

So you're a new Cub Scout Den Leader...

Be Afraid... Be very afraid!!!

Oops, sorry. I'm only kidding. There have been new Den Leaders in Cub Scouting since 1930, and nearly all of them have found ways to not only survive, but thrive in that role. There are a few things you need to know to be successful, however, so this packet is here to get you started.

You may already know some of this. Perhaps someone in your pack has given you some information in the form of literature and website URLs. Maybe it was Stacy Hall, our district's Cub Scout Specialist at your sign-up event. Maybe you're computer savvy, and found some of this on your own. If so, great. If not, no problem. Here's what you need to know to get started:

Cub Scout Leader training is available on line. You'll need to establish an account at My.Scouting.org. Once you do, navigate to Youth Protection Training and complete that training. It'll take a little over an hour, and is required in order for you to be registered in Scouting. You'll need to retake that training every year, too. We want our youth members to be safe, and you're a big part of that.

Next, you'll need to complete the training modules for your position, Cub Scout Den Leader. It's made up of several modules, each a few minutes long. If you complete a module, you can stop go back in later to do the next module, but don't stop in the middle, or you'll have to restart that module. Try and get this done over the course of a week or so.

Find the Den Leader Resources page on the BSA website:

<https://www.scouting.org/programs/cub-scouts/den-meeting-resources/>

Select your den level, and you can access support information like the Den Leader Guide for your den level (Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, or Webelos). This contains plans for an entire year's worth of Den meetings. You'll definitely want a copy of this book.

Finally, get onto TCScouting.org, the district's website and take a look around. There's lots of information here. Not all of it applies to you or to Cub Scouting, but a lot does, and you'll need to know where to find it. Also, subscribe to the district's email list: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/taughannockannounce>

Taughannock Announce will keep you informed of upcoming events, important changes in date, time, or location of events and meetings, and cancellations.

Good Luck and Great Scouting!

## 12 Things for New Cub Scout Leaders

- (1) Den meetings are NOT SCHOOL, so don't make them feel like school.
- (2) FUN FIRST, then advancement, then business.
- (3) There is NO RUSH to complete advancement adventures. You've got until the end of the school year.
- (4) Be sure to plan for MAKE-UP opportunities for Cubs who miss meetings or who join part-way through the year.
- (5) GET MORE TRAINING every chance you get.
- (6) ATTEND ROUNDTABLES
- (7) ALTERNATE active and quiet activities
- (8) Don't make it too complicated for yourself or for your Cubs.
- (9) Prepare more than you have time for, and always have a fall-back activity.
- (10) Get and read the leader book for your rank.
- (11) Start and end on time.
- (12) Have a gathering activity.
- (13) BONUS: You are not alone. There are resources both within and beyond your pack who can help. Ask...

#### **Cub Scout Leader Vocabulary**

**Den:** a group of (usually) 6 to 8 Cub Scouts of the same gender working on the same Cub Scout badge. A Den is led by an adult Den Leader and an Assistant Den Leader. There are Lion Dens for 5-year olds, Tiger

Dens for 6-year olds, Wolf Dens for 7-year olds, Bear Dens for 8-year olds, Webelos Dens for 9- and 10-year olds.

**Pack:** a group of Cub Scout dens, each working on a different Cub Scout badge. There could be two or more dens at each level.

**Den Leader:** The designated, registered adult leader of a Cub Scout Den.

**Assistant Den Leader:** The designated, registered adult assistant to a Cub Scout Den Leader.

**Cubmaster:** The designated registered adult leader of a Cub Scout Pack.

**Assistant Cubmaster:** A designated, registered adult assistant to a Cubmaster.

**Pack Committee:** A group of adults who plan and oversee the program of the pack, and support the Cubmasters and Den Leaders. One member is designated Chairman. One member serves as secretary, one as treasurer, one as advancement chair, and others as the program dictates.

**Sponsor:** A community organization which has agreed to “own” a Cub Scout Pack, approve it’s leadership, and provide for a meeting place.

