

***Celebrate 250 Years of Discovery
at the 13th Annual Polar Bear!***
Hosted by Stamford Packs 11 & 15



**Cub Scout Polar Bear
February 7, 2026**

Stamford Museum & Nature Center
151 Scofieldtown Road, Stamford, CT 06903

Leader/Parents Guide

Jan 6, 2026 Printing



Table of Content

Introduction & Station Information	2
Schedule, Registrations & more	3
Map and Directions	4
Ben Franklin 250th Award Worksheet	5



Step into a celebration **250 years in the making!**

In honor of **America's 250th Anniversary (1776–2026)**, this year's **Polar Bear Event** invites Scouts to explore **250 Years of Nature, Science, and Exploration**—sparked by the same curiosity and discovery that helped shape our nation.

New for 2026!

- Explore the Museum's **brand-new Astronomy Center**, featuring a state-of-the-art **planetarium and observatory**
- Meet **Ben Franklin** and other costumed historical figures who bring early American science and exploration to life
- Ben Franklin 250th Anniversary Award Workshop

Scouts will rotate through **four exciting hands-on activity stations**, both indoors and outdoors, focused on **nature, science, and astronomy**—perfect for curious minds and winter adventurers.

Open to **all Cub Scouts** in the Connecticut Yankee Council (**Lions through Arrow of Light**), with **special recognition for Arrow of Light Scouts**.

Two sessions available (100 youth per session):

- Morning: **9:45 AM–12:30 PM**
- Afternoon: **12:45 PM–3:30 PM**

Register early and join us for a day of **winter fun, discovery, and celebration—250 years in the making!**

Fees: \$20 Youth • \$12 Adult
\$12 Family (non-participants)

<https://mycouncil.ctyankee.org/Event/1519>

Questions: saugatuck-activities@ctyankee.org



Four Exciting Stations

1. The classic Planetarium experience: These Astronomer-led planetarium shows take you on a journey through space with a focus on the night sky, constellations, our solar system, and other space objects in brilliant, high-definition resolution.

2. Meet the Goats: Get an up-close look and head in-pasture with our most popular animals, our goats! Learn about the different breeds of goats on Heckscher Farm, their amazing adaptations, and get a chance to give a scratch or two!

3. Early American Life: Celebrate the 250th birthday of the USA by taking a trip back in time to see how life would have been in the 1800s. Explore our artifacts that would have been used in the home.

4. States of Matter: Explore the basics of solids, liquids, and gases through a few fun experiment demonstrations.

Family Activities for parents and siblings not participating in the Cub program include:

- **Mystery Artifact Hike:** Hike on our Wheels in the Woods trail and look for mystery boxes along the way! In each box there will be an artifact. Can you figure out what animal the artifact came from?
- **Building Stations:** Get your build on with some of our favorite building items! From LEGO to jawbones to straws and connectors, see what you can create in your time!
- **Sit. Stay. Good Dog Exhibition:** Photography of Elliott Erwitt & Jill Freedman capture humor, heart, and humanity of canine companions. In Mansion exhibit galleries.

Morning Session	
9:15 AM	Pre-opening
9:30 AM	Gathering — Knobloch Family Farmhouse
9:45 AM	Opening Ceremony
10 to 12:30 AM	Four Station Rotation
12:30 PM	Morning Session ends. No closing ceremony
10 AM to 2 PM	Lunch Served
Afternoon Session	
12:15 PM	Pre-opening
12:30 PM	Gathering — Knobloch Family Farmhouse
12:45 PM	Opening Ceremony
1 to 3:30 PM	Four Station Rotation
3:30 PM	Afternoon Session ends. No closing ceremony.

Program Details

Please use the Farmhouse Entrance 151 Scofieldtown Rd, Stamford CT 06903. Check-in will be inside at the Knobloch Family Farmhouse at the main entrance.

Preopening Activities start at 9:15 AM: Workshop for the Ben Franklin 250th Award will be available as well as meeting our various reenactors.

Scouts will be divided into 4 rotating groups:

1. **Star Watchers** *Look up and explore the stars like early American sky watchers!*
2. **Homesteaders** *Care for animals and discover life on a colonial farm!*
3. **Patriots** *Step back in time and experience early American life!*
4. **Inventors** *Experiment, explore, and think like Benjamin Franklin!*

Same Fees as Last Year!

