

# THE WOLF AND BEAR PROGRAMS

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## CUB SCOUT DENS

Cub Scout dens are composed of boys who are in second or third grades (or who are 8 or 9 years old). When they complete third grade (or reach age 10), they enter a Webelos den. The boys in second grade (or who are age 8) are called *Wolf Cub Scouts*. The boys in third grade (or who are age 9) are called *Bear Cub Scouts*.

Den meetings are planned and run by an adult den leader with the help of an assistant den leader and den chief. A member of the pack committee works closely with the den leaders, coordinating den activities and plans for pack meeting participation and providing training and support. The pack trainer will provide information about training.

Den meeting activities are planned around the monthly theme and include playing games, making handicrafts, taking hikes and pursuing other outdoor fun, practicing skits and stunts in preparation for the next pack meeting, and taking part in simple ceremonies and songs. Sometimes, work on advancement requirements is included.

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## PLANNING THE CUB SCOUT DEN MEETING

A Cub Scout den leader is not expected to find and develop all of the ideas and materials needed to run four lively den meetings each month. The Cubmaster and pack committee members work with den leaders to develop den meeting programs. Much of the planning for the den and pack is done at the annual pack program planning conference, the pack leaders' planning meeting, and the den chief planning meeting. (See Chapter 24, "Program Planning.")

*Cub Scout Program Helps* provides four monthly den meeting outlines based on the monthly theme. Most leaders use these outlines as a guide for planning their own den meetings, but they are also free to incorporate their own ideas in the den meeting plan.

Remember that sometimes a den trip or other special activity might take the place of a regular den meeting. If the den meeting program is well-planned, interesting, and fun, the boys will be more likely to attend.

