

as the Scout badge to those boys that have earned the Arrow of Light Award. Webelos Scouts joining a troop in February will be prepared for summer camp and other troop activities.

Some districts have found that a districtwide graduation ceremony for all Webelos Scouts helps motivate the boys to move forward to Boy Scouts. The ceremony may be held as a part of Webelos Woods or at some other event, such as a spring camporee. The district graduation ceremony should

be held in addition to—not in place of—the pack graduation.

At the pack graduation, new Scout leaders may be welcomed at the same time as the boys. When a Webelos den graduates into the troop, the assistant Scoutmaster and Webelos den chief can continue to work with the boys as they form a new-Scout patrol. Likewise, adults associated with a Webelos den can move into roles of troop leadership as their den members become Boy Scouts.

WEBELOS CAMPING

Like all other aspects of Scouting, the BSA outdoor program is a progressive program, offering ever-increasing challenges in the out-of-doors. Each step of the outdoor program is a foundation for the next step and takes into account age-appropriate activities for each level of Scouting. Camping experiences for Webelos Scouts include

- Family camping
- Cub Scout day camping
- Council-conducted resident camping
- Webelos den overnight camping

These activities provide opportunities for the Webelos Scout to enjoy increasing camping challenges, but still within the family environment of Cub Scouting. Webelos camping experiences should help prepare the Webelos Scout for the camping adventures of Boy Scouting without taking away from the type of camping he will experience as a member of a Boy Scout troop.

Family camping, Cub Scout day camp, resident camping, and Webelos den overnight camping are described in detail in the *Cub Scout Leader Book*.

CAMPING HEALTH AND SAFETY

The BSA has policies that must be followed for the health and safety of all campers. These rules can be found in the *Cub Scout Leader Book* and *Guide to Safe Scouting*. These publications provide the requirements for planning safe activities and define outdoor activities that are appropriate for Webelos Scouts.

Review the rules with the boys and parents before any campout. Particular emphasis should be given to BSA policy issues regarding the following:

- Transportation and tour permits
- Supervision
- Fuel and fire safety
- Sleeping arrangements
- Drug, alcohol, and tobacco use

WEBELOS DEN OVERNIGHT CAMPING

Overnight Webelos den campouts help build the bridge that spans the gap between Cub Scouting and Boy Scouting.

Webelos Scout–parent overnights introduce the boy and his parent to the camping program under the leadership of the Webelos den leader. In most cases, the Webelos Scout will be under the supervision of his parent. If a parent cannot attend, the boy’s family must arrange for another youth’s parent (but not the Webelos leader) or other adult to be his parent substitute on the campout. It is essential that each Webelos Scout be supervised by an adult. Parent substitutes may supervise only one Webelos Scout in addition to their own son.

When tents are used, no youth will stay in the tent of an adult other than his parent or guardian. When housing other than tents is used, separate housing must be provided for male and female participants.

Dens of Webelos Scouts with their parents are encouraged to participate in several joint den-troop campouts, particularly during the fifth-grade year. These campouts, conducted with an individual troop for the purpose of strengthening ties between the pack and the troop, are to be held separate from any district or council Boy Scout activities.

Camping experiences provide opportunities for boys to complete requirements on a variety of activity badges. However, special emphasis should be given to badges in the Outdoor Group (Forester, Geologist, Naturalist, and Outdoorsman) as well as to requirements for the Arrow of Light Award.

PLANNING WEBELOS OVERNIGHT CAMPOUTS

Choosing a Location

Webelos Scouts should be experiencing family-type camping, as opposed to the more challenging type of camping that they will be experiencing as Boy Scouts. Check with your local council about their facilities for Webelos overnight camping and for a list of other council-approved camping sites. Be sure to file the appropriate Tour Permit Application before embarking on any camping activity.

Selecting a Campsite

In some locations, a campsite will be assigned to you. But if you have a choice, you should consider several things when choosing a site in which to set up tents and camping quarters:

- Safe surroundings
- Terrain and climate
- Water supply
- Fire regulations

The Campout Program

A planned program for your Webelos den overnight campout is essential so that the boys “do” and “learn” as well as live in a camp setting. Remember that one of the purposes of the campout is to help prepare them for Boy Scouting and its outdoor adventures.

Plan a program of activities in advance. Your plan should be flexible to allow for the changing attention span of Webelos Scouts. Use the example below as a guide.

In planning your schedule, you should consider

- Religious duties of the boys and adults. If your campout extends into Sabbath or Sunday, be sure that boys and adults have an opportunity to attend services at their own church or temple back home

or in a nearby town, or include a short, non-denominational service in your program.

- Water safety. If swimming is included in your program, be sure to follow the Safe Swim Defense. If boating is included, follow Safety Afloat. (See the *Cub Scout Leader Book*.)

See the *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book* for activities that you can do on campouts, including suggestions for outdoor cooking and campfire programs.

SAMPLE CAMPOUT SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

8:30 A.M.	Arrive at campsite.
8:30–9:15	Erect tents, prepare bedding, check cooking areas and fuel supply.
9:15	Flag-raising ceremony and Pledge of Allegiance
9:20–10:20	Nature hike, with instruction for Forester, Geologist, or Naturalist badge
10:20–11:30	Fishing
11:30–12:15	Webelos-adult teams prepare lunch.
12:15–12:45	Lunch
12:45–1:15	Cleanup and dishwashing
1:15–1:45	Free time
1:45–3:00	Activity badge work
3:00–4:00	Swimming and boating
4:00–5:30	Free time (prepare cooking fires)
5:30–6:00	Webelos-adult teams prepare dinner.
6:00–6:30	Dinner
6:30–7:00	Cleanup and dishwashing
7:00–8:00	Games
8:00	Flag-lowering ceremony
8:15–9:15	Campfire program
10:00 P.M.	Lights out and camp quiet

SUNDAY

7:00 A.M.	Reveille
7:00–7:15	Air bedding and clean up.
7:15	Raise U.S. flag while all salute.
7:20–7:45	Webelos-adult teams prepare breakfast.
7:45–8:15	Breakfast
8:15–8:45	Cleanup and dishwashing
8:45–9:15	Interdenominational worship service
9:15–10:00	Strike camp.