

Cub Scout vs. Boy Scout Comparison Overview

(see Troop 175 Handbook for additional information)

	Cub Scouts	Boy Scouts
Ideals	Found in the Cub Scout Oath and the Laws of the Pack.	Spelled out in the Scout Oath and the Scout Law, Motto and Slogan.
Structure	Each boy is in a Den with boys of their own rank, and the Dens belong to a Pack.	Boys all belong to one Troop, but are assigned a Patrol (a small group) usually with boys close in age.
Leadership	The Cubmaster, Assistant Cubmasters, Den Leaders and Parents	The boys lead the Troop under the guidance of the Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmasters, Committee members and Parents.
Boy Leaders	None	<p>Each Patrol is led by a boy who has been elected by the Patrol members. He is the "Patrol Leader" for that Patrol. Within the Patrol the boys may also have appointed positions such as Assistant Patrol Leader, Scribe, etc.</p> <p>The Troop is lead by the "Senior Patrol Leader" who has been elected by the other boys in the Troop. He is assisted by the "Senior Patrol" which is made up of boys of advanced rank or age, and the other Patrol Leaders.</p>
Association with Adults	The adults plan and run all activities. The boys look to adults to structure and direct activities.	Activities are Scout-led with adults modeling behavior and encouraging the Scouts. Additional assistance may be given, based on the capabilities of the Scout in the planning of activities.
Parent Involvement	The parents are expected to assist the Pack with planning or helping with at least one activity or event annually. They may also take a leadership role in the Pack or Den.	The parents are expected to continuously assist the Troop by supporting the boys and participating in those tasks that the boys can not do. This may include: transportation to an activity, shopping for a trip, or chaperoning a trip. It also may include assisting with fund raisers (finances and organization) and coordinating special events. It is expected that each family take an active role in the Troop.

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Advancement	Cub Scouts rely on their Den leaders and parents to plan and assist with all advancement activities. Achievements/books are signed by either the Den leader or parent.	The individual Boy Scout plans his own advancement and progresses at his own pace. With encouragement of adult leaders he learns from his peers, or seeks out on his own the skills and knowledge needed to advance. Rank requirements are only signed by leaders after the Scout completes them and requests that they be signed. (Parents can not request the book be signed.)
Ranks	Based only on age or grade. Even if you did not earn the rank for that age you move to the next one as your Den moves. The levels are Tiger, Bobcat, Wolf, Bear, Webelo and Arrow of Light.	Attaining the next rank is dependent on the Scout earning the previous rank. A Scout cannot advance to the next level until all activities are completed in the lower rank. The ranks are Scout, Tenderfoot, 2 nd Class, 1st Class, Star, Life and Eagle. (Eagle Palms may also be earned after Eagle.)
Merit Badges	None	Earned by Scouts after demonstrating to an adult merit badge counselor acquisition of knowledge and/or skill in a specific subject. There are some required merit badges that must be earned to advance to Star, Life and Eagle.
Outdoor Programs	Limited to Scout and parent weekend or day trips. May have some camping in tents or cabins. Summer camp is limited to 2 or 3 nights.	Monthly or bi-monthly camping trips as well as additional outdoor day activities. Much of the program involves activities that can only be done in the outdoors (nature, ecology, pioneering, orienteering, conservation etc.) Also available to the Scout is at least a week of camping each summer.
Uniform	Blue Cub Scout shirt and pants with a neckerchief reflective of the boys rank. Worn at Pack meetings and most Den meetings. Boy Scout shirt may be worn by Webelos Scouts	Boy Scout Khaki shirt and pants/shorts with a Troop neckerchief. Scouts are expected to wear the official boy Scout belt. If the Scout is wearing shorts, and the official socks must be worn. The uniform is worn at specific Troop meetings and events. Also, a Troop t-shirt is worn for camping and other activities.