



BALOO'S BUGLE



Volume 14, Number 4

"Make no small plans. They have no magic to stir men's blood and probably will not themselves be realized." D. Burnham
November 2007 Cub Scout Roundtable December 2007 Cub Scout Theme

CELEBRATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

Tiger Cub Achievement 2

Webelos Craftsman & Scientist

FOCUS

Cub Scout Roundtable Leaders' Guide

December is marked by days of celebration and observance for many cultures and faiths around the world. Cub Scouts and their families will have the opportunity to find out how celebrations in other cultures are similar and different than their own. Cub Scouts can work on the heritages Belt Loop and Pin. This is also a great time for a Pack or Den Service Project.

CORE VALUES

Cub Scout Roundtable Leaders' Guide

Some of the purposes of Cub Scouting developed through this month's theme are:

- ✓ **Spiritual Growth**, Cub Scouts will study the holiday celebrations of many lands and faiths.
- ✓ **Friendly Service**, The Pack and the Dens will have the opportunity to complete a service project this month.
- ✓ **Respectful relationships**, Cub Scouts will learn to be respectful of the heritage and beliefs of others.

The core value highlighted this month is:

- ✓ **Faith**, Through studying the holiday celebrations of other cultures and faiths, Cub Scouts can learn that Duty to God has many options.

Can you think of others??? Hint – look in your **Cub Scout Program Helps**. It lists different ones!! All the items on both lists are applicable!! You could probably list all twelve if you thought about it!!

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

It's been a long month, I am Cubmaster again after a two year break. Doing Pack Meetings and helping at Den Meetings. Pow Wow is coming along, too (See Southern NJ under Pow Wow Extravaganzas). The flyer is on the council web site of you are not doing anything on January 19, 2008! My roundtable attendance appears to be back on an upswing. My daughter is excited about her Physical Therapy placements – Klackamas, OR (by my cousin that raises Hanoverian horses) and PA near her Aunt in Levittown. My son is still teaching Physics in Jersey City, NJ and playing his Bass. My wife enjoys her work and is the Pack Committee Chair (She told me she signed me up for CM!)

Check the Calendar!

Alice, Golden Empire Council

December is packed with Celebrations from all over the globe. Here's a list, day by day, drawn in part from a familiar website that shows religious holidays that effect scouting programs. Take a look before you make 2008 plans, to avoid conflicts:

www.scouting.org/relationships/05-204/index.html

Information is also from other resources, including:

<http://www.kidlink.org/KIDPROJ/MCC/calendar-index.html> - children from all over the world describe how they celebrate – fascinating!

Months with similar themes to Celebrations Around the World

Dave D. in Illinois

Month Name	Year	Theme
December	1973	Customs of Countries
December	1979	Customs of Other Lands
December	1989	Customs of Countries
December	1994	Customs of Other Lands
December	1998	Let's Celebrate
December	2000	What do You do at Holiday Time?

If you are looking for more December Holiday (Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanzaa) ideas for your Den, just check any December back issue of Baloo. CD



National makes a patch for every Cub Scout Monthly theme.

This is the one for this theme. Check them out at www.scoutstuff.org go to patches and look for 2007 Cub Scout Monthly Theme Emblems.

Important Dates*Baltimore Area Council*

7th	Pearl Harbor Day (fly flag at half staff)
7th	Hanukkah begins at sundown
22nd	First day of Winter (1:08 a.m. EST)
24th	Mars makes its closest approach to the Earth
25th	Christmas Day (fly flag)
26th	Kwanzaa Begins
28th	<i>Broad Creek Scout Camp Jingle Bell Beaver Day</i> (<i>Maybe this is an idea we could all copy for our camps!</i>)
31st	New Year's Eve

THOUGHTFUL ITEMS FOR SCOUTERS

Thanks to Scouter Jim from Bountiful, Utah, who prepares this section of Baloo for us each month. You can reach him at bobwhitejonz@juno.com or through the link to write Baloo on www.usscouts.org. CD

Roundtable Prayer*CS Roundtable Planning Guide*

There are 2 in the RT Planning Guide this month –

As we approach this holiday season, open our hearts and minds to allow us to learn about the celebrations of other lands and faiths and to appreciate the similarities and differences in many cultures.

Dear God, bless all Cub Scouts and their families around the world. Help us remember that we are working together to make the world a better place. Amen.

**Symbols We Use**

Scouter Jim, Bountiful, UT

In Scouting we have some clearly recognized symbols. We are joined in a world brotherhood of Scouting by the fleur-de-lis. As members of the Boy Scouts of America, we are joined by the fleur-de-lis as the background for an American eagle symbol. As members of the Cub Scout Program we are joined by the yellow diamond with the face of a wolf above the words, CUB SCOUTS and the fleur-de-lis. The following written by Elizabeth Yarbly and is taken from a Utah State University web-site about winter celebrations. The link is given here.

<http://teacherlink.ed.usu.edu/tlresources/units/Byrnes-celebrations/Symbolswinter.html>

A symbol is anything that conveys information or stands for an object or idea. Symbols are a necessary part of the human experience. Whether in the form of illustrations, letter symbols, gestures, or spoken words, symbols are the basis for almost all communication.

Symbols play an important part of our understanding and learning about human history many years ago. Just as we need symbols today to communicate, the ancient people living on the earth needed symbols to communicate also. Some people only used drawings, such as the Native .

Each country of the world has a flag as a symbol of their country. In the United States, the stars on the flag are a symbol representing the fifty states. A symbol only exists as long as the people give it meaning. A symbol can be very powerful, but can also lose meaning if the people dishonor or ignore it.

Another way we use symbols are in celebrations. Symbols used in celebrations often convey the beliefs of an individual or group. Celebration symbols also reflect what is important to an individual or group. Some symbols can have different meanings to different groups. For example, the Christmas tree is a symbol of peace and Christ to people in England, but it was a symbol of eternal life to the Romans because of the evergreen branches.

Winter is a season that has many celebrations and symbols for many people. One of the most well known symbols in winter celebrations is the "gift givers". Santa Claus is the most widely known American gift giver for celebrating Christmas. However, before the gift givers were developed, gifts were exchanged at the winter solstice festivals to celebrate the new season. These winter celebrations included gifts of holly, ivy, and mistletoe as gifts of peace. The gift givers are unique to different people in different countries. The German goddess Hertha took gifts of good fortune and health to her people. The Romans (those who were rich) gave gifts of holly and laurel to the poor. Jewish people celebrated in the winter with gifts for each day of Chanukah. The three kings (or wise men) gave gifts to the baby Jesus. Many Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus today by giving gifts (symbolic of the wise men giving gifts to Jesus). St. Nicholas was an actual person who lived in the fourth century who was known for his kindness and love of children. From then on, anyone receiving an unexpected gift said that St. Nicholas had done it. St. Nicholas is known in many countries. Svaty Miklaus is the Czechoslovakian gift giver who is let down from heaven by means of a golden cord held by angels. In Italy, Befana is a gift giver who searches the world over every Epiphany Eve (a celebration held in winter), leaving gifts and candy in the shoes of sleeping children just in case one of them is the baby Jesus who she did not see when she had the chance to go to Bethlehem with the wise men. The Russian version of the Italian Befana is an old woman named Baboushka.

There are other winter celebration symbols that are meaningful to different people. The star symbolizes the star in the east that led the wise men to find the baby Jesus. The yule log symbol came from Scandinavia who burned a log in honor of their god Thor. The Christians adopted this tradition and considered it to be good luck to keep a piece of

the log in the house. Mistletoe was first used as a part of winter solstice celebrations. The Norse believed that if enemies met underneath it, they declared a truce for the day. This may be where the tradition of kissing beneath the mistletoe came from.

As we teach our Cub Scouts about Celebrations Around the World, let's help them to understand and respect the symbols of other cultures and well as honor and respect the symbols of Scouting and our nation.

Quotations

Quotations contain the wisdom of the ages, and are a great source of inspiration for Cubmaster's minutes, material for an advancement ceremony or an insightful addition to a Pack Meeting program cover

Symbols are the imaginative signposts of life. [Margot Asquith](#)

The endangered species list has grown this year to include both religious and secular symbols cherished by Americans including the nativity, Santa Claus, Christmas trees, candy canes, and Christmas carols. [John Doolittle](#)

The soul... may have many symbols with which it reaches toward God. [Anya Seton](#)

Celebrate the happiness that friends are always giving, make every day a holiday and celebrate just living! [Amanda Bradley](#)

Celebrate what you want to see more of. [Thomas J. Peters](#)
Share our similarities, celebrate our differences. [M. Scott Peck](#)

Stop worrying about the potholes in the road and celebrate the journey! [Barbara Hoffman](#)

Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful. [Norman Vincent Peale](#)

He who has not Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree. [Roy L. Smith](#)

Christmas, children, is not a date. It is a state of mind. [Mary Ellen Chase](#)

The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other. [Burton Hillis](#)

There has been only one Christmas - the rest are anniversaries. [W.J. Cameron](#)

May Peace be your gift at Christmas and your blessing all year through! [Author Unknown](#)

Christmas is the season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall, the genial flame of charity in the heart. [Washington Irving](#)

It is Christmas in the heart that puts Christmas in the air. [W.T. Ellis](#)

Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love! [Hamilton Wright Mabie](#)

Christmas is forever, not for just one day,
for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away
like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf.

The good you do for others is good you do yourself.
[Norman W. Brooks](#), "Let Every Day Be Christmas"

In the old days, it was not called the Holiday Season; the Christians called it 'Christmas' and went to church; the Jews called it 'Hanukkah' and went to synagogue; the atheists went to parties and drank. People passing each other on the street would say 'Merry Christmas!' or 'Happy Hanukkah!' or (to the atheists) 'Look out for the wall!' [Dave Barry](#), "Christmas Shopping: A Survivor's Guide"

Remember
This December,
That love weighs more than gold!
[Josephine Dodge Daskam Bacon](#)

Only in souls the Christ is brought to birth, And there He lives and dies. [Alfred Noyes](#)

When we were children we were grateful to those who filled our stockings at Christmas time. Why are we not grateful to God for filling our stockings with legs? [G.K. Chesterton](#)

May the spirit of Christmas bring you peace,
The gladness of Christmas give you hope,
The warmth of Christmas grant you love.
[Author Unknown](#)

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old, familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet
The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!
[Henry Wadsworth Longfellow](#)

Oh! lovely voices of the sky
Which hymned the Saviour's birth,
Are ye not singing still on high,
Ye that sang, "Peace on earth"?
[Felicia Hemans](#)

Christmas is for Children

*Unknown
Baloo's Archives*

Christmas is for children, at least that's what they say,
It's time of wide-eyed wonder, a magic holiday
When candy canes and gingerbread fill tummies with delight
And little sleepyheads try hard to stay up through the night.
Yes, Christmas is for children, anyone will tell you so.
The twinkling, colored lights on trees,
make youngsters' eyes just glow!
Each package and each stocking,
is approached with childish joy
And toys bring squeals of laughter ,
from each eager girl and boy.
Yes, Christmas is for children, all they say is true.
How wonderful that at Christmas time,
grownups are children, too!

TRAINING TIP

Visiting a Scout Troop

Bill Smith, the Roundtable Guy

Visiting a Scout Troop

To earn the Arrow of Light, a Webelos Scout must visit a Boy Scout troop meeting and outdoor activity with his den.

He will be making an important decision in his life: the choice: whether or not to join Boy Scouts and, if so, which troop. As he matures, he will be faced with many other important decisions, and this is a good place to start developing his decision-making skills. Judgment is an attribute of mental fitness - part of the aims of the Boy Scouts of America.

Cubmasters, Webelos leaders and parents should be prepared to help him and coach him. Get a list of nearby troops and Scoutmasters from your Commissioner or District Executive. If any families have special needs like a particular religious affiliation, there may be troops nearby that fit those needs.

Call the Scoutmaster and arrange times for your den to visit both a troop meeting and an outdoor activity. Many Webelos Scouts visit more than one troop. There is no requirement that a boy must join a particular troop. It is his choice so try to give him a reasonable selection to choose from.

Prepare both the boys and their parents for what they will see. Invite troop leaders and older Boy Scouts to visit your den or pack meeting to talk about Boy Scout activities. By now the Webelos Scouts are quite familiar with the Scout Oath, Law and Motto and should be able to relate them to what they hear and see.

After the visits to the troop meetings, hold a [reflection session](#) with the boys about what they saw, what they did and how they felt. There is a good write-up on reflection in Chapter 11 of the How-To Book. Use it for both den meetings and your individual discussions in the Arrow of Light requirements.

The Boy Scout Motto is Be Prepared, so your Webelos and their parents should prepare themselves to make those important visits to neighboring troops.

Boys probably want to look for:

- **A Scout is Friendly** – Will he have friends in the troop? Being alone isn't fun. On the other hand, if the Scouts – especially the older ones – are genuinely friendly, it can be a great experience for him.
- **Participation – A Scout is courteous.** He should be invited – even urged – to be part of the program and part of the team. Sitting on the sidelines and just watching is not good.
- **Safe Haven – A Scout is Kind.** He should feel welcome and safe. Intimidation or hazing is a definite turn-off. Never push a boy into a troop where he feels unwelcome, unwanted or prey.
- **Order** – Webelos are often more comfortable in a structured environment. The activities should seem to be planned and under control.

- **Fun and Adventure. Scouting is a game with a purpose.** Camping rules! It should not look or feel like school.

Parents and leaders should probably be aware of:

- **Safety – Are the Leaders trained?** How many have attended Youth Protection training? How large and how involved is the troop committee?
- **Boy Leadership.** Activities should be led by boys. Adults should observe from the sidelines. At any meeting, several boys should take on leadership roles. Do not be alarmed if a boy has trouble trying to lead – it's a learned skill. How do the adults handle this? Is this what you want for your boys as they grow to take on leadership roles?
- **Adult Guidance** – How do the adults work with boys. Ask them about priorities, Junior Leader Training, and program planning. Look for indications that the Scout Law, Oath and Motto get more than occasional lip service.
- **Cost** – You should know, up front, how much this will cost you in dollars and time.

Boy Leadership

One of the most obvious differences you might notice when visiting a troop is that, in Boy Scouts, boys are totally in charge: they are out front leading all the activities while the adult leaders are off to the side apparently doing very little. At least, that is the way it should be and that is the way most really successful troops operate.

Now leadership is a learned skill. Pushing a boy out in front of a troop and telling him to lead is sort of akin to pushing a non swimmer into the deep end of a pool and ordering him to swim.

Probably won't work in either case.

Acquiring a skill usually takes some demonstrations of how to do it, then practice, practice, practice. Troop meetings are the arenas where the Patrol Leaders and Senior Patrol Leaders practice this craft. Just as in learning other skills like swimming, playing the violin or hitting curve balls, these practice sessions are rarely without flaws. Most good troop meetings run on the very edge of chaos. This doesn't mean that the practice sessions are not successful. There must be ample opportunity for boys with different levels of experience and skill levels to get in there and try leading. The adult leaders' job is to observe and coach each Scout to improve.

Remember our aim is not to have perfectly run troop meetings but to provide an environment where boys grow into responsible, effective men.

Other Things to Look For in a Troop:

- The Patrol Method – where patrols work independently under their own leadership. You should easily identify patrols.
- Program for the meeting – is it planned, are the SPL and the PL's following the program? The meeting should progress in some orderly manner with different Scouts having responsibilities.

- Uniforms—especially on the older boys (they set the example.) Is there pride in their appearance and their conduct?
- Boys' attitude towards Scouting, each other, visitors. Is the Scout Law in use there? Just repeating the Law at the opening is not enough – it should be evident in their actions.
- Boy – Adult relationship. Boys should lead, adults should observe, coach and support.
- Other parents participating in the program. Is there an active Troop Committee and Merit Badge Counselors?
- Advancement: Look for rank advancement. Are there Boards of Review and signs of mentoring?
- Is there an active outdoor program? Check for an activity schedule. Is some part of the meeting devoted to preparation for an out door activity?

Questions to Ask:

- What are the Troop's Long Range plan?
- Summer camp plans?
- Fund raising program?
- Troops Junior Leaders trained? (Council JLT and/or troop JLT?)
- Troops Adult Leaders trained? (Boy Scout Leader Basic and/or Wood Badge?)
- New boy patrol or spread new boys among patrols?
- Joining fees?
- Minimum equipment to join?
- Any camping equipment for loan?
- Published by-laws?
- Opportunities for parents to participate?

Links:

- [A Year-Round Guide to Boy Scout Recruiting](#) National's suggested time-lines for Webelos transition.
- [Tips On Finding A Boy Scout Troop](#) , Troop 135 Franklin, TN has a great program and offers good advice for Webelos. Check their photos.
- [Troop 33 DeKalb, IL](#) An outstanding troop that specializes in adventure and service to others. SM Cliff Golden is one of the saner voices on the Scouts_L forum.
- [Picking A Boy Scout Troop](#) an Atlanta Commissioner website with some good thoughts on picking a troop.

Some links to thoughts about the Patrol Method:

- [The Boy Scout Patrol Method](#), Westchester-Putnam Council.
- [Patrol Leader Training](#), Inquiry.net. Excerpts from Green-Bar Bill Hillcourt's writings.
- [Aids to Scoutmastership](#), Baden Powell.
- [Patrol Leader](#), National BSA. Description of patrols and leadership.
- [Creating the Patrol Method](#), White Stag, A web site devoted to a classic Scouting program.

- ✓ **Also, be sure to visit Bill's website**
<http://www.wtsmith.com/rt>
to finds more ideas on everything Cub Scouting.

