



**Core Value:
Positive Attitude**

Core Value of the Month

Positive Attitude: Being cheerful and setting our minds to look for and find the best in all situations.

As boys participate in various activities, they will come to understand that all things change and they can make a difference in how that change affects their lives. A positive outlook will provide hope and excitement for their future.

Pack Planning Meeting

Pack leaders meet one or two weeks before the pack meeting to finalize plans for January and develop plans for the February pack meeting.

Pack Committee

- ▶ Inviting special guests to share with the boys is always a treat. Review the Parent and Family Talent Survey Sheets on file for family members who could contribute to this month’s pinewood derby or the February blue and gold banquet.
- ▶ The blue and gold banquet committee reports on site confirmation and food service plans. Invitations for special guests, the chartered organization representative, and school officials for the schools that service pack youth should be sent several weeks ahead of the event.
- ▶ The pinewood derby would be an ideal time to invite new boys to join Cub Scouting and join in the fun that happens this month. Set up a display of derby cars in a local library with joining information.
- ▶ Appoint the following committees:
Welcoming Committee. Welcome families and direct them to the derby car registration area.
Pinewood Derby Committee. Running the pinewood derby involves track setup, registration, judges, timekeepers, and scorers.
Awards Committee. Ensure that all rank advancements, awards for the derby winners and participants, and other awards are ready to be presented.
Refreshments Committee. Purchase or make healthy energy bars.

Cubmaster Corner

- ▶ **Pack Meeting Agenda.** Every month’s pack meeting is filled with fun and excitement! In order for everything to go smoothly, it is important to create a written agenda for the evening. This will help you determine the amount of time each part of the meeting should take and will then help you make adjustments to keep the evening on track. See the Pack Meeting Planning Sheet in the *Cub Scout Leader Book*.
 - February and March are filled with ceremonies, as many boys are reaching their advancement goals and Webelos Scouts achieve the Arrow of Light and cross over into Boy Scouting. Review the pack’s needs for ceremonial props to create the best memories for your Scouts.
 - Your council will be sponsoring camping opportunities for Cub Scouts. All pack members should be informed of the dates, location, and costs.
 - The pack will start planning a pack overnighter. Be sure that the leaders attend BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation) when it is offered in your area.

Pack Trainer

- ▶ Conduct the Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 14, Program Evaluation. It is important to evaluate the pack program objectively so that the pack can build on its strengths and strengthen its weakness. You may also choose a different topic that better suits the current needs of your pack. See the *Cub Scout Leader Book* for detailed outlines. Select a topic for next month.



Program Highlights

Academics and Sports

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a great way to help fulfill the aims of Scouting—building character, developing citizenship, and encouraging mental and physical fitness. This month you might feature these belt loops and pins.

- ▶ **Geology:** Cub Scouts can learn about the physical properties of this wilderness and the effects of wind, water, and ice on the landscape.
- ▶ **Gymnastics:** Many community organizations have programs where boys can learn different types of gymnastics events.

See the *Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide* for more information.

Outing in Scouting

- ▶ **Cub Scouts.** Take a hike in the same place as a previous hike and note the seasonal differences from the other time of the year.
- ▶ **Webelos Scouts.** Schedule a trip to gaze at the winter night sky.

Resource Highlight: *Cub Scout Grand Prix Pinewood Derby Guidebook* (No. 33721A)

This book provides instructions for including Cub Scout derbies in your program. The pinewood derby, rain-gutter regatta, and space derby have long been a valuable part of the Cub Scout program. By participating in these events, Cub Scouts learn the craft skills necessary to make the racing vehicle, the value of fair play, and the importance of good sportsmanship.



The January Pack Meeting

Positive Attitude

BEFORE THE MEETING

Committee members who are helping set up the pinewood derby track should arrive well in advance. Tables are needed for weighing in and inspecting the derby cars, and for organizing the event during the derby. Additional tables will be needed for the dens to display their projects. Hang plenty of banners and racing posters. Rope off an area near the track for cars to be placed once they have been checked in and registered.

GATHERING

As families arrive, direct them to the weigh-in tables for the derby cars and to the den tables where den projects are displayed. Judges begin their work during the gathering period. Every boy is a winner, so be sure to give every boy an award for participating.

OPENING

Opening Ceremony

Have a pre-assigned den present the colors and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Or select a different ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

“May we act in a manner that we remember the winner is not just the one who crosses the finish line first, but everyone who crosses the finish line.”

Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster welcomes everyone to the January pack meeting. Introduce and thank those who are helping with the different parts of the pinewood derby race.

PROGRAM

Start the racing of the pinewood derby cars. Throughout the derby, emphasize the importance of participation and positive attitude. Run the race in a predetermined order and promptly recognize the winners.

RECOGNITION

Use the ceremony below, or use a ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Racetrack Advancement Ceremony

Equipment: Oval racetrack drawn on large poster board; cutouts of racing cars; green, blue, white, and black-and-white checkered flags.

CUBMASTER: Tonight we will honor our racecar drivers who have advanced in their Cub Scout rank. An announcer starts a race by telling the drivers, “Gentlemen, start your engines.” We have several boys who have started their engines and earned the Bobcat rank. Will the boys who have earned their Bobcat badge please come forward? *(Have the boys place cars at the starting line on the track. Parents present the boys the award.)*

The first step in any race is to establish a qualifying time. Tonight we have some new Tiger Cubs who have qualified as drivers on the Cub Scout track. Those boys who have qualified as Tiger Cubs, please come forward. *(Boys place cars on the track. Parents present the boys the award.)*

The green flag symbolizes those drivers who have qualified for the position of the Wolf badge on our advancement track. *(Have boys come forward, and place cars as above. Parents present the boys the award.)*

A blue flag informs the drivers that faster cars are approaching and the drivers should allow those cars to pass. The boys who are receiving their Bear badges are driving fast, so watch out for them! *(Have boys come forward, and place cars on the track. Parents present the boys the award.)*



The white flag is waved when only one lap is left. The boys who are receiving the Webelos badge, please come forward. Congratulations! You are on your last lap! *(Place cars on the track. Parents present the boys the award.)*

The checkered flag announces the end of the race. It shows that the driver has reached the goal. Will the following boys come forward for our highest track award, the Arrow of Light. *(Place cars on the track. Parents present the boys the award.)*

Victory lane, also known as the winner's circle, is the spot on each racetrack's infield where the race winner parks the winning car and enjoys his victory celebration. Let's cheer the boys in our pack who have all made it to victory lane.

Parent Pins

Show your pride in your son's advancement in Cub Scouts with a parent pin to match his earned rank. Boys receive their rank recognition in the form of a cloth badge, and parents are presented a parent pin during the advancement ceremony. After a few years, each parent will have accumulated a collection. Parents can wear the pins on a parents-pride ribbon. This special ribbon allows parents to keep adding rank-advancement pin recognitions, beginning with Bobcat. It's a family memory that starts today and continues through the highest Boy Scout rank. Parent pins are not worn on the official BSA uniform.

CLOSING

Announcements

Briefly remind families about upcoming dates and refer them to the information in the newsletter. A member of the blue and gold banquet committee reviews the banquet details: date, time, place, and banquet/dining procedures.

Cubmaster's Minute

Only Winners

At the conclusion of our derby night, I would like to say that we were all winners here tonight. Parents have more respect and pride for their son whether he is a humble winner or a graceful loser. The boys gained a better knowledge of competition; how to win, how to lose, and how to be happy for his friend who is taking home the trophy he himself wanted so badly. The leaders felt proud knowing each of their boys had done their best. Building the car helped bring son and parents together and cheering for our den members helped bring the den closer together. Yes, there are only winners here tonight. Thank you all for helping to make the pack go and the Cub Scouts grow. Good night and congratulations to all us winners.

Closing Ceremony

We Are All Pinewood Derby Winners

Have the winners of the various trophies stand and be recognized one more time. Ask the boys who are not yet standing to come forward and lead the pack in the Cub Scout Promise or Law of the Pack, as they, too are winners, because they "did their best."

AFTER THE MEETING

- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Cleanup



**Core Value:
Resourcefulness**

February

Resourcefulness

Core Value of the Month

Resourcefulness: Using human resources and other resources to their fullest.

Cub Scouts will gain the knowledge and the means to meet situations effectively whether they are working on a service project or completing a den activity.

Pack Planning Meeting

Pack leaders meet one or two weeks before the pack meeting to finalize plans for February and develop plans for the March pack meeting.

Pack Committee

- ▶ At this month's pack meeting, celebrate Scouting! Enjoy your blue and gold banquet. Learn how Scouting came about.
- ▶ **Decorations Committee.** Bring materials and make the room look festive.
 - ▶ **Banquet Committee.** Coordinate food service and remind all families of their parts in the overall meal.
 - ▶ **Program Committee.** Make sure all the items necessary for the opening, closing, and advancement ceremonies are in place before families arrive.
 - ▶ **Welcoming Committee.** Coordinate preopening activities, prepare name tags.
- ▶ Check with den leaders to make certain that advancement reports are completed and turned in. Many boys in the pack are reaching their advancement goals this month. Ensure that the awards and props are ready for memorable ceremonies.
- ▶ The blue and gold banquet is an ideal time to thank all the leaders, parents, and family members who help dens and the pack. Show the appreciation for their support in front of their sons and families. Involve the boys in presenting thank-you cards or small tokens of appreciation. Make each presentation short and simple.
- ▶ Many districts have someone who collects Scouting history. Perhaps you could invite a collector to share his or her collection and knowledge at your banquet.

Cubmaster Corner

- ▶ **What's a Party Without Pictures?** A blue and gold banquet is a birthday party—make it fun and memorable! Plan ahead to see that every Cub Scout receives an award. Will any Arrow of Light awards be presented? Will any Webelos Scouts transition to Boy Scouting? Keep things moving, and take lots of pictures. Make sure an appropriate backdrop is available. Designate someone to be solely responsible for taking pictures throughout the evening.
- ▶ Cub Scout day camp and Cub Scout and Webelos Scout resident camp opportunities will be here before you know it. It's time to pick a camp coordinator for the pack.
- ▶ Review the pack's overnighter camping plans for the upcoming months. Ensure that leaders attend BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation) training.

Pack Trainer

- ▶ Conduct Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 10, Pack Committee, to make leaders aware of the various responsibilities that a fully functioning pack committee should carry out. You may also choose a different topic that better suits the current needs of your pack. See the *Cub Scout Leader Book* for detailed outlines. Select a topic for next month.

Program Highlights

Academics and Sports Program

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a great way to help fulfill the aims of Scouting—building character, developing citizenship, and encouraging mental and physical fitness. This month you might feature these belt loops and pins.

- ▶ **Heritages:** Cub Scouts develop a better understanding of personal family history and appreciation for the heritage of others. Activities include researching family history, organizing family photographs, and sharing heritage information with den members.



- ▶ **Bowling:** Bowling is a sport that takes skill and determination. Boys can try their hand at it and earn the Bowling belt loop and pin.

See the *Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide* for more information.

Outing in Scouting

- ▶ **Cub Scouts.** Go outside and watch the weather. Visit a historical place of interest in or near your town or city.
- ▶ **Webelos Scouts.** Clean up a vacant lot or public area; bag and recycle the papers or cans collected.

Resource Highlight: Cub Scout Leader Roundtable

Once a month, your district has a place for you to meet other leaders, find out about training opportunities, and see the next month's Cub Scout program in action. You will have a fun evening learning from and sharing with other adults dedicated to delivering a quality Cub Scouting program. Check with the pack trainer or call your council service center for the date, time, and location of your district Cub Scout leader roundtable.



The February Pack Meeting

Resourcefulness

BEFORE THE MEETING

All committees arrive early to complete their setup before the starting time. Setting up as early as possible allows everyone to relax and enjoy the blue and gold banquet. Make sure to prepare areas for the dens to place their displays.

GATHERING

Have greeters at the door to welcome Cub Scouts, guests, and families, and provide each person with a name tag. Direct families to the display area.

Preopening Activity

Banquet Quiz

This is a gathering activity to be completed before the start of the meeting. When you find someone who fits the descriptions in # 1-10, have him or her sign in the blank provided. A person may only sign your form once, so choose wisely!

1. Someone who has earned the rank of Eagle _____
2. Someone who is wearing a Tiger Cub uniform _____
3. Someone who has blue eyes _____
4. Someone who has a birthday in February _____
5. Someone who has earned the Bobcat badge _____
6. Someone who has earned the Soccer belt loop _____
7. Someone who is or was a Girl Scout _____
8. Someone who was born in another state _____
9. Someone who was a Cub Scout as a boy _____
10. Someone who has attended Cub Scout day camp _____

BONUS QUESTIONS:

1. Who was the founder of Scouting? _____
2. The words DEN, PACK, AKELA and LAW OF THE PACK come from a book by an English author. The book's title is _____, written by _____.

OPENING

Opening Ceremony

The Meaning of Blue and Gold

Materials: Gold card stock with letters B-L-U-E-G-O-L-D written in blue marker. Write the speaking lines on the back of each card.

