



# Lion Guide and Parent Orientation

## The Lion Program

*The Boy Scouts of America's program  
for kindergarten-age Youth*

# Welcome



Welcome to the Lion orientation! If you are an experienced leader, relax—you will have this down in no time! If you are new to the program, come with us and enjoy learning about Lions!

- Thank you for taking the time to learn about Lions Program. Your role will be very important in the success of the program!
- You will help kindergarten youth and families enjoy their first experience in Scouting.
- You will be helping to create memories that will last a lifetime and be helping to build stronger families as they discover the fun of Scouting.

# The Lion Program



- Created by the Boy Scouts of America to address the needs of kindergarten-age youth.
  - Must be 5 years old or the year before first grade and not yet 7 years old to participate.
- Designed as an introduction to Cub Scouting

# Overview



The Lion program offers kindergarten-age youth and their adult partners an experience that includes:

- Fun while achieving Scouting's desired outcomes
- Active and fast-paced excitement
- Hands-on exploration
- Values-based and relevant content
- Focused time together as a family

# Scouting Is...



Scouting is designed to provide a fun adventure for today's youth that helps them "Be Prepared" for their future. Scouting will:

- Build character
- Foster citizenship
- Develop personal fitness
- Develop leadership skills
- Participate in outdoor activities

*But the kids just want to have fun...*

Of course they do! Lions will be too caught up in fun to realize how much they're growing.

# Getting Started



- Recruit Lion youth and leaders.
- Adult partners complete one application or online registration for both youth and adult then submit youth fees to the pack.
- Lion guides complete the adult application or online registration and submit fees to the pack.
- Lion guides complete the required Youth Protection training.

*Youth Protection training is available free online at [www.scouting.org/training/youthprotection.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/training/youthprotection.aspx).*



*Although Youth Protection training is required only for Lion guides, it is suggested that all adult partners complete the training.*

# What Do You Need to Start?



- You'll need the program materials kit (*Lion Parent and Leader Guidebook*, *Lion Adventure Book*, and stickers).
- The youth *Lion Adventure Book* is designed as a memory or keepsake book.
- The uniform is a Lion T-shirt and an optional cap.
- Adults are encouraged to wear either a Cub Scout uniform, Lion polo shirt, or Lion T-shirt.



# Basic Structure

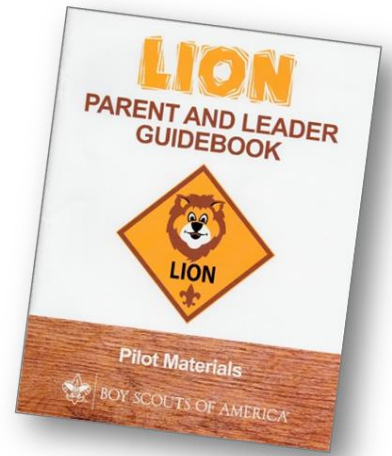


- Dens have six to eight youth, plus adult partners
- Two den meetings per month
  - Den meeting
    - Usually lasts about 45 minutes
  - Outing
    - Field trips with the entire family
    - Participation in two to three pack meetings.
    - Each individual family may decide to attend more pack meetings as it works with their schedules.





# Lion Leadership and Den Meetings



# Lion Guides Set the Example



Get started on the right foot.

- Help families agree to a meeting location and time.
- Plan and prepare for the initial den meeting.
- Show the families a well-run den meeting.
- Have each adult partner sign up for a turn leading a den meeting and outing during the year.
- Help with communication and coordination of the Lion Den.

# Shared Leadership



Lion guide (an experienced den leader)

- Oversees the den
- Communicates with participating families
- Leads initial den meetings and outings
- Mentors adult partners as they lead den meetings and outings during the year
- Integrates with the pack and pack leadership

# Shared Leadership, continued



## Adult partner

- Participates with Lion in all meetings, outings and pack activities.
- Takes turns leading a den meeting and outing, which is important for several reasons:
  1. Leadership is easier when everyone takes a small part.
  2. It shows you leading, and your son and/or daughter will be proud of you.
  3. It's fun to be a part of contributing to the den's success.

# Why is Shared Leadership Important?



- ✓ Engages the families and helps create ownership of program by families.
- ✓ Creates a stronger loyalty and connection to the den, families, and Scouting.
- ✓ Provides an opportunity to watch potential leaders in action—as a unit or pack considers future leaders.
- ✓ The boys love watching their “parents be the leader!”
- ✓ Millennial parents want to try things out before committing. They prefer to commit to small roles first.