**Have any [Comments for Bill](#)
just click right here!**

PACK ADMIN HELPS

Understanding Boys

Viking Council

To a boy, Scouting is a game, a magnificent game, full of play and full of laughter, keeping him busy, keeping him happy. A boy becomes a Cub Scout for the sheer fun there is in it. The action in Scouting appeals to the boy's impulse to do something.

The basic principle in Scouting is "learning by doing". There is nothing negative in it. There are no "don'ts." Scouting doesn't say "Don't rob a bird's nest", but instead, "find out about birds." It doesn't say, "Don't cut down trees," but instead, "Help save the trees." That is talking boy language, stimulating, not prohibiting.

Boys like the adventure of Scouting. They like the adventure of tackling a job, alone or with a den. There is adventure in doing a good turn. A boy finds companionship and fellowship in the den. There is always present the urge to achieve, a higher rank looms ahead, there is no distinction to be gained.

Boys are alike in many ways. They are part human, part angel, and part barbarian. They want everything except soap and work. They take the knocks of the world, stomachaches, injured toes and fingers, broken bones, and black eyes. But at the same time, they absorb the good of the world. And in a few short years, when they become men, they cast aside their boyish ways to battle against the stern reality of life, and generally make good, participating citizens.

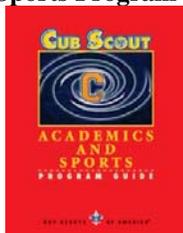
Even though all boys are alike in some ways, each one is an individual and should be treated as such. Balance is the thing. Knowing where to draw the line is the thing. For out of it all, a boy must learn that sometimes he must assert himself, and sometimes he must give in for the welfare of his fellow Cub Scouts.

Boys will be boys, no matter where you find them. They play, run away, love to be outdoors, and do a host of things that are generally looked upon by their parents and leaders as a foolish waste of time. Boys all have the same creed, to enjoy every second of every minute of every hour of every day. A boy is like a puff of wind because he comes at the most unexpected time, hits in the most unexpected places, and leaves everything a wreck behind. He has an impelling desire to exercise on all occasions; he pulls the cat's tail; he tangles Sis' curls; he shoots paper wads in Sunday School; and he possesses a perpetual appetite. He has a dirty face, uncombed hair, and is ragged regardless of which side of the tract he lives on. But the time comes when he becomes a loyal and true citizen of his country. He lives his own life, makes up his own mind as to truth and honesty and best interest of others. God Bless Him!

Character in a boy is a slow growing thing. Every day of his life, everything he sees and does forms a small piece of his character. Give him the right and opportunity to be proud of himself. Teach him the value of helping other people. A Cub Leader can help boys in some ways that no one else, not even their parents can. Help them to learn to stand on their own two feet and be men you can be proud of, and what's more important, men they can be proud of.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY

The vignette (You know that thing on page 1 labeled FOCUS), suggests the Cub can earn the Heritage Belt Loop and Pin. These were featured in Baloo's Bugle in July of this year so I did not repeat them. You can check out the July 2007 issue, look up the requirements on www.ussscouts.org or get a hold of the Cub Scouts Academics and Sports Program Guide (#34299B)



and besides Christmas (and Hanukkah and all the other winter holidays) provide a perfect time for families to work on -

The BSA Family Program

Adapted from *Great Salt Lake Council Pow Wow Book*, Pack 263, Boulder Creek, CA

(<http://www.geocities.com/pack623/index.htm>),

Pack 215's *Virtual Cub Leader's Handbook*

(<http://www.geocities.com/~pack215/home.html>) and

Pack 172, Westfield, NJ,

(<http://www.westfieldnj.com/pack172/index.htm>).



The BSA Family program is a series of activities designed to help strengthen all families - whether two-parent, single parent, or nontraditional. All family members are encouraged to participate and may earn the BSA Family Award. The BSA Family Activity Book is the primary resource for the program. It is filled with suggested activities to enhance the children's personal development and enrich and strengthen the family.

The BSA Family Activity Book is divided into the following five sections and is a great resource!

1. Learning Through Fun and Adventure (family fun, make-believe, talents, patriotism)
2. Strengthening Family Relationships (mealtime, traditions, siblings, love, communication)
3. Developing Character (duty to God, self esteem, success, trust, giving, differences)

4. Teaching Responsibility (responsibility, being prepared, planning, organizing, money)
5. Handling Difficult Situations (obstacles, moving, illness, loss of loved ones)

Families are the basis of society. In the family, children learn about love, values, and social interactions while they prepare for today's world. The family is vital to the future of our community and our nation.

The Boy Scouts of America has a great interest in the strength of the family. Scouting's aim is to develop boys, young men, and women into participating citizens of good character who are physically, spiritually, and mentally fit.

The organization recognizes that it is the responsibility of parents and family to teach their children. However, Scouting is an available resource that can help today's families accomplish worthy goals while building and strengthening relationships among family members.

The purposes of the BSA Family program are twofold:

- 1) To strengthen families, and
- 2) To encourage family involvement in Scouting.

In much the same way that Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts use their handbooks to earn their badges and awards, the family uses the BSA Family Activity Book to earn the BSA Family Award.

BSA Family Award Requirements

To earn the Boy Scouts of America Family Award, a family will complete, within a 12-month period, requirements 1 and 2 plus three more of the remaining requirements.

As a family:

Decide how many times each month you will meet to achieve the Boy Scouts of America Family Award. Make a commitment.

Improve skills discussed in six or more of the 14 Family Talk areas.

Plan and participate in one or more family outings.

Start one new family tradition.

Do a "Good Turn" for an individual, a group, or your community (elderly, needy, handicapped, nursing home, charitable fund-raisers, cleanup days, etc.)

Attend religious services of your choice at least monthly.

Attend or participate in at least two Scouting activities or functions (Scouting shows, pinewood derby, Scouting banquets, flag-raising ceremonies, etc.).

Identify your local BSA council and neighborhood Cub Scout pack.

Ideally, the award will be presented to the family in pack meeting. If this is not possible, it may be presented by a member of the pack committee in an appropriate setting mutually agreed upon. If these options are not possible, the award may be mailed to the family

Boys' Life Reading Contest
Enter the 20th Boys' Life Reading Contest Now!



Write a one-page report titled "The Best Book I Read This Year" and enter it in the Boys' Life 2007 "Say Yes to Reading!" contest.

The book can be fiction or nonfiction. But the report has to be in your own words—500 words tops. Enter in one of these three age categories: 8 years old and younger, 9 and 10 years old, or 11 years and older.

First-place winners in each age category will receive a \$100 gift certificate good for any product in the Boy Scouts Official Retail Catalog. Second-place will receive a \$75 gift certificate, and third-place a \$50 certificate.

Everyone who enters will get a free patch like the one above. (The patch is a temporary insignia, so it can be worn on the Boy Scout uniform shirt. Proudly display it there or anywhere!) In coming years, you'll have the opportunity to earn the other patches.

The contest is open to all Boys' Life readers. Be sure to include your name, address, age and grade on the entry. Send your report, along with a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope, to:

Boys' Life Reading Contest, S306
 P.O. Box 152079
 Irving, TX 75015-2079

For more details go to www.boyslife.org

Entries must be postmarked by Dec. 31, 2007

Knot of the Month
District Award of Merit

Kommissioner Karl



The District Award of Merit is awarded by a District to volunteer and professional adults for service to youth in the District or Division. Normally, the award is presented for service in excess of five years. Candidates for this award must be nominated (Self-nomination disqualifies the candidate). Guidelines are:

A nominee must be a registered Scouter; rendered noteworthy service to youth in Scouting, outside of Scouting, or both (Note: This may consist of a single plan or decisions that contributed vitally to the lives of large numbers of youth or it may have affected a small group over an extended period of time, and should be beyond the expectations of that Scouting position. The nominee's attitude toward and cooperation with the district, division, and/or council is to be taken into consideration as well. Each district in the BSA sets their own calendar for when nominations are due and where the presentations are made. So if you know someone deserving of this award, check with

your Unit Commissioner to find out when and how to make a nomination. **Many districts will be seeking nominations the beginning of 2008, so start thinking about who you would like to see receive this honor!**

A good friend of mine who "Scoutmastered" the first Wood Badge course of which I had the privilege of serving on staff, NE-IV-80, once said, "When you look at the District Award of Merit, you see it is only half a knot. It is not a square knot like almost all the other awards. It is an overhand knot, the first step in creating a square knot. The reason for this is, those who receive this award are not done, they are just beginning to serve Scouts and therefore, the knot is not complete as more service is still expected." He told me he made this up off the cuff, but I still use it when involved in presenting this award. CD

GATHERING ACTIVITIES

Note on Word Searches, Word Games, Mazes and such – In order to make these items fit in the two column format of Baloo's Bugle they are shrunk to a width of about 3 inches. Your Cubs probably need bigger pictures. You can get these by copying and pasting the picture from the Word version or clipping the picture in the Adobe (.pdf) version and then enlarging to page width. CD

Celebrations Around The World Word Search
Trapper Trails

P R E S E N T S C R B R H S L
 W R E T P Y E O V A E O A D E
 C Z A E A V A C X B L H K N O
 S L A M O R E D M L L A U E N
 R C Z L A C B E I T S T N I K
 E T O N I D C E R L O S A R W
 M B C V G E A A L K O U H F R
 K K R I D R D N W E I H C M Z
 W E L U Y I B A E C C Y M J G
 S O R X T L N G F X X Q S M D
 M O N I P Z Z H I F A M I L Y
 U U O S A S E I D O O G I Z G
 K N S A M T S I R H C V S F X
 S E M I N B M K O B O A G K H
 W B P L C O P C W S E P X K F

BELLS	CELEBRATE	CHANUKAH
CHRISTMAS	DECEMBER	FAMILY
FRIENDS	GOODIES	HOLIDAY
KWANZAA	LOVE	MUSIC
NOEL	PEACE	PRESENTS
RAMADAN	ROHATSU	SERVICE
SNOW	TRADITIONS	YULE

Holiday Word Searches

Alice, Golden Empire Council

If you go to <http://www.kaboose.com/> you can find word searches (and craft ideas) for all the December holidays – <http://holidays.kaboose.com/kwanzaa/> <http://holidays.kaboose.com/christmas/> <http://holidays.kaboose.com/chanukah/> <http://holidays.kaboose.com/ramadan/> and more!!!

(Sorry, I cannot print them here because of copyright restrictions CD)

How Many?

Baloo's Archives

Fill a clear container filled with red, green and white jellybeans, holiday M&Ms, counting as you fill. Everyone makes a guess on a slip a paper (be sure they include their first and last name) as to how many treats are in the jar. The winner gets the container & candy.

Scouting Around the World Word Search

Baltimore Area Council

Here is a list of some of the countries around the world in which Scouting is found. Circle the countries in the puzzle below. You may go across, up and down, diagonally or backwards.

T	E	C	A	N	A	D	A	U	M	D	T	I	K	R
M	E	X	I	C	O	R	U	T	K	L	O	O	R	M
U	F	E	G	I	C	O	S	T	A	R	I	C	A	E
N	I	K	U	W	A	I	T	B	B	R	G	M	M	A
I	N	G	R	E	T	P	R	G	E	R	M	A	N	Y
T	L	O	N	M	Y	E	A	T	N	O	O	N	E	L
E	A	D	O	G	B	E	L	G	I	U	M	E	D	U
D	N	N	E	D	G	R	I	F	N	T	A	T	U	X
K	D	A	T	H	F	R	A	N	C	E	N	H	F	E
I	L	L	J	A	P	A	N	G	O	R	T	E	U	M
N	W	A	M	I	N	O	L	U	R	I	A	R	R	B
G	A	E	O	T	I	N	R	V	T	N	Q	L	T	O
D	O	Z	T	I	C	E	L	A	N	D	O	A	V	U
O	M	W	H	U	P	R	L	N	S	I	T	N	P	R
M	F	E	A	W	S	Y	P	O	P	A	E	D	A	G
P	U	N	I	T	E	D	S	T	A	T	E	S	N	S
C	O	R	L	D	B	R	A	Z	I	L	N	O	A	R
R	E	S	A	S	W	E	D	E	N	R	K	T	M	M
R	T	O	N	V	D	U	P	O	R	T	U	G	A	L

- | | | |
|-------------|----------------|--------------|
| AUSTRALIA | HAITI | BELGIUM |
| OMAN | ICELAND | PANAMA |
| COSTA RICA | BENIN | PORTUGAL |
| PERU | THAILAND | ITALY |
| CANADA | KUWAIT | SOUTH AFRICA |
| INDIA | LUXEMBOURG | JAPAN |
| DENMARK | SPAIN | SWEDEN |
| EGYPT | UNITED STATES | MEXICO |
| NETHERLANDS | FINLAND | GERMANY |
| FRANCE | BRAZIL | NEW ZEALAND |
| | UNITED KINGDOM | |

Gingerbread Person Photo Shoot

Baloo's Archives

Get a refrigerator or wardrobe box. Decorate the front with a gingerbread man. Cut a hole in the front of box so cubs can show their faces while having their picture taken.

Santa's Bag

Trapper Trails Council

Number ten brown paper bags from one to ten. Put a familiar Christmas - related article in each bag and staple shut. Each boy is given a pencil and paper on which he lists numbers one through ten. He tries to guess what is in each bag by feeling through the paper, and records on his paper his guess. Boy with greatest number of correct answers is winner.

Santa Maze

Baltimore Area Council

This has a suggested time limit of 4 minutes. Start at the "in" arrow at Santa's boot and exit at the "out" on his pack.



OPENING CEREMONIES

The first three Openings (or Closings, your choice) are similar. You could probably even combine them and choose the countries you want to use. Have fun, experiment. All of these were written by volunteers for volunteers. If it was not for their creativity we would not have anything. Let's not grow stagnant, continue to make up new ceremonies and such. (Enough Soapbox) CD

Christmas Around the World*Baltimore Area Council*

Each Cub Scout holds an article representing the country, he has chosen, while he reads or recites the lines. Or instead, have each boy hold a cardboard cutout of the country he represents, with the words written on the back of the cutout for easy reading. Boys can be in uniform or in costumes for countries.

Cub # 1: Ireland – The building of a grotto for the Nativity scene is a family project in Ireland. A Dublin fruitcake, covered with thick almond-flavored icing and decorated with green gumdrop shamrocks is the popular food.

Cub # 2: Scandinavia – Children, parents and even grandparents all join in making interesting straw and balsa wood ornaments in shapes of stars, angels, reindeer, and other animals. They begin making these holiday decorations on Little Christmas, the last Sunday in November.

Cub # 3: Poland – Here the Christmas tree is a symbol of friendship and peace, and is heavily laden with pretty ornaments. Poppy-seed rolls filled with ground poppy seed and honey paste are prepared the night before Christmas.

Cub # 4: Austria – Greens and apples signify hope for the coming spring and are used in the twilight tree with candles to celebrate the holidays. Linzer cakes and nut butter rounds are their Christmas delicacies.

Cub # 5: England – Punch and Judy shows are very much a part of the British Christmas. Plum pudding, spicy ginger cookies, shaped like cornucopias and filled with whipped cream are delightful foods.

Cub # 6: Italy – Instead of a Christmas tree, Italy has the pyramid-shaped Ceppo. The manger scene of hand-carved figures is placed on the lower shelf of the ceppo and small gifts for the children are put on the next shelf. Golden bread of Verona and Sicilian torrone, a multi-colored candy loaf are special pastries.

Cub # 7: Greece – St. Basil, who distributes Christmas toys, makes his rounds in a boat instead of a sled. New Year's bread with a coin baked inside is served at the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve. Father cuts a portion of bread for each member of the family in the order of their ages. Whoever gets the piece with the coin will enjoy a year of coed luck.

Cub # 8: Mexico – In Mexico, the piñata filled with candy is always a favorite at Christmastime. The children strike it until it cracks and the goodies spill out for all to enjoy.

This Is My Country*Baltimore Area Council*

Characters: Four boys dressed in costumes from South America, Japan, Africa, and the Netherlands; each holding a large picture or map of his country. Narration is printed on back of picture so boy can read it. A fifth boy, dressed in

Uncle Sam costume (Or Cub Scout Uniform), is holding an American flag.

Setting: Boys come on stage, one at a time. Each boy reads the description of his country while a recording of "This Is My Country" is played softly in the background. The volume of music is increased between scenes, when no one is speaking. Recording of "Star Spangled Banner" is played at the end.

Cub # 1: South America: I am South America. I am most noted for my exotic foods, sugar cane, coffee, molasses and coconut. My people eat domesticated foods such as beans, pumpkin, pineapple, potatoes and tomatoes. I am also known for my tobacco. On any sunny day, you can see me dressed in my native clothing, the serape and the sombrero. My religion is mostly Roman Catholic. South America! This is my country!

Cub # 2: Japan: I am Japan. Agriculture is my game, but silk is my claim to fame. People come from all over the world to visit my Buddhist pagodas and Geisha houses, and try to master the art of using chop sticks. They almost always go home wearing a kimono, which is my native dress. Japan! This is my country!

Cub # 3: Netherlands: I am the Netherlands, or Holland, as I am most commonly called. My schools are all state supported and education is compulsory. Only eight percent of me is forest surface, so I am best known for my canals. Dairying is one of my important industries. I am world famous for my Dutch cheese. I also grow cereal grain and potatoes, but I am most famous for my fields of horticulture, especially the tulips. When I pass your open window, you can hear the clippety-clop of my wooden shoes on the cobblestone streets. Holland! This is my country! .

Cub # 4: Africa: I am Africa, the second largest of the six continents. Why not visit me and pick up a diamond. Ninety-eight percent of the world's diamonds come from me. I also have gold and oil in abundance. Some of my tribes still practice witchcraft, so be careful when you visit me. If you wander too far, you may lose your head. Allah is my God. Although I dance as a form of religion, other countries have copied me as a form of entertainment. The caftan and dashiki, my native dress, are now a worldwide fashion. Africa! This is my country!