- CUB SCOUT 1: B is for the boys dressed in blue and gold today.
 CUB SCOUT 2: L is for the Law of the Pack that guides our way.
 CUB SCOUT 3: U is for the universe that we can explore.
 CUB SCOUT 4: E is for everyone who helps us learn and more.
 CUB SCOUT 5: G is for the goodwill we strive to give.
 CUB SCOUT 6: O is for the opportunity to grow and to live.
 CUB SCOUT 7: L is for the laughter that brightens each day.
 CUB SCOUT 8: D is for doing our best the Cub Scout way.
 CUB SCOUT 9: Please join us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

"We give thanks for our families, our teachers, and our friends who help us today so that we will be strong tomorrow. We are grateful for this food, which helps us to be strong."

Welcome and Introductions

Welcome the Cub Scouts, parents, and leaders. Make sure all special guests are introduced and welcomed. Thank the blue and gold banquet committee members for their effort and hard work. Explain the plans for the banquet.



PROGRAM

Den Demonstrations

Each den shares a skit, a song, or a demonstration of the projects or activities they have brought to share.

Audience Participation

What a Good Deed Can Do

Divide the audience into six groups. Assign each group a name. When each group hears its name in the story, the group members stand and say their designated phrase:

SCOUT: "Do a Good Turn daily."

ROBERT BADEN-POWELL: "Scouting is a game with a purpose."

ERNEST THOMPSON SETON: "I have an idea."

DANIEL CARTER BEARD: "Uncle Dan!"

WILLIAM D. BOYCE: "I'm lost."

JAMES E. WEST: "Thank you!"

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA (everyone participates): "Hip, hip, hooray!"

In 1909, a Chicago publisher, WILLIAM D. BOYCE, lost his way in a dense London fog. A young SCOUT came to his aid, guiding him through the fog. WILLIAM D. BOYCE tried to give him a tip, but the SCOUT explained that he could not take a tip for doing a Good Turn. WILLIAM D. BOYCE was inspired by the actions of the SCOUT and met with ROBERT BADEN-POWELL. But the story doesn't end there. Many others helped make Scouting what it is today. ERNEST THOMPSON SETON was fascinated with the wilderness and established a youth organization he called the Woodcraft Indians. Because of his background in outdoor skills and interest in youth, ERNEST THOMPSON SETON became an important part of Scouting. His enthusiasm and intelligence turned his idea into reality. ERNEST THOMPSON SETON was the first Chief SCOUT of the BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA in 1910.

Then there was DANIEL CARTER BEARD. He, too, loved the outdoors, and he merged his own boys' organization, the Sons of Daniel Boone, with the BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA when it was formed. DANIEL CARTER BEARD helped design the original SCOUT uniform and introduced the elements of the First Class SCOUT badge.

DANIEL CARTER BEARD is remembered as a colorful figure dressed in buckskin who helped form Scouting in the United States.

JAMES E. WEST was a very special person to the Scouting movement. He was an orphan and physically handicapped, and full of determination. That determination helped build Scouting to be what it is today. JAMES E. WEST was appointed the first Chief SCOUT Executive of the BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA and held that position for 34 years. JAMES E. WEST is known as the true architect of the BSA.

There you have it—five courageous men: ROBERT BADEN-POWELL, WILLIAM D. BOYCE, ERNEST THOMPSON SETON, DANIEL CARTER BEARD, and JAMES E. WEST. It began with a SCOUT helping another person find his way. It began with five men of intelligence and a love of the outdoors and youth. They had an idea, determination, and enthusiasm. They used all of those things to turn their idea into the reality we call the BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA.

RECOGNITION

The World of Scouting Advancement

Arrangement: Cover the award table with a yellow or blue tablecloth. Display a globe and a small set of flags from various countries.

CUBMASTER: Every minute of every day of every year there are thousands of boys enjoying the fun and excitement of Cub Scouting somewhere in the world. The Cub Scout uniform varies from country to country, but they all have one thing in common—they promote Scouting and its ideals.

Just as Cub Scouts wear different uniforms in different countries, they are also awarded different badges of rank. In Japan, Cub Scouts earn the Rabbit, Deer, and Bear badges. In Australia, the badges are Bronze Boomerang, Silver Boomerang, and Gold Boomerang. South African Cub Scouts work toward the Cheetah, Leopard, Lion and Leaping Wolf badges.



As you know, the first rank badge in the United States is Bobcat. Tonight we honor (*names of Bobcat candidates*) who have earned this badge as they start on their Cub Scout trail. Would the Bobcats and their parents please come forward? (*Present awards.*)

The second badge on our Cub Scout trail is Tiger Cub. Tonight we have (*boys' names*) who have earned this badge. Would the boys and their parents please come forward? (*Repeat for Wolf, Bear, and Webelos badges.*)

These Cub Scouts, like Cub Scouts all over the world, have worked together and developed new interests which will make them better citizens of our country and of the world. Let's give them a big hand to show how proud we are of them.

Conduct Arrow of Light and crossover ceremonies selected from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Recognize leaders, parents, and family members who help dens and the pack with simple thank-you cards or other tokens of appreciation.

CLOSING

Announcements

Highlight upcoming events for the pack and training opportunities. Announce the date, time, and location of the March pack meeting.

Cubmaster's Minute

Resourcefulness

The founders of Scouting had many resources to help them: a driving vision, the backing and support of parents, the enthusiasm of the boys, and the strength to see it through. It is that first set of core values that keeps Scouting strong and growing. In the same way, individual Cub Scouts today have many resources available to them. Parents, leaders, and books are all important, but even more so are the resources you develop inside yourselves. Learn all you can, have the courage to try new things without fear of failure, work hard, and do your best in everything, and you will live a successful life.

Closing Ceremony

Birthday Party

Personnel: Cubmaster and all present and former Cub Scouts

Equipment: One large candle, candelabra with three candles. If burning candles are prohibited in your meeting place, use battery operated candles.

CUBMASTER: (*Dim room lights.*) Tonight we had lots of fun at the birthday party for Cub Scouting. As Cub Scouts and leaders, we are following the trail left by millions of other boys, men, and women who have been in Cub Scouting. All of them had the Cub Scout spirit, which we symbolize with the flame of this one candle. (*Light large candle.*)

What is the Cub Scout spirit? That's easy. In the Cub Scout Promise, we pledge to do three things. We say, "I promise to do my best to do my duty to God and my country." That's the first part. (*Light first candle on candelabra.*)

The second part is "To help other people." (*Light second candle.*)

And the third part is "To obey the Law of the Pack." (*Light third candle.*)

Now, while these candles burn as a reminder, will all the Cub Scouts and all former Cub Scouts here tonight please stand, make the Cub Scout sign, and repeat the Cub Scout Promise with me? (*Lead the Cub Scout Promise.*)

AFTER THE MEETING

- Cleanup



**Core Value:
Compassion**

Core Value of the Month

Compassion: Being kind and considerate, and showing concern for the well-being of others.

Everybody has something valuable to offer and nobody likes being left out. Help your Cub Scouts be aware of the needs of others. Disabled children deal with limitations in their everyday lives.

Pack Planning Meeting

Pack leaders meet one or two weeks before the pack meeting to finalize plans for March and develop plans for the April pack meeting.

Pack Committee

- ▶ Many children have some kind of disability. A disability awareness meeting will help boys understand that some people have special needs different from their own. Through activities, the boys will be able to learn some of the challenges people with special needs might face. Be prepared to answer and explore their questions.
- ▶ Appoint a chairman and recruit members to carry out the various activities. Check with your council to see if they have a professional assigned in this area. If so, that person could be an invaluable resource.
- ▶ Your local hospital or medical center has education programs and could provide instruction and explanation to the Cub Scouts. They also have a variety of other resources available.
- ▶ Ask someone who has a disability to come and talk to the Cub Scouts about their life and their disability: what it is, how it came about, how life is for them, or how it has changed if the person has not always been disabled. The person talking to the Cub Scouts should be briefed that young people of this age have a lively curiosity and imagination, so the questions may be very direct and not questions that adults would feel comfortable asking. Your local Special Olympics office is a good resource.
- ▶ Be sure all pack families know about the activity. Use word of mouth in the den meetings or put an article in the den or pack newsletter announcing the disability awareness pack meeting.
- ▶ Find out whether any guests have special needs.
- ▶ For more information, see the *Cub Scout Leader Book* and *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book*.
- ▶ Make plans for spring recruiting of new Tiger Cubs.

Cubmaster Corner

- ▶ **Cub Scouts With Disabilities.** Not all of your Cub Scouts may be able to participate with the same success. Understanding Cub Scouts with disabilities and adapting activities will provide excitement and adventure for all. Your responsibility as a leader is to help all Cub Scouts find success in *doing their best*.
- ▶ Start implementing plans for upcoming day camps and Cub Scout and Webelos Scout resident camps.
- ▶ Now is the time for final preparations for a pack overnighter campout, directed by an adult who has completed BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation) training.

Pack Trainer

- ▶ Lead Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 4, Cub Scout Camping, from the *Cub Scout Leader Book*, to help leaders be aware of camping opportunities approved for Cub Scouts. See the *Cub Scout Leader Book* for detailed outlines, or select a topic that best meets the needs of your pack. Choose a topic for next month.

Program Highlights

Academics and Sports

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a great way to help fulfill the aims of Scouting—building character, developing citizenship, and encouraging mental and physical fitness. This month you might feature these belt loops and pins.

- ▶ **Disabilities Awareness:** Cub Scouts learn about special needs of children and adults. They volunteer and help someone with special needs as they earn the Disabilities Awareness belt loop and pin.



- ▶ **Kickball:** Kickball is a fun activity for the boys. As they learn to play the game, they can apply their skills to earn the Kickball belt loop and pin.

See the *Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide* for more information.

Outing in Scouting

- ▶ **Cub Scouts.** Take a hike in a park and notice all the spring changes—leaves coming out, flowers blooming, and birds building nests.
- ▶ **Webelos Scouts.** Find an outdoor basketball court and play basketball.

Resource Highlight: *Scouting for Youth With Disabilities Manual (No. 34059)*

This publication provides hints and techniques to help youth with challenges to participate in Scouting and enjoy various activities. The categories of disabilities included in the book are learning disability, cognitive disability, developmental disability, physical disability, and emotional and behavioral disorders.



The March Pack Meeting

Compassion

BEFORE THE MEETING

Arrive early to set up the meeting area and help Cub Scouts set up their displays.

GATHERING

Greeters welcome Cub Scout families and direct them to the den display area. Den chiefs set up games and invite Cub Scouts to participate in the activities.

Pre-Opening

Shoe Hunt

Equipment: blindfolds or use neckerchiefs.

Form teams of five to eight participants. Have each team form a circle, sitting on the floor, legs facing toward the center. Each team member removes his right shoe and places it in the center of the circle. Blindfold players, and a den chief or leader mixes up all the shoes. At a predetermined signal, each team member finds his or her own shoe and puts it on. When all team members have their own shoe on, they can remove the blindfolds.

OPENING

Opening Ceremony

Use the ceremony below, or choose a different opening ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Shoes

Material: Large poster of the Cub Scout Promise in sign language (See *Webelos Handbook*) so everyone in the audience can see and follow the signing. The boys conducting the ceremony should practice signing ahead of time.

CUB SCOUT 1: S stands for special needs, that we may be aware of the differences in God's children.

CUB SCOUT 2: H stands for helping one another.

CUB SCOUT 3: O stands for obstacles, which we all face.

CUB SCOUT 4: E stands for education, that we will learn respect for all.

CUB SCOUT 5: S stands for sensitivity, awareness of the needs and emotions of others.

CUB SCOUT 6: Everyone, please join me in signing the Cub Scout Promise.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

"Help us understand and celebrate our differences and show respect for one another."

Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster welcomes everyone to the meeting and thanks those who helped set up. Introduce guests and thank them for attending.

PROGRAM

Differences Awareness Trail

Set up a variety of stations where boys can experience various physical challenges. Stations might include where boys:

- ▶ Wear eyeglasses smeared with petroleum jelly to simulate impaired vision.
- ▶ Place cotton in the ears or wear ear protectors to simulate impaired hearing.
- ▶ Tie magazines around the knees to simulate walking difficulties. If available, have boys attempt to use a walker.
- ▶ Are given a copy of the sign language alphabet. Have someone sign different sayings from a Cub Scout handbook.
- ▶ Are given directions to perform a simple task from someone speaking in a foreign language.
- ▶ Are given a copy of the Braille alphabet. From a Braille board made with dots of hot glue on a piece of cardboard, the boys try to "read" different words and phrases.
- ▶ Have two fingers wrapped together to simulate a broken finger, then attempt to tie his shoe.
- ▶ Use a balance board to simulate inner ear problems.
- ▶ Use a pair of crutches or a walker and attempt to negotiate an obstacle course.
- ▶ Use the non-dominant hand and attempt to write his name.
- ▶ Wear heavy work gloves to stimulate difficulty with gripping objects and try to stack pennies.
- ▶ Use only one arm and try to put on and button up a jacket or sweater.