**Chartered Organization Representative:** A member of the sponsoring organization appointed to oversee the operations of the Cub Scout pack for the organization. They serve as members of the pack committee and are voting members of the local council and district.

**Council:** An incorporated body responsible for Scouting in its designated territory. We are members of the Baden-Powell Council, which serves, Chenango, Broome, Tioga, Tompkins, and Cortland Counties in New York, and Susquehanna Council in Pennsylvania.

**District:** A territorial subdivision of a Council, which is responsible to the Council for the Scouting program within its territory. We are members of the Taughannock District.

**Commissioner:** A district-level Scouter appointed to assist Cub Scouts Packs and other Scout units to be successful.

**Roundtable:** A monthly meeting of Cub Scout leaders, under the leadership of a Roundtable Commissioner.

**District Committee:** A group of district Scouters who are responsible for Membership, Finance, Unit Service, and Program within the District’s territory. Districts are led by District Chairmen, Vice Chairmen, a District Commissioner, and a District Scout Executive.

**Executive:** Paid employees of the Boy Scouts of America who are responsible for the success of Scouting within their assigned territory. Each Council has a Council Executive; each District has a District Executive, and there may be other Executives as well. The Baden-Powell Council has a Council Executive, an Assistant Council Executive, a Program Director, two District Executives, and two Cub Scout Specialists.

# Cub Scout Leader Tool Kit 1

*(Print on heavy paper, cut out, and sort. Add new tools as you locate them.)*

## Circle Treat

Have the cubs sit in a circle. Pass a dish of wrapped candies around the circle. Randomly stop, then ask the Cub with the dish a question. If they get it correct, they select a candy, then pass the dish. Play until everyone has earned a candy. Good for learning the Scout Law.

## Good Conduct Candle

Use a medium-sized candle. Light it at the beginning of each meeting, and allow it to burn until someone misbehaves, then extinguish it. Once the candle has burned down completely, the den has earned a treat at their next meeting. Start a new, slightly larger candle at the next meeting.

## Kim's Game

Place a selection of items under a cloth. On "Go" lift the cloth, and allow the Cubs to study the items. After sufficient time, cover the items, and have the Cubs list the items they saw, or ask them questions about the items. Then uncover the items, and let them see how they did.

## Concentration

Prepare twelve to twenty-four cards with pairs of identical cards. Shuffle and place face down. Each Cub turns over two cards. If they match, they are left face up, and the Cub scores a point. Continue until all pairs are made. This works well with pictures of Cub Scout badges or the twelve Scout Laws.

## Song – Cub Scout Spirit

I've got that Cub Scout Spirit up in my head,  
up in my head, up in my head,  
I've got that Cub Scout Spirit up in my head,  
up in my head today!

Repeat with "deep in my heart"  
"down in my feet"  
"all over me"

## Applause

Clap your hands to the rhythm of a well-known song. Have the Cubs guess the song, then have them repeat the applause with you.

Suggested songs:  
Happy Birthday to You  
Other songs that you've sung as a den.

## Song – Taps

Day is done. Gone the sun  
From the lakes, From the hills,  
From the sky.  
All is well. Safely rest.  
God is nigh.

## Living Circle Closing

Have Cubs make a circle with their left hands gripping the thumb of the Cub to their left, making a circle.

Repeat the Cub Scout Benediction:  
"May the great Cubmaster of all Cub Scouts  
be with us until we meet again."

## Puzzles

Scan a picture, print on heavy paper or card stock, then cut into pieces. Shuffle the pieces, then have the Cubs assemble the puzzle. For older cubs, mix two or more pictures together. Try using the 12 points of the Scout Law, cut into 2 or 3 pieces per word.

## Scout Vespers

(Tune: Oh, Tannenbaum)

Softly falls the light of day, as our campfire fades away.  
Silently each Scout should ask Have I done my daily task.  
Have I kept my honor bright? Can I guiltless sleep tonight?  
Have I done and have I dared, Everything to be prepared?