# Leading a Den Meeting

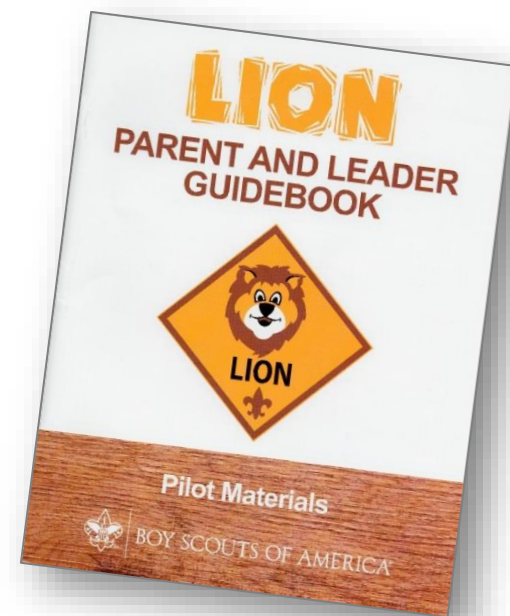


Everything you need to lead the den meeting or outing is in the *Lion Parent and Leader Guidebook*.

- Preparation
- Gathering
- Opening
- Talk time
- Activities
- Closing
- After the meeting

We've made it easy—it's all here!

Just follow this guide and you'll be fine. Your Lion Guide is there to mentor you.



# Take a Look Inside the Guidebook

Everything you need is here.



## GIZMOS AND GADGETS

### RATIONALE FOR ADVENTURE

Gadgets are designed to make tasks easier. Think about the difference between a can opener you turn and one that plugs into the wall. Computers are designed to move information around quickly. Some gizmos and gadgets are designed just for fun, like games or apps. They all start with moving parts. Can you make a gadget?



### TAKEAWAYS

- Learning about gadgets and time-saving devices
- Learning about gizmos designed just for fun

### CONNECTIONS WITH DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Character development
- Personal fitness

### REQUIREMENTS

1. Explore properties of motion.
2. Explore properties of force.
3. Use household materials to create a useful object.

## MEETING 1 PLAN

### PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED

- One 1-gallon milk jug with the bottom cut out per Lion
- Beanbags or other items to toss
- Magazines, scissors, glue, construction paper
- Pre-make and bring "Genius Kits" (Limit the kit to six to eight items and place in paper bag. Suggestions include: ice cream sticks, marbles, cork, glue, aluminum foil, chenille stems, golf tee, wire hanger, nuts and bolts, washers, screws, etc.)
- Drinking straws, ping-pong balls, dominoes

### GATHERING

- **Milk Jug Toss:** Collect enough 1-gallon milk jugs for each Lion to have one. Cut out the bottom of the jug, and leave the handle intact. Use the milk jugs to play catch with beanbags, ping-pong balls, tennis balls, etc. As the Lions develop some skills in catching the objects, increase the challenge by switching to a different item to catch.

### OPENING

- Select a Lion to light the Good Conduct Candle with help from his adult partner.
- As a group, recite the Pledge of Allegiance and the Scout Oath.

### GATHERING

- **Milk Jug Toss:** Collect enough 1-gallon milk jugs for each Lion to have one. Cut out the bottom of the jug, and leave the handle intact. Use the milk jugs to play catch with beanbags, ping-pong balls, tennis balls, etc. As the Lions develop some skills in catching the objects, increase the challenge by switching to a different item to catch.

### Activity 1: Rolling Investigation

- Collect many different-sized balls, cylinders, pipes, and other similar items to use to investigate movement. Have Lions observe as you roll them down an incline.
- Ask Lions questions such as these: Which ones roll faster—solid objects or hollow objects? Cylinders or spheres? Objects with large diameters or small diameters? When they roll down the incline, which one rolls the farthest? When they are pushed across the floor, do they roll at the same rate?

### TRANSPORTATION TO OUTING

- Establish details for travel to destination.

### ACTIVITIES

- Option 1: Visit a museum that shows the progression of gadgets and gizmos over time.
- Option 2: Visit a hardware store to see what makes up gadgets and gizmos.
- Option 3: Visit a community member who has an interest in historical artifacts and can show the Lions antique gadgets and gizmos.

# Adventures



Enjoy the program, have fun, and engage all families.

Required Adventures	Elective Adventures
Lion's Honor (First meeting)	I'll Do It Myself
Fun on the Run!	Pick My Path
Animal Kingdom	Gizmos and Gadgets
Mountain Lion	On Your Mark
King of the Jungle	Build It Up, Knock It Down
	Rumble in the Jungle
	Ready, Set, Grow

**The timing for completing adventures is at the discretion of the den.**



# Remember Your Audience...



- Kindergartners bring many great attributes to your den. They are eager to learn, with high energy and very short attention spans. It's a time of wonder and curiosity.
- In your den meetings and outings, remember that kindergartners haven't yet mastered sitting still for long periods of time.
- To help Lions focus for success, have active time ready to go at a moment's notice. Have them do jumping jacks or stretches with their arms reaching up to the ceiling.
- If they are having a hard time listening or engaging, STOP what you are doing and try one of these to get back on track.
  - Try some fun or active elements. Activity will help Lions refocus their energy and be ready to listen and participate.
  - Be creative, ask them questions, and have fun!
  - More information available in the Lion Parent and Leader Guidebook.