RECOGNITION

Outside the Box

Materials: Snack-size box of caramel-coated popcorn and peanuts that contains a prize inside. Place awards inside the box.

Show the boys the box. Inside you will find a prize. Draw each of the boys' awards from the box. Let the parents present the awards to their sons.

After all the awards have been handed out, say the following. "The label says that the prize is inside. I really think that the prize is on the outside. Why? You receive the prize in life when you go outside of your own box or comfort zone. Sometimes going out of your way for others is the only way to really help others and feel accomplished in what you do. This month we have learned how to help others and be aware of differences in ability. I hope that we will always think of others and how they would feel about the things we say or the actions we do. So thinking 'This is the way we have always done it' doesn't cut it anymore. As Cub Scouts, parents, and a community, we can change the intolerance in the world today."

CLOSING

Announcements

Briefly share plans for any pack, district, or council Cub Scouting events. Use a monthly newsletter to eliminate lengthy details at the pack meeting. This is a good time to verify plans for attending day camp and resident camp. Share date and time of the next month's pack meeting.

Cubmaster's Minute

How many of you had fun today? Well, for many people, activities like these aren't so much fun. They are a necessity every day of their lives. You have had the opportunity to experience some of the challenges that other people face day to day. So now you have an idea of what might be helpful to someone in that situation. But always remember that people who have special needs aren't necessarily incapable. In most ways, they may be just like you. They might not want or require any help. So always ask whether someone wants help; don't assume he or she needs it.

Closing Ceremony

Building Character

CUBMASTER: How do we build character in our Cub Scouts?

LEADER 1: One way is to help them be aware of the differences in God's children. Cub Scouts are likely to have good health, vision, and hearing. Most will also have good physical coordination and mobility. When we ask our Cub Scouts to walk in another's shoes, they learn:

LEADER 2: Awareness

LEADER 3: Tolerance

LEADER 4: Respect

LEADER 5: Understanding

LEADER 6: Kindness to others

CUBMASTER: This is a very big step toward building character. Tonight we came together and learned something about others and about ourselves.

AFTER THE MEETING

- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Cleanup



**Core Value:
Faith**

Core Value of the Month

Faith: Having inner strength and confidence based on our trust in God.

Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, believed that reverence and duty to God should be an important part of the Scouting movement, and for every Scout and Scouter. With family guidance, Cub Scouts will develop in their own faith.

Pack Planning Meeting

Pack leaders meet one or two weeks before the pack meeting to finalize plans for April and develop plans for the May pack meeting.

Pack Committee

- ▶ Finalize plans for the pack campfire. Make sure all necessary arrangements have been made and the families know about the location if different from the normal meeting place. Make a “plan B” location for inclement weather.
- ▶ A well run, positive campfire is a memory forever. This month’s pack meeting centers on a campfire showcasing the contributions of the Cub Scouts in the pack. All campfires start with safety and preplanning.
 - Safety: Select a group of parents or leaders to check and secure any local permits required for an open campfire and to be responsible for building and tending the fire pit area.
 - Program: Den leaders work together to coordinate the program with the use of the campfire program planner. They will verify the placement in the program with each den and help maintain a smoothly flowing program. A designated individual will be screening all material to be performed at the campfire to make certain that it is appropriate. If there is a special guest speaker or storyteller, this group will confirm their attendance and contribution. See the *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book* for ideas for a campfire program.
 - After the main campfire program, the cooling embers will be an enticement for special food treats, such as traditional s’mores.
- ▶ Consider inviting a Boy Scout troop or Venturing crew to build and tend the fire.
- ▶ Review plans for the May pack meeting.

Cubmaster Corner

- ▶ **Positive Values:** As the Cubmaster, you will want to reinforce the positive values of the Boy Scouts of America in this month’s campfire program. All materials used in the campfire program must be prescreened and all material presented at any time to Cub Scouts should:
 - Be positive.
 - Be inspirational.
 - Be age-appropriate.
 - Avoid any social or sensitive issues.
 - Encourage citizenship.
- ▶ Start working on your Webelos leadership for next year.
 - Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos Leaders training is important for next year’s Webelos den leaders. Check with the pack trainer to find out about the next opportunity.
 - Start talking to your Bear den leaders about their ongoing leadership and “stepping up” to be a Webelos den leader.
- ▶ Start building relationships that will support your bridging responsibilities for your Webelos Scouts; Webelos Scouts need interaction with local Boy Scout troops. See that Webelos den leaders maintain contact with one or more nearby troops so that Webelos Scouts may visit troop meetings and activities, and make an informed selection of which troop to join.

Pack Trainer

- ▶ April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. The Boy Scouts of America has designated April as Youth Protection Month for councils and units.
 - A training inventory should be made to ensure that all registered unit leaders have taken Youth Protection training. Other interested adults may also take this very important training.
 - Youth Protection training is available online at www.scouting.org or on a DVD called *Youth Protection Guidelines: Training for Volunteer Leaders and Parents*, No. 36121.
- ▶ Determine the number of leaders who have completed BALOO training. Encourage several leaders to complete this orientation.



- ▶ Make plans to carpool to the next Cub Scout leader roundtable.
- ▶ Conduct Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 15, Youth Protection. Leaders should understand that this Unit Leadership Enhancement does not take the place of Youth Protection training. Choose another Unit Leadership Enhancement if desired. Select a topic for next month that meets your pack's need. See the *Cub Scout Leader Book* for detailed outlines.

Program Highlights

Academics and Sports

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a great way to help fulfill the aims of Scouting—building character, developing citizenship, and encouraging mental and physical fitness. This month you might feature these belt loops and pins.

- ▶ **Reading and Writing:** Libraries are places of opportunity, sources of learning, and a gold mine of books, magazines, movies, CDs, and activities for school-age children. Encourage all Cub Scouts to obtain a library card. Boys can also keep a diary of their Cub Scout experiences as they work on earning the Reading and Writing belt loop and pin.
- ▶ **Skateboarding:** Boys will learn and demonstrate the safety rules for using a skateboard as they work towards earning the Skateboarding belt loop and pin.

See the *Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide* for more information.

Outing in Scouting

- ▶ **Cub Scouts.** Get out and enjoy the spring weather! Make kites and fly them.
- ▶ **Webelos Scouts.** Play an outdoor game such as softball or soccer.

Resource Highlight: Religious Emblem Award

To encourage members to grow stronger in their faith, religious groups have developed religious emblem programs. The Boy Scouts of America has approved these programs and allows the emblems to be worn on the official uniform. The various religious groups administer the programs.

Once earned, the award is generally presented by the church or religious group but may also be presented by the Scout unit at an event such as a pack meeting. This award may be earned as a youth, or presented to an adult who is nominated.

For each faith, a specific set of requirements is published and is established by the religious faith and not by the BSA.



The April Pack Meeting

Faith

BEFORE THE MEETING

The committee responsible for the campfire should arrive early to set up. They should be prepared with a “plan B” in case of inclement weather, such as using an artificial campfire in a building or shelter.

GATHERING

Greeters should meet the families in the parking lot and direct them to the campfire area.

The preopening activity at the campfire area starts as soon as the first Cub Scout enters. Sing some well-known songs and let each den stand and do its den yell or cheer. This encourages other boys to move swiftly to the fire area.

OPENING

Opening Ceremony

Props: Real or artificial campfire, seven candles.

Personnel: Narrator and seven Cub Scouts. As each boy reads his part, either he or a leader lights one candle.

NARRATOR: Welcome to our Cub Scout campfire. Let us draw from this campfire the secrets of Cub Scouting and the spirit of brotherhood.

CUB SCOUT 1: In this light we see new chances to be helpful and to do our best.

CUB SCOUT 2: From its warmth we strengthen the bonds of fellowship and learn how to get along with others.

CUB SCOUT 3: From the stones that ring the fire and keep its power in check, we learn how we can curb our tempers and become good citizens.

CUB SCOUT 4: From the smoke that rises out of the fire, we learn to lift our eyes upward and worship God.

CUB SCOUT 5: The spark that started this fire reminds us that little Good Turns can lead to greater deeds.

CUB SCOUT 6: Just as the fire needs fuel to burn brightly, so do we need the care and love of our parents to shine brightly.

CUB SCOUT 7: In its leaping flames, we see the fun of Cub Scouting and the joy of life.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

“Thank you for the fun and fellowship we will share here tonight. Help us to have faith, and follow the good examples of our Cub Scout leaders.”

Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster welcomes everyone to the pack meeting and campfire. Recognize any new families and introduce guests. Give announcements pertaining to next month’s meeting or events scheduled before the next pack meeting.

Review campfire safety rules (never shine flashlights in performers’ eyes; stay away from the fire during and after the performance). Refer to *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book* for specific safety tips to share.

Enthusiastically introduce the master of ceremonies, or if it is the Cubmaster, announce, “This fire is laid; let’s start the blaze and let the show begin!”

PROGRAM

Follow the campfire program planning sheet. Each den has a part in the campfire program, performing songs, stunts, skits, etc.

Be sure each den knows when it is performing and always have the next act waiting “backstage.”

The program will go smoothly if everyone knows the plan. Follow each performance with an appropriate, positive recognition, usually a cheer.

RECOGNITION

Use the ceremony below or you may choose an alternative from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.



Dimming Campfire

Equipment: Electric campfire with dimmer switch, which Akela may operate unseen. Start with it dim.

AKELA: Tonight we have gathered at the ceremonial campfire to hear an ancient tale. It was once believed that a campfire had great magic. Of course it cooks our food, lights our way, and wards off wild animals, but the magic of this pack council fire is that it can light up our future! But only when we approach it after making a great accomplishment.

Will (read names) and their parents please stand? See how the fire burns only dimly when there are no advancing Scouts nearby? Now please come forward and join me at the fire's side. See how it has begun to burn brighter now!

The fire tells us that you have been busy this month and have earned the following awards. You have worked hard to be worthy, so the fire has given us a sign that you will continue to find great joy and success in Cub Scouting. You will soon be on your way to earning the next rank in Scouting. The fire tells us you will do so!

I now dismiss you to your seats, and watch the fire as you leave its side! (Repeat as many times as needed for awards.)

Religious Award Presentation Ceremony

Equipment: A large replica of the religious emblem square knot (can be made with purple felt and rope painted silver).

Ladies, gentlemen, leaders, and Cub Scouts, we have just concluded our pack's awards ceremony where we have honored those Cub Scouts who have demonstrated achievement by earning awards. Tonight, we also want to recognize a Cub Scout who has demonstrated his commitment to the Cub Scout Promise.

Dim lights and light a candle in front of a large replica of the religious emblem square knot.

Cub Scout _____, please escort your parents to the front of the room and then turn to face the pack.

We are very proud of _____. For the past ___ months he has worked with both his family and his religious advisor to learn more about his religious faith and his duty to God. After much hard work and personal growth, he has received the right to wear the religious emblem of his faith on his uniform and was presented with a medal by his religious advisor. Like all Scouts who have received a religious award, he may now wear Scouting's universal religious award square knot, and may continue to wear it on his Boy Scout uniform and adult uniform.

We now take great pleasure in presenting the religious emblem square knot to his parents in recognition of the role they have and will continue to play in his religious growth. Mr. and Mrs. _____, will you present your son with the religious emblem square knot?

_____, we know you will wear this square knot centered over your left pocket with pride. Congratulations on your accomplishment. You have lived the Cub Scout promise well. Please escort your parents back to their seats.

Almost every religious body in the United States has a religious emblem program open to Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, and Campfire Incorporated. We encourage all Scouts to consider participating in this program. If any other boys in this pack are interested in working toward the religious award of their own faith, please see _____ (Awards Chairman) at the end of this meeting. He/she has information on the emblems and will make it available to you.

CLOSING

Announcements

All announcements are made at the beginning of the campfire so the mood and flow of the campfire will not be interrupted by announcements near the end. The Cubmaster needs to remind the pack of next month's pack meeting and any upcoming events.

April



Closing Ceremony

Have this ceremony performed by leaders and parents.

PARENT 1: As parents, we want to show our sons the wonders of the world. In the eyes of a child, there are not just eight wonders of the world but eight million. We want him to be able to look at the stars, sunrise, and sunset, and feel their beauty.

PARENT 2: We want them to see a world of love, laughter, and compassion.

PARENT 3: We want them to build strength within themselves of strong character and sensitivity to the needs of others.

PARENT 4: We want them to be the best they can be.

PARENT 5: Unfortunately, no one can wave a magic wand so that they will receive these things. We as leaders and parents must set the example to show the guidance so they may see the way to accomplish all of these things. This is the magic; our example and guidance.

PARENT 6: So as we leave, let's be aware of our actions and how loudly they speak to our youth.

Cubmaster's Minute

In Scouting we use a compass to show us the way and a flashlight to light our path. In life we all need a strong moral compass and a way in which to light our trail through life. Cub Scouting can provide that moral compass and the faith to light our way. Parents and leaders should keep this in mind at all times when guiding young Cub Scouts. Thank you to all our leaders and parents.