Cub # 5: AMERICA: I am America. People from all over the world come to me to find freedom. My customs are those of every nation, and I offer an equal opportunity to every man. I am called the land of plenty for my natural resources are many. Clothing styles and religion are a person's own choice. What's the difference if someone hails from north, south, east or west. My heart is filled with love for all of them. The home of the brave and the land of the free! America! This is my country!

Boys remain standing on stage while the "Star Spangled Banner" is played

Holidays Around The World*Trapper Trails*

- Cub # 1:** In India and Thailand, they celebrate the Festival of Lights, With little lamps or lotus boats that float into the night. [*Boy carries a Lotus Boat of foil*]
- Cub # 2:** In Sweden, too, they honor Santa Lucia, Queen of Light The oldest girl will wear a crown with candles warm and bright. [*St. Lucia crown or candle and greens.*]
- Cub # 3:** In Mexico, the children gather goodies from the floor, For they've broken the piñata filled with candy treats galore! [*Piñata*]
- Cub # 4:** In Poland, on the table, under dishes they put straw, And they leave a chair that's empty for the Holiest child of all. [*Hand full of straw or a small chair.*]
- Cub # 5:** In Holland, children fill their shoes with carrots and with straw In hopes "Black Pete" will substitute a gift for one and all. [*Wooden shoes and/or carrots*]
- Cub # 6:** In Israel, the children play with a special top for a special day. [*Dreidel*]
- Cub # 7:** In England, children hang a sock - one that doesn't have a hole! They hope it will hold presents and not a lump of coal! [*Christmas stocking*]
- Cub # 8:** Let's Celebrate! Let's Celebrate! and learn of special ways that people all around the world celebrate their holidays! [*Globe*]

OPENING CEREMONY I*Sam Houston Area Council*

Props: Box wrapped with holiday paper and tied with a bow. In the box are a menorah, small Christmas tree, invitation, Kwanzaa candelabra, and other symbols of December Holidays appropriate for you're your unit, Instant Recognition patch and beads, small wrapped gift, small felt stocking, and card saying "Do Your Best."

Cubmaster: (Opens box and looks inside.) December is one of the most exciting months of the year, and certainly one of the busiest. This month we have: Christmas (Takes out tree.); Hanukkah (Removes menorah.); Kwanzaa (Removes candle holder.), (Does other symbols), and Holiday parties (Takes out invitation.).

What a great time for all of us! Our pack has had lots of fun this month working on advancements (Takes patch and beads from box.).

One of the best things was our special service project/Good Turn (Takes stocking (or other symbol for the project) from box.)

We've been busy, and all the time we have followed the Cub Scout Motto: (takes paper out of box and shows it while saying motto) "Do Your Best".

Now den ___ will present the colors.

International Ceremony*Sam Houston Area Council*

Setting- Cub Scouts come on stage one at a time, carrying appropriate props, and line up facing the audience. A narrator reads the poem.

(Boy 1 enters, carrying a wreath with sign on it saying "Season's Greetings".)

Narrator:

Season's greetings to everyone,

We're glad you joined us for the fun; '

Tis certainly the happy time of the year,
with everyone bursting with Holiday Cheer.

(Boy 2 enters, carrying a globe with some Christmas tinsel wrapped around the base.)

Narrator:

Each country has its special ways of celebrating the Holidays. Let's see what other people do to celebrate their customs, too.

(Boy 3 enters carrying a candle.)

Narrator: On Christmas Eve in Ireland, candles shine so bright, as children place them in windows, to shine into the night.

(Boy 4 enters carrying a piñata.)

Narrator: In Mexico the children gather goodies from the floor after they break the Piñata filled with prizes by the score.

Add as many more as you want

If your unit is chartered to a church and you know the religious affiliations of all your members, these may be appropriate Opening Ceremonies for your December Pack Show. But they don't help with the Purposes and Core values for this theme - that we are looking at everyone's celebrations and learning respect for all peoples and their beliefs. CD

Religious Opening Ceremony*Baltimore Area Council*

Preparation: Find the following items and attach the words for that item on them somewhere. Candle, wreath, candy cane, red tree ornament, and star tree topper. Put all items in a basket to be pulled out during ceremony. You can be creative with this ceremony; you can add other items as needed for the number of boys in your den and their beliefs.

Cub # 1: Candle: This is the candle Mary and Joseph used to find their way in the dark.

Cub # 2: Wreath: This wreath symbolizes the eternal nature of man; it has no beginning and no end.

Cub # 3: Candy cane: This candy cane reminds me of a shepherd's crook used at the time of Christ's birth.

Cub # 4: Red ornament: This ornament is used to symbolize the blood Jesus shed for us.

Cub # 5: Star: This star is a symbol of the "new star" seen when Jesus was born; it is also a part of our American flag, let's stand and pledge allegiance to that flag.

Carols Cookies And The Christ Child*Trapper Trails*

EQUIPMENT: This ceremony can be done with lettered cards, candles or objects. Each Cub responsible for reciting the meaning of one letter in the word "Christmas".

Cub # 1: **C** - Carols, Cookies and the Christ Child.

Cub # 2: **H** - Hurrying, Holly and Happiness.

Cub # 3: **R** - Ribbons, Raisins and Reverence.

Cub # 4: **I** - Icicles Ivy and Innocence.

Cub # 5: **S** - Santa, Secrets, and Shepherds.

Cub # 6: **T** - Trimmings, Tinsel and Trying to be good.

Cub # 7: **M** - Mischief, Madonnas, and Miracles.

Cub # 8: **A** - Apples, Angels, and Adoration.

Cub # 9: **S** - Snowflakes, Spangles and a Star in the East

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATIONS

The House Where Santa Claus Lives

Is the greatest Audience Participation at this time of year. It is found in the Cub Scout How To Book. I do it every year at Roundtable and Pack Meeting and if I need Ice Breakers at Training sessions. Get out your How To Book, read it then do it! !CD

Christmas with the Wright Family

Baltimore Area Council

The boys (and girls, if you include siblings) are seated in a circle and they start with their own present.

As the story is read and a direction is given, they pass their gift that way.

Mrs. **WRIGHT** eyed her Christmas list carefully. "There won't be anything **LEFT** of our budget after Christmas! Dear me!" she sighed.

Mr. **WRIGHT** looked up from his paper. "That's all **RIGHT**, my dear, there isn't anything **LEFT** of it anyway at the end of the month. I'll be happy if it just sees the **WRIGHT** family through the holidays."

As Mr. **WRIGHT** turned to his paper, he said, "Have you the **RIGHT** gift for Aunt Hattie **WRIGHT** this Christmas? She's been pretty lonely since her daughter married and **LEFT** home. Uncle Harry **WRIGHT LEFT** her a lot of money, but she doesn't know how to enjoy it."

Eddie **WRIGHT** was studying in the corner **LEFT** of the fireplace. "I wish Aunt Hattie **WRIGHT** would ask me the **RIGHT** way to spend it," he said.

Eugenia **WRIGHT** sniffed, "She wouldn't have much **LEFT** if she did. Your allowance is almost gone before you get it."

"And I suppose you have all of yours **LEFT**, Miss Miser!" returned Eddie **WRIGHT**.

"I don't have all of it **LEFT**, but I've enough **LEFT** to buy presents, all **RIGHT**, without having to borrow from Mother," she snapped.

Eddie **WRIGHT** looked downcast. "That's **RIGHT**. Christmas is mighty near, only two more shopping days **LEFT**."

"Have you a present for Rose, Eddie **WRIGHT**?" asked Mrs. **WRIGHT**. "She gave you a nice tie last year, remember?"

Eddie **WRIGHT** groaned, "That's **RIGHT**! Gosh, a fellow can't do **RIGHT** by his family and a girl, too, and have anything **LEFT** on two dollars a week. What shall I do?"

Just then the doorbell rang. Eugenia **WRIGHT** ran to answer it and the postman **LEFT** a special delivery letter for the **WRIGHT** family. She took it to Father **WRIGHT** and he opened it. Inside was a letter, along with four **RIGHT** new ten dollar bills!

Mrs **WRIGHT** whistled, "It's from Aunt Hattie **WRIGHT**! She **LEFT** town and has gone to her daughter's for Christmas and wished us who are **LEFT** here to spend it on each other."

"Say, she's **RIGHT**!" Eddie **WRIGHT** shouted.

"Bless her heart," said Mother **WRIGHT**.

"It has made her **RIGHT** happy to give it to use before she **LEFT**," declared Father **WRIGHT**. So, I guess it's all **RIGHT** with everybody **LEFT** here."

Once the story has ended, each child may open the present he/she ends up with.

(Personal experience has shown you will have to stop several times during the story, because some boys will be holding two presents, and some boys will have none. The best arrangement is to station the parents around the circle behind their child/children to keep the flow of presents going. - Pat)

My Aunt Came Back

Baltimore Area Council

In this audience participation stunt the leader chants the words and at the end of each stanza he adds a motion which the audience also does. Begin by having the audience stand then they "fan" themselves "cut" with shears etc. until at the end the audience is constantly doing all six motions at the same time and laughing so hard they can hardly stand up. This is a great stunt to try at your pack ~~meeting~~ show.

My Aunt came back from old Japan:

She gave to me an old silk FAN.

(Make fanning motion with right hand)

My Aunt came back from old Tangeers:

She gave to me a pair of SHEARS.

(Make cutting motion with left hand)

My Aunt came back from the New York Fair:

She gave to me a ROCKING CHAIR.

(Rock back and forth on your heels)

My Aunt came back from Holland, too:

She gave to me a WOODEN SHOE.

(Stomp right foot repeatedly)

My Aunt came back from old Hong Kong:

She gave to me the game of PING PONG.

(Move head to right and then to left)

My Aunt came back from Kalamazoo:

She gave to me some GUM TO CHEW.

(Make chewing motion with mouth)

My Aunt came back from Timbuktu:

She gave to me some.....

(leader points to audience)

NUTS LIKE YOU!!!

ADVANCEMENT CEREMONIES

Recognition Ceremony For Trained Leaders

West Michigan Shores Council

Materials: large pine bough, bucket of dirt, Trained Patches, pins (straight or safety).

Akela: Old Wolves, you were charged with teaching these Cubs in the ways you have been taught. Has this been done?

Old Wolves: Aye, old lone one, it has been done.

Akela: Baloo, do they know the ways of the Pack?

Baloo: Aye, Akela

Akela: Bagheera, have you taught them the ways of our Program?

Bagheera: Yes, Akela, it has been done.

Akela: Then let the ceremonies begin. (Plant pine bough in front of you) By completing your training, you have become acquainted with the Cub Scout program. Let this pine bough represent that program. The heavy main stem represents the Aims of the Cub Scout Program. The smaller stems are the Ideals. (Point out each, as you explain) Each needle is a part of the Program; the Den Meetings, Pack Meetings, Outings, Advancement, etc. The needles grow in clusters. The clusters need many needles to appear healthy and beautiful.

Let us keep in mind as we return to our own Packs, the need to develop all parts of the Program. As I read the names of those to be recognized, would you please come forward.

Read off each name, pin on trained patch, give card and have Committee Chair or Pack Trainer give each a needle cluster from the bough. Have the participants form a "U" in front of you.

When all have received their recognition, go on.

Akela: You have each received two tokens here today. The pine needle cluster is to keep you ever mindful of the many parts that make up a healthy Cub Scout program. The trained patch is for you to display on your uniform to alert others to your knowledge and dedication to the Cub Scout program. Do you pledge to accept the responsibility of seeing that the Cub Scouts in your own Packs, put in your charge, benefit from the lessons you have learned here this weekend? If so, answer "I will".

Wait for answer

Then you have achieved the right to join the Old Wolves and take your place as leaders of Cub Scouts. Do this with dignity, dedication, and honor. Do not let the Tabaqui and Shere Khan distract you from your task.

Lead cheer

Then participants return to their seats

Be careful at this time of year when presenting awards. The boys have EARNED the awards. If you incorporate too much Santa Claus and Christmas into your ceremony, the awards will come out as gifts. Gifts although given out of love, are not earned, or deserved (just as the greatest gift to mankind – the birth of our Savior was an undeserved gift of love). That is one reason why I do not show ceremonies with Santa or with gifts. Please be careful to maintain this distinction in your award presentations CD

'Twas the Night of the Pack Meeting

Baltimore Area Council

Have narrator read this poem as awards are presented:

'Twas the night of the pack meeting and all through the place,
Not a boy was stirring, anticipation on each face.
It was time for advancements and they all turned an ear,
So when their name was called, they would hear it loud and clear.
The Cubmaster was checking his list, not only once but twice,
To see which boys had **worked hard and earned awards** this night.
When all of a sudden the Cubmaster as ready with helpers nigh,
To pass out awards as the boys called were filing by.
First came the Bobcats all new to the pack.
Akela is ready, with the guidance and experience they lack,
Come up all you new Cubs You're our Bobcats tonight.
Your final step as a Bobcat is to say the Promise and you must do it right.
(Call boys and their parents forward and present awards.)
We can't forget Tigers, with parents in tow
They're new to our pack, and they'll help it grow.
With orange hat and scarf, they're easy to spot,
But keeping up with them is, most decidedly not!
(Call boys and their parents forward and present awards.)
Next are the Wolves, experienced that is true
But there is still much to learn, Akela's not through
Come up all our Wolf Cubs, you are Wolves to be praised,
Achievements and electives you've done
So with Wolf Badge and arrow point, to rank you are raised.
(Call boys and their parents forward and present awards.)
Fourth are the Bears most experienced so far,
Akela's teachings they've heeded, they're way above par.
Come all our Bear Cubs, your work and learning is applauded,
For completing achievement and electives, tonight you're rewarded.
(Call boys and their parents forward and present awards.)
Last are the Webelos, but not least to be sure,
Akela's lessons they've learned, now Boy Scouts is their lure.
Come up all our Webelos, your activities are harder,
Your accomplishments you wear so proudly on your shoulder.
(Call boys and their parents forward and present awards.)
Now, let's give all these Cubs our Santa applause for a job well done.

Advancement Ideas from Holland*Alice, Golden Empire Council*

Take a page from the fun-loving Dutch – wrap each boy's award in tissue, then tie with yarn and before the Pack Meeting begins, string the yarn all over the room, under and over other yarns leading to other boy's awards, between the rungs of chairs – when the boy's name is called he is given the end of his yarn string and must follow it all the way to the end. You could use a different colored yarn for each boy, or make it even harder and use the same color yarn! If it seems too difficult for a boy, invite his parents to come up and join the fun!

Along the same lines, the Dutch like to plant notes with riddles leading to the final prize, in this case, a box or envelope with the boy's awards inside. This will take some extra time before the meeting – either use rhymes or riddles – again, the boy can get help from his den, his parents, or the whole audience.

SONGS**Santa's Coming 'Round the World***Baltimore Area Council*

Tune: "Are. You Sleeping"

Chorus –

Santa's coming, Santa's coming,
Round the world, round the world;

He has many faces;
Seen in many places;
Santa Claus, Santa Claus.

Chorus

In France he's Father Christmas
Who fills' the children's wishes;
Santa Claus, Santa Claus.

Chorus

In Hungary Kris Kringle
Brings gifts to make tots tingle;
Santa Claus, Santa Claus.

Chorus

In Belgium child leaves carrots bunched
For Nicholas' horse to munch;
Santa Claus, Santa Claus.

Chorus

No matter what his face or name
Good will and peace are just the same;
Santa Claus, Santa Claus.

Are You Sleeping?*Baltimore Area Council*

Tune - Are you sleeping or Frère Jacques

Are you sleeping, are you sleeping,
Brother John, Brother John?
Morning bells are ringing,
Morning bells are ringing,
Ding, ding, dong; ding, ding, dong.

French:

Frère Jacques, Frère Jacques,
Dormez-vous? Dormez-vous?

Sonnez les matines,
Sonnez les matines,
Ding dong ding, ding, dong, ding.

Dutch:

Vader Jacob, Vader Jacob,
Slaapjy noq? Slaapjy noq?
Alle klokken luiden, :
Alle klokken luiden,
Bim, Barn,. Born, bim barn; born.

Spanish:

Companero, companero,
Duerme ya? Duerme ya?
Toca la campana,
Toca la campana,
Din, dam, dom , din, dam, dom.

German:

Vater Jacob, Vater Jacob,
Schlafs du jets ? Schlafs du jets?
Alle glocken klingen,
Alle glocken klingen,
Bim, born, him; bim, born, him.

Hanukkah Fun*Sam Houston Area Council*

Tune: Mary Had A Little Lamb

Hanukkah is here at last,
Here at last here at last.
Hanukkah is here at last.
Oh what fun we'll have.
We spin the dreidel merrily,
Merrily, merrily.
We spin the dreidel merrily,
Oh what fun we'll have.
The candles burn so happily,
Happily, happily.
The candles burn so happily
Oh what fun we'll have.

Share With Others*Sam Houston Area Council*

Tune: Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer

Here's to the Cubs in our den,
As they follow, help and give.
All of the boys in our den,
Know just how a Cub should live.
Now that it's time for Christmas,
We've been very helpful boys,
We've gathered lots of old things,
Fixed them up like brand new toys.
Saved our pennies every meeting,
Bought a lovely Christmas tree,
Trimmed it up to take to our
Den adopted family.
Bright and early Christmas morning,
When they see our shiny toys,
We'll be happy that we shared
Our Christmas joy with other boys.

Cascabeles
Jingle Bells in Spanish
Baltimore Area Council

¡Cascabeles, cascabeles,
Tra la la la la!
¡Qué alegríá todo el día,
Tra la la la la!

