

The First Jungle Story

It was a warm summer night when Tabaqui, The Jackal, the mean sly mischief-maker, crept to the cave of Mother and Father Wolf. “Shere Khan, the big one, has shifted his hunting grounds. He will hunt among these hills,” he told them.



Father Wolf was upset, because Shere Khan, the tiger, killed cattle and angered the villages, bringing trouble to the jungle. But as they listened, they heard the angry, snarly whine of the tiger. “He is hunting man!” said Mother Wolf. “Listen, something is coming!”

Father Wolf crouched, then halted in mid-spring. “Man!” he snapped, “a man’s cub. Look!” His jaws closed gently over the little boy’s back and he carried him into the cave and placed him amongst the other cubs. Then a dark shadow crossed the doorway.



“The Man Cub is mine, give him to me!” Shere Khan’s roar filled the cave. But Mother Wolf and Father Wolf were not to be ordered around by someone not from the Pack. So Shere Khan slunk away.

I will call him, Mowgli (The Frog)” said Raksha, the Mother Wolf, “because his skin is smooth and without hair like a frog’s”.

So Mowgli stayed with Raksha and Father Wolf and their four Cubs. When they were old enough to run a little, they set off on

the night of the full moon, through the jungle to the Council Circle.



There the wolves looked over the young Cubs so they would know them if they met them in the jungle.

Then Shere Khan roared from the trees, “What have the Free People to do with a Man Cub in the Pack?”

Akela, the Pack Leader, reminded the Wolves that if there was an argument about a Cub, two others would have to speak for him.

So Baloo, the brown bear, stood up and said,

“I will speak for the Man Cub. I will teach him the Laws of the Jungle, just as I teach all the other Cubs.”

And a black shadow dropped from the trees. It was the mighty hunter, Bagheera, the panther. “I offer a newly killed bull in exchange for his life,” he said.

And that is how Mowgli was accepted as a member of the Pack, for the price of a bull and on Baloo’s good word.

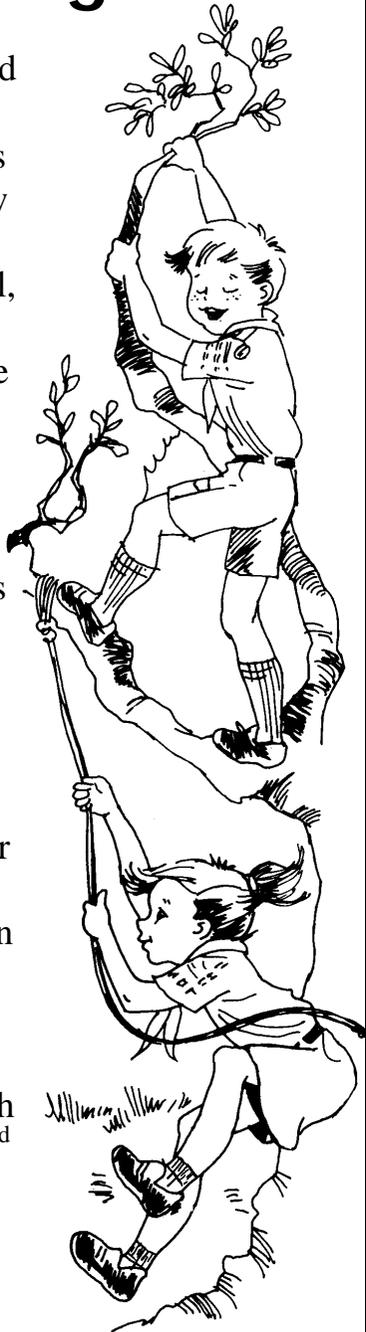
See if you can find “The Jungle Book” or “The Mowgli Stories” (both by Rudyard Kipling) in either your School Library or another Library. You may want to read them your self or have someone else read them to you a little at a time. This will tell you about the Leader’s names and help you to understand a lot of the things we do at Cub Scouts. Like the Grand Howl ... (I’ll tell you all about that at Cubs.)

Welcome to our Cub Scout Jungle. See you there!



How Cub Scouting Began

Once there was a child just like you. He loved to sleep outside in a tent with his brothers, on weekends. They would climb trees, sail boats and enjoy the outdoors. When this child grew up he joined the army and became a Major General. His name was Robert Baden-Powell, though a lot of people just call him B.P. He was a great hero in Africa, where he saved the town of Mafeking from an attack, which lasted 217 days. He had so few soldiers with him that he had to use children to help him with first aid, to carry messages and do other jobs. He was pleased to see they could always be relied upon. When B.P. returned to England he found boys reading the book he had written to help Army Scouts. So he took some of them on a camp to Brownsea Island and wrote them a book of their own called "Scouting for Boys". There were lots of other boys who wanted to be Scouts too, but they were too young. So B.P. started a new section for them and called them Wolf Cubs – using ideas he got from "The Jungle Book" by Rudyard Kipling. Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell died many years ago in 1941, but each year on "World Scout Day", his birthday, 22nd February, we remember how he started Scouting and Cub Scouting for millions of boys and girls in over 150 countries around the world today.



Cub Scouts

Cub Scouts

Hi, I heard that you want to be a Cub Scout. Are you aged 8 to 11? Do you like playing games, earning badges and having stacks and stacks of fun? Excellent. See you at Cubs!

How do I become a Cub Scout?

Ask one of the Leaders (or ask someone you know who is already a Cub to ask the Leaders and tell you) when is the best time to come down and have a look.

For your first six weeks in Cub Scouts you wear your normal clothes and a special white scarf (Ask us to tell you the story).

Then you get your own uniform and your very first badges.

So check it out - And see what Cubs, is all about.

See you at Cubs!



P.S. Have you ever met a wolf before?

P.P.S. Read the two stories inside (or have someone read them to you) and you will find out who I am, how Cubs began and maybe even why you will have wolves, bears, snakes, mongooses, elephants and even panthers as your Leaders!



P.P.P.S. There's some other activities for you to do. There's a Find-a-Word and a Hidden Picture!

P.P.P.P.S. See you at Cubs!