AFTER THE MEETING

- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Cleanup

May



**Core Value:
Health and
Fitness**

May

Health and Fitness

Core Value of the Month

Health and Fitness: Being personally committed to keeping our minds and bodies clean and fit.

Cub Scouts will learn that it is important and easy to eat a healthy diet and how a fitness program can be part of their daily routine.

Pack Planning Meeting

Pack leaders meet one or two weeks before the pack meeting to finalize plans for May and develop plans for the June pack meeting.

Pack Committee

- ▶ Finalize plans for this month's food tasting event. Invite dens to bring a nutritious, healthy dish for their demonstration.
- ▶ Have the Cub Scouts or volunteers create posters on nutrition, healthy eating tips, and healthy life styles. The Department of Agriculture Web site, www.mypyramid.gov, is an excellent source on food choices and amounts that are right for you.
- ▶ Discuss upcoming summertime meetings and activities, and finalize leadership assignments.
- ▶ Have a report from the pack camping coordinator. Ensure that registration forms and information for day camp and resident camp are available for all pack families.
- ▶ Discuss plans for a Good Turn.
- ▶ Review plans for June's pack bicycle rodeo.
- ▶ The annual pack program planning conference is right around the corner. Be sure all pack members know the date, place, and time for this important annual event.
- ▶ Webelos dens have graduated and many leadership positions become vacant. Recruit adults to fill vacant pack positions.

Cubmaster Corner

- ▶ **Retention.** It's that time of year when Cub Scouts of all ages will be transitioning. Are the leaders going with them? How can we encourage them to stay involved with the pack where they are needed? This is something that should be thought about throughout the year and not just at transition time. Make sure leaders and volunteers know what they need to do in their jobs, and recognize them in front of the pack for doing their jobs well. Keep the pack meetings fun and exciting for the Cub Scouts and the leaders and always provide recognition—these are two keys to retention. After all, if the program is fun and leaders and volunteers know that what they are doing is important to the success of the pack, why would they want to go anywhere else?
- ▶ This is a good time to ensure that all boys have had the opportunity to register for local summer day camp and resident camp.

Pack Trainer

- ▶ Conduct the Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 8, National Awards. This discussion will help the pack and dens implement fun, year-round quality programs. Or select a topic that better suits the current needs of your pack. See the *Cub Scout Leader Book* for detailed outlines. Choose a topic for next month's discussion.
- ▶ Reinforce training opportunities for all Cub Scout leaders, particularly those who will be taking a new position for the coming Scouting year.



Program Highlights

Academics and Sports

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a great way to help fulfill the aims of Scouting—building character, developing citizenship, and encouraging mental and physical fitness. This month you might feature these belt loops and pins.

- ▶ **Nutrition:** Eating a balanced diet means eating foods that are good for you and that give your body the vitamins and other nutrients it needs to stay healthy.
- ▶ **Physical Fitness:** Being in good physical condition will serve boys well today and in their future. Encourage the boys in your den and pack to earn the Physical Fitness belt loop and pin.

See the *Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide* for more information.

Outing in Scouting

- ▶ **Cub Scouts.** Pick up some healthy food and have a picnic outdoors if weather permits. Make sure to do a thorough litter sweep when they're done.
- ▶ **Webelos.** After the Webelos den leader has completed Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos Leaders training, have a campout and focus on cooking skills in the out-of-doors.

Resource Highlight: Den and Pack Ribbons

Boys in the den respond to recognition. Many occasions present themselves to use different forms of recognition. An award ribbon can be presented to different dens to recognize their attendance at the pack meeting, their advancement as a group, even parent involvement. Many different types of awards are available from your local council service center.



The May Pack Meeting

Health and Fitness

BEFORE THE MEETING

Plan to set up with plenty of time to spare so you can start the meeting on time. Hang posters on nutrition, healthy eating habits, and healthy lifestyle throughout the meeting room. An assortment of tables will be needed so that dens can use the area to share their foods. Set up additional tables for the dens to display their projects. Set up a separate area for the preopening activity.

GATHERING

Greeters welcome the Cub Scout families. Direct them to the tables set aside for their foods and the display area.

Preopening Activity

Taste Test

Premix a dozen different flavors in liquid form and have them in small sampling jars, such as mason jars or baby food jars. Flavors can include extracts (like vanilla and almond), drink flavors (like cherry and grape juices), diluted vinegar, etc. Place the flavors at numbered stations and hand out cards with the numbers next to blank lines. Have plenty of toothpicks at each station so that each person can use a different toothpick for the flavors. Let everyone try each flavor and identify as many as they can. The winners are those that identify the most flavors.

OPENING

Opening Ceremony

Use the ceremony below or an alternate ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Growing

Materials: Package of carrot seeds, big carrots with tops still on.

CUBMASTER: (*Show package of carrot seeds.*) Inside this package are tiny carrot seeds. They don't look like much because they are tiny and fragile. But if we plant them in good soil and we make sure they get plenty of sunlight, air, and water, they will grow to be big healthy carrots like these. (*Show some carrots.*) Cub Scouts are like carrots, they also need certain things to grow, like good food, rest, and exercise.

But Cub Scouts also need something more. They need to have healthy minds and spirits if they are going to be the kind of men we all admire. In Cub Scouting, boys can develop these qualities. They do it by following the Cub Scout Promise.

Please stand and join us in repeating the Cub Scout Promise and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

"We give thanks to our families, who help us make good choices so we can be healthy and fit."

Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster welcomes everyone to the pack meeting. Thank the many volunteers who helped organize and set up the meeting. Recognize special guests and welcome them to the "yummiest" pack meeting ever!

PROGRAM

Den Demonstrations

Dens that have food items to share should be prepared to explain what their item is and why it is good for the body. Other dens may choose to share skits, songs, or other activities.

RECOGNITION

Physically Fit

Equipment: Awards for boys; sports articles and pictures; posters displaying health, physical fitness, and proper eating.

CUBMASTER: Look at these (*show pictures, posters, articles, etc.*). These people have made it by being physically fit. They work out. They get the proper amount of rest. They eat balanced meals. It is nothing they have done overnight. It takes a long time to get in the shape that these people are in. Cub Scouting is a program for boys in the first grade through the fifth grade. It takes time to advance



in rank and earn awards. As Cub Scouts advance and earn awards, they learn about physical fitness, healthy habits, and proper healthy eating. Tonight we will recognize the Cub Scouts who have earned awards. Will the following Cub Scouts and their parents come forward? (*Call boys up by rank or den.*)

CLOSING

Announcement

Remind pack families about summer day camp plans, plans for other summertime pack activities, and the time and date for next month's pack meeting.

Cubmaster's Minute

We take our bodies and good health for granted when we are well, strong, and feeling good, but injuries and illness can strike at any time. We should do our best to take care of ourselves by practicing good healthy habits and eating the proper foods. Each one of us needs to be strong and healthy in mind and body to be able to contribute to our family, community, and nation.

Closing Ceremony

Physical Fitness

CUBMASTER: Exercise alone won't keep you physically fit. Good personal-health habits should be practiced daily.

CUB SCOUT 1: Shower every day, especially after exercising.

CUB SCOUT 2: Visit your dentist regularly.

CUB SCOUT 3: Stand up straight, don't slouch.

CUB SCOUT 4: Get plenty of sleep.

CUB SCOUT 5: Wash your hands frequently.

CUB SCOUT 6: Eat right! A balanced diet will make you feel good!

CUB SCOUT 7: Get plenty of exercise to make you feel great!

CUBMASTER: Stay healthy, everyone. See you next month!

AFTER THE MEETING

- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Cleanup

June



**Core Value:
Perseverance**

June

Perseverance

Core Value of the Month

Perseverance: Sticking with something and not giving up, even if it is difficult.

Boys will realize that they must continue to work hard in order to improve their skills in activities where they want to excel.

Pack Planning Meeting

Pack leaders meet one or two weeks before the June pack meeting to finalize plans for this month's bicycle rodeo and to outline pack activities for July.

Pack Committee

- ▶ Ensure all leaders understand the requirements and plans for the pack bicycle rodeo. Invite local law enforcement to help with registration and safety.
- ▶ Appoint the bicycle rodeo committee to organize and run the event.
- ▶ Contact your local automobile insurance company. Many insurance companies have a bicycle safety program kit that they will send you for free. The kit could include such items as a book of information on bicycle safety, spoke reflectors, pencils, and the signs for each area of a bicycle safety rodeo.
- ▶ Keep records of boys in attendance for the National Summertime Pack Award and National Den Award. (See the *Cub Scout Leader Book* for more details.)
- ▶ Finalize details for the July pack hike.
- ▶ Make plans to conduct the annual pack program planning conference for your pack. The *Cub Scout Leader Book* has a section on how to make this an effective opportunity to create a fun plan for the coming program year.

Cubmaster Corner

Safety First. This month's pack meeting will feature bicycles, so safety is a prime concern. Boys will be looking to you, the Cubmaster, for guidance.

- ▶ Be sure that you have adequate protection yourself. Always have a fitted helmet.
- ▶ Check out the Web site for the Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute, www.bhsi.org, which includes resources and information on the latest in safety considerations, how to fit a helmet properly, and links to coloring pages, clip art, and much more.
- ▶ During the summer, families may be leaving for vacations. Ensure that there is adequate leadership for den meetings. Make the necessary arrangements to recruit parents to fill in as needed.
- ▶ Summer is a time for informal meetings. If the pack meeting will take place somewhere other than the regular meeting place, secure the location well in advance. Once secured, file a local tour permit with your council service center.

Pack Trainer

- ▶ Leaders should strive to earn and wear their leader recognition awards. The awards show boys and pack families the leaders' commitment and dedication to deliver a quality program for the boys. Review the recognitions earned by the pack leaders. Do any leaders need the required forms for obtaining any awards for which they are eligible?
- ▶ Conduct the Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 2, Annual Program Planning, from the *Cub Scout Leader Book*, to have all the pack leaders be ready for the upcoming annual pack program planning conference. Or select a topic that better suits the current needs of your pack. Choose a topic for next month.

Program Highlights

Academics and Sports

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a great way to help fulfill the aims of Scouting—building character, developing citizenship, and encouraging mental and physical fitness. This month you might feature these belt loops and pins.

- ▶ **Geography:** Boys can explore ahead of time the places their families may visit during summer vacation.

- ▶ **Bicycling:** The end of school brings free time for Cub Scouts, and many hit the roads on a bicycle. This is a good time to ensure that all boys learn the ins and outs of bicycle safety and traffic rules.

See the *Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide* for more information.

Outing in Scouting

Boys of all ages can take a short den or pack bike hike.

Resource Highlight: Emergency Preparedness Award

“Emergency preparedness” means being ready for all kinds of emergencies. It means you’re ready and able to help in times of trouble to save lives and property, and to help a community—or even a nation—get back to normal after a disaster happens. To encourage Scouts of all ages to be prepared for emergencies, the BSA has approved an Emergency Preparedness Award program for youth and leaders. To learn more about the award requirements and to download an application form, visit the Emergency Preparedness Award page at www.scouting.org.





The June Pack Meeting

Perseverance

BEFORE THE MEETING

Arrive early to set up and prepare for the bicycle rodeo. Rope off an area where the bikes can be placed. Set up display tables for dens to exhibit their projects.

GATHERING

Greeters welcome arriving Cub Scouts and family members and give each person a name tag in the shape of a bicycle. Direct participants to the display tables and the area where bicycle games are taking place.

Preopening Activity

The *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book* is a great source for bicycle games and ideas. Remember that all participants must wear a properly sized and fitted bicycle helmet whenever they are riding a bicycle.

OPENING

Opening Ceremony

A Webelos Scout color guard marches in and posts the U.S. and pack flags, and leads the Pledge of Allegiance and the Cub Scout Promise.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

“We give thanks for our ability to persevere, have fun together and be good sports whether we win or lose, and to remember that as Cub Scouts, we do our best.”

Welcome and Introductions

Welcome all guests and new families to the pack. This will be the first pack meeting for newly recruited Tiger Cubs and families. The bicycle rodeo committee chair takes over and announces the procedures for running the event.

PROGRAM

Bicycle Rodeo

Equipment:

- ▶ A measuring tape or a yard stick
- ▶ Chalk, tape, or rope—for lines
- ▶ Traffic cones or weighted cans
- ▶ Score sheets and pencils
- ▶ Clipboards for volunteers
- ▶ Stop sign
- ▶ Bicycles and helmets

Organize so there is as little waiting as possible.

Divide the Cub Scouts and rotate them through the different areas.

Station One: Inspection station—The Cub Scout needs to have his bicycle checked for safety. Ask your local policeman to come and check the bicycle.

Station Two: Helmet and bicycle check—Check the helmet fit and seat height. Know how to use a lock and cable to secure a bicycle.

Station Three: Ride on the line—Make a wide line and have the Cub Scout ride his bicycle down the line. The line should be no longer than 12 feet.

Station Four: Safe driving—Have the Cub Scout ride his bicycle around traffic cones. The leaders can choose the pattern of the cones.