Pronunciation guide:

A = ah E = eh I = ee O = oh Qué = kay

I'm a Little Dreidel
Baltimore Area Council
Tune: I'm a Little Teapot

I'm a little dreidel
Made of clay.
Spin me around when you want to play
When I fall down, if you don't win
Just pick me up and spin again.

When Your Helping And You Know It
Trapper Trails Council

Tune: When you're happy and you know it

When you're helping and you know it,
Lend a hand
When you're giving and you show it
Things are grand
If you're helping and you're giving
Then you help make life worth living
Keep on helping, keep on giving
Take a stand

Giving Time
Trapper Trails Council
Tune: Jingle Bells-chorus

Giving time, sharing time
Fun for everyone
Scouters know that December is
The time for deeds well done
Giving time, sharing time
Let us all take part
Join with Cub Scouts all around
And give gifts from the heart

12 Days of a Pack Christmas
Baltimore Area Council

Write each "part" on a separate piece of paper.
The parts are

- A Cub Scout with a great big smile.
- 2 uniforms,
- 3 den chiefs,
- 4 Cub Scout hats...
- 5 Tiger groups...
- 6 slides a missing...
- 7 drivers needed...
- 8 friends a joining...
- 9 parents helping...
- 10 cars a racing...
- 11 boys advancing...
- 12 leaders resting...

Now if you have 78 people, you can actually assign the same number of people doing the part as the number being sung.
All join in singing.

On the first day of Christmas

My Cubmaster gave to me...
Each stands when his/her part is sung then sits down.
On the first day of Christmas
My Cubmaster gave to me...
a Cub Scout with a great big smile.
On the second day of Christmas
My Cubmaster gave to me...
2 uniforms,
and a Cub Scout with a great big smile.
On the third day of Christmas
My Cubmaster gave to me...
3 den chiefs,
2 uniforms,
and a cub scout with a great big smile.
On the fourth day... 4 Cub Scout hats...
On the fifth day... 5 Tiger groups...
On the sixth day... 6 slides a missing...
On the seventh day... 7 drivers needed...
On the eighth day... 8 friends a joining...
On the ninth day... 9 parents helping...
On the tenth day... 10 cars a racing...
On the eleventh day... 11 boys advancing...
On the twelfth day... 12 leaders resting...

Here are alternate lines from

Trapper Trails

(Tune: 12 Days of Christmas)

On the first day of scouting, Akela gave to me...

- First Day A Cubmaster swinging from a tree!
- 2nd day: Two bouncing Bobcats
- 3rd day: Three wiggling Wolves
- 4th day: Four hungry Bears
- 5th day: Five Webelos
- 6th day: Six Arrow points
- 7th day: Seven Dynamite Den Chiefs
- 8th day: Eight great Run-ons
- 9th day: Nine Silly songs
- 10th day: Ten Derby Cars
- 11th day: Eleven Wacky Skits
- 12th day: Twelve Cheery Cheers

Randall, the Red-Cheeked cub Scout
Trapper Trails

Tune: Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer

Randall, the red-cheeked Cub Scout
Had a very cold, cold nose
And if you ever noticed
You could even say it flows
All of the other Cubbies
Used to laugh and point it out
That Randall, the red-cheeked Cub Scout
Had a very runny snout
Then one day the Den Leader
Took Randall out of sight
And told him that it's time he knew
How to wipe his nose just right
Now all the other Cubbies
Think Randall is a "Class-A" Scout
Cause Randall, the red-cheeked Cub Scout
Finally learned to blow his snout

Alice, Golden Empire Council

- Cub #1:** What's the difference between the Christmas alphabet and the ordinary one?
- Cub #2:** The Christmas one has No L (Noel)
- Cub #1:** How do sheep in Mexico say Merry Christmas?
- Cub #2:** Fleece Navidad!
- Cub #1:** What does a cat on the beach have in common with Christmas?
- Cub #2:** Sandy claws!
- Cub #1:** What kind of candle burns longer – a red one or a green one?
- Cub #2:** Neither – candles always burn shorter!
- Cub #1:** What is a cat on ice?
- Cub #2:** A cool cat!

SKITS

I did not put in a lot of the usual Holiday skits. They did not fit the theme. Read through some of these and then maybe you can write an international and multi-cultural (multi-holiday) skit that matches the members of your pack. CD

A World Of Celebrations

Alice, Golden Empire Council

Setting: A group of Cub Scouts – each one should have his props right next to him, or behind his back. (*You can substitute customs from any country – especially if you have children who come from other cultures*)

- Cub #1:** Well, we're ready for Christmas – we dug out our stockings (holds up his stocking) and we're going to hang them by the fireplace. (Looking at another Cub) Are you ready at your house?
- Cub #2:** Oh, we don't have stockings at my house.
- Cub #1:** What, you don't get your stocking filled with goodies? How awful!
- Cub #2:** My family is from Holland – we have a different custom. Children put their wooden shoes out, with some straw in them. (holds up some straw)
- Cub #3:** What's the straw for?
- Cub #2:** It's for St. Nicolaus' donkey.
- All Cubs:** He has a donkey? Not reindeer?
- Cub #2:** That's right – he takes the straw for the donkey and leaves gifts in the shoes. But it's NOT on Christmas Day. We go to church then. But on Dec. 6th, St. Nicolaus comes and leaves gifts.
- Cub #3:** Well, I guess that's as good as a stocking. You know, my Mom is from Sweden, and they do things different there, too. On St. Lucia Day, Dec. 13th, my oldest sister wears a wreath on her head with candles in it. (holds up a picture of a girl dressed for St. Lucia Day)
- Cub #4:** What's the wreath for?
- Cub #3:** Well, it's because she is supposed to represent Saint Lucia, who brought food to Christians who were hiding from their enemies in dark caves. And besides, it's really dark in the winter in Sweden – the sun barely shines – so Swedish people love to

see light. My sister brings special sweet buns to my parents while they're still in bed.

- Cub #4:** Do you get some, too?
- Cub #5:** Well, everyone gets some – but first, my parents get theirs – and me and my brothers wear hats with stars – it's from an old legend.
- Cub #4:** So, what about Santa?
- Cub #3:** Well, here in America, we do have Santa, but we also leave some food for the Juul Nisse.
- Cub #4:** What's that?
- Cub #3:** In Sweden, elves called Juul Nisse help children with their chores and bring them gifts – so we leave them food to say thanks!
- Cub #5:** You know, my grandpa is from Mexico – the children get their gifts on January 6th – it's called Three Kings Night, after the three wise men.
- Cub #6:** What do they do on Christmas?
- Cub #5:** Oh that's great, too. We always have tamales and go to church – and in Mexico, they have Las Posadas.
- All Cubs:** What's that?
- Cub #5:** Well, for nine nights in a row, people join a procession, and go from house to house – they pretend to be Mary and Joseph, looking for an inn to stay in. Everyone decorates their house with paper banners, and there is lots of singing.
- Cub #6:** So, do people let them in?
- Cub #5:** No, they have to go from house to house each night, and everyone says there is no room, till they get to the right house.
- Cub #6:** What happens then?
- Cub #5:** Oh, when they get to the right house, they get to come in and there's a party! There's a piñata (holds up a piñata or a picture of one) to break, filled with candy and little gifts. It's a lot of fun!
- Cub #6:** Boy, people celebrate Christmas in lots of different ways!
- All Cubs:** But it all sounds like fun!

Baden-Powell & Good Deeds

Alice, Golden Empire Council

Setting: An adult dressed as Baden Powell, and standing off to the side of the stage (or a large picture of him, with the sound of his voice coming from off-stage.) A group of Cub Scouts are sitting in the middle, looking like they are talking. (moving their mouths and hands, but not saying anything) If possible, it would be great to have stars on the wall behind the boys, with small white Christmas lights, not turned on, but able to be turned on at the end.

Baden-Powell: When I founded scouting, I wanted boys to learn how to take care of themselves. But I also taught them to be kind to others – to do a good deed every day. I often think (that) when the sun goes down, the world is hidden by a big blanket from the light of heaven – but the stars are little holes pierced in that blanket by those who have done good deeds

in this world. The stars are not the same size; some are big, some are little, and some men have done small deeds – but they have made their hole in the blanket by doing good before they went to heaven.

Cub #1: (Looking at a second boy) Wow, you're doing great – you almost have the Promise memorized! But remember to put in “..to help other people” – Baden-Powell wanted scouts to always do a good deed each day.

Cub #2: What kind of good deed?

Cub #1: Well, Saturday my family helped plant trees along the river – it was hard work, but fun, too. And boy, did I get dirty!

Cub #3: Today, I helped my den leader clean up after we finished our project – that was a good deed, too.

Cub #2: So, I need to do a good deed every day? Sounds kind of hard.

Cub #4: Well, sometimes you have to work hard to do a good deed – me and my dad helped my neighbor paint his fence – and that was hard work.

Cub #5: But sometimes, a good deed is pretty easy. There's a new boy in my class, and he was kind of lost – so I helped him find the cafeteria and meet some of my friends – I guess that was my good deed for the day.

Cub #2: Hey, I helped my Mom bring in all the groceries from the car – was that a good deed.

Cub #6: Sure, that was a good deed. Just remember to be kind and helpful, and you won't have any trouble doing a good deed each day...

Cub pauses, then looks like he has a great idea

Hey, even helping you learn the Cub Scout promise is a good deed!

Lights go out as Christmas lights go on in the room.

Voice of Baden-Powell is heard from off-stage....

Baden-Powell: ... some stars are little, some are big – but all those good deeds have made their hole in the blanket – by scouts doing their good deeds for the day.

Holidays Around The World

Mount Diablo Council

Setting: Have on hand the props shown in parenthesis. You could have a narrator say the verses, and the boys could come in and hold up their prop. Boys could also read the verses, but they do need to be read loudly and clearly, so that people can understand them.

Narrators or Cubs read one verse at a time:

In India and Thailand, they celebrate

The Festival of Lights

With little lamps or lotus boats

That float into the night.

(Cub holds up a votive candle in a little foil boat folded up to look like a lotus, or just folded up like a boat)

In Sweden, too, the honor Santa Lucia

Queen of Light,

The oldest girl will wear a crown

With candles warm and bright

(Cub carries a wreath holding candles, or just a picture of a girl as St. Lucia)

In Mexico, the children gather

Goodies from the floor,

For they've broken the piñata,

Filled with candy treats galore!

(Cub brings in a piñata)

In Poland, on the table,

Under dishes they put straw,

And they leave a chair that's empty

For the holiest child of all

(Cub with a handful of straw or a small chair)

In Holland, children fill their shoes

With Carrots and with straw,

In hopes “Black Pete” will substitute

A gift for one and all.

(Cub with wooden shoes or just a bunch of carrots)

In Israel, the children play

With a special top,

For a special day

(Cub with a dreidel)

In England, children hang a sock –

One that doesn't have a hole!

They hope it will hold presents

And not a lump of coal!

(Cub with a stocking)

Let's Celebrate! Let's Celebrate!

And learn of special ways

That people all around the world

Celebrate their holidays!

(Cub with a globe or a map of the world)

Who Stole The Christmas Cookies?

Alice, Golden Empire Council

Setting: Cub Scouts gathered around a refrigerator (just a large piece of paper with a refrigerator drawn on it) Cubmaster is out of sight, holding several cookies and a glass.

Cub #1: Wow, I'm really looking forward to Christmas – can't wait to see what I get!

Cub #2: Yeah, I think we're all ready – wonder what I'll get?

Cub #3: Oh no! I forgot!

Other Cubs: What did you forget?

Cub #3: We forgot the cookies and milk for Santa!

Cub #4: Oh, that's easy – my Mom even has a special plate. (pretends to reach up in a cupboard, pulls out a plate) “See – it's perfect for Christmas”

Cub #5: Great, all we need now are the cookies and milk!

Cub #6: I'll get the milk.

Cub #1: I'll get the cookies from the cookie jar! (reaches up and pretends to get a really large object)

Cub #2: Wow, that's a big cookie jar! (pretends to take the lid off the jar)

All Cubs: (looking inside the jar, then looking horrified)

Oh, no, it's empty!! Now what can we do?

Cubmaster: (enters holding cookies and an empty glass)
Boy, those were some great cookies. But I need some more milk.

All Cubs: STOP! Put down those cookies!

CM: (looking startled) But they're delicious! I just need some more milk.....

Cubs: No, you've got to put down those cookies – they're for Santa!

CM: Oh, sorry, I didn't know...(puts them on the plate)

Cubs: Wow, glad there were still some left!

CM: I'll tell you one thing – Santa is going to LOVE those cookies! (All leave the stage)

CLOSING CEREMONIES

There are several of the Opening Ceremonies for this theme that would make excellent closing ceremonies with a few tweaks. Try your hand at it, then drop me an E-mail with your revisions and the results. Thanks CD

Make Good Use of Time Closing Ceremony

Trapper Trails

Set up: Give 10 Scouts each a line of the poem to repeat.

Narrator - Time is the most valuable thing in the world. It's not possible to stretch a day longer than 24 hours, nor a year longer than 365 days (except in a Leap Year!). Time wasted is time lost. Time lost can never be found. Tomorrow, today will be yesterday.

Making good use of your time doesn't mean you have to rush about every minute. There are so many things to do that you'll need to think about how you're going to spend your time, so that you make the most of it, and live your life to the fullest.

Cub # 1: Make time to pray...it helps to bring God near and washes the dust from your eyes.

Cub # 2: Make time for family and friends... it is the source of happiness.

Cub # 3: Make time for work...it is the price of success.

Cub # 4: Make time to think...it is the source of power.

Cub # 5: Make time to read...it is the source of knowledge.

Cub # 6: Make time to laugh...it eases life's problems.

Cub # 7: Make time to love...it is the reason for life.

Cub # 8: Make time to dream...it hitches the soul to the stars.

Cub # 9: Make time to play...it is the secret of youth.

Cub # 10: Make time to sleep...it is the fountain of mental and physical strength.

Cubmaster's Minutes

Starry Night

Greater St. Louis Area Council

(Dim room lights except for candle or flashlight)

This is the season of lights and stars, when days are short and nights are long with beautiful stars.

Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, once said this to his scouts, "I often think when the sun goes down, the world is hidden by a big blanket from the light of heaven. But the stars are little holes pierced in that blanket by those who have done good deeds in this world. The stars are not all the same size; some are big, and some are little. So some

men have done great deeds, and some men have done small deeds, but they have all made their hole in the blanket by doing good before they went to heaven."

Let's remember when we look at the starry sky, to make our own hole in the blanket, by doing good deeds and helping other people.

The Season of Lights

Baltimore Area Council

This is the season of lights. It is a time when the days are shorter so the nights are longer, yet somehow things are brighter. Stores and homes are bright with holiday lights. Thousands of homes have a single light to show the way for the Christ child, others have candles burning to commemorate the miracle of Hanukkah, and some light candles to honor the heritage of Kwanzaa. Even the stars in the winter sky seem brighter at this time of year. But the most important glow is from the spirit of goodwill that WE live with year-round in the Cub Scout Promise and the Law of the Pack. Before we all leave to get on with our holiday celebrations, let's stand and repeat the Promise and Law together. Happy Holidays!

Traditions

Trapper Trails

Here in America we are many. We come from many lands and with us we bring our heritages. We bring our beliefs and we strengthen America when we hold to those beliefs. Each of our traditions gives us an identity, a belonging. And when we share those traditions, we expand our circle so soon we all can belong. Whether we celebrate Christmas, or Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or none of these, sharing valued traditions and holding true to what they stand for will make America strong. In Cub Scouts, we are many. We come from all backgrounds and celebrate many traditions. But no matter who we are we are still part of America and we all strive to "Do Our Best".

A Good Turn - Cubmaster's Minute

Baltimore Area Council

In a past issue of Scouting magazine, there is a story about a Webelos Scout named Daniel Simon of Pack 381, Buffalo Grove, Illinois. Daniel earned a \$750 gift certificate, and instead of spending the money on himself, he filled seven shopping carts with toys for other children who might not get anything that holiday season. It was a fine act of kindness and generosity. For Daniel, the Cub Scout Promise and the Law of the Pack aren't just words; they represent a way of life. Wouldn't it be a great holiday tradition if we all followed Daniel's example and performed some special good turn for someone in need? That would bring a lot of joy to the people we served. It would also bring a lot of joy to us, knowing that we had done something to make someone's life a little better. When you ask the question, "What do you do at holiday time?" also think about what you can do to give good will and serve others at holiday time. What better way to build good memories that will last forever?

Cubmaster's Minute*Baltimore Area Council*

Each of us have some traditions that are only practiced by our own families. Let's remember to enjoy those traditions and our families at this time of year. Remember it is better to give than to get. See if you can find the joy in giving this year!

THEME RELATED STUFF**Some Fun Facts about the Holidays***Alice, Golden Empire Council*

- ✓ Many people disapprove of the phrase Xmas – the original use was not disrespectful – it was based on X being the first letter of Xristos, the Greek name for Christ.
- ✓ King Richard II of England served 28 oxen and 30 hundred sheep at his 1377 Christmas feast!
- ✓ Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer was written by Robert L. May as a promotion for Montgomery Ward. They distributed six million copies of the story between 1939 and 1946 alone. The [song](#), written by Johnny Marks, came along in 1949.
- ✓ According to The Macaulay Institute in Aberdeen, Scotland, reindeer can haul up to twice their weight at speeds up to 15 miles an hour, making them great sleigh pullers.
- ✓ Over 70 million Americans give their dog or cat Christmas presents, according to an American Pet Association poll.
- ✓ "Jingle Bells," one of the most popular holiday songs in America, was the first song ever broadcast in space, thanks to the crew of 1965's Gemini 6 spacecraft.
- ✓ Frigg is the name of the Scandinavian love goddess who removed poison from mistletoe, bringing her son, Baldur, back to life. She was so happy, she made mistletoe a sign of love – so now people make "Kissing Balls" of mistletoe.
- ✓ The traditional Christmas ham began with the Norse custom of sacrificing and eating a pig to honor their god Freyr.
- ✓ When it's winter solstice in the Northern Hemisphere, the sun is directly overhead at noon only along the Tropic of Capricorn - Sao Paulo, Brazil, southern Madagascar, and areas north of Brisbane, Australia.