Register at:

<https://mycouncil.ctyankee.org/Event/1519>

Fees \$20 Youth / \$12 Adult — Scout Program

- \$12 Family Fee (parents & siblings not in Cub program; alternate activities available)

Registration Deadline:

- Monday, Jan 26, 2026, or 100 youth per session, whichever comes first.
- No refunds for duplicate registrations. Please check with your Pack before registering.

Registration Alert

- **All registrations require the Scout's full name.** Please have this information ready before starting the registration process.
- Youth and adults may register as a Pack (preferred) or as individuals.
- **PARENTS**—Before registering individually, please check with your Pack or Den Leader to confirm whether your Pack is registering as a pack. **No refunds will be issued** for duplicate registrations.

Refund Policy

- All registrations are non-refundable. If a registered Scout is unable to attend, another Scout from the same unit may be substituted. Please coordinate substitutions with the pack registrar prior to check-in. No refunds or credits will be issued for cancellations or no-shows.

Important Supervision & Safety Notes

- Not a drop-off event. All youth must attend with a parent or Pack-approved registered adult.
- Lions & Tigers: Adult partner required.
- All Packs must designate an adult coordinator per session to handle check-in and lead the Pack.

Event Details

- **Food Service:** Available for purchase at the Knobloch Family Farmhouse (10 AM–2 PM); bring your own lunch if preferred.
- **Be Prepared:** Outdoor event—dress for weather (boots, hat, gloves; uniforms not required).
- **Guidelines Scout Oath & Law apply**—follow staff and volunteer instructions.

Special AOL Recognition

- Arrow of Light Scouts (5th grade) will receive the Spirit of the Eagle Feather Award and certificate during the opening ceremony.

Warming Station — The Knobloch Family Farmhouse

will be available all day as a warming station and a rest area for parents, scouts and siblings.

Cub Scout Polar Bear — February 7, 2026
 Station Map and rotating schedule will be available at check-in.



Thank you Stamford Museum and Nature Center
 For providing this Cub Scout Program
 Please visit their website for more family fun programs
<https://www.stamfordmuseum.org/>



The Stamford Museum & Nature Center 118-acre property is home to Heckscher Farm, an 18-acre working farm; Overbrook Nature Center; the Bendel Mansion, Nature's Playground the new Astronomy Center and more.

Directions and Parking:

GPS users enter - 151 Scofieldtown Rd, Stamford, CT 06903. Parking for the event will take place at the upper parking area (Parking in the lower parking area could result in additional entrance fees.)

Best From the MERRITT PARKWAY:

Coming from either direction - get off Exit 35, and turn LEFT at the end of the exit ramp onto High Ridge Road. Follow for 3/4 of a mile. The Stamford Museum is located at the junction of High Ridge Road and Scofieldtown Road. Follow signs



Scouts will be provided the opportunity to earn requirements for this award.

Benjamin Franklin Award Worksheet

Scout Name: _____

Den: Circle one

Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, Arrow of Light

When completed, please turn in to your Den or Pack Leader.

Science & Discovery Benjamin Franklin Award

Benjamin Franklin was a curious and creative American who taught himself through reading and exploration. His inventions, experiments, and hard work proved that imagination and problem-solving can change the world.

Cub Scout Requirements (*Do all 4*)

_____ 1. Learn About Ben Franklin

- Discover **three fun facts** about Benjamin Franklin — his inventions, his life, or his contributions to America — and share your favorite one with your den or family.

_____ 2. Try a Franklin-Inspired Invention

Complete **one simple experiment or invention**, such as:

- Make a **paper kite** and learn how wind helps it fly
- Build a **balloon static-electricity experiment**
- Create a **homemade musical water glass**
- Make **simple hand paddles** (like Franklin's early swim fins)
- Polar Bear Station 4** will cover this requirement

_____ 3. Franklin's Community Helpers

Franklin helped start the first **fire department, library, and post office.**

Do **one** before the Polar Bear

- Visit a **fire station**
- Visit a **library** or get your own library card
- Write and mail a friendly **thank-you letter** to someone who helps your community

_____ 4. **Polar Bear Astronomy:** Franklin & the Night Sky. Franklin loved studying weather and the world around him. Complete **one**:

- Find and identify **one winter constellation**
- Learn why we see **different stars** in winter than in summer
- Discover how sailors (like Franklin's friends!) used **stars for navigation**
- Observe the **moon's phase** and describe its shape
- Polar Bear Planetarium Show** will cover this requirement

Attend the Feb 7 Cub Scout Polar Bear and meet Ben Franklin reenactor. We'll have a workshop to complete this award. See page.