# Recognition



- Lions are recognized for each completed adventure with a sticker for their *Lion Adventure Book*.
  - No advancement report is required.
  - Stickers come with each Lion program kit. And extra sticker pages are available in your Scout Shop.
  - **Award stickers immediately.**
- The Lion badge is earned by completing five required adventures.
  - The badge may be attached to the Lion cap or T-shirt or put on a red vest or in a book.
- Adventures are completed during the den meetings and outings.



# Adventure Stickers



Lion's Honor



Fun on the Run



Animal Kingdom



Mountain Lion



King of the Jungle



I'll Do It Myself



Pick My Path



Gizmos and Gadgets



On Your Mark



Build It Up, Knock It Down



Rumble in the Jungle



Ready, Set, Grow



Located inside your Lion program kit as shown here:





# Packs, Training, and Resources



# Pack Participation



- Dens from other grades hold their own den meetings.
- Once each month, all dens in a pack get together for a pack meeting led by the Cubmaster.
- Lions are a part of the pack, at an introductory level.
- Lions attend two to three pack meetings. Each individual family may decide to attend more pack meetings as it works with their schedules.
- When selecting pack meetings, consider these ideas:
  - Pick a few really special or fun pack meetings, and make sure the Lions feel included.
  - You may want to consider a holiday pack meeting, blue and gold banquet, or end-of-year celebration.

# Training



- Youth Protection training
  - Required for Lion guides
  - Available free online at [www.scouting.org/training/youthprotection](http://www.scouting.org/training/youthprotection)

*Although Youth Protection training is required only for Lion guides, it is suggested that all adult partners complete the training.*

- Lion Guide and Parent Orientation video (2 minutes)
  - Required for both Lion guides and adult partners
- Lion Guide and Parent Orientation slide presentation
  - Required for Lion guides
  - Recommended and encouraged for each adult partner



# Online Resource



Lion web page: [www.scouting.org/lion](http://www.scouting.org/lion)

*Check here for the  
most up-to-date  
Lion information.*

One-stop shop for parent and leader resources

- FAQs
- Program overview
- Lion Guide and Parent Orientation video
- Lion Guide and Parent Orientation slide presentation
- Recruiting materials—fliers, promotional video, photos, etc.

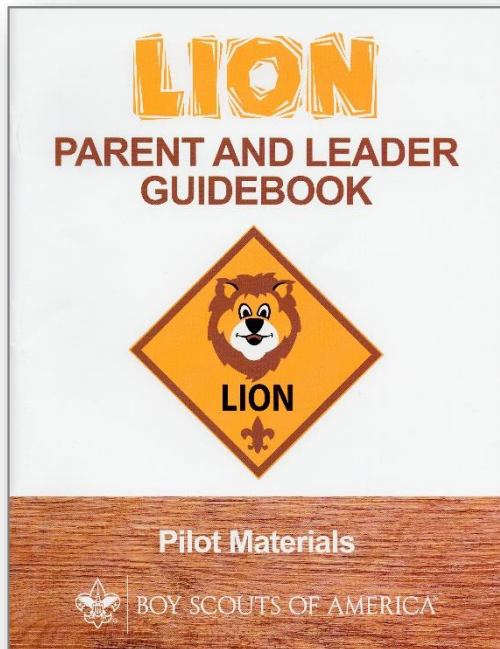
## Need help?

Contact Member Care at 972-580-2489

or [MyScouting@Scouting.org](mailto:MyScouting@Scouting.org)



# Parent/Leader Resources



Den meeting and  
outing plans—  
everything you  
need!



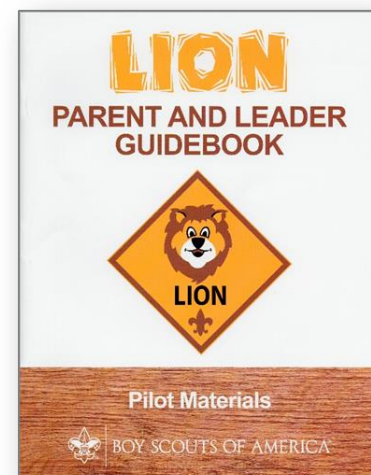
Program  
overview

YPT—Youth  
Protection  
Training for  
Lion Guides



“Lion Guide and  
Parent Orientation”  
video and  
Lion Guide and Parent  
Orientation Powerpoint





# Resources



# Lion Adult Apparel



These items are available through our local scout shop.