Holiday Traditions*Trapper Trails*

Caroling, feasting, and gift giving along with the prayers and wishes - the Christmas is celebrated with high spirits all over the world. Though the mode of celebration, the dates and the traditions vary, the main spirit remains the same everywhere. For instance, the Christmas flower. If poinsettia is the Christmas flower here in United States, it is white rose in the British Isles. If gifts here and in Britain are given on Christmas, it is done on New Year in France and many other countries. While most of us celebrate it as a festive season spreading over a week, for some it is a month long festival that starts with the Advent on Sunday next to November 26 and ends on January 6 with the feast of Epiphany.

Winter Solstice

The Winter Solstice is the day on which sun's rays reach the farthest south as the earth completes its 365-day orbit around the sun. That means that in the northern hemisphere, it is the day with the most darkness of the year. Most cultures have a traditional celebration to mark this day, or, in the days following, to celebrate the gradual return of light to their dark world.

You can mark the beginning of Winter with a simple celebration of lights. Make Luminarias. Take a brown paper lunch bag and trace a simple pattern in pencil on one side. Try evergreen tree shapes, stars, or any other pattern. Punch out your design with a hole punch, spacing holes about ½" apart. Fill each luminaria with about 2 inches of sand and sink a votive candle or tea light in the center. Place the luminarias along a walk, patio, or deck. Have a grown-up light them and then bask in the glow. *(There are directions for a different luminaria in Pack and Den Activities CD)*

Hanukkah

Hanukkah, or the "Festival of Light," is celebrated by Jews all over the world. Hanukkah celebrates the taking back of the Temple of Jerusalem from the Romans over two thousand years ago.

When the Temple was destroyed, the lamp of the Eternal Light, which symbolized the continuation of the Jewish people, was snuffed out. Only enough oil to light the lamp for one day was found. But because of a "miracle," the lamp burned for eight days – enough time for the temple to be rededicated.

Hanukah is celebrated with a menorah – a lamp holding eight candles – to symbolize this miracle. On each of the eight days of Hanukkah, a candle is lit.

There is no special feast, but traditional foods – especially latkes – are served. Latkes are fried potato pancakes. Friends and extended family are usually invited to the celebration, which usually includes the singing of Hanukkah songs.

Children sometimes exchange gifts and often receive "Hanukkah gelt," or coins. They also play a game with a "dreidel," or spinning top with four flat sides.

Paper Dreidel**Items Needed:**

A copy of the dreidel pattern from

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/hanukkah/dreidel/template.shtml>

Scissors

Glue

Crayons or markers

A straw or short wooden dowel

Optional: Thin cardboard (like from a cereal box)

Directions

Print the Dreidel pattern page from

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/hanukkah/dreidel/template.shtml>

Optional: This step makes the dreidel sturdier (but it will be more difficult to cut out). Glue the printed template to a piece of very thin cardboard (like cereal box cardboard). Let the glue dry.

Decorate the dreidel, then cut along the edges.

Cut an x in the tiny circle on the top

Fold along the inside lines, making a top shape. Glue the flaps inside the top.

Stick a straw or wooden dowel through the tiny circle at the top (push it gently to the bottom of the dreidel).

Now you can play dreidel. Each player starts with about 20 markers (like chocolate coins, checkers, nuts, or raisins) and takes turn spinning the dreidel.

On each spin, the players put 2 markers in the center.

Do the following for each spin:

- nun - do nothing
- gimel - take everything
- hey - take half
- shin - put one in

The winner is the person who gets all the markers.

Note: Nun, gimel, hay, and shin are the Hebrew letters used on the dreidel outside Israel (they represent the phrase, "A great miracle happened there.") In Israel, the letters represent the phrase, "A miracle happened here."

Simple Dreidel

Cut down a milk carton so that only the bottom two inches remain. Make a tiny hole in the center of the bottom of the carton through which a pencil can be poked.

Glue strips of blue paper to the sides of the carton and label each side with a letter: **N** (for nothing), **G** (for all), **H** (for half), and **S** (for put). Poke a pencil through the hole in the carton and practice spinning the dreidels.

Paper Cup Menorah

Items Needed:

- yellow and orange paint,
- 9 flat wooden craft spoons,
- fourteen 9-ounce paper cups.

Water Glass Symphony

Trapper Trails

Items Needed:

- 8 glasses of about the same size and shape,
- teaspoons,
- water

Directions

- ✓ Paint the wider ends of the wooden craft spoons (fronts and backs) to resemble yellow-orange flames.
- ✓ Use a craft knife to cut a 3/4 inch slit in the bottom of nine of the paper cups.
- ✓ Cut the bottoms out of the remaining five cups and stack them rims down.
- ✓ Line up the nine cups in a horizontal row, placing the middle one atop the stack of five.
- ✓ When it is time to light the menorah, simply insert the bottoms of the wooden flames in the holes in the candles (cups).
- ✓ Decorate cups if desired

Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa is a non-religious holiday that celebrates African-American culture. It is based on various African harvest festivals. Kwanzaa lasts for seven days; it starts on December 26th, and ends on New Year's Day. The word *Kwanzaa* means "first fruits" in Swahili. Maulana Karenga, an African-American scholar and activist, founded Kwanzaa in 1966.

During each of the days of Kwanzaa, family members gather to light one of seven candles. As each candle burns, the family discusses one of the seven principles (*Nguzo Saba* in Swahili) on which Kwanzaa is based:

- ✓ Unity (*umoja*), signified by the gathering of family, friends, and community
- ✓ Faith (*imani*)
- ✓ Purpose (*nia*)
- ✓ Collective work and responsibility (*ujima*) - the commitment to the high ideals of the African community
- ✓ Cooperative economics (*ujamaa*)
- ✓ Self-determination (*kujichagulia*)
- ✓ Creativity (*kuumba*)

Honoring the past (especially the history of Africa) and one's ancestors is central to Kwanzaa.

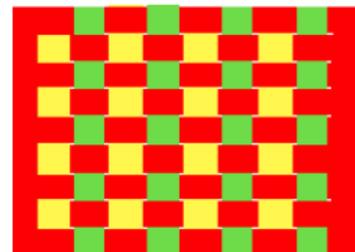
On December 31, a Kwanzaa feast is enjoyed by family and friends. Maulana Karenga designed the feast to include the following:

- ✓ a straw placemat (*mkeka*),
- ✓ a holder for seven candles (*kinara*),
- ✓ candles (*mishumaa*),
- ✓ a variety of fruit (*mazao*),
- ✓ an ear of corn for each child in the home (*vibunzi*),
- ✓ a unity cup (*kikombe cha umoja*),
- ✓ modest gifts, especially for children (*zawadi*)

More about Kwanzaa:

- ✓ Some communities collect food and clothing for the homeless during the seven days of Kwanzaa.
- ✓ On the seventh night, there is a feast to which friends and extended family members are invited. There are traditional foods, and cards and gifts are exchanged (although the giving of expensive commercial items is de-emphasized in favor of simple, handmade gifts). There is also singing and dancing.
- ✓ People greet each other with the Swahili expression "Habari gani," which means "What's new?" This is followed by a response that relates to one of the seven principles.

Kwanzaa Placemat



Make a place mat to decorate your Kwanzaa celebration table. These simple-to-make woven construction paper place mats represent a straw place mat (called *mkeka* in Swahili).

Items Needed:

- Red, black, green, and yellow construction paper - one sheet should be extra large
- Scissors
- Ruler (optional)
- Glue or tape

Directions

- ✓ Start with a large piece of construction paper.
- ✓ Fold it in half.
- ✓ While the paper is still folded, draw a series of lines across the fold, but do not draw them all the way to the edge - leave about 1 inch at the edge. For a very neat-looking place mat, use a ruler to draw the guidelines.
- ✓ Cut along the lines.
- ✓ When you're finished cutting, unfold the piece of paper.
- ✓ Using other colors of paper, cut many strips of paper about an inch wide, and the same length as the height of the large piece of paper used in the last step.
- ✓ Start weaving the strips of paper onto the large piece of paper. Make sure that each new piece of paper is pushed up next to the previously woven piece.
- ✓ When you're done weaving, secure each strip of woven paper using glue or tape.
- ✓ You might also have to trim the woven edges a bit to make the edges of the place mat even.
- ✓ You can now use your place mat at your Kwanzaa celebration table.

Kwanzaa Candles

Make candles (called *mishumaa* in Swahili) containing secret treats to decorate your Kwanzaa celebration table.

Items Needed:

- toilet paper rolls (one for each candle),
- construction paper (black, green, red – for the colors of many African flags),
- issue paper (orange and yellow),
- string or twist ties,
- scissors,
- pencil,
- ruler,
- glue or tape,
- small treats to fit inside the candles

Directions

1. Cover the toilet paper roll with construction paper (choose a different color for each candle you make) securing it with tape or glue.
2. Cut two squares of tissue paper about 12 to 14 inches on each side and stack them on top of each other.
3. Offset the two papers so that you have 8 points. Then put your finger in the center of the tissue paper and gather the points up to form a cone-like shape.
4. Gently push the center of the tissue paper into the toilet paper roll. The eraser end of a pencil may help.
5. Fill the tissue-paper-lined tube with small treats.
6. Use string or a twist tie to close up the tissue paper, then fluff it out a bit to make the “flames” of the candle.

Christmas

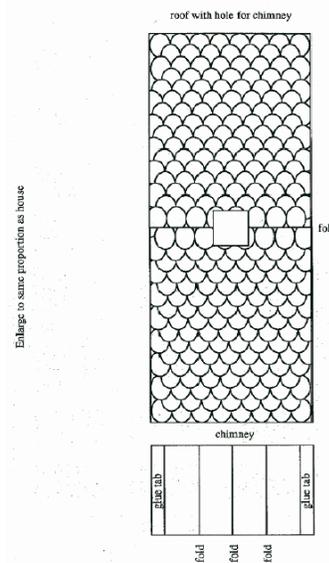
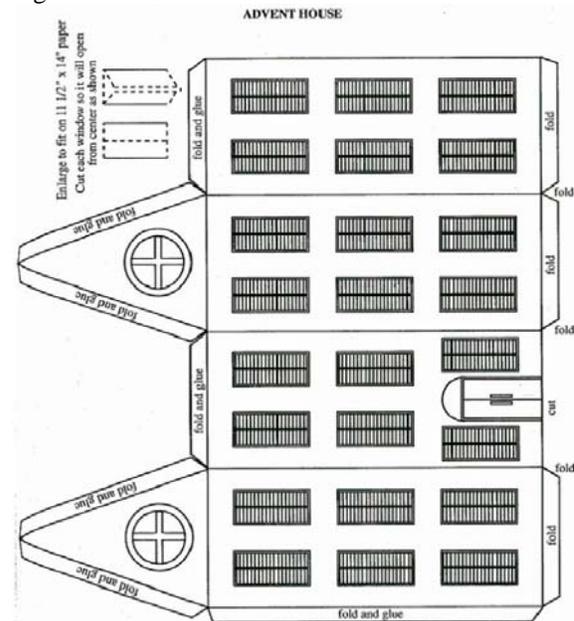
Christmas in Germany

Santa Claus is known in different ways around the world. Boys and girls in Germany call him St. Nicholas, and they have a special day for him on December 6. On the evening of December 5, he visits all German boys and girls in their homes and ask them questions about how well they are doing in their school work, whether they attend church regularly, if they behave well for their parents and teachers, and if they are lazy or slow in doing things they are asked to do around their homes. He visits them on his special day,

December 6. All of the children leave one shoe out for St. Nicholas to either leave candy if they are good or twigs if they are bad.

Advent House

In German culture, beginning in the Black Forest, families make Advent Houses to count down the days until Christmas. Starting on December 1st, with the entire family present, a window in the house is opened. Behind each window is a scene depicting some aspect of the Christmas season. The candle in the center of the house is lighted, and its light shines through the cellophane window. On December 24th, Christmas Eve, the front door of the Advent House is opened to reveal a scene illustrating the night before Christmas.



Directions

- ✓ Enlarge pattern to fit on 11"x14" paper.
- ✓ Trace pattern on tagboard.
- ✓ Cut open 23 windows and front door (an X-acto knife works well).

- ✓ Draw and cut out 24 pictures depicting Christmas to go behind windows and door.
- ✓ Door scene could be Santa or nativity scene.
- ✓ Cut cellophane to fit behind windows allowing a slight overlap for a place to glue.
- ✓ Glue cellophane in place.
- ✓ Glue picture on cellophane.
- ✓ Close shutters with a stick-on star.
- ✓ Fold house on fold lines.
- ✓ Glue on glue tabs.
- ✓ Cut out roof .
- ✓ You may color the roof and glue onto the tabs on the house.
- ✓ Or cut tongue depressors and glue them in the pattern shown, then glue roof onto tabs.
- ✓ Cut a slit in the roof for the chimney (see pattern).
- ✓ Cut, fold, and glue chimney according to pattern.
- ✓ Insert chimney in slit about one-half inch.

Advent Wreath



Advent is celebrated the four Sundays before Christmas. This is a time set aside to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child who brings gifts on the Eve of Christmas. German families have a circle of greenery with four candles in the center that sits in the middle of their table. The first week, one candle is lighted, the second week two candles, and so forth until all four candles are lighted, heralding the many lights of the Christmas tree which are to appear in but a few more days. Traditionally, purple (for repentance) candles were used, and more recently, blue (for hope).

Items Needed:

paper plate; scissors; green and yellow construction paper; violet, red, or white construction paper; yarn

1. Fold the paper plate in half and cut the inside out leaving only the rim.
2. Fold a piece of green construction paper in half and in half again the long way, then open the paper and cut on the lines.
3. Then take each strip and fold it in half and in half again, then open and cut. This will make 16 rectangular pieces.
4. Fold these 16 rectangular pieces in half once again, and draw the shape of a leaf on each piece.
5. Cut the leaves out, and each piece will have two identical leaves. You may draw in the veins using pencil, crayon, etc.
6. These leaves are then glued to the paper plate. Cut additional leaves as needed.
7. Fold a half-sheet of violet, red, or white construction paper in half and in half again lengthwise, then open it and cut. The result is four long, rectangular shapes to be used as the candles.
8. Yellow construction paper is used for the flames, following the same procedure as for cutting out the green leaves.

9. Attach a piece of yarn to the back of the wreath for hanging.

Christmas Tree

The Christmas tree is another tradition that originated in Germany. In such a cold, wintry country, the evergreen was loved as a symbol of hope for the returning of the green of summer. Trees were cut and brought inside where the boughs were decorated with lighted candles.

Pine Cone Christmas Tree



Items Needed:

Dry pine cones
green glitter
glue
sequins
paper star or star sticker
tinsel
button or wooden disc

Directions

- ✓ Paint the pine cone with glue.
 - ✓ Before the glue dries, sprinkle with green glitter.
 - ✓ Top with a paper star.
 - ✓ When the glitter and glue dries, you can glue on sequins or tinsel.
 - ✓ Glue onto the button or wooden disc for a mini-Christmas tree on a stand.
 - ✓ Or hang as an ornament by adding a ribbon.
- Tips:**
- ✓ If you cannot find open pine cones, place some in a 200 degree oven on a cookie sheet. They will open as they dry.
 - ✓ Make a hole towards the top of the design. This is where you will hang the ornament. Using a nail, make indentations to decorate the cut-out. Attach a string to the hole near the top. You now have great aluminum decorations for any occasion.

Christmas in the British Isles

England

Throughout the month of December, people busy themselves preparing for the Christmas festivities. There are the mince pies and Christmas cakes to bake and decorate as well as the all-important Christmas pudding.

In England over the years many superstitions have surrounded this popular festive dessert. It is said puddings should be made by the 25th Sunday after Trinity, prepared with 13 ingredients to represent Christ and His Disciples, and that every member of the family take turns to stir the pudding with a wooden spoon from east to west, in honor of the Three Kings. A silver coin is always dropped into the pudding mixture before it is cooked. This is said to bring wealth, health and happiness to whomever is lucky enough to find it when the pudding is cut.

Children hang stockings on the fireplace or at the end of their beds so when Father Christmas pays a visit, they are

stuffed full of goodies, but only if they have been good! Children also send letters to Father Christmas, which legend has it, if they are tossed in the fireplace, the smoke from them burning gets carried up the chimney directly to the man in the red suit!

In the days leading up to Christmas, groups of carol singers holding candle lanterns, dressed in their hats and scarves to fight off the cold, go from door to door performing traditional Christmas songs for a small charitable donation to their cause. On Christmas Eve night, children leave out a glass of brandy and a mince pie for Santa, and a carrot and bowl of water for the reindeer.

Ireland

The Irish celebrate very much like the English. In addition, in many areas, on Christmas Eve, a lit candle is placed in a window (nowadays it can be an electric light!). This goes back to traditions of hospitality in ancient times. The idea is to help light the way of the Holy Family or any other poor traveler who is out on that night.



December 26th is Boxing Day, also known as St. Stephen's Day. It was a way for the upper class to give gifts of cash, or other goods, to those of the lower classes. There seem to be two theories on the origin of Boxing

Day and why it is celebrated. The first is that centuries ago, on the day after Christmas, members of the merchant class would give boxes containing food and fruit, clothing, and/or money to trades people and servants. The gifts were an expression of gratitude much like when people receive bonuses, from their employer, for a job well done, today. These gifts, given in boxes, gave the holiday its name, "Boxing Day".