Station Five: On the street—Create an intersection. Have the Cub Scout demonstrate how to cross an intersection safely.

Station Six: Steering—Make a circle with the tape. Have the Cub Scout ride his bicycle around the circle, staying on the tape as much as possible.

Station Seven: Recognition—Cub Scout receives recognition for rodeo participation.



RECOGNITION

Bicycle Safety Advancement

Cubmaster: Bicycle riding is a staple of childhood, a rite of passage into the world of motion, and the freedom of being able to go where you want to. As a bicycle rider, you must follow certain rules to truly enjoy your adventurous trail safely. The first basic rule is to have a helmet and wear it properly! (*Show the helmet picture or hold up a helmet.*)

It's like that in Scouting, too. The Bobcat must learn the basics of Cub Scouting, and show that he knows how to salute, give the Cub Scout handshake, and say the Promise and Law of the Pack. Tonight, we want to recognize (*name of boy/boys*) for completing the requirements to earn their Bobcat badge. Please come forward with your parents. (*Present award to parents to give to the boys.*)



As you travel along on your bicycle, you need to follow the rules to keep out of trouble and be safe. Bicycle riders are to follow the same rules as car drivers—when you see this sign (*hold up a one-way sign*) you need to go the right way. In Cub Scouting, the Bobcat also has only one way to go—toward earning the next rank badge.



These Tiger Cubs have completed the requirements for the Tiger Cub badge. (*Name the boys who have earned the Tiger Cub badge.*) Please come forward with your parents. (*Present award to parents to give to the boys.*) Remember to keep heading in the right direction and follow the rules of the Cub Scouting trail!



(*Hold up the stop sign.*) As you continue on the Cub Scouting trail, stop to develop your abilities and learn some new skills. These boys learned special skills required for the Wolf badge. (*Name the boys who have earned the Wolf badge.*) Please come forward with your parents. (*Present awards to parents so they can present them to their sons.*)



Continue, using the following signs or any sign that fits. Adapt the text as needed.

“Do Not Enter” into dangerous territory or get “derailed” by TV, video games, etc.

“Railroad Crossing” represents crossing over to a Boy Scout troop—and the need to be alert.



“Keep Right.” Now that you have earned the Arrow of Light, be sure to keep right by always following the 12 points of the Scout Law.

This ceremony could also be used to give out other awards, such as the World Conservation Award or other patches—just use your imagination!

CLOSING

Announcements

Announce the date and time of the next pack meeting. Remind parents of all upcoming events such as day camp and resident camp.

Cubmaster's Minute

“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.” This is a quote from the famous carmaker, Henry Ford. All of the dens come together to form the beginning of our pack. Keeping together at our monthly pack meeting is progress. Working together in Cub Scouting is surely a success story of which you can have a great part. Let's remember this in the coming months.

Please repeat with me the Law of the Pack. Thanks for coming out for our pack meeting tonight. By coming, keeping and working together, we've made every boy in the pack a winner!

June



Closing Ceremony

The Webelos den retires the colors with reverence and the pack families sing *Taps*.

Song

Day is done,
Gone the sun,
From the lake,
From the hills,
From the sky;
All is well, safely rest,
God is nigh.

AFTER THE MEETING

- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Cleanup

July



**Core Value:
Courage**

July

Courage

Core Value of the Month

Courage. Being brave and doing what is right regardless of our fears, the difficulties, or the consequences.

Exploring new territory and challenging oneself with new skills takes a certain amount of courage. Cub Scouts will benefit from hikes this month in many ways.

Pack Planning Meeting

Pack leaders meet one or two weeks before the pack meeting to finalize plans for July and develop plans for the August pack meeting.

Pack Committee

- ▶ The pack meeting this month will center on the outdoors. Make sure that a local tour permit is completed and filed with your council service center.
- ▶ Consider inviting a Boy Scout troop to share information such as places for hikes and hiking safety rules. Never underestimate the positive power that Boy Scouts can have on Cub Scouts.
- ▶ The Hug-A-Tree Program teaches safety in the outdoors. If possible, locate a local group to make a presentation to the pack. You can get information online at www.nasar.org/nasar/hug_a_tree_program.php.
- ▶ Start planning for the August raingutter regatta.
- ▶ Make arrangements for a recruiting night to take place in August or September. If you distribute materials in schools, many require the materials to be available at least a month in advance.

Cubmaster Corner

Flag Etiquette at the Pack Meeting. Different dens of Cub Scouts will deliver the opening flag ceremony all year long. Some will choose simply to post the colors; others will use more involved ceremonies. All ceremonies are appropriate and all boys should be acknowledged for their efforts. A simple reminder to pack parents about their role in the flag ceremony may help them feel more comfortable. Remind them that the appropriate way to honor our flag is to:

- ▶ Remove hats.
- ▶ Place their hand over their heart if they are not in Scout uniform.
- ▶ Give the Cub Scout salute if they are in uniform.

Pack Trainer

- ▶ Conduct the Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 7, Membership. Take this opportunity to evaluate current membership and plan for fall recruiting. Or select a topic that better suits the current needs of your pack. See the *Cub Scout Leader Book* for detailed outlines. Choose a topic for next month's discussion.

Program Highlights

Academics and Sports

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a great way to help fulfill the aims of Scouting—building character, developing citizenship, and encouraging mental and physical fitness. This month you might feature these belt loops and pins.

- ▶ **Astronomy:** The boys will learn about binoculars, telescopes and the solar system as they earn the Astronomy belt loop and pin.
- ▶ **Hiking:** Cub Scouts will explain the hiking safety rules to their den leader or adult partner, demonstrate proper hiking attire and equipment, and take a hike as they earn the Hiking belt loop and pin.

See the *Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide* for more information.



Outing in Scouting

- ▶ **Cub Scouts.** Summertime is a good time to explore hiking trails in your area. Remember Leave No Trace.
- ▶ **Webeles Scouts.** Get ready for Boy Scout camping by exploring some of the nearby campgrounds.

Resource Highlight: *Scouting Magazine*

This monthly publication is sent to all registered adults. Articles include information about program changes, ideas for enhancing special pack events, upcoming events of interest, and success stories from packs all over the country.



The July Pack Meeting

Courage

BEFORE THE MEETING

Well before Cub Scout families arrive, set up the outdoor nature hunt. Set out the advancements to be awarded during the pack meeting at a predetermined location.

GATHERING

Greeters should arrive at the outing location early and be prepared to answer any questions that may arise. Direct families and guests to the area set aside for the preopening activity.

Preopening Activity

Outdoor Nature Hunt

Make up a list like the one below for each boy. Boys can hunt in pairs. The winner is the pair that finds the most before the meeting begins or within a limited amount of time.

1. Something alive that flies
2. A cup of wet sand
3. Two different flowers
4. A bird nest
5. Five maple leaves (*or leaves of a tree that is common in your area*)
6. Three fist-sized rocks
7. Five ants
8. A dandelion
9. (*Add more from what is commonly found in your area.*)

OPENING

Opening Ceremony

A simple opening with a den leading the Cub Scout Promise is appropriate before the pack hike. Or you can find alternate ceremonies in *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

"We give thanks to the adults in our lives who help us to have the courage to do the right things as Cub Scouts should."

Welcome and Introductions

Welcome the Cub Scouts, parents, and leaders to the pack meeting/hike. Make sure all special guests are introduced and welcomed. Thank the dens and leaders who helped setting up for the meeting.

PROGRAM

Before starting on your hike, review the *Guide to Safe Scouting* so that your outing will be the best that Scouting can offer!

Hiking Tips

- ▶ Avoid heavily traveled roads.
- ▶ Walk with the Cub Scout leader first in line, and the den chief or an adult at the end.
- ▶ Keep the hike speed consistent with the short steps of boys. Slower walkers can be in the front of the line so they won't lag behind.
- ▶ Be sure to bring extra water for boys to reduce the possibility of dehydration.
- ▶ Stop frequently for rests. Use the time to talk about nature or play quiet games. A snack is a good pick-me-up.
- ▶ Encourage boys to see, not just look.
- ▶ Encourage boys to be quiet and to listen. Noise will scare away creatures in the woods.

Make your hike something extra special. See the *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book* for other suggestions.

- ▶ **Obstacle Course Hike.** Pick a trail that will include boys being able to climb a tree, walk a log, go through a fence, chin themselves on tree branches, etc. Be careful not to destroy any property or to trespass.
- ▶ **Once Around the Block.** Hikers go once around the block (or a short distance) and then test their observation skills. Who saw the most round things? What kinds of trees did boys see? What did boys see that was orange?
- ▶ **Come to Your Senses.** While hiking, stop often to see, hear, feel, and smell things along the way. Feeling is a special delight; touch the bark of trees, moss, and flower petals.
- ▶ **Penny Hike.** At the junction of each trail, road, street, etc., the denner or den chief flips a coin to determine the direction of travel. Heads, go right; tails, go left. Be sure to take a map.
- ▶ **Homes Hike.** Look for animal homes, such as spider webs, nests, and holes. (Don't disturb them! Don't put your hand in a place you can't see, either.)



Den Demonstrations

During the hike, stop periodically for den demonstrations. Dens can share skits or songs. They can also tell about the experience of other hikes they have taken.

RECOGNITION

Hiking Shoes

Materials: Six different sizes of hiking shoes, one for each rank. Awards are inside the shoes. Use imagination in selecting shoes that fit the level of the award.

Have ceremony team divide up the parts. Den leaders might read the part for their dens.

Bobcat—(*Hold up shoe*) These boys are taking their first steps in Cub Scouting, enjoying new friends and new experiences. (*Call boys and parents forward and present awards.*)

Tiger Cub—(*Hold up shoe*) These boys are learning a lot in Cub Scouting with their family, at the den, and on their Go See It trips. (*Call boys and parents forward and present awards.*)

Wolf—(*Hold up shoe*) These boys are a little older. Understanding Cub Scouting allows for more growth and movement toward higher goals. (*Call boys and parents forward and present awards.*)

Bear—(*Hold up shoe*) These boys are taking bigger steps to understand family, self, respect for others, and duty to God. (*Call boys and parents forward and present awards.*)

Webelos—(*Hold up shoe*) Now, these boys are learning to do things on their own, expanding their knowledge and taking steps to become Boy Scouts. (*Call boys and parents forward and present awards.*)

Arrow of Light—(*Hold up shoe*) Soon we will have boys take the biggest and longest steps available in Cub Scouting. They will have achieved the highest award of Cub Scouting, the Arrow of Light. They will need to demonstrate continued growth and understanding as they prepare to move forward to Boy Scouting.

Congratulations to all the boys who have advanced or received awards.

CLOSING

Announcements

Make announcements extra brief this month. Highlight dates and times that are in the pack newsletter. Share plans for the next pack meeting and activities so families can be reminded to attend.

Cubmaster's Minute

When we begin to feel that life is hard and the task before us is more than we can handle, stop and remember those who forged the trails before us. They left for a life in the unknown. They didn't know what lay ahead of them, but with courage they moved on. They hiked over mountains and through dry hot deserts, just to name a few of their difficulties. But they drew upon their faith, and their courage and determination to get the job done.

Remember: It takes courage to accomplish our goals in life, even when it seems as if they can't be done. It worked for our forefathers—it can work for you!

Closing Ceremony

I Went Hiking

CUB SCOUT 1: I went hiking, I took a walking stick.

CUB SCOUT 2: I went hiking, I took a camera.

CUB SCOUT 3: I went hiking, I took some water.

CUB SCOUT 4: I went hiking, I took a snack.

CUB SCOUT 5: I went hiking and enjoyed the journey.

CUB SCOUT 6: I went hiking, not a piece did I take.

CUB SCOUT 7: I went hiking, not a piece did I leave.

AFTER THE MEETING

- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Cleanup



**Core Value:
Honesty**

Core Value of the Month

Honesty: Telling the truth and being worthy of trust.

A Scout is honest. As boys have fun and interact in their den and pack, they learn that honesty can simply be defined as a refusal to lie, cheat, or steal in any way. Honesty is simply the truth.

Pack Planning Meeting

Pack leaders meet one or two weeks before the pack meeting to finalize plans for August and develop plans for the September pack meeting.

Pack Committee

- ▶ Report on plans decided at the annual pack program planning conference and prepare a complete calendar to distribute to the pack members at the meeting this month or, at the latest, next month. New families joining the pack will want to know the dates of meetings and special activities.
- ▶ Discuss plans for fall recruiting. Decide on a date and place to have a roundup and review the materials in the *Cub Scout Leader Book* for a well organized presentation.
- ▶ The August pack meeting is a good time to bring families together in the outdoors, and it's a good month for Cub Scouts to invite friends to the pack meeting. Have a pack family picnic and fishing derby or a raingutter regatta. For rules and tips on how to run a raingutter regatta, see the *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book*. Make sure there are enough kits for all the boys, their guests, and siblings.
- ▶ Make certain that all parts of the meeting have dens or leaders responsible for them. Ensure that all props and supplies for the preopening activity and ceremonies are ready for the meeting.