Adult Graphic Tee  
Sizes S-3XL  
SKUs #636420-25



Adult Tee (Small Graphic)  
Sizes S-3XL  
SKUs #636465-70



Ladies Polo  
Sizes S-2XL  
SKUs #636744-8

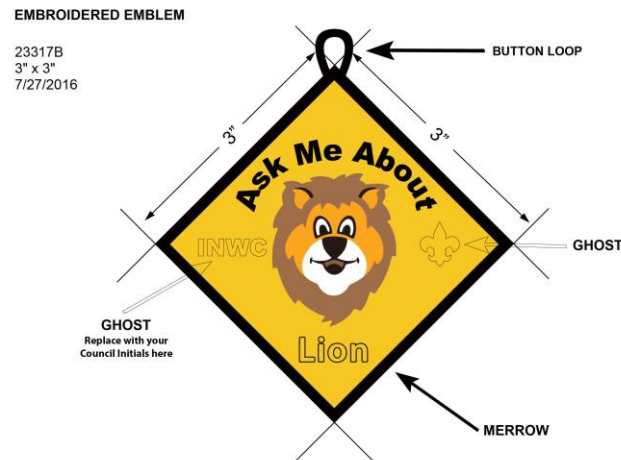


Lion logo is  
embroidered  
on left sleeve  
of Ladies Polo

# Lion Recruiter Patch



- Councils may order custom Lion program recruiting patches directly through the BSA National Supply Group
- Production time and pricing depends on quantity and various other factors.
- Work with council office if your pack is interested.



# Pinewood Derby



- It's fun! Do a Veggie car race.
- Doesn't take much prep.
- Fun for All ages!
- Lions can easily be included.
- Can also be done as a Den meeting activity.
- More at [www.scouting.org/lion](http://www.scouting.org/lion)
- *Your pack may also integrate Lions into a regular Pinewood Derby too.*

Buy wheels at  
Scout Shops

BSA PRESENTS

# LION VEGGIE CAR DERBY

2017  
2018

NEW ALTERNATIVE FOR LIONS AND PINEWOOD DERBY



## PLAY WITH YOUR FOOD

In the spirit of making the pack's traditional Pinewood Derby more accessible to Lions we've created the Veggie Derby. Starting with the 2017-2018 school year, the pack may choose to participate in this fun and unique activity that has been kid tested and kid approved.

### HERE'S HOW IT ALL WORKS

- Check with your pack to see if it will have Lions do a veggie car.
- Your Lion will be building his car at the event, so there's no pre-prep needed.
- Your Lion will be using his imagination to design a car from a vegetable and/or fruit, the more unique, the better!
- Your Lion will even get to decorate his car with stickers, markers, or other household items.
- Some packs present awards for creativity and more.



### MORE INFO

- Check with your pack to see if your child's friends from school, sports, church, the neighborhood, and family members are also welcome to participate in the Veggie Derby.
- Check with your pack to see if vegetables and/or fruit may be brought from home, or if the pack may provide a sack of potatoes for everyone's use.
- Wheels and other derby supplies may be purchased from local Scout shops and [www.scoutstuff.org](http://www.scoutstuff.org).
- For more tips and tricks on how to run the veggie cars on a Pinewood Derby track, see [www.scouting.org/lion](http://www.scouting.org/lion).



# Flier available at

[www.scouting.org/lion](http://www.scouting.org/lion)

Consider making this a Den Meeting activity for some special fun.

It would work well especially before they make their Pinewood Derby car and compete in the Pack event.

**Helpful Hint:** Many grocery stores throw out their almost old veggies often. This may be something you could ask if your Lions could have some and therefore save additional cost of buying it.

Make a racing ramp from a big piece of cardboard.

Remember have lots of FUN!!

# Lion vs. Tiger: *Similarities*



## LION

### ADULTS:

Adult partners required

### LEADERSHIP:

Shared leadership

### RECOGNITION:

Stickers and Lion badge

### UNIFORM:

T-shirt and optional cap

### OATH and LAW:

Scout Oath and Scout Law

### CAMPING:

Family camping with pack /  
No den camping

### FUN:

ACTIVE and HANDS-ON!



## TIGER

Adult partners required

Shared leadership

Adventure loops and Tiger badge

Cub Scout field uniform

Scout Oath and Scout Law

Family camping with pack /  
No den camping

ACTIVE and HANDS-ON!



# Lion vs. Tiger: *Differences*



## LION

### BOBCAT:

Does not earn Bobcat

### DEN MEETINGS:

1–2 times per month

### PACK MEETINGS:

Attends at least (2–3)

### FUNDRAISING:

Participation is optional  
to each individual family

### DAY CAMP:

No day camp  
(*until Tiger*)



## TIGER

Earns Bobcat

3–4 times per month

Attends all

Participates in fundraising

Tiger/Cub Scout day camp

# Q & A

