

LION PILOT OVERVIEW



LION

Lion is a national pilot program of the Boy Scouts of America for kindergarten-age boys. The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to help young people build character, learn citizenship, develop personal fitness, become effective leaders, and have fun in the outdoors. Cub Scouting is a program of the Boy Scouts of America for boys in the first through fifth grades. The Lion pilot is exploring the value of a Scouting program for kindergarten-age boys. (Boys must be 5 years old by September 30 and not yet 7 years.)

OVERVIEW

Lion is a family-oriented program. A youth and his parent or caring adult partner join Scouting together. A group of six to eight boys and their adult partners meet together in a group called a den. Dens will meet approximately twice per month. They have fun participating in den meetings and outings while making memories together.

PROGRAM

The Lion pilot encourages boys to learn and explore through hands-on, high-energy activities. Adult partners take turns leading a den meeting or outing during the year. Most meetings last approximately 45 minutes to an hour; outings are slightly longer.

RECOGNITION

Boys are recognized for their accomplishments as they work toward the Lion badge. The Lion badge is earned by completing five adventures. Adventures are completed during the den meetings and outings. When an adventure is completed, the youth receives a sticker to put in his *Lion Adventure Book*.

ADVENTURES

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Lion's Honor |  Pick My Path |
|  Fun on the Run |  Gizmos and Gadgets |
|  Animal Kingdom |  On Your Mark |
|  Mountain Lion |  Build It Up, Knock It Down |
|  King of the Jungle |  Rumble in the Jungle |
|  I'll Do It Myself |  Ready, Set, Grow |

LEADERSHIP

Den meetings and outings are facilitated by a Lion guide and participating parents. The Lion guide is an experienced Cub Scout leader. He or she will lead the first den meeting of the year. The Lion guide will help each adult partner lead one of the remaining meetings. The den meeting plans are provided in the *Lion Parent and Leader Guidebook*.

Adult Partner

The adult partner participates with the Lion in fun meetings and outings. He or she takes turns with other adult partners in leading a den meeting and/or outing.

Lion Guide

A Lion guide is a volunteer leader who provides direct support to your Lion den.

Cubmaster

The Cubmaster serves as the master of ceremonies for the monthly pack meeting. The pack meeting is an event where all of the dens in a Cub Scout pack come together for fun activities and awards. Lion dens usually attend only two special pack meetings to accommodate the earlier bedtimes of Lions.

LION PILOT Overview (continued)



UNIFORM



The uniform for Lions is a Lion T-shirt with an optional cap. These items are available from your council's Scout shop for all approved pilot councils.



The Lion guide wears the same official adult uniform as other Cub Scout pack leaders. A Lion adult polo shirt or Cub Scouting activity T-shirt is also appropriate.

RESOURCES

Resources available for the approved national pilot councils are:

For up-to-date resources, please see www.scouting.org/lion



Recruitment: Build an Adventure recruitment materials and promotional video



Orientation Video and PowerPoint and FAQs:

- 1) For parents, Lion guides, and Cubmasters
- 2) Specifically for Lion guides



Lion merchandise from council Scout shop:

- 1) *Lion Parent and Leader Guidebook* (12 den meeting plans and outing plans)
- 2) Lion recognition stickers
- 3) *Lion Adventure Book* (for youth)
- 4) Lion rank badge (for completion of the five required adventures)
- 5) Youth T-shirt and optional cap



People: Your local council, unit, and experienced Cub Scout leaders

DEVELOPMENT

The program materials were developed under the auspices of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America and were based on years of experience in four pilot councils. The program was then modified by a development team, which included experts in child development and education working with the Boy Scouts of America. Collectively, this team had more than 75 years of volunteer service to Scouting and experience in education, including advanced work in child and curriculum development.

EVALUATION

Evaluations will be conducted throughout the year. Because this is a pilot, your participation is needed to provide feedback for program continuation or expansion.

To support the feedback, it is important to deliver the program as designed.

CONTACT

Contact your local council to find out more information on how to enroll you and your son in the Lion program. Enjoy!

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Blue Grass Council Boy Scouts of America Pilot Program for the Lion Cub Program



Earlier this year, we made a decision that the Blue Grass Council, BSA would participate in the Lion Cub program. Many councils piloting the program demonstrated its success.

Since then, we have been approached by several Cub Scout Packs in our Council with requests to move forward with the Lion Cub program and to begin recruiting new kindergarten boys this fall. Additionally, over 70% of the BSA councils nationwide have enrolled to participate in the Lion Cub pilot. We are confident that this level of involvement will ensure the BSA will continue the program with a full rollout.

In order for a Blue Grass Council, BSA Cub Scout Pack to participate in the Lion Cub Program and recruit kindergarten boys, they must achieve the following:

1. The pack must have the approval of the District Key-3 to have a Lion Cub Program.
2. The Cubmaster, the Pack Committee Chairman, and the Charter Representative must all agree to have and support a Lion Cub Den.
3. The pack leadership must recruit a Lion Cub Den Leader and an Assistant Lion Den Leader. These people will run Lion Cub Den Meetings, and function just like regular Den Leaders and Assistants. Please note: Lion Cub recruitment will begin no earlier than the Fall of 2017.
4. The Lion Cub Den Leader must attend a face to face training event for Lion Cub Den Leaders to be held in late August or early September.
5. The pack must have a calendar of events and meetings for Lion Cubs turned in to their District Executive before we will allow them to invite kindergarteners to join.
6. Lion Cub Den Leaders and Cubmasters with Lion Dens must agree to participate in two online surveys, one conducted mid-year and one conducted at the end of the program year.

Cub Packs that meet the criteria above will be prepared to support their Lion Cub dens and the program quality will be strong, leading to good retention of the boys and their parents. Packs wishing to apply to have a Lion Den should complete the form below “Blue Grass Council Lion Den Application Form” and give it to their District Executive.

Our Membership team and our Districts are excited about this opportunity to add the Lion Cub program to Cub Scouting. We are confident this will be a success. Please let us know if you have questions or comments regarding the implementation of the Lion Cub Program.

You Must register for Lion Den Leader Training to take place at your respective Districts Program Kick-off.

**Mt. Laurel
Lake Cumberland
Elkhorn
Lonesome Pine
Palisades
Shawnee**

**August 3, 2017
August 8, 2017
August 10, 2017
August 10, 2017
August 10, 2017
August 19, 2017**

Blue Grass Council Lion Den Application Form



*Submit this form and your pack calendar to your District Executive for District Key 3 Approval.

Pack #: _____ District: _____

Instructions:

If your pack would like to have a Lion Den during the 2017-18 school year, fill out this form and turn it into your District Executive along with a copy of your pack's calendar by July 1, 2017. Lion Scouts is a pilot program that will serve kindergarten age boys. Since Lion Scouts is a pilot program, only the packs that meet the requirements below can participate. The District Key 3 (District Chairman, District Commissioner, and District Executive) must approve all participating packs.

Pack Requirement Checklist for a Lion Den:

We have recruited a Lion Guide (Lion Den Leader):

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, St. Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Calendar showing Pack and Lion Den activities is attached.

The Lion Guide and Cubmaster agree to participate in two online surveys, one conducted mid-year and one conducted at the end of the program year.

The Lion Guide is committed to attend a face-to-face Lion Guide Orientation Training. Pack Key 3 Approval. By signing I agree to have and support a Lion Den in our pack.

Cubmaster Signature: _____

Committee Chair Signature: _____

Charter Org. Rep. Signature: _____