Cubmaster Corner

Volunteer Involvement. The success of the Scouting program depends on the involvement of parents, grandparents, and other family members. Our responsibility as leaders is to let parents and volunteers know how important they are to the program.

- ▶ We must make sure we are sharing the fun and excitement that naturally happen when we're Scouting. Whether it's in a small way or a big way, every bit helps and is important to the program's success.
- ▶ When recruiting volunteers, make sure you have a list of all areas where help is needed. Use the Family Talent Survey Sheet found in the *Cub Scout Leader Book* to help fill your positions.

Pack Trainer

- ▶ With the recruitment of new boys and leaders next month, be prepared with the dates, times, and locations of all training opportunities, including the Youth Protection training refresher for current pack leaders.
- ▶ Encourage all pack leadership to attend your district's Cub Scout leader roundtable to gather information on fall recruiting, get support, and learn about district and council events. Obtain the date, location, and registration information for your council's pow wow or University of Scouting for Cub Scout leaders.
- ▶ Identify any new leaders entering the pack and develop a training plan for each.
- ▶ Inventory of training of current leaders and provide to Cubmaster. Share with the pack planning team if appropriate.
- ▶ Conduct the Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 5, Family Involvement, to help leaders find ways to strengthen parents' involvement in den and pack activities in the coming year. Or select a topic that best meets the current needs of your pack. See the *Cub Scout Leader Book* for detailed outlines. Choose a topic for next month.



Program Highlights

Academics and Sports

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a great way to help fulfill the aims of Scouting—building character, developing citizenship, and encouraging mental and physical fitness. This month you might feature these belt loops and pins.

- ▶ **Photography:** Cub Scouts learn the features of a camera and take pictures of their den or family outings, pets, or even scenery. They present the memories to their den or pack.
- ▶ **Fishing:** A lazy summer day spent fishing can be a memory to cherish and a new skill to enjoy for a lifetime.

See the *Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide* for more information.

Outing in Scouting

- ▶ **Cub Scouts.** Go fishing at a fish farm or lake, or take a walk on a beach and observe the ecosystem.
- ▶ **Webelos Scouts.** Earn the Aquanaut activity badge or the Cub Scout Sports pin for swimming.

Resource Highlight: *Power Pack Pals: Four Rules for Personal Safety*

This installment in the youth protection comic book series featuring Akela, Baloo, and T.C. includes scenarios that advise kids about the dangers of strangers, and inappropriate behavior by adults toward children, and what to do in scary situations.



The August Pack Meeting

Honesty

BEFORE THE MEETING

Make sure all the items necessary for the opening, recognition, and closing ceremonies are available and ready. Set up the raingutter regatta track in a visible area, yet removed from other activities to avoid accidents.

GATHERING

Greeters welcome each member, leader, and guest as they arrive.

Preopening Activity

School of Fish

Have cutouts of swordfish, tuna, trout, catfish, etc. ready. As people arrive at the meeting, tape pictures of fish on their back. On a signal, they are to see which “school of fish” can assemble first.

OPENING

Opening Ceremony

Preparation: Prepare cards with the letters H-O-N-E-S-T-Y on them. Write the lines below on the back of the cards.

NARRATOR: Being honest means many things. The dictionary states that an honest person will not lie, cheat, or steal. Other words associated with honesty are:

CUB SCOUT 1: Honor your word.

CUB SCOUT 2: Obey the law.

CUB SCOUT 3: Never cheat.

CUB SCOUT 4: Everyone’s property deserves respect.

CUB SCOUT 5: Stand for what’s right.

CUB SCOUT 6: Tell the truth.

CUB SCOUT 7: You can be trusted.

NARRATOR: You are on the right track to happiness if you practice being honest. Please stand and repeat the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

“We give thanks for being together outdoors. Please help everyone be safe during our meeting and on the way home.”

Welcome and Introductions

Welcome the Cub Scouts, parents, and leaders. Make sure all special guests are introduced and welcomed. Explain the plans for the pack meeting and how the raingutter regatta will be run.

PROGRAM

Start the raingutter regatta. Throughout the regatta, emphasize the importance of participation.

Den Demonstrations

Each den shares a skit, a song, or an explanation of what the den has done during the month.

RECOGNITION

School of Fish Advancement

Equipment: A blue poster board or sheet imitating water gradually getting deeper, five different size fish made of cardboard, awards.

Setting: Cubmaster is in front of room with water behind him.

CUBMASTER: The small fish starts out in shallow water (*place smallest fish in shallow water*) and the first step is to learn how to maneuver in the water, just as our beginning Scout is becoming familiar with Cub Scouting. The first part of becoming a Cub Scout is that of a Bobcat. Would the following boys please come forward with their parents? (*Award badges.*)



TIGER CUB DEN LEADER: As our small fish grows (*place the next fish further out in the water*), he moves a little further into the water finding new adventures and discovering new areas. Just as our fish is developing, so are our Cub Scouts. The next step is that of the Tiger Cub. Would the following boys please come forward with their parents? (*Cubmaster presents awards.*)

WOLF DEN LEADER: As our small fish becomes stronger and larger (*place the next fish further out in the water*), he moves further into the water and becomes more acquainted with the other fish. Just as our fish, the Cub Scout is becoming more acquainted with the pack. The next step is that of the Wolf. Would the following boys please come forward with their parents? (*Cubmaster presents awards.*)

BEAR DEN LEADER: Our fish has grown into a larger fish (*place the next fish further out in the water*), and has moved out further into the water and is learning to maneuver faster in the water. Just like the fish, the Cub Scout is learning and meeting more challenges. The next step is that of the Bear. Would the following boys please come forward with their parents? (*Cubmaster presents awards.*)

WEBELOS DEN LEADER: Our fish has finally reached the stage where he can go into the deepest water (*place largest fish in the deepest water*), and has learned quite a lot about the water and what lies in it. This stage of growth is like that of the Webelos Scout. The Webelos Scout has matured and learned much about the pack and is ready to move on into Boy Scouting. Would the following boys please come forward with their parents? (*Cubmaster presents awards.*)

ASSISTANT CUBMASTER: Just as the fish has developed and has gone out into deeper water, we know our Cub Scouts have learned and developed as we send them on into Boy Scouting and beyond.

CLOSING

Announcements

Distribute copies of the newsletter and the calendar for the coming year. Highlight the date, time, and location of next month's pack meeting.

Cubmaster's Minute

Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, said, "Honesty is a form of honor. An honorable man can be trusted with any amount of money or other valuables with the certainty that he will not steal it." When you feel inclined to cheat in order to win a game, just say to yourself, "After all, it is only a game. It won't hurt me to lose." If you keep your head this way, you will often find that you are a winner after all.

Closing Ceremony

Gather everyone in a circle. All pack members, families, and guests join together by crossing their arms and grasping the hands of the people on either side of them. Offer a closing thought about the fun of the past year, the fun of the year to come with new Cub Scouts who will join, and new adventures for everyone. Ask each person to turn to their left and say good night, then turn to their right and say good night. The Cubmaster then announces that the meeting is over.

AFTER THE MEETING

- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Cleanup



**Core Value:
Cooperation**

Core Value of the Month

Cooperation: Being helpful and working together with others toward a common goal.

Cooperation is a key element in teamwork. Cub Scouts will gain a better understanding of the importance of supporting each other as they play games and learn new skills.

Pack Planning Meeting

The pack leaders and parents meet a week or two before the pack meeting to finalize plans for September and develop plans for the October pack meeting.

Pack Committee

- ▶ Check with all den leaders to make certain that advancement reports are completed and turned in. Many Bobcat badges are earned in September; it's important that they are presented in a fun and meaningful way.
- ▶ Review the pack adults' meeting information from the *Cub Scout Leader Book*, No. 33221. Share preparation assignments among leaders.
- ▶ Verify that the application for the National Summertime Pack Award has been completed and filed with your local council service center in a timely manner so the award can be presented this month to the boys who have earned it and the streamer added to the pack flag.
- ▶ Make certain that all parts of the meeting are assigned to dens or leaders. Be sure to assign setup, greeting, refreshments, and cleanup as well. Encourage family involvement.
- ▶ Recruit a newsletter editor. Provide information to pack families through the newsletter and yearly planning calendar, and refer to that information during announcements at the pack meetings.

Membership Chair/Committee With Cubmaster

- ▶ Be sure key leadership positions are filled. Be prepared to present information at the pack meeting to encourage new members to take on meaningful roles.
- ▶ Have plenty of membership applications available at this month's meeting to follow up on your recruiting event.
- ▶ Have copies of the Family Talent Survey Sheet available at the pack meeting for all pack adults to complete. Be sure to use this valuable resource throughout the coming year.
- ▶ Assign a committee to coordinate plans for the pack adults' meeting, and activities for all boys and siblings to enjoy.
- ▶ Have boys invite their friends and families who were unable to attend your fall recruiting event.

Cubmaster Corner

- ▶ **Timing is everything!** Start all pack meetings on time. When meetings start late, people will just keep arriving later and later. When a meeting starts on time, people will want to arrive on time. Gathering activities give families something to do before the meeting starts and should end when your meeting begins.
- ▶ Webelos Scouts need interaction with local Boy Scout troops. See that Webelos den leaders maintain contact with one or more nearby troops so that Webelos Scouts may visit troop meetings and activities, and make an informed selection of which troop to join.

Pack Trainer

- ▶ Be sure all records for returning leaders are up to date. If there is a change of position, remind leaders to be trained in their new positions.
- ▶ Be prepared with the dates of Cub Scout Leader Position-Specific Training and other training courses in your district. Emphasize that training is an ongoing and essential part of Cub Scout leadership.
- ▶ Encourage leaders to take advantage of available training opportunities online; remind them to register for MyScouting at www.scouting.org.
- ▶ Conduct the monthly Unit Leadership Enhancement that best meets the current needs of your pack. See the *Cub Scout Leader Book* for detailed outlines. The topic "Leadership Training" may be beneficial this month. Use this opportunity to explain the continuum of training. Select a topic for next month's discussion.



Program Highlights

Academics and Sports Program

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a great way to help fulfill the aims of Scouting—building character, developing citizenship, and encouraging mental and physical fitness. This month you might feature these belt loops and pins.

- ▶ **Weather:** Cub Scouts can set up a simple weather station, learn about water cycles, and watch the weather forecast on a local television station as they earn the Weather belt loop and pin.
- ▶ **Soccer:** Soccer is a great fall activity for Cub Scouts. As they play the game, they will learn the importance of teamwork. Cub Scouts can apply their skills to earn the Soccer belt loop and pin.

See the *Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide*, No. 34299, for more information.

Outing in Scouting

Make sure to plan your outings around advancement. At least two weeks before any field trip, a local tour permit should be filed with the council service center. A permission slip (informed consent agreement) should also be secured from the parent or guardian of each Cub Scout.

Resources Highlight: Web Site: www.scouting.org

Adult leaders, families, and Cub Scouts will find valuable information at the Boy Scouts of America's national Web site. Families will learn about their roles in Cub Scouting, find answers to frequently asked questions, and learn the correct placement of insignia. Leaders can obtain program support and information, including downloadable forms.



The September Pack Meeting

Cooperation

BEFORE THE MEETING

Plan to set up with plenty of time to spare so you can start the meeting on time. Include in your setup tables for den displays. Display Cub Scout handbooks and pack newsletters for any new parents or prospective Cub Scout families to review. Assign a den or several pack leaders to serve as greeters. Pay special attention to new members and visitors to make them feel comfortable and welcome.

GATHERING

Greeters are at the door to welcome Cub Scouts, guests, and families to the pack meeting. Provide name tags, and be sure to present each family with an application form and information, such as your pack newsletter and calendar of pack events for the year. Encourage all adult pack members to complete the Family Talent Survey Sheet. Direct families to the exhibit area.

OPENING

Opening Ceremony

Have a pre-assigned den present the colors and lead the Pledge of Allegiance, or select a different ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*, No. 33212.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

“We thank you for Cub Scouting and all it means to us. We thank you for the fun and the things we learn and the opportunities for helping other people. Teach us to work together in cooperation, understanding, and love.”

Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster welcomes everyone to the September pack meeting. Introduce the current pack leaders with a brief explanation of their roles. Explain the plans for the Cub Scout activities and the pack adults’ meeting.

PROGRAM

Adults’ Meeting

- ▶ Briefly review family responsibilities.
- ▶ Review the pack plans for the year (special activities and projects decided on at the annual pack planning conference).
- ▶ Discuss leadership needs. Discuss plans for the selection of den and pack leaders as needed.
- ▶ Make adults aware of any leadership needed for special pack activities for the year, such as blue and gold chair, popcorn chair, FOS chair, etc.
- ▶ The chartered organization representative briefly discusses how the chartered organization will help the pack.
- ▶ Discuss other pack needs and ways that families can help (budget, dues, uniforms, equipment, etc.).
- ▶ Hold a question-and-answer session.