The second thought is that Boxing Day comes from the tradition of opening the alms boxes placed in churches over the Christmas season. The contents thereof which were distributed amongst the poor, by the clergy, the day after Christmas.

These days, to keep the tradition of Boxing Day alive, many businesses, organizations, and families donate their time, services, and money to aid Food Banks and provide gifts for the poor, or they may choose to help an individual family that is in need.

What a great extension of the Christmas holiday spirit. You might consider making this holiday a tradition in your family. No matter where you live the simple principle of giving to others less fortunate than yourself can be put into practice.

Christmas in France

In France, Father Christmas is called Pere Noel and he travels in the company of Pere Fouettard. Pere Noel leaves presents for good children, while Pere Fouettard disciplines bad children with a spanking. They leave a snack and a glass

of wine for Pere Noel and beet greens for the donkey that travels with him. Pere Noel is tall and thin. He has a long red robe trimmed with fur.

Pere Noel brings toys to children in a sack. As he comes, he calls out "tralala, tralala, bouli, bouli, boulah."

Families go to church at midnight on Christmas Eve. After church everyone eats a huge dinner called "Le Reveillon." After this large dinner of goose, turkey, chicken, or beef; a fish dish, cheese, bread, wine, and fruit, many families serve a "Buche de Noel." The Buche de Noel is a sponge cake decorated like a Yule log. Some families burn a real log in the fireplace.

French families think that mistletoe is also lucky and hang it everywhere.

Christmas in Latin America

Las Posadas

Nativity Scenes are very common. In fact, Mexicans revere the Nativity so much that they recreate it with "Las Posadas". This is a time of grand celebration and gathering. Many people take part in a reenactment of the Birth of Christ. From some churches, the priest and other believers accompany disguised children who represent Joseph, Mary and some shepherds. They go from door to door and sing popular folk songs asking for a place because 'Mary is going to give birth', and from inside the house the children are answered with popular folk songs denying them the entry, as it happened in Bethlehem according to the Bible. Finally, a door opens and Holly Family may enter.

Many will also attend "Pastorelas" or plays about the shepherds and their visit from the angel. In the spirit of a warm holiday, the outdoor markets offer sunny shopping and cool Christmas crafts. And to think, all these festivities last through 9 days!

On Christmas Eve, kids can expect a visit from "el Ni-o Dios". The Holy Child brings gifts to the good girls and boys. Then on January 6, the three wise men come to visit for "Reyes Magos". The Magi leave more gifts for the children, sometimes in their shoes!

To decorate for a Mexican Christmas, be sure to add some of the beautiful red poinsettias or "La Flor De Noche Buena". They have been a Christmas tradition throughout much of the world since an American ambassador introduced it to South Carolina in the 1820's. A well-dressed Mexican Christmas home would also have to have a piñata! As part of the fun, the children gather around and smack it with sticks until they are showered by the candy explosion!

Make a Piñata

Materials:

10-inch balloon,
newspaper,
wallpaper paste or flour-water mixture,
paint or tissue paper.

Directions

1. For the basic body, inflate a 10" balloon, tie a knot in the end and attach a string. Suspend the balloon by tying the string to an object inside or outside. Be sure it isn't near anything that will cause it to burst.

2. Cover the balloon with several layers of newspaper papier-mâché strips. Let it dry. Two or three layers of papier-mâché are adequate. Let dry completely.
3. Tape on additional balloons and cardboard pieces for head, legs, ears, wings, etc. Cover with two layers of papier-mâché.
4. Insert a bent clothes hanger as a hanger for the piñata. Cover with additional layer of papier-mâché to hold it in place, and then let it dry.
5. After the piñata is completely dry, cut a hole in the back to remove the balloon and add wrapped candy or party favors.
6. Paint the piñata with bright colors. Or, if desired, you can add a finishing touch of tissue paper curls. Fold 3-inch strips of colored tissue paper lengthwise and fringe them by making cuts at ½ inch intervals, leaving a ½ inch uncut edge for gluing. Turn the strips wrong-side out so they will fluff up. Wrap these around the piñata, overlapping each row as you glue it on

To use the piñata

- ✓ Hang it from a tree or other object so it swings freely.
- ✓ Blindfolded participants take turns hitting at the hanging piñata with a stick until it breaks and the goodies fall out.
- ✓ For an added challenge, hang the piñata from a cord or rope that someone can pull on so that the piñata moves up and down, making it harder to hit!

Easy Piñata

Materials:

Used tissue paper,
brown paper bag (can use several bags together),
tape or glue,
magic markers or crayons,
crepe paper,
scissors,
stickers,
wrapped candies or small favors,
yardstick or broom handle

Directions

- ✓ Wad the used tissue paper into balls to make stuffing.
- ✓ Fill the brown bag with the stuffing and treats.
- ✓ Tape or glue shut.
- ✓ Decorate as desired.
- ✓ Cut crepe paper into strips for streamers.
- ✓ Tape or glue streamers to bag.
- ✓ Twist the streamers together to make a hanging loop.
- ✓ Hang piñata in a spot where there is lots of room for treats to fall and children to scramble after them.
- ✓ Take turns with the stick until the piñata is broken.

in Italy

In Italy Christmas begins on 1st of December with the construction of the "Presepio" or Nativity. Many countries set out figurines of Mary, Joseph, and the Baby Jesus, but the Italian presepio is much larger. At the center is a big hut or stable with Mary, Joseph, Jesus, a donkey and the three kings that brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Outside the stable there are shepherds, with sheep of course, fishermen, curious towns people, some angels, houses, lights, little lakes usually made of blue-colored aluminum foil, with everyday animals like geese, dogs, horses, and so

forth. The blacksmith is working in his g his bread, and so forth.

Italian children do not hang stockings at the fireplace for Santa, instead they believe that the Baby Jesus comes to their houses in person to bring them presents. On Christmas Eve, parents give their children corn for Jesus' camels and a glass of milk and cookies for him. In the morning, the goodies are gone, and presents are in their place.

Christmas in Australia

In Australia everything is topsy turvy since Christmas is in the middle of summer. But the Australians have a great time anyway, exchange *Chrissie presies* (not sure I have the spelling right, but those are the words) with each other, and often enjoy a *barbie* (not the doll, but a barbecue) on the beach on December 25th. And they have a good laugh about it all, and celebrate their differences, as they do many things, with a joke on themselves.

Christmas in Russia

St. Nicholas day was celebrated formerly in Russia, but under Communism, he was changed to Grandfather Frost and wore blue instead of red.

Netherlands (Holland)

In the Netherlands, legend has it that Sinterklaas (St. Nicholas) arrives in the Netherlands by way of steamboat from Spain two weeks before his traditional birthday, December 6th, along with his helper, Zwarte Piet (Black Pete), who will help disperse the gifts and candy to all the good children. Sinterklaas, accompanied by Zwarte Piet, goes abroad at night and strides about the countryside wearing his red mantle, his mitre, and his golden crosier and sporting a long, white beard. Referring to his book that lists all the good and bad children, Sinterklaas will deliver pto all the good children, but watch out if you've bebad! The bad children may be taken back to Spain with him.

In anticipation of Sinterklaas's nightly visit, children put their shoes in front of the fireplace. They sing traditional songs and provide a carrot or hay for Sinterklaas's white horse. At one point in the evening before St. Nicholas's birthday, a loud knock will herald his arrival and at the same time candy may be thrown from upstairs; when the door is opened, a bag of gifts will be on the doorstep. At night Black Pete puts gifts and candy in the shoes.

Prior to Christmas, a custom known as Midwinter Horn Blowing is still practiced in parts of the Netherlands. At dusk, farmers take long horns made from elder trees and blow them to announce the coming of Christ.

Festival of Light: St. Martin's Day (Sint Maarten) in Holland

Saint Martin's Day is on November 11th and is celebrated in Holland. Children carry lanterns and go from house to house singing songs. People give them candy and other treats. Here is a song they sing to the tune of "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean:"

Saint Martin once saw a beggar
Who needed some food and some clothes
So he ripped his cape in two pieces
And eased some of the beggar's woes.
Martin, Martin

He always helped those in need, in need
Martin, Martin

He was a saint, yes indeed!

Martin was a good and kind man. On a winter night he was returning home during a snowstorm. He was wearing a cloak. A homeless man appeared in the darkness. Martin felt sorry for the man and gave him half of his cloak. Now he is called St Martin and is known for his kindness to strangers. That is why Saint Martin's Day is celebrated in Holland.

Tin Can Lanterns

Materials:

- 1 ice-filled tin can per child
- hammers and short nails
- 1 bucket and sponge
- 1 8-in. plastic-coated wire per child

Method:

Notes: Prior to the activity, fill one tin can per child with water and freeze overnight to make it easier to puncture holes in the tin. Make lanterns outdoors or indoors on a plastic sheet. Keep sponges and a bucket handy.

1. Use a hammer and nail to punch a hole on either side of the can's open end.
2. Punch more holes all over the sides of the can.
3. When there are enough holes, empty the ice into the bucket and turn the can upside down to dry.
4. To make a handle, push the wire through the first 2 holes made on the can. Twist the wire together at each hole to keep it in place.

St. Lucia Day – Sweden, Finland, Italy, and the Caribbean

St. Lucia Day is celebrated on December 13. The story behind the holiday is of a young Sicilian girl who lived over 1,700 years ago. She would not deny Christianity so she was punished and her eyes were put out. She is pictured as wearing white robes and wearing a crown of light. The light represents the breaking of the winter spell and bringing light into the world.

According to folk tradition, December 13th follows the longest night of the year in Sweden. During the winter there are only a few hours of sunlight each day. St. Lucia is honored this day with her wreath of candles.

The oldest girl in the family is declared St. Lucia on December 13th. On this day she dresses up wearing a white robe with a red sash and a wreath with candles on her head.

The "St. Lucia" of the family serves everyone a special bun called Lussekatter.

Schools have a celebration with a St. Lucia choir. All the girls dress up as St. Lucia and the boys are "Star Boys."

St. Lucia's wreath



Cut a hole in the center of a paper plate so that a child's head will fit in it. Cut out leaves from green construction paper

and have children glue them to the paper plate. Make 7 paper candles stand up around the inside rim of the plate.

Star Boys

Cut an 18 inch wand from cardboard. Cover it with construction paper. Make a white star on the end of it. To make the hat roll a piece of construction paper so that it has a point on the end and staple it in place.

Festival of Light: Loi Krathong (loy-kruh-thong) Festival in Thailand

This holiday is celebrated in Thailand in November each year. "Loy" means "to float" and a "Krathong" is a lotus-shaped vessel made of banana leaves. The Krathong usually contains a candle, three joss-sticks, some flowers and coins.

The festival starts at night when there is a full moon in the sky. People carry their Krathongs to the nearby rivers. After lighting candles and making a wish, they place the Krathongs on the water and let them drift away. People are offering thanks to the Goddess of water.

It is believed that the Krathongs carry away bad luck. The wishes that people make for the new year will start. It is the time to be joyful and happy as the sufferings are floated away.

Krathong Boat

Make a paper boat to launch. Boats in Thailand have flowers and candles on them. Think about what bad feelings or happenings you would like to put on the boat to send away. Try floating your boat on a nearby stream, canal, or even in the bathtub.



If you "Google" paper boat folding you can come up with lots of ways to make paper boats. Here's a few

http://www.mathematische-basteleien.de/paper_ship.htm

<http://www.laits.utexas.edu/hebrew/personal/toolbox/acm/boat.html>

www.origami-kids.com

Festival of Light: Diwali in India

Diwali, meaning array of lights, is a Hindu light festival. It symbolizes the triumph of light over darkness. It is one of the most important celebrations in India.

Although it was originally a Hindu celebration, Diwali is now enjoyed by people of every religion in India. It is a family celebration which takes place in October or November and lasts for five days. This festival of lights celebrates the victory of good over evil and the glory of light.

Commemorating Lord Rama's return to his kingdom Ayodhya after completing a 14-year exile, people decorate their homes, light thousands of lamps and give out sweets. There are fireworks in the streets.

Diwali is a time for fun and rejoicing. However, before the celebration begins there is a lot preparation.

The house must be thoroughly cleaned and windows opened in order to welcome the Laxmi, the goddess of wealth.

People light up their homes using thousands of clay oil lamps to welcome the Goddess.>

During Diwali, Indians buy puffed rice to offer to Lakshmi, the Goddess of Prosperity. Have students put one cup of puffed rice in small squares of plastic wrap. Tell them to hand the rice out to friends.

New clothing is also purchased to be worn during the celebration.

Rangoli Design



- ✓ In India a design using rice flour is made on the floor in front of the family's shrine. Make your own Rangoli design! Use white chalk to draw a design on black construction paper.
- ✓ Color in the design with colored chalk.
- ✓ Spray the finished designs with a fixative.

You can find many Rangoli designs at <http://www.diwalifestival.org/rangoli-patterns-design.html>

TIGERS



Here is a great emblem for your Tiger to begin his patch collection. Available at your scout Shop or www.scoutstuff.org.

This ceremony was updated with deletion of the Tiger Cub Motto and Tigers earning Bobcat before Tiger Rank



This ceremony is designed to welcome new Tiger Cubs and/or groups into Tiger Cubs. The Tiger ceremony prop can be made from wood. Paint a simple Tiger Totem on it and mount the candles or lights as shown. I use a large black circle that I Velcro to a display board. Then I have four round toes, each with a picture for the part being read. The ceremony was based on the old Tiger Promise but was modified to be current. Don't hesitate to modify it even further if you wish. CD

Ceremony:

Narrator: When a boy becomes a Tiger Cub, he is just beginning a trail that will lead him through Cub Scouting

and into Boy Scouting. This Tiger Cub Totem (hold up) is a symbol of the first part of that trail, the Tiger Cub trail, one that you will walk with your adult partner during the coming year as you search, discover, and share the world around you. Tonight I would like to present to each of you this totem to wear on your uniform. It is to remind you of all the fun you will have while working on the Tiger Badge this year with your partner. As you progress through Tiger Cubs and finish each achievement requirement, you will be presented a bead to hang from your Tiger Totem. There are White beads for Family Activities, Orange beads for den activities, and Black beads for Go See It activities. The Tiger Totem has a special meaning for you. Listen carefully as we explain it.

Tiger Leader: The palm in the Totem represents the spirit of scouting (light the front candle). The spirit of scouting is one of helping and friendship. Each toe has a special meaning for you, too. Listen close.

Cubmaster: The first toe is (light first candle) to remind you to of your duty to God. Your parents and religious leaders teach you to know and serve God. By following these teachings, you show your love to God.

Asst CM: The second toe is (light second candle) to remind you to love your family. A Tiger Cub should always be kind and helpful to his family. By helping your home to be a happy place, you show your love to your family.

Asst. TL: The third toe is (light third candle) to remind you to love our country. This means being a good American. You help your community in any way you can. By being a good citizen, you show your love to your country.

Cubmaster: The fourth toe is (light fourth candle) to remind you to always **Do Your Best**, as you search, discover and share in our world. The world we live in is a big and beautiful place. There are many things to learn. As a Tiger cub, you will learn a lot about your world.

Now, each time you see a Tiger Totem, it will help you to remember how to be a good Tiger Cub. Would all Tiger Cubs and their partners please stand and repeat the Cub Scout motto.

"Do Your Best "

Congratulations on completing your first step as Cub Scouts. Welcome!! We are excited to have you in our pack.

I welcome all of you to the adventure of Tiger Cubs! Cubmaster may now lead the pack in a Tiger "spelldown".

Give me a T---(audience yells T!)

Give me an I---(I!)

Give me a G---(G!)

Give me an E---(E!)

Give me an R---(R!)

What's that spell?----(Tigers!)

What's that spell?----(Tigers!)

What do they say?----(R-o-a-r!)

(or do The Tony the Tiger Cheer – "They're great")

Achievement #2 Where I Live

This achievement lets the boys learn about their communities. Learning about their communities will help them realize that when they take care of it the stronger it becomes. And they develop a sense of pride of their communities becoming good citizens of where they live.

Family Activity 2F -

Together with your adult partner, look at a map of your community. The map can be one your adult partner has, or a map that your adult partner draws with you. On that map locate your home, and find three places you like to go. Places to find on the map could be your school, your place of worship, the place where you have your pack meetings, a store, a park or playground, or the house of a friend or a relative.

If the choice is made to draw a map be sure to put this in their scrapbook.

Den Activity 2D -

This Achievement fits with the Citizenship Character Connection. When we say the Pledge of Allegiance we show that we are proud to live in our country.

If you are wearing your Tiger Cub uniform when you say the Pledge of Allegiance, give the Cub Scout salute and face the U.S. flag. You do not have to take off your Tiger Cub cap if you are wearing one. If you say the Pledge of Allegiance when you are not in uniform, remove your hat, and place your right hand over your heart. When you salute or place your hand over your heart, you are showing your respect for the flag.

Practice the Pledge of Allegiance with your den, and participate in a den or pack flag ceremony.

In discussing the Pledge of Allegiance, The Tiger Book stresses the point that "One Nation Under God" should be said as a continuous phrase without a pause in the middle. From personal experience I know saying it this way (although hard at first) adds more meaning to the Pledge for me. Please teach this to your Tigers (and all Scouts).

Thank You – Commissioner Dave

Go See It Activity 2G –

One of the easiest ways to get to know your community is to go out and "do the town." Understand that each community is different and you may not be able to do in one community that you could do in another. The following is a list of suggested places besides the Police Station or Fire Station listed in the Achievement within many communities that the Tiger group could visit when working on this Achievement.

