

# AGE-APPROPRIATE GUIDELINES FOR SCOUTING ACTIVITIES

Age- and rank-appropriate guidelines have been developed based on the mental, physical, emotional, and social maturity of Boy Scouts of America youth members. These guidelines apply to Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops, Varsity Scout teams, and Venturing crews.



TIGER CUBS  
(WITH ADULT PARTNER)



WOLF/BEAR  
CUB SCOUTS



WEBELOS  
SCOUTS



BOY SCOUTS



OLDER BOY SCOUTS,  
VARSITY SCOUTS,  
AND VENTURERS



## OUTDOOR SKILLS

Camporees			Visit Only		
Conservation Projects					
Cooking Outdoors					
Fire Building					
Fishing					
Fueled Devices (Stoves and lanterns)					
Hiking—Day					
Hiking—Multiple Day					
Horseback Riding					
Hunting					Venturers Only
Map and Compass	Map Only				
Mountain Boards					
Mountaineering/Scrambling/Cross-Country Travel					
Orienteering					
Pioneering					
Rope Bridges/Pioneering Towers (Check requirements for height restrictions.)					
Survival Training					
Winter Camping					



## SPORTS

Field/Wide Games					
Flag Football					
Gymnastics					
Ice Hockey					
Ice Skating					
Martial Arts—Defensive					
Roller Blades/Skates					
Scooters—Nonmotorized					
Skateboarding					
Skiing/Snowboarding					
Sledding/Tubing					
Soccer					
Street Hockey					



## TOOLS

Axes					
Bow Saws					
Hand Ax					
Hand Tools					
Pocketknife		Bear Only			



## TREKKING

Backpacking—Overnight, Backcountry					
Bike Treks—Day Ride					
Bike Treks—Multiple Overnights					
BMX Biking					
Day Hikes					
Horse Treks					
Mountain Biking					
Search and Rescue Missions					
Search and Rescue Practice					
Ski Touring—Multiple Days and Nights Carrying Gear					



## AIRCRAFT

Commercial Flight Experience					
Ground School					
Hands-On Flying Experience					
Hot-Air Balloons (Tethered only)					
Orientation Flight					
Soaring (Orientation flights only)					

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## VEHICLES

All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV)				Approved Council Use Only; No Unit Use	
Dirt Bikes					Venturers Only
Driving Derbies					
Personal Watercraft (PWC)				Approved Council Use Only; No Unit Use	
Snowmobiles					



## SHOOTING

.22 Rifle					
Air Rifle (pellet guns)			Webelos Resident Camp Only		
Archery—Field					
Archery—Target, Action (moving targets)			Council/District Outdoor Programs Only		
BB Guns			Council/District Outdoor Programs Only		
Catapults					
Large-Bore Rifles					Venturers Only
Muzzleloaders					
Pistols*					Venturers Only
Shotguns					
Slingshots			Council/District Outdoor Programs Only		



## COPE AND CLIMBING

Belaying					
Bouldering					
Caving (other than simple novice activities)					
Climbing (age-appropriate man-made facility)					
Advanced Climbing					
Climbing—Rock					
Lead Climbing					
Snow and Ice Climbing					
Canopy Tour					
Rappeling					
COPE (age-appropriate activities)					



## AQUATICS

Canoeing—Flat Water			Council/District Outdoor Programs Only		
Canoeing—Flowing Water					
Kayaking—Flat Water				Council/District Outdoor Programs Only	
Kayaking—Flowing Water					
Motorboating—Adult Operated			Council/District Outdoor Programs Only		
Motorboating—Youth Operated					
Rafting—Flat Water			Council/District Outdoor Programs Only		
Rafting—Flowing Water					
Rowing—Flat Water			Council/District Outdoor Programs Only		
Rowing—Flowing Water					
Sailboarding					
Sailing—Adult Operated			Council/District Outdoor Programs Only		
Sailing—Youth Operated					
Scuba					
Snorkeling (In clear, confined waters, all ages and abilities can use snorkeling equipment. Snorkeling in open water is limited to Boy Scouts with Snorkeling BSA or equivalent.)					
Surfing					
Swimming					
Tubing (floating in an inner tube)				Council/District Flat Water Events	
Tow Sports (including waterskiing, wakeboarding, kneeboarding, and tubing)					



## CAMPING

Day Camp					
Den Overnights					
Camporees					
Family Camping					
High Adventure					
Jamboree					
Parent/Son Overnights					
Resident Camp					
Weekend Overnights					