Cub Scout Activities

During the pack adults’ meeting, engage the Cub Scouts, siblings, and visiting children with some fun activities.

Cooperative Games. Use games that require teamwork and cooperation. Use the games below, or for more ideas, the *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book*, No. 33832, has a whole section on cooperative games.

Game: Helping Partners

Needed: Inflated balloons.

Divide players into pairs and have each pair link arms. Give each team an inflated balloon. On signal, they start batting the balloon towards the finish line. They may not unlink arms during the race. If the balloon falls to the ground, they must stop and pick it up before going on.

Game: The Snail

Needed: Large playing area, large group of players, 50 to 100 feet of clothesline.

The group stands in a line, each person holding the rope in one hand. Starting at one end, the group makes a large coil, like the shell of a snail. After the coiling is complete, the group moves slowly together 15 or 20 feet in one direction and then uncoils.



Joint Meeting

The children return and join the group. Spend the remaining time with regular pack meeting activities.

RECOGNITION

Youth who have earned recognition since your last pack meeting need to be recognized.

Recognize boys who have earned the National Summertime Pack Activity Award by presenting them with pins. Present participation ribbons to the qualifying dens and attach the streamer to the pack flag.

New Cub Scouts may have earned their Bobcat badge. Use the ceremony below or you may choose an alternative from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Ceremony: Cub Scout and Parent's Promise

Personnel: Cubmaster, Bobcat candidates, parents.

Equipment: Bobcat badges and safety pins. The parents' promise typed on a small card for the Cubmaster.

The candidates line up, facing the audience, their parents standing behind them. The Cubmaster leads the ceremony in a loud voice so that all the boys can hear him. Before starting, he asks the Cub Scouts to speak loudly.

The boys give the Cub Scout sign and recite together the Cub Scout Promise and Law of the Pack. Then all the Bobcat parents give the Cub Scout sign and repeat the following, one line at a time, after the Cubmaster:

As a parent of a Cub Scout,
I will do my best
To help my boy
Live up to the Cub Scout Promise
And obey the Law of the Pack.
I will work with my boy
On his achievements and projects.
I will attend the pack meetings
And help as needed
To make the pack go.

The Cubmaster gives each boy the Cub Scout handshake and hands the Bobcat badges to the parents. The parents pin the badges on their sons' shirts.

The boys and their parents are dismissed. The Cubmaster asks the continuing boys and their parents in the audience to stand. He asks the boys to recite together the Cub Scout Promise. He then asks their parents to repeat the following:

We will continue
To do our best
To help our boys
Along the advancement trail
And share with them the work and fun of Cub Scouting.

CLOSING

Announcements

A pack newsletter creates good lines of communication between pack leaders and families. Distribute copies of the newsletter so all pack members have the yearly calendar of activities. Highlight any money-earning projects and Good Turn opportunities. Highlight the date, time, and location of next month's pack meeting.

September



Cubmaster's Minute

Cooperation

Great things can happen when people cooperate for a common goal. You cooperate with your parents. You cooperate with your den leader. You cooperate with your teachers. The result can be a fun time, learning new things and experiencing new adventures. Thank you, Cub Scouts, for your cooperation tonight and always. We had a great time.

Closing Ceremony

Ask boys and parents who want to join the pack but haven't registered to stay after the meeting. Remind parents to turn in their Family Talent Survey Sheets.

Have the designated den retire the colors, or use a ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

AFTER THE MEETING

- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Cleanup



**Core Value:
Responsibility**

Core Value of the Month

Responsibility: Fulfilling our duty to God, country, other people, and ourselves.

Responsibility is fulfilling our duty to help others and take care of ourselves. It is behaving safely and appropriately without having to be told.

Pack Planning Meeting

Pack leaders meet one or two weeks before the pack meeting to finalize plans for October and develop plans for the November pack meeting.

Pack Committee

- ▶ Evaluate last month's pack meeting and ensure that all youth and adult applications have been submitted to the council service center.
- ▶ Check with all den leaders to make certain that advancement reports are completed and turned in.
- ▶ October is Fire Safety Month. Fire departments have developed short programs for Cub Scout-age children. Invite a local fireman to your pack meeting. Be sure to coordinate arrangements to meet the speaker's needs. Remember to recognize and thank your guest.
- ▶ This is an ideal time for a pack uniform inspection. Secure a local firefighter to observe and preside over the inspection. Use the Uniform Inspection Sheet found in the *Cub Scout Leader Book*. Before the pack meeting, be sure all dens have time to prepare.
- ▶ Make certain that all parts of the pack meeting have dens or leaders responsible for them. Remind the setup crew to arrive at the pack meeting early to set up chairs and identify areas for dens to place their displays. Ensure that all the presentation needs of the guest speaker are met.

Cubmaster Corner

Pack Newsletters. Communication is the key to involving Cub Scouts and their families in the pack activities. A monthly newsletter and an annual pack calendar are two of the most important tools in publicizing the pack's excitement and year-round fun. At pack meetings, you can display a poster-size version of the newsletter to keep everyone informed.

- ▶ Sharing information via a newsletter keeps parents informed about what is available for their son, makes it easy for them to set aside dates on the family calendar, and encourages families to plan in advance for meetings and activities.
- ▶ Parents who know what help may be needed throughout the year are more willing to volunteer.
- ▶ Pack newsletters should be updated and distributed at least monthly, and should contain the latest information on pack activities and plans.
- ▶ Having a newsletter and calendar available to new families at recruiting events in the fall and spring provides a jump-start for families.
- ▶ Displaying posters with updated information at each pack meeting provides another level of communication within the pack.
- ▶ For more information and sample templates, go to www.scouting.org/scoutsource/cubscouts/resources/newslettertemplate.aspx.

Looking Ahead

- ▶ Transition into Boy Scouting: This is approaching for fifth-grade Webelos Scouts. The assistant Cubmaster can help Webelos den leaders contact local Boy Scout troops. Consider assigning someone the task of building a cross-over bridge or checking the condition of the pack's existing ceremonial props.

Pack Trainer

- ▶ Make sure all leaders are trained for their current positions.
 - All leaders should begin with Fast Start training for their role, found online at www.scouting.org.
 - Next, each youth-serving leader should take Youth Protection and This Is Scouting (also online).
 - After completing these online trainings, leaders should attend Cub Scout Leader Position-Specific Training.
 - Contact your district training team for dates, times, and locations of training opportunities.



- ▶ Encourage leaders to attend your district roundtable and council pow wow or University of Scouting. Be sure that all completed training courses are accurately recorded at your council service center.
- ▶ Lead Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 13, Policies of the BSA, from the *Cub Scout Leader Book*, to help leaders become aware of Boy Scouts of America policies. Or select a topic that best meets the needs of your pack. Choose a topic for next month.

Pack Program Highlights

Academics and Sports

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a great way to help fulfill the aims of Scouting—building character, developing citizenship, and encouraging mental and physical fitness. This month you might feature these belt loops and pins.

- ▶ **Computers:** Focusing on the personal safety of our Cub Scouts is always important. Pay special attention to Requirement 8, Internet safety rules. Additionally, see the Power Pack Pals publication, *Be Safe on the Internet*.
- ▶ **Golf:** Cub Scouts will enjoy exploring the game of golf, learning the rules and safety concerns. Play a round of golf for the belt loop. With more knowledge and practice, boys can earn the Golf pin.

See the *Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide* for more information.

Outing in Scouting

- ▶ **Cub Scouts.** Fall is a great time to go outdoors. Walk around the block at your meeting place and notice all the landmarks for future reference, or take a hike to collect leaves.
- ▶ **Webelos Scouts.** Plan and conduct your Webelos den overnighter.

Resource Highlight: Fun for the Family

Strengthening families is one of the purposes of Cub Scouting. With this purpose in mind, Cub Scouting endorses family programs and activities that can strengthen families and build character. *Fun for the Family* is Cub Scouting's family activity program. It contains a series of activities and requirements designed to help strengthen families and to develop good character skills among family members. These activities occur through adventure learning experiences.



The October Pack Meeting

Responsibility

BEFORE THE MEETING

Arrive early to set up the meeting area and help Cub Scouts set up their displays. Remember that pack meetings should always start on time.

GATHERING

Greeters welcome families as they arrive and provide each person with a name tag. Direct them to the display area.

Preopening Activity

Give everyone a sheet of paper with the letters FIRE SAFETY written down the left side, and ask them to collect the signatures of persons whose first or last names start with those letters.

OPENING

Opening Ceremony

Pre-assigned den presents the colors. Use the ceremony below, or choose a different opening ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Spirit of Cub Scouting

Room lights are dimmed. The Cubmaster lights a single candle at the front of the room and says, "Cub Scouts, this candle represents the spirit of Cub Scouting, lighting our way through life. But the flame can also represent danger. Make sure it is never allowed to run wild and cause destruction. Let's remember to be careful and wise with fire, not only as boys, but later on as men.

"This light of Cub Scouting gives us warmth and good cheer. We will let the light of Cub Scouting burn throughout our meeting to remind us of our ideals."

Turn on the lights; the color guard presents the colors and leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

"We are thankful for our safety in our home, at school, and as we play. Help us do our best, be responsible every day, and be good Cub Scouts."

Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster welcomes Cub Scouts and families and introduces any special guests. If there are new parents and boys, introduce the current pack leaders with a brief explanation of their roles. Recognize the setup crew, greeters, cleanup crew, and those who brought refreshments for their efforts.

PROGRAM

Guest Presentation

Introduce the guest speaker or speakers you may have at your meeting. If the guest has any connection to Scouting, make sure to highlight it.

Den Demonstrations

Dens help make the pack meeting fun by presenting information from their den meetings. Webelos Scouts will share information about the activity badge they worked on and any outings they took.

Uniform Inspection

Conduct a pack uniform inspection. Remember that the basic rule is neatness.

RECOGNITION

If your speaker is a firefighter in uniform, have him or her help present the recognitions.

Fire Safety Advancement Ceremony

As Cub Scouts we must be aware of being fire safe. Our awareness of safety protects ourselves and those who live, play, and work with us. As we advance in Cub Scouting, our responsibility to be fire safe and to guide others increases.

First we have new Bobcats, _____. Will these boys and their parents come forward? These boys are receiving the Bobcat badge. This award is the beginning of their training in Cub Scouting.



A part of this training is fire safety. The parents will present this Bobcat badge to their sons. Congratulations and welcome to the pack.

Next are Tiger Cubs. Will _____ and their parents come forward? With their families, the Tiger Cubs plan a fire drill and practice it in their homes. Their awards are presented to the boys by their adult partners. Congratulations.

The Wolf Cub Scouts who are receiving awards are _____. Wolf Cub Scouts learn to check their home for danger from fire so everyone in the home will be safe. Their awards are presented to the boys by the parents. Congratulations.

We have several Bear Cub Scouts who earned awards. Will the following Cub Scouts and their parents come forward? _____. Bear Cub Scouts learn what to do when a person's clothing is on fire. The parents will present the Bear badge to their sons. Congratulations.

The Webelos Scouts receiving awards tonight are _____. Will these Webelos Scouts and their parents come forward? The camping experiences include fire safety in the outdoors and learning the Outdoor Code. A part of this code is as follows: "As an American, I will do my best to be careful with fire. I will build my fire in a safe place and be sure it is out before I leave." Following this code can be both land-saving and life-saving, and lead to a worthy Scout and citizen. The Webelos den leader will present the awards to the parents so they can present them to the Webelos Scouts. Congratulations on your success in Scouting.

CLOSING

Announcements

Your pack newsletter should be the primary information source for families.

Pack meeting announcements about upcoming events should be brief and then expanded upon in your pack publication. Remember to mention any upcoming district or council events. If you are also using e-mail to deliver news, remind families to keep you updated on their correct e-mail addresses. Encourage adults who have not completed the Family Talent Survey Sheet to complete it and turn it in at this meeting.

Cubmaster's Minute

Spirit of Cub Scouting

Cub Scouts, all during our meeting the candle representing the spirit of Cub Scouting has continued to burn. Now we'll blow it out, reminding ourselves that a flame must never be left burning when no one is around. But let us keep the light of Cub Scouting burning in our hearts always (*extinguish candle*).

Closing Ceremony

Preselected den retires the colors, or choose a ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

AFTER THE MEETING

- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Cleanup



**Core Value:
Citizenship**

Core Value of the Month

Citizenship: Contributing service and showing responsibility to local, state, and national communities.

Cub Scouts develop good citizenship when they are learning about respecting the flag and providing service to the community.

Pack Planning Meeting

Pack leaders meet one or two weeks before the pack meeting to finalize plans for November and develop plans for the December pack meeting.

Pack Committee

- ▶ Evaluate last month's pack meeting and ensure that all new youth and adult applications have been submitted to the council service center.
- ▶ Check with den leaders to make certain that advancement reports are completed and turned in.
- ▶ Ensure that all parts of the pack meeting have dens or leaders responsible for them. Assign a den to arrive at the pack meeting early to set up chairs and identify areas for dens to place their displays. Encourage family involvement.
- ▶ All special event committees report on the progress of their activities.
- ▶ Discuss plans for a December Good Turn. Contact a local social service agency for information on a family that could use extra help this holiday season.
- ▶ Plan for adult leader recognition by submitting award recommendations to your local training committee. See the *Cub Scout Leader Book* for current requirements.
- ▶ With the blue and gold banquet approaching in February, form the necessary committees and secure a location. Plan now for the type of food service so that families are aware of their responsibilities.

