys. Tiger Cubs BSA is different than Cub Scouting. All Tiger Cub adults attend every den meeting and are familiar with the ongoing activities of the den; therefore, they all share in the leadership role with their Tiger Cubs.

Soon after your Tiger Cub den is organized, review the seventeen big ideas in **the Tiger Cub Family Activity Book**. At your den meeting, decide as a den which big ideas interest you the most and decide on big ideas for the next few months. You may do this for just the next month, for several months, or for the entire time you will be in Tiger Cubs BSA. The adults and boys in your den will have more time to plan and prepare for the big idea they will lead if you plan several months ahead, but you should remain flexible enough to change a big idea if your den later decides to do something else. It is very important to remember that when selecting your den's big ideas, Big Idea 1, "Getting to Know You," and Big Idea 17, "Cub Scouting, Here We Come," must be included in your calendar. Your Tiger Cub coach will conduct or assist in conducting these two meetings for your den.

When you have selected your big ideas, enter them next to the appropriate months on the calendar printed on the inside back cover of the **Tiger Cub Family Activity Book**. Also list the Cub Scout pack activities you will visit. Your Tiger Cub coach will give you information about these.

Next, enter the names of the boy/adult teams that will plan and lead each of the den meetings. Be sure that every Tiger Cub/adult team has the opportunity to give leadership to at least one den meeting.

When it is your turn to lead, discuss the big idea with your Tiger Cub, review the activity suggestions for the den in the section of this book for that big idea, get a copy of the appropriate pages from the **Tiger Cub Resource Book**, and plan the den meeting. Your plans should include a short opening and closing, and an activity built around the Tiger Cub motto: Search, Discover, Share. **Search** by looking at the exciting activity to come. **Discover** through exploration of one or more of the group activity suggestions for your big idea (this should be the longest part of the den meeting). **Share** by letting each Tiger Cub review the family activities that he and his adult partner have completed since the last meeting. The **Tiger Cub Resource Book** is filled with activities for each big idea and will assist you and your Tiger Cub with planning the den meeting.

Finally, enter the date, time, and location of each den activity. From time to time, review and update this calendar with your Tiger Cub den.

6 STEPS FOR A GRRRREAT DEN MEETING!

Tiger Cub den meetings should be activities - opportunities for Tiger Cubs and their adult partners to go somewhere or do something new. Avoid sit - down meetings. There are dozens of exciting places and fun things to do right in your neighborhood. Get out and discover!

1. **GATHERING** - Before the meeting begins, have a game, puzzle, or other activity to keep the Tiger Cubs busy until everyone has arrived.
2. **OPENING** - For the first few meetings, you might want to recite the Tiger Cub Promise in unison. Later in the year, vary the opening by using the Pledge of Allegiance, by singing a song, or by conducting your own ceremony. Toward the end of the Tiger Cub year, recite the Cub Scout Promise or the Law of the Pack in unison.
3. **SHARING** - Let each boy tell about some of the activities he and his family have done together since the last den meeting.
4. **DISCOVERING** - See something together. Do something together. Choose a big idea activity suggestion. This den activity should occupy the greatest part of your meeting time. Make it active and fun for both the Tiger Cubs and their adult partners.
5. **SEARCHING** - Plan for the next meeting. Choose a big idea and decide which Tiger Cub/adult team will lead it, if this has not already been done. Make sure everyone knows the time, date, and place of the next meeting, as well as the big idea for the next month.
6. **CLOSING** - During the early part of the Tiger Cub year, close each meeting by repeating the Tiger Cub motto. Later, use your own ideas or recite the Cub Scout motto - Do Your Best.

The **Tiger Cub Resource Book, No. 34748**, is designed to assist you in planning and conducting each big idea. This book complements the Family Activity Book and is filled with ideas, activities, songs, and projects to make your Tiger Cub den meetings exciting and worthwhile for both the boys and adults involved. When it is your turn to host a meeting, the Tiger Cub den coordinator will give you those pages from the Resource Book related to the big idea you and your Tiger Cub will be hosting.