- ✓ Visit Town Hall. Learn what services are available for others within your community.
- ✓ Visit a bakery, a restaurant or store.
- ✓ Have a scavenger hunt. Plan the list of items that can be found locally.
- ✓ Plan a 'make believe' stay at home vacation.
- ✓ What other things can be done or visited in your area.
- ✓ Visit a nursing or retirement home.
- ✓ Take a tray of favors for the children's ward of a hospital.
- ✓ Visit community organizations that give aid to the needy.
- ✓ Visit a recycling center. Take aluminum cans and or plastic containers.
- ✓ Visit fire station, hospital or police station.
- ✓ Visit museums, zoos or historical sites.

**From A to Z What Families Can Do
To Help Their Communities**

Southern NJ Council

- A. **Adopt** a stream, park or roadside to clean up and keep beautiful.
- B. **Bring** lunch to school in a lunch box. Save your paper bags.
- C. **Care** for toys so they will last longer. Then you won't have to replace them and can pass them on.
- D. **Donate** clothes that you have outgrown to a needy person or someone smaller.
- E. **Encourage** others to join you in collecting glass, newspaper and aluminum to be recycled.
- F. **Flatten** empty cans, boxes and other containers so they don't take up so much space
- G. **Get** in the habit of turning off the water when you brush your teeth. Turn it on only to wet your brush and to rinse.
- H. **Help** by caring about our wildlife & be very careful with matches.
- I. **Insist** on buying products that are biodegradable (they rot or decompose when discarded.) Most plastics are not.
- J. **Jog** or walk, ride a bike or scooter from place to place to save energy.
- K. **Keep** jars of cold water in the refrigerator so you won't have to run the tap water waiting for it to get cold.
- L. **Look** for the recycled symbol on products you buy.
- M. **Make** it a habit to cut each six-pack ring. These sometimes wind up in the oceans. Animals often get caught in them.
- N. **Never** litter. Always put your trash in a trash can.
- O. **Open** the blinds in the wintertime to let in the sun. Close blinds in the summer to keep out the sun's heat.
- P. **Plant** a tree to stop soil erosion, give you shade and give birds a home.
- Q. **Quit** buying products that have a lot of packaging.
- R. **Reduce** the amount of water you use to keep clean. Take showers, not baths.
- S. **Save** energy by asking your parents to turn down the thermostat.
- T. **Turn** off lights if you are the last person to leave a room. Turn off appliances if you are not using them.
- U. **Use** products made to be used many times, such as sponges or cloth towels.
- V. **Value** and appreciate your Earth. Realize that you can make a difference.
- W. **Watch** what you pour in the drain. Hazardous waste can get into the ground water.
- X. **eXamine** labels before using products. Certain household cleaners can be dangerous.
- Y. **Yearn** to do what you can to help our environment. Grow up to be an adult who takes an interest, too.
- Z. **Zip** to close doors and windows if they are opened when the heater or air conditioner is on.

WALK AROUND THE BLOCK*Circle Ten Council*

Shadow Walk: Walk only in the shadows, that may require some jumping. (Don't plan this walk at noon since that is when shadows are their shortest)

Smell Walk: Sniff your way around the block. Write down the odors you recognize, and draw a picture of what causes those smells. Label how you feel about each smell.

Color Walk: Choose a color like red and walk only toward red object for as long as you can. Can you make it all the way around your block? Write a history of your color walk. You might try drawing a map of it.

Sound Walk: Listen your way around the block. Write down the sounds you recognize. Draw a picture of the things, which cause these sounds. Label how you feel about each sound.

Other Achievement #2 Ideas*York Adams Council*

Gathering: Have a map of your community spread out on a table. As scouts and their partners arrive, have them mark on the map the location of their home. Compare distances between each Tiger and to the nearest store or local landmark of your choice.

Opening: For Tigers this is short and sweet. Remember the new slogan you are learning in Scouts--**KISMIF (Keep it simple, make it fun)**. Ask a Tiger and his partner to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag. As group leader, explain the theme for this meeting and how you hope everyone will learn a little more about your community.

Information Sharing: Again this is as it sounds. Share any information coming from the Pack, i.e. When is Pack meeting, what do the Tigers need to do to prepare, when the next meeting will be and who is running it. Should there be expenses for the group, now is the time that money should be collected.

Activity: Using the map, that now has the group's homes located, start locating various other parts that make up a community. Go around the room and have each scout name another aspect of the community. Some of these may include: Fire Station, Police Station, Town Hall, Library, favorite restaurants, video store, personal place of worship, hospital or physician's office, and more and more and more. Take a minute with each suggestion and see if your group can tell you how this place helps the community. Believe me the video store will have a totally different answer than the police station.

Now it is time to get away from the table. Ask the boys to do an impromptu skit where they meet one by one on the street and each is going somewhere different. See how many places within the community they wish to go. This is the adult partner's time to see the hidden hams within their boys.

Closing: Congratulate the Tigers for a job well done on their skit. Remind partners of any future commitments and gather everyone in a circle for your closing comments. This can be just a single statement of what your community means to

you. Thank everyone for coming and send them on their way.

Meeting Ideas

1. Draw a map of your community and include places of interest as listed from the group.
2. Make fire chief and policeman puppets as found in the Tiger Cub Resource book.
3. Play pin your town on the map, again described in the Tiger Cub Resource book.
4. Using a town map, plan and do a Town bike trip.

PACK AND DEN ACTIVITIES**Advancement Ideas:**www.cubroundtable.com

Tigers – Ach 1D, 1F
Elect. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 14

Wolf – Ach 2A, 11A,
Elect. 4A, 9A, 9B, 9C, 11D, 17C, 20E, 20F

Bear – Ach 1A, 8B, 13C, 16A, 18B, 22B
Elect. 20B

Advancement Ideas:*Alice, Golden Empire Council*

The **Language & Culture or Heritage Belt** Loops fits this theme – especially if you are learning how different people celebrate – boys of every rank can work on it.

Tiger Achievements:

Ach. #1D – make a family scrapbook to show how your family celebrates (check the RAFT site for a way to use recycled materials); **Ach. #4D** – use this as a “springboard” to talk about how misunderstanding of another culture can lead to bias;

Ach. #5F – Character Connection of Faith;

Tiger Electives:

Elec. #1 – Share how different families celebrate;

Elec. #2 – make some decorations for a celebration;

Elec. #4 – frame a picture of your family enjoying a celebration;

Elec. #6 – share a song used for a celebration;

Elec. #7 – make and play an instrument used to celebrate in your own or another culture;

Elec. #8 – getting to know your religious leader can help you complete the Faith Character Connection;

Elec. #11 – do a project to help the needy;

Elec #12 – make some cards to share with someone who is lonely;

Elec. #25 – make a holiday snack to share;

Elec. #36 – go to a holiday musical performance or play with your family or den;

Wolf Achievements:

Ach. #5 – if tools are being used to make a gift for someone;

Ach. #8c – if you make breakfast for your family for St. Lucia's Day – (check out the ideas for Dec. 13th);

Ach. #10b – if you make a game for your family for Christmas;

Ach. #10f,g – if you attend a Holiday program or have a game night with your family;

Ach. #11 – Complete the Character Connection for Faith and work on the religious award for your faith;

Wolf Electives:

Elec. #3 – make something useful (how about door stops for your chartered organization or your church?);

Elec. #6b – if you choose a book about holiday customs or another culture;

Elec. #9 – if you help prepare for a holiday party or make a gift for someone;

Elec. #11d – if you learn and sing three special Christmas songs, perhaps for a Christmas program at school or church;

Elec. #20d – if you go skiing,

Elec. #20e, f – if you go ice skating or skate outdoors;

Elec. #22 – if you learn phrases in another language to celebrate another culture's holiday.

Bear Achievements:

Ach. #1 – Faith Character Connection;

Ach. #2 – work on the religious award for your faith;

Ach. #9f – make a special holiday dessert;

Ach. #10b – have a family fun night at home or make some gifts together;

Ach. #13 a, b, c, f, g – Help shop for groceries for Holiday meals, compute the cost per person, learn how to save and keep records of your spending, play a board game that involves using money;

Ach. #15c – explain and play a game from another country with your den;

Ach. #17a – choose a holiday show to watch with an adult;

Ach. #18d, e – Write an invitation or thank you notes.

Bear Electives:

Elec. #2 – study and chart the weather;

Elec. #8 – if you make and play an instrument to celebrate a cultural holiday, or if you play an official instrument as part of holiday performances;

Elec. #11 – if you use a camera to help record holiday and family fun;

Elec. #20b, c – if you participate in skiing or ice skating.

Webelos Activity Badges:

Artist 3, 6, 7, 8 – if you use these talents to make a gift for someone;

Craftsman (assigned) – use your skills to make gifts – 2 wooden objects and 4 items from clay, plastic, leather, metal or some other material;

Family Member #8 – plan a family fun night and #11 – earn the Heritage Belt Loop;

Scientist (assigned) – try the M&M Chromatography experiment as part of the Science

Belt Loop; Showman, if you do any of the suggested requirements in connection with holiday performances or pack meeting skits, or if you make a set of puppets and put on a show as a special gift.

Ideas for Pack Activities:

Baltimore Area Council

- ✓ Go caroling at a nursing home
- ✓ Sponsor a mitten tree and give mittens to the homeless
- ✓ Adopt a needy family
- ✓ Collect canned goods for the needy
- ✓ Do a neckerchief slide exchange in your Pack
- ✓ Initiate a collection for the World Friendship Fund

- ✓ Have a Pack dinner and have families bring food that their forefathers used to celebrate with
- ✓ Ideas for Den Activities:
- ✓ Learn about holiday customs of the various families in your Den
- ✓ Post a world map and let the boys label where their families came from
- ✓ Make holiday cookies
- ✓ Invite someone from another country to speak at your Den meeting.
- ✓ Have an old fashioned taffy pull
- ✓ Do a good turn for a friend

Milk Jug Luminary

DesPlaines Valley Council

These are my favorite luminaries!! CD

Materials

Sand,
empty plastic gallon milk containers,
votive candles or tea lights,
scissors,
fireplace matches

Directions:

1. Clean milk gallons and remove all labels.
2. On the side nearest the handle, cut a slit one inch tall and three inches long about one inch up from the bottom.
3. Pour about one inch of sand into the container. Shake to distribute sand evenly.
4. Push votive or tea light into the middle of the sand.
5. Use fireplace matches to light.

Tips

These are very unusual luminary. They don't blow over or get snuffed out if it's wet and windy. They give a lovely white light. At a cost of 10 cents each, they are a very inexpensive way to decorate the outdoors at Christmas and other times of the year. Care must be taken to place the tea light near the center of the container but not directly under the spout.

Ojos de Dios (Eyes of God)

Baltimore Area Council



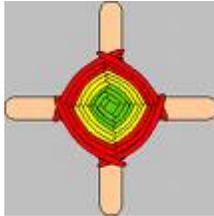
Mexican Yarn Decorations

The symbolism of God's Eyes goes back many thousands of years and was found in many cultures. They first became popular with the Huichal (whe-cal) Indians of Mexico. They made the God's Eyes as a symbol to protect their home from evil spirits. The God's Eye is now used widely in the southwestern United States as a decoration.

The Ojos can be made in various sizes, from toothpick frames to be used as Christmas tree ornaments to huge wall decorations. The colors used in the Ojos have a special significance:

- White - Unknown life before birth
- Red - Life Itself
- Yellow - Sun, moon, stars
- Blue - Sky and water
- Black - Death
- Brown - Soil
- Green - Vegetation

General Instructions

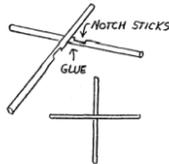


An Ojo made with a popsicle stick base is a good size for Cub Scouts to begin with.

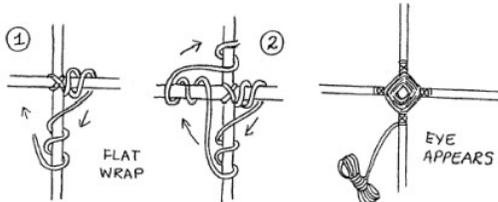
When making mini Ojos with toothpicks, it is best to use crochet thread rather than yarn.

The yarn is too bulky for the toothpicks.

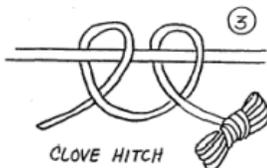
To Form the Eye or Center:



Two round sticks are needed to form the skeleton. Use toothpicks for tiny Ojos or dowels for larger Ojos. Flat sticks (popsicle or craft sticks) can also be used to create a different look. Round sticks should be notched in the middle and glued together to form a cross.



Wrap yarn around the sticks as shown in Fig. 1. Holding the skeleton in your left hand, wrap yarn over and around each stick (completely encircling the stick). This is the basic wrap. See Fig. 2. Work clockwise if you are right-handed. Continue wrapping in this manner until the desired center size is reached, making sure that you lay the yarn next to the previous row and do not overlap rows.



Changing Colors: To change colors, simply clove hitch (see Fig. 3) and cut the yarn, leaving about 1/2" to be concealed and held by following wraps. Always start a new color on a different arm from the one you just wrapped. Begin the new color with a clove hitch also. White glue can be used to secure ends if necessary.

The Flat Wrap.

This is what you used to make the center. It is done by wrapping over and around each stick, wrapping clockwise. It can be used anywhere else in the design of your Ojo.

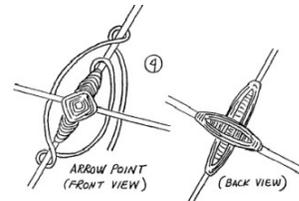
The Back Wrap or Recess Wrap.

This gives your Ojo a 3 dimensional look. It is done by wrapping behind your stick.

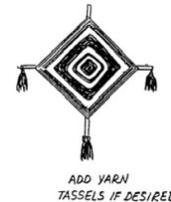
Turn Ojo over and work on backside wrapping in same manner as Front Wrap.

Since part of this Back Wrap will be covered by the Front Wrap, make it a little wider than you wish to be visible from the front side.

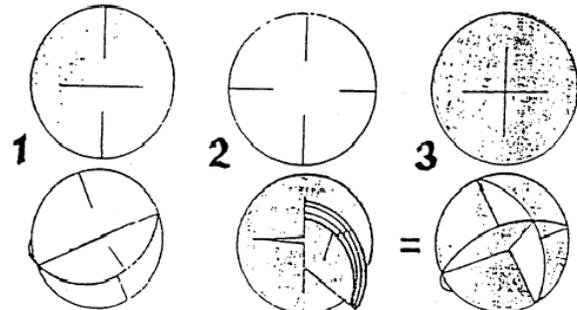
Arrow Points.



Wrap one stick at a time (opposite ends of the same stick). Attach your yarn and wrap around stick 1; Bring your yarn across stick 1 and behind stick 2. Do not cross yarn behind sticks. Wrap up and around stick 3, behind stick 4 and back up to stick 1. Repeat this until you have 8 to 10 rounds. See Fig. 4..



Japanese Wind Ball
Baltimore Area Council



A favorite toy of Japanese children is a paper wind ball, which they make themselves. Try making your own, using colored paper to make it more attractive. When you are finished, even the slightest breeze will make your ball move merrily along

- ✓ Make 3 paper disks about 4" in diameter, using fairly stiff paper.

- ✓ Cut the 1" and 2" slots in disks
The center slots on Disks 1 and 3 are 2 inch
The edge slots on Disk 1 and 2 are 1 inch
- ✓ Slide disk #2 into the center slot of #1.
- ✓ Open it out, then fold #1 and #2 together along the center slot of #1 .
- ✓ Slide them into one slot of #3.
- ✓ Open them out.
- ✓ The sections form your wind ball.
Now if you want your Cubs can play with them or decorate them for tree ornaments!

Cookie Cutter Bird Treats
Trapper Trails Council

Materials:

- Mixing bowls,
- measuring cups,
- measuring spoons,
- mixers-electric or manual,
- rolling pin,
- drinking straws, and
- ribbon.

Ingredients:

- 1 Cup unsalted butter, softened
- 3 eggs, beaten,
- 3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour, sifted
- 1 teaspoon baking soda,
- 1 1/2 teaspoons cream of tartar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, mixed birdseed

Directions:

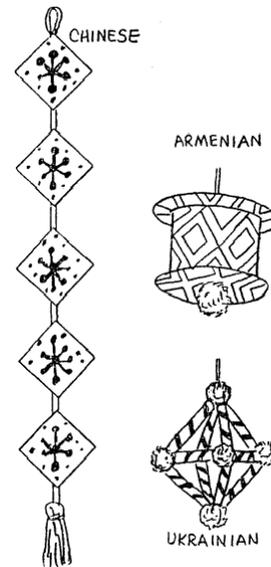
- ✓ Cream the butter, then beat in the eggs.
- ✓ Sift together the flour, baking soda, cream of tartar, and salt.
- ✓ Gradually add the dry ingredients to the butter and egg mixture.
- ✓ When well mixed, cover and chill.
- ✓ Flour surface of cabinet top and roll out the dough to about a 1/4 in thickness.
- ✓ Cut out shapes with the cookie cutters;
- ✓ at the top of each cookie, make a hole with a drinking straw.
- ✓ Press in a coating of the birdseed.
- ✓ Preheat oven to 350 and bake for about 12 minutes.
- ✓ When cookies are cool, insert a length of ribbon through each and tie.

Caroling Party

Sam Houston Area Council

The whole idea is to spread good cheer and holiday spirit to each of your Scouts' families by having the boys sing carols at each boy's house. At each house have the parent provide a different refreshment. For instance, the first house could provide hot cocoa. The next house could provide cookies. The next house could provide some finger sandwiches, and so on, until all of the boys' homes have been visited.

Christmas Around the World
Baltimore Area Council



These ornaments are copies of those used in countries around the world.

Chinese.

- ✓ Use 10 squares cut from colorful wrapping paper.
- ✓ Place 5 of them face down and apply glue to each square.
- ✓ Lay a length of string, yarn or wrapping ribbon, connecting the squares and leaving some at each end.
- ✓ Put glue on backs of other 5 squares and lay them one by one on top of the first 5.

Armenian.

These drum-shaped ornaments are made from a ribbon spool or cardboard roll piece with cardboard circles on top and bottom.

- ✓ Cover with decorative wrapping paper.
- ✓ Add cotton ball or ornament on bottom.

Ukrainian.

Materials

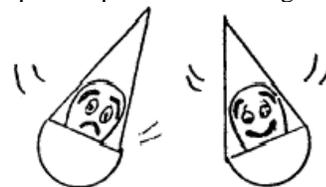
- Darning Needle
- Yarn
- Pieces Of Soda Straw
- Ball Fringe Tufts

Use a darning needle and yarn, join together pieces of soda straw and ball fringe tufts into pyramids, squares or other shapes.

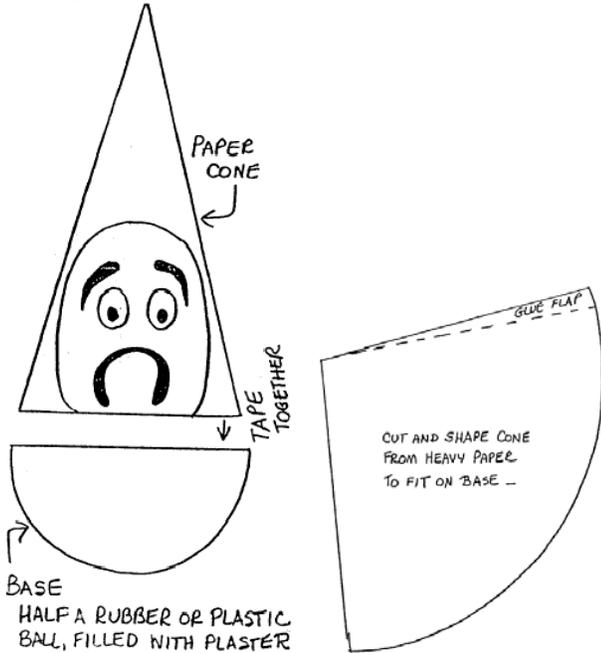
Daruma Dolls from Japan

Baltimore Area Council

According to legend, Dharma, a 6th century Indian Buddhist, sat immobile and meditated for nine years. This resulted in a paralysis so severe that he lost the use of his arms and legs. There are stories that say he rolled all the way from India to Japan to spread his teachings.



These self-righting dolls would make a nice Christmas gift for little brother or sister, or for the Cubs to take to a children's hospital. They are decorated in dark blue and bright red; are made in pairs to keep each other company; and are regarded as the symbol of two happy people. Some are made in the form of masks representing goblins and foxes and are used by the farmers as scarecrows to protect their crops.



Place them on a flat surface, then touch them at the top of the cone and watch them roll and roll. Move the top in a slight circle and see what happens.

Paper Maché Piñata

Baltimore Area Council

- ✓ Follow basic directions for doing paper maché.
- ✓ For body, inflate a balloon. The size and shape will be determined by the type of animal or figure you are making. Two or three layers of maché is good. Let dry.
- ✓ Tape on additional balloons and cardboard pieces for head, legs, cars, wings, etc.
- ✓ Cover entire Piñata with two layers of maché. Let dry.

After the piñata is the desired shape and completely dry,

- ✓ Cut a hole in the back to remove balloon and add wrapped candy or favors.
- ✓ Fasten a cord to the top for hanging.

If desired, you can add a finishing touch of tissue paper curls which cover typical Mexican Piñatas.

- ✓ Fold three lengthwise and fringe.
- ✓ Turn strips wrong side out so they will fluff up.
- ✓ Fold several strips together and cut all at once.
- ✓ Wrap these around the piñata, overlapping each row as you glue it on.

Another Suggestion for a Piñata

Make a globe of the world and paint the names of the countries that have Scouting on it.

Hang the piñata up at a pack meeting and let the Dens go at it.

HOLIDAY TIME

Sam Houston Area Council

The holidays are a time of laughter and good cheer, for gathering together and making memories that will last forever. These holiday traditions will live from year to year.

Some outdoor activities that you and your den can do are:

- ✓ Decorate an outside tree with homemade animal-friendly decorations, such as strings of popcorn, birdseed balls, and pinecone/peanut butter feeders.
- ✓ Take a car or bus ride through neighborhoods gaily decorated with bright shining lights and lawn ornaments.
- ✓ Stroll through the neighborhood singing holiday carols.
- ✓ Take a walk in the woods gathering pinecones and other nature items to use to make holiday decorations and presents. End each activity with a holiday party!

Water Glass Symphony

Trapper Trails

Items Needed:

- 8 glasses of about the same size and shape,
- teaspoons,
- water

Directions

- ✓ Line up eight glasses.
- ✓ Fill the first glass about 1/8th full of water for the high note, the second glass should be 1/4 full, the third glass should be 3/8ths full for the next note, and so on.
- ✓ Each glass should sound like a note on the music scale (do, re, mi, fa, sol, la, ti, do).
- ✓ You may need to tune your music scale (add or remove water with teaspoon) until each note rings true.
- ✓ Use a metal teaspoon to gently tap out the scale and any other familiar melodies (Jingle Bells, Silent Night). Or, assign each glass a number or letter.
- ✓ Conduct the symphony by calling out the number or letter, and letting each musician tap his glass.

CRACKED ICE CANDLES

Trapper Trails

Items Needed:

- 1/2 gallon paper milk carton
- 10" candle
- 1 1/2 lb. paraffin
- 3 trays of ice cubes
- Crayon bits (optional)

Directions

1. Cut the top from the carton and rinse out any milk or juice.
2. Crack ice cubes into large pieces. Drain off any water and return to freezer.
3. Melt the paraffin in a double boiler over low heat. Do not melt wax over direct flame. Always have adult supervision while working with wax.
4. For color, add crayon bits to melting wax.
5. While the wax is melting, center candle in carton and surround with cracked ice.
6. Quickly pour the melted wax over the ice.
7. Let cool for half an hour, then cut off car-ton.

TREAT BASKET*Trapper Trails***Items Needed:**

Clear plastic soda bottle, cleaned
 3/8 inch satin ribbon
 hole punch
 ruler
 scissors
 craft knife
 paint

Directions

1. Using the craft knife, an adult should cut 2 1/4" from the bottom of the bottle.
2. Punch ten holes, about 1" apart, 1/2" down from the edge of the dish.
3. Paint as desired.
4. When paint is dry, thread a 22" length of ribbon over and under through the holes, leaving a 2" tail at the beginning.
5. Tie ribbon ends together. Fill with favorite treats.

Christmas Cinnamon Ornaments*Trapper Trails***Items Needed:**

1 cup applesauce
 1 oz. powdered cinnamon
 1 oz. ground cloves
 1 oz. ground nutmeg
 1 oz ground ginger
 cinnamon for cutting board.

Directions

- ✓ Combine ingredients to make a stiff dough.
- ✓ Roll out on board dusted with ground cinnamon.
- ✓ Cut with cookie cutters of your choice.
- ✓ Using a straw, put a hole in the top for string.
- ✓ Lay out flat to dry.
- ✓ Turn over every 12 hours until completely dry.

Pomander*Sam Houston Area Council***Materials:**

Firm, fresh oranges or lemons,
 whole dried cloves,
 toothpick,
 nylon net,
 ribbons or pretty yarn

Directions:

- ✓ Use the toothpick to poke holes in the orange skin
- ✓ Insert a whole clove into each hole. You can randomly place the cloves in the orange, as close together as you can or you can make a neat vertical or horizontal pattern.
- ✓ If you want to add a richer, spicier scent, roll the finished pomander in a mixture of cinnamon, allspice, and nutmeg.
- ✓ Now, set the pomander aside to dry for several weeks.
- ✓ It will shrink and get hard (as the orange gets dehydrated).
- ✓ Wrap it in a square of nylon net and
- ✓ Tie the ends with the ribbon.
- ✓ It's ready to hang in a closet or give as a gift.

Popcorn Wreath*Sam Houston Area Council***Materials:**

Cardboard base (a pizza box is perfect or a cake round),
 lots of popped corn,
 glue,
 yarn,
 ribbon, scissors

Directions:

- ✓ Cut the center of the cardboard out to create the wreath base.
- ✓ Punch a hole near the edge and tie a loop of yarn through it to be used for hanging later.
- ✓ Pour glue out on a recycled meat tray.
- ✓ Put the popped corn into a bowl, and
- ✓ One piece at a time dip popcorn in the glue and stick onto the wreath base.
- ✓ Cover the base completely with the popcorn.
- ✓ Decorate with tiny yarn or ribbon bows, glued on here and there.

Gumdrop Tree*Sam Houston Area Council***Materials:** Styrofoam cone, toothpicks, candy gumdrops**Directions:** Place gumdrops on table. Stick a toothpick into each gumdrop. Press toothpicks into Styrofoam cone. Cover the cone completely. The ornaments are edible.**Stamped Christmas Wrapping Paper***Sam Houston Area Council***Materials:**

Pre-cut shaped sponges, or sponges you cut into shapes,
 tempera paint
 construction paper or white butcher paper,
 paint tray, paper towels

Directions:

- ✓ Pour tempera paint over several layers of paper towels on tray to form an inkpad.
- ✓ Dip sponges into paint.
- ✓ Tamp onto paper.
- ✓ When dry, use as gift-wrap.

Christmas Bells*Sam Houston Area Council***Materials:** Paper cups, tin foil, ribbon, jingle bells**Directions:** Cover cups with foil. Punch a hole in the bottom of each and string a ribbon through the hole, securing with a knot. Tie a jingle bell (or two) at the other end of the ribbon. Hang from Christmas tree.**Holiday Smells From Far Away***Sam Houston Area Council***Materials:** Stamps, construction paper, medium grade sandpaper, holiday cookie cutter, pencil, scissors, ground cinnamon, glue, markers, envelope**Directions:** Fold a piece of construction paper in half to form a card. Trace cookie cutter onto sandpaper and cut out shape. Sprinkle cinnamon on the sandpaper, and rub in with your finger. Shake off the excess spice. Glue the cookie shapes on the front of the card. Write your holiday message inside the card. Mail to someone special.

Hanukkah Ideas
Viking Council

Background

The holiday dates back 2200 years. Jews lived in Palestine, then occupied by the Syrians. Antiochus was the king of Syria. He wanted the Jews to accept the religion of the Greeks. Some did and some did not. Those that did not formed a band of loyal Jews. They were named the Maccabees. Mattahhis was their father, and Judah Maccabee was their leader. After three years, the band captured Jerusalem, cleaned and repaired the Holy Temple. They found a small cruse of oil to light the eternal light. However, there was only enough for one day and they sent for more oil. The small amount of oil lasted for eight days instead of one, until more oil was secured. This was considered the miracle, although the victory of the small ban over the Syrian Army was also considered a miracle.

Hanukkah is celebrated the 25th day of Kislev in the Hebrew calendar. It falls somewhere between Thanksgiving and New Years each year.

In homes, people decorate with paper products. They light candles each day. They start with one candle and the "shammus" which lights the other candles, and add one candle each night. They sing songs, eat potato pancakes and Hanukkah cookies. Also they exchange Hanukkah gifts and Hanukkah "gelt" (small amounts of money). They play games with the "dreidle" or top.

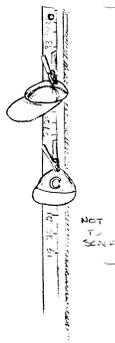
Craft Ideas

Menorah - piece of wood (oblong); bottle caps, wooden spools, etc., paint, glue. Must have 9 holders, one either larger or elevated as the "Shammas".

Stained Glass Windows waxed paper, shapes of tissue paper (can also be done with Christmas colors and symbols). Iron Hanukkah shapes between two pieces of wax paper.

Holiday cards (may also be done with Christmas symbols) dip holiday cookie cutters in paint and print on colored paper (can also use potato or vegetable print)

Caps On! Caps Off! Clipper!
DesPlaines Valley Council



Material:

Wooden measuring (yard or meter) stick,
5 wooden spring clothes pins,
wood glue (stronger), Glue gun (impatient boys),
paints and brushes

Directions:

1. Glue one clothespin at each of the 6", 12", 18", 24", and 30" marks. Use either wood glue or hot glue depending on your needs. Body of pins should line up on the centerline of the stick. Jaws should line up with numbers.

2. Paint a funny face on each pin.

3. Clip a baseball cap at each pin and hang on wall.

Less than \$1.00 apiece. Local merchants may donate the measuring sticks, so cost drops to 15 cents each.

Tips

This is very popular with boys because it is both practical (holds five baseball caps) and fanciful (chomping monster faces). These can be very quick to make if no decorating is done. Some boys will really get into painting and decorating the faces so allow time for it. Be sure the pins are glued down so that jaws are at opposite end of stick from the hanging hole or the chomping monsters will be hidden by the caps when the stick is hung on a wall. These make great craft sale items.

Pinecone Ornaments

Sam Houston Area Council

Materials: Pinecones, red, green, or white spray paint gold or silver paint, string or thread, paint brush

Directions: Put the pinecones on a sheet of newspaper. Spray the cones on one side. Allow them to dry, then spray the other side. When dry, paint the tips in gold or silver and let dry. If cones are "soft", sew a foot-long heavy thread through the bottom of each cone. If they are wooden-like, tie a ribbon through the bottom spurs of each cone. Now, you have ornaments for packages, a wreath, a Christmas tree, or to hang on a door with a big bow.

Christmas Tree Ornaments

Sam Houston Area Council

Ingredients: 4 cups flour, 1 cup salt, 1 1/2 cups water, paper clips, tempera paints, thread, clear plastic spray

Directions: Mix the flour, salt and water to make flour clay. Rub your hands with flour and knead the mixture for at least five minutes, until thickened. Mold and shape the clay into Christmas wreaths, trees, stars, or whatever you like. For adding details, try using a toothpick to "etch" the clay. Finished pieces should be no thicker than 1/2 inch and no bigger than 3 inches. For a hanging hook, stick one end of a paper clip into the shape. Cover a cookie sheet with foil, and place your clay shapes on it. Bake in an oven at 350 degrees for about 12 to 20 minutes. When done, your clay will be light brown in color. When tapped with a fork, it will make a solid ringing sound. Decorate your clay ornaments with paints. When paint is dry, spray the ornaments with clear plastic coating. Tie a thread through each paper clip and hang them on your tree.

Gift Tags

Sam Houston Area Council

Materials: Used greeting cards, scissors, thread or thin string, and a hole punch

Directions: Select pictures, designs or greetings that would make attractive gift tags (make sure there is no writing on the back). Cut the tags into different shapes and sizes or make small folders. Punch a hole in the corner of each tag. Cut a 5" piece of string, loop it through the hole and knot.

Read a story or poem about snow*Northwest Suburban Council*

There is something magical about snow, the way it blankets fields, and rests on tree branches; the way it softens a landscape, and quiets a city.

Some ideas are –

The Big Snow

Berta and Elmer Hader (story)

First Snow

Marie Louise Allen (poem)

It Fell in the City

Eve Merriam (poem)

Snow

Karla Kuskin (poem)

The Snowy Day

Ezra Jack Keats (story)

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

Robert Frost (poem)

When All the World Is Full of Snow

N.M. Bodecker (poem)

Make a Snow Gauge*Northwest Suburban Council*

You can measure the amount of snowfall with a homemade gauge made from any container that you can mark off in inches or centimeters. A simple but effective gauge can be made from the bottom half of a clear plastic soda bottle, marked with an indelible laundry marker on the outside. Though less reliable because of the way snow drifts, you can also measure snowfall with a yardstick. Compare your findings with the forecasted amount

Put several gauges outdoors--near a tree, out in the open, on your front steps--and see if they all measure the same. Are you surprised?

Candy Menorah*St. Louis Area Council***Materials:**

- Styrofoam pieces for base,
- 9 peppermint sticks,
- 9 candy kisses
- Frosting

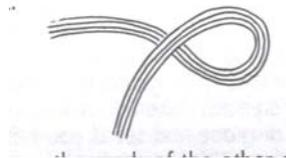
Directions:

- ✓ Cut a 1" square of foam and glue to center of foam base
- ✓ Push four peppermint sticks into the foam to one side of the center.
- ✓ Push four peppermint sticks into the other side.
- ✓ Push the central peppermint stick into the center.
- ✓ On the first day of Hanukkah, "light" the Shamash and the first "candle" on the right.
- ✓ To light the candles, dab some frosting onto the top of the candy stick and attach a candy kiss.
- ✓ Candles are lit from right to left.
- ✓ On the eighth day, the edible parts of the menorah may be eaten in celebration of the holiday.

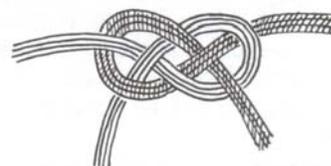
Japanese Mizuhiki knots*Alice, Golden Empire Council*

- ✓ Japanese gifts are often wrapped in paper and then tied with a traditional bow, called mizuhiki – they are thin colored cords, and can even be found at craft stores.
- ✓ Here's how to make your own mizuhiki knot:

- ✓ Select eight cords, four of one color and four of another color.
- ✓ Make a loop about 6 inches from one end with four of the cords, making sure they lay flat.



- ✓ Now weave the cords of the other color in and out of the first loop as shown in the picture.



- ✓ Trim the ends near the knot evenly.
- ✓ Center the knot on the front of the box;
- ✓ Now flip the entire box over, holding the mizuhiki in place.