Cubmaster Corner

Integrating Ethics and Values. A major emphasis in Cub Scouting is character development.

- ▶ You should incorporate games and activities that support Cub Scouting's 12 Core Values into each den or pack program. (See the boys' handbooks and *Fun for the Family* for ideas.)
- ▶ The Cubmaster also has opportunities to reinforce the character development of boys through well-chosen Cubmaster's Minutes. These closing thoughts can be tailored to reinforce the core value of the month. Find a life experience that supports the value and present it in a way Cub Scout-age boys can understand.

Pack Trainer

- ▶ Review training opportunities for all leaders as well as any district or council events, including monthly roundtables. Emphasize that training is an ongoing and essential part of Cub Scout leadership.
- ▶ Conduct the Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 3, Character Development, to help leaders understand how Cub Scouting is designed to help boys develop good character traits. Or choose a topic that best meets the needs of your pack. See the *Cub Scout Leader Book* for detailed outlines. Select a topic for next month.

Pack Resource Highlights

Academics and Sports

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a great way to help fulfill the aims of Scouting—building character, developing citizenship, and encouraging mental and physical fitness. This month you might feature these belt loops and pins.

- ▶ **Citizenship:** As citizens of the United States of America, we all have a responsibility to serve our country. Cub Scouts will learn ways to be better citizens while earning the Citizenship belt loop and pin.
- ▶ **Basketball:** Basketball is a great indoor fall activity for Cub Scouts. As they learn to play the game, they can apply their skills to earn the Basketball belt loop and pin.

See the *Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide* for more information.



Veterans Day

Veterans Day is November 11. Reinforce the role veterans have played as participating citizens. The pack may want to honor local veterans by inviting them to the pack meeting. Veterans might help with opening and closing flag ceremonies in their uniforms. They may also give presentations on unique military experiences.

Outing in Scouting

Plan to participate in your local Veterans Day parade.

Resources Highlight: Cub Scout Leader Book

The *Cub Scout Leader Book* is a handbook for all adult leaders in Cub Scouting. Leaders will find information that will help them deliver a quality program for boys. The book is organized into six sections:

- ▶ Cub Scouting Basics
- ▶ The Cub Scouting Program
- ▶ Leaders and Family
- ▶ Administration
- ▶ Cub Scout Activities
- ▶ Appendix



The November Pack Meeting

Citizenship

BEFORE THE MEETING

Plan to set up with plenty of time to spare so you can start the meeting on time. Include in your setup a table for displaying each den's projects.

GATHERING

As families arrive, greeters welcome them and provide them with name tags. Direct Cub Scouts and families to the display area.

Preopening Activity

Cub Scout Promise

Preparation: On strips of paper print the Cub Scout Promise, one line on each strip. Place strips in a container.

I promise to do my best
 To do my duty to God and my country
 To help other people, and
 To obey the Law of the Pack.

As people arrive, have each person pull a strip from the container. Explain that they are to go around the room and assemble the Cub Scout Promise.

OPENING

Opening Ceremony

Have a pre-assigned den present the colors and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Or select a different ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

"As we gather together as a pack family, we are thankful for the beauty of our country and the freedoms we enjoy. Help us do Good Turns in our community and become good citizens."

Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster welcomes everyone to the November pack meeting and leads a cheer for those who participated in the preopening activity. Recognize the setup crew, greeters, cleanup crew, and those who brought refreshments for their efforts.

PROGRAM

Den Demonstrations

Encourage dens to contribute or share games, songs, or information from their den meetings.

Skit

Good Turns

Materials: Cutout of a steering wheel, piece of trash, can of food, stocking cap.

CUB SCOUT 1: (Steers toward Cub Scout 2, picks up a piece of trash and hands the wheel to Cub Scout 2.)

CUB SCOUT 2: Thank you. (Steers toward Cub Scout 3, gives him a can of food, and hands the wheel to him.)

CUB SCOUT 3: Thanks! (Steers toward Cub Scout 4, gives him a stocking cap, and hands the wheel to him.)

CUB SCOUT 4: (*Puts on the cap.*) That's better. Thanks!

CUB SCOUT 5: What's going on here?

CUB SCOUTS 1, 2, 3, and 4: We are doing Good Turns!

RECOGNITION

Use the ceremony below, or use a ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.



Colors of Our Flag

Setting: Table covered with a red, white, and blue tablecloth or tablecloths; five patriotic-type hats containing awards.

CUBMASTER: The red, white, and blue colors of our flag represent special things about our country. In Cub Scouting, we have awards that represent special effort by boys in our pack. Let's see what the first hat holds. *(Proceed through the hats holding awards for Bobcats, Tiger Cubs, Wolf Cub Scouts, Bear Cub Scouts, and Webelos Scouts. Invite each group of boys to come forward with their parents or guardians, review the award requirements, and then present awards. Lead the pack in an applause after each group has received their awards.)*

CLOSING

Announcements

Make a brief announcement about upcoming events for the pack and in the district. Highlight the date, time, and location of next month's pack meeting.

Cubmaster's Minute

Our country's flag is made up of thousands of individual threads and stitches. None of them separately is anything more than a thread or stitch, but put them together and they make a flag. Each tiny thread joins all the others to do its job. Our country is made up of millions of individual people, like you and me. Separately we may not accomplish much, but if we join together, work together, and stick together, we can move the world. As we retire our flag, let's be sure to salute with respect the flag that represents us all.

Closing Ceremony

CUBMASTER: Today, and at most of our pack meetings, we post the U.S. flag when we begin and leave it standing until the meeting is over. Why do we do that? There are two main reasons. First, we honor the flag by including it as part of our meeting. Second, we show that we are under the protection of that flag and all it represents. We honor the flag by saluting it and by pledging our allegiance to it and our country. We can also honor it by displaying it properly and by taking it down and storing it properly. As the boys of den ___ retire the flag, please join me in singing "God Bless America":

Song

God Bless America

God bless America,
Land that I love,
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with a light from above;

From the mountains, to the prairies,
To the oceans white with foam,
God bless America, my home, sweet home.
God bless America, my home, sweet home.

AFTER THE MEETING

- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Cleanup



**Core Value:
Respect**

Core Value of the Month

Respect: Showing regard for the worth of someone or something.

Through interacting with pack families, Cub Scouts will develop appreciation and respect for different families and traditions. Through pack service projects, they will learn to treat the environment with care.

Pack Planning Meeting

Pack leaders meet one or two weeks before the pack meeting to finalize plans for December and develop plans for the January pack meeting.

Pack Committee

- ▶ Check with den leaders to make certain that advancement reports are completed and turned in.
- ▶ Ensure that all parts of the pack meeting are assigned to dens or leaders.
- ▶ Leaders report what their boys will do for den demonstrations.
- ▶ Collecting things for a family in need should be discussed in detail. Make sure that the dens are aware of the ages of any children involved.
- ▶ A potluck refreshment table is a nice way to share during the holidays. Ask each den to bring enough snacks to feed their group. This way there is plenty for everyone.
- ▶ The blue and gold banquet committee reports on the plans for this important event.
- ▶ January is the pinewood derby month. Be sure that the needed committees and volunteers are in place. If any position needs filling, explain that job at the pack meeting and invite pack members to volunteer. Distribute pinewood derby kits to the boys at the pack meeting.

Cubmaster Corner

- ▶ **Many Types of Families:** Cub Scouting is a program for boys. It is also a program for the family. Cubmasters need to be aware that many Cub Scouts do not come from traditional two-parent homes. Some boys live with a single parent, other relatives, guardians, or foster parents. Cub Scouting considers a boy's family to be the people with whom he lives. Everyone will appreciate your being aware of the family makeup of boys in the pack and formulating appropriate ways of parental involvement in recognition ceremonies.
- ▶ In most packs, the Arrow of Light recognition ceremony for Webelos Scouts will occur in two months. Be sure that opportunities are available for these boys to complete specific requirements. Plan a ceremony that is both meaningful and memorable for the Webelos Scouts and their families.

Pack Trainer

- ▶ The pack trainer conducts Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 12, Planning Special Events. The blue and gold banquet is two months from now; preplanning will make for a smooth, successful, and special celebration of the birthday of Cub Scouting. You may also choose a different topic that better suits the current needs of your pack. See the *Cub Scout Leader Book* for detailed outlines. Select a topic for next month.

Program Highlights

Academics and Sports

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a great way to help fulfill the aims of Scouting—building character, developing citizenship, and encouraging mental and physical fitness. This month you might feature these belt loops and pins.

- ▶ **Good Manners:** Cub Scouts will learn to be polite and respectful, write a thank-you note to someone who has given them something or done something nice for them, and know how to introduce two people correctly and politely.
- ▶ **Ice Skating:** Ice Skating is a great winter activity for Cub Scouts. As they learn to ice skate, they can apply their skills to earn the Ice Skating belt loop and pin.

See the *Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide* for more information.



Outing in Scouting

- ▶ **Cub Scouts.** Visit an outdoor holiday display. Go ice skating or roller skating.
- ▶ **Webeles Scouts.** Take a day hike. Be sure to gauge the weather carefully and take layers of clothing as needed.

Resource Highlight: *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book*

Used with the *Cub Scout Leader Book*, this book will enable you to plan den and pack programs that will be fun for everyone. And while boys are having fun, they will be learning, advancing in rank, and strengthening relationships with one another.



The December Pack Meeting

Respect

BEFORE THE MEETING

- ▶ Plan to set up with plenty of time to spare so you can start the meeting on time. Set aside display areas for dens to share their activities with all families.
- ▶ If collecting items for a Good Turn project, set up a special area for families to drop off items.
- ▶ Set up the refreshment table away from the regular meeting area.

GATHERING

Greeters welcome the Cub Scout families and show them where to place their contributions. Direct families to the refreshment table where they can leave their snacks.

Preopening Activity

Holiday Handshake

As families arrive, give each person five holiday- or season-related stickers. Invite them to walk around the room and introduce themselves to five other people, shaking hands, and presenting each person with a sticker, who may then stick it on his or her shirt. Encourage them to meet pack families they do not know well.

OPENING

Opening Ceremony

Have a pre-assigned den present the colors and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Or select a different ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

“During this holiday season and every day of the new year, please help us remember to have respect for others and to do our Good Turn daily with a joyful heart.”

Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster welcomes all Cub Scouts and families, and introduces any special guests. The Cubmaster might have an extra large jingle bell and ring it as he or she draws the attention of the boys.

PROGRAM

Den Demonstrations

Dens are invited to share information about their activities this month. Dens may share songs, perform a skit, show den projects completed, or share information from their trips in the community or Good Turns.

Game

Carrying Goodwill Relay

Materials: Three gift-wrapped boxes, similar in size, per team.





Divide participants into teams. Pair up the players within each team and station them about 10 feet apart. On signal the first pair carries the three boxes with two hands, each boy using one hand as shown. The object is to carry the gifts to the next pair without dropping them. If they drop the gifts, they must stop and pick them up before going on. Cheer for all players for their efforts.

RECOGNITION

Use the ceremony below or use a ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Snowflake Ceremony

Materials: A large cut-out snowflake, awards attached to small snowflake cutouts.

CUBMASTER: (*Holding the large snowflake*) This giant snowflake is a symbol of the wonder of the winter season. No two snowflakes are alike, and each is one of the most beautiful objects formed by nature. In the same way, every Cub Scout is a unique wonder, learning and progressing through life in his own way. Tonight, we have Cub Scouts who are creating their own singular designs in life by traveling further along the Cub Scout trail. (*Call forward the Cub Scouts and their parents or guardians. Present awards.*) Congratulations!

CLOSING

Announcements

Encourage all boys to continue with their advancement. Announce the date and time of next month's pack meeting.

Distribute pinewood derby kits to the boys.

Cubmaster's Minute

Like snowflakes, we are all different and unique. We must show respect for our fellow man. Respect for his beliefs, respect for his belongings, respect for his privacy, and respect for the ground he walks on and the air he breathes. In so doing, we show respect for ourselves and secure freedom for all.

Closing Ceremony

Holiday Candles

Setup: Turn off the room lights; each denner holds a single candle.

CUBMASTER: This is the season of lights. It is the time when the days are shorter and the nights are longer. But somehow the world seems brighter. Thousands of homes burn candles to light the way for the Christ child. Thousands more have candles burning to commemorate the miracle of Hanukkah. Thousands will be lighting the candles to symbolize the seven principles of Kwanzaa. Even the stars in the winter sky seem brighter. But the most brilliant glow comes from the spirit of goodwill that you live all year through the Cub Scout Promise and the Law of the Pack.

AFTER THE MEETING

- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Cleanup