

PANTHER DISTRICT CUB SCOUT DAY CAMP PROGRAM GUIDE

Welcome friends to Panther District's 2026 Cub Scout Day Camp! Thank you for registering your Scout to be a part of this year's program. Our theme this year is: "**Dinotopia.**" Activities, presentations, and events encompass the sporting and unity of teamwork. The Opening Ceremony begins at 9:00AM daily, after which the dens rotate through a series of activity areas spread across the property. At midday, all campers will have lunch at their den table. After lunch all campers will rotate through other additional activities. A closing ceremony takes place at the end of camp each day. The program of activities is essentially the same each day, but specific games, crafts and activities vary day to day.

Your Scout will have a fun, rewarding, and growing experience; and so, will you if you decide to join our team of fantastic leaders and volunteers. We created this guide to help you and your Scout plan and prepare for this year's program, understand what to expect at camp, and understand what is expected of you and all the other campers during your time with us.

The goal of the Cub Scout Day Camp program is to provide an exciting and adventurous outdoor opportunity for our Cub Scouts. They will experience personal growth, meet new friends, enhance their understanding of and the appreciation of the outdoors, learn new skills, and embrace the ideals and values of the Scouting experience, (all while having an exorbitant amount of fun!)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND LEADERS

Registration and Fees

This year's camp is **June 22-26, 2026, at De LaSalle Academy, 6401 Techster Blvd, Fort Myers, FL 33966.** Registering your Scout for day camp and paying the fees is done on the Southwest Florida Council's website at <http://www.swflcouncilbsa.org> under the "Calendar/Event Registration" tab. Find the day camp dates for Panther District on the calendar and click the link to begin the process

Incoming Cub Scouts in the 1st – 5th grades for the 2026-2027 school year may attend Day Camp. Note: Cub Scouts are attending day camp at the next higher rank/grade level than they were the previous year. For example: current Lions would attend as Tigers, current Tigers would attend as Wolves, etc. A Scout is not completely registered for day camp until all fees are paid. This year the fee is \$100 for all Cub Scouts. A discount of \$25 is offered for the Cub Scout of an adult (parent/guardian) who volunteers to be on the day camp staff for all **five** days.

Early and After Camp Program

Early drop off and after care are available for a fee of \$20 for the week. You may drop off any time after 8:00AM and pick up no later than 5:30PM but you must preregister online. Please make sure that you sign your Scout in and out with a staff member.

Early Day Camp Check-In Option

We will have only 1 session for submitting required BSA Health Forms (Parts A & B) and Immunization Health Record, alternate adult pick-up designation forms (who do you authorize to sign your child out from day camp), permission forms, and pay any unpaid fees. At those sessions, we will confirm Den assignments, issue camp t-shirts, assign car line pick up tags, and answer any further questions you may have.

Saturday, June 20, 2026

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

De LaSalle Academy

6401 Techster Blvd, Fort Myers, FL 33966.

Families that do not choose the early Day Camp check-in option will need to arrive between 8:00am - 8:30am on the first day of camp. You will need to park and take your Cub Scout to the gym for Check-in, Health Screening, receive Day Camp T-shirt, and obtain Car Pick-up Tags.

Camp Arrival

Camp opens to Scouts daily at 8:30 AM. Parents will be directed to a designated drop off area where your Scout will be escorted to their dens. **PLEASE, DO NOT DROP YOUR SCOUT OFF AND LEAVE IF YOU DO NOT SEE A CAMP STAFFER TO WELCOME AND ESCORT THEM TO THEIR DEN AREA.**

Absences

Please call or text Michele Harris at: **239-317-9304** if your child is not going to be in camp that day.

Camp Departure

Parents must have your pick-up tag displayed so staff can have their Cub Scout ready to go home for the day. If you forget your pick-up tag, you will not be able to use the pickup line. Please, park in the designated parking area and bring a state ID to Admin to pick up your child.

Parents, please pick up your Scout on time each day out of respect for the many volunteers who need to get home to their families as well. *This simple request is so important to ensure the safety and security of all our Scouts.*

Early Sign-Out

If a parent/guardian must sign a Cub Scout out early from day camp, they must come to Admin with a photo ID. Please, do not try to find your Scout on your own at camp. The Scout will not be called from their activity until the adult is present. Scouts will not be permitted to leave camp except with the approved adult. **Due to safety concerns with car pickup line up, Cub Scouts will not be dismissed from camp between 3:00-4:00PM.** Signing Cub Scouts out of camp early to avoid the parent pickup line is not a valid excuse for early dismissal.

Visitors

Anyone who is not registered as a Leader or Volunteer is considered a "Visitor" and must check-in at the Camp Office at Admin to receive a pass permitting you to be on property.

