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

	Tiger Cubs (With Adult Partner)	Wolf/Bear Cub Scouts	Webelos Scouts	Boy Scouts	Older Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, and Venturers
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					

	Tiger Cubs (With Adult Partner)	Wolf/Bear Cub Scouts	Webelos Scouts	Boy Scouts	Older Boy Scouts, Varsity Scouts, and Venturers
TOOLS					
Axes					
Bow Saws					
Hand Ax					
Hand Tools					
Pocketknife					
Power Tools					

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

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VEHICLES					
Driving Derbies					
Go Carts (Commercial)					
Motorized Off-Road Bikes					
Snowmobiles					

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AIRCRAFT					
Commercial Flight Experience					
Ground School					
Hands-On Flying Experience					
Orientation Flight					

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SHOOTING					
.22 Rifle					
Archery—Field					
Archery—Target, Action (Moving targets)	Council/District Outdoor Programs Only				
BB Guns	Council/District Outdoor Programs Only				
Catapults					
Shotgun					
Slingshots	Council/District Outdoor Programs Only				

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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					
Rowing—Flowing Water					
Sailboarding					
Sailing—Adult Operated	Council/District Outdoor Programs Only				
Sailing—Youth Operated					
Discover Scuba Training					
Scuba					
Snorkeling (For swimmers only)					
Surfing					
Swimming					
Tubing					
Waterskiing					

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CLIMBING					
Belaying					
Bouldering					
Caving (Other than simple novice activities)					
Climbing—Commercial or Horizontal Wall					
Climbing—Rock					
Climbing—Vertical Wall or Tower					
Initiative Games					
Lead Climbing					
Project COPE				A Few Low-Course and High-Course Activities	
Rappelling					
Snow and Ice Climbing					