Health Care at Day Camp

All participants must submit the official BSA Annual Health Form Part A&B and Immunization Record for Day Camp. Immunization record: A DH680-Florida Certificate of Immunization. You can get this form for free by visiting the Lee County Health Department with your child's immunization record. Parents may submit an Immunization Exemption Request (<https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/680-451.pdf>) if your child has a medical condition, or due to philosophical or religious grounds does not allow immunizations. You must include this with the BSA Health Form.

Our Health Officer is on site during camp and treats injuries, illnesses, and determines if further medical treatment or an early return home is needed, and/or calls parents if necessary. The health officer will dispense any medications your Cub Scout requires during camp, provided it is in the original packaging with the label and your child's health record that specifies the need. **Please highlight medications, severe allergies, or other**

medical conditions to health officer when you turn-in the health forms at check-in. Parents must bring enough medications for the entire week to the health officer on the first day of camp. Excess medications will be returned on Friday. If your child requires an inhaler or epi-pen, discuss this with the health officer who will then inform the den guide.

Illness Policy

Deciding when to keep your Scout home from day camp can be difficult. When a Scout is sick and needs to stay at home, parents should contact the camp director. If a Health Care Provider makes a specific diagnosis, the Scout will not be allowed to attend camp. ***If a Cub Scout is sent home from day camp sick, policy requires the Cub Scout to be fever-free free 24 hours (without medication) before they can return to day camp activities.***

There are several reasons a Scout or volunteer should stay home from day camp:

1. The Scout does not feel well enough to participate in usual activities and exhibits signs of extreme fatigue, unexplained irritability, or persistent crying.
2. The Scout requires more care than the camp staff can provide without negatively impacting the health and safety of other participants.
3. The Scout is not vaccinated due to medical or religious reasons and there is an outbreak in the camp.
4. The Scout has an illness that requires them to stay home and/or their Health Care Provider has provided a written return to camp letter with a return date.

What to Bring to Camp

Wear:

- Official Camp T-shirt (mandatory every day)
- Socks and comfortable, closed-toe shoes (no sandals, crocs™ or flip flops)
- Bug Spray (parent-applied; volunteers may not apply bug spray to your child)
- Sunscreen (parent-applied; volunteers may not apply bug spray to your child)

Bring and mark with their name:

- A wide-mouth water bottle or canteen.
- Lunch
- A small backpack or bag for carrying their stuff and take-home projects.
- Hat to protect from the sun.
- Any Medications (in original packaging to be turned into the Camp Health Officer).
- Inhalers, epi-pens or other emergency medical equipment (discuss w/ Health Officer).
- Money for trading post (no more than \$1-3 dollars a day).
- Small personal bottle of hand sanitizer.

What Not to Bring to Camp

- Toys from home.
- Electronic devices, including games, phones, music players, laser pointers or smart watches.
- Pocket knives or any weapons (real or toy).
- Gum

Discipline

Campers who have difficulty following the rules, leaders' instructions, and/or corrective actions, may be sent to the Camp Director for some time out. Continued misbehavior may require parental involvement or dismissal from camp.

Day Camp Staff

Our staff is comprised completely of volunteers who have generously donated their time and energy to help make a great experience for the Cub Scouts. Key staff members have worked for nine months or more to plan, organize, train, order, purchase, assemble, test and, otherwise create a safe and exciting program of activities. Den Guides help the campers have fun by keeping them safe, engaged, challenged, and on schedule all week long. All our staff are important and valued members of the team who deserve the gratitude and respect of Cub Scouts and parents.

Dens and Den Guides

The fundamental element of all of Cub Scouting is the Den. At our Day Camp, we organize our Scouts into Dens of the same age group (Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos and Arrow of Light). Adult volunteers act as Den Leaders to ensure campers' safety, security, and fun by accounting for all den members as they are signed in by their parent/designated adult. Den Guides help the Cub Scouts understand the events and activities of camp, help them have fun in each activity area, and particularly in-between activities.

Advancement

While advancement is not the only purpose of Day Camp, we do offer opportunities for Cub Scouts to earn awards and recognition that aid their progression through the Cub Scout ranks and enhance their enjoyment of the Scouting program. At the end of camp, the staff will provide a letter to parents and unit leaders describing the adventures entirely or partially completed.

Contact Information

Camp email: pantherbsadaycamp@gmail.com

Day Camp Director Panther District: Michele Harris; 239-317-9304

Day Camp Program Director Panther District: Shannon McMahon; pssrprogdirector@gmail.com

District Director, Panther District: Jennifer Hitchcock; 239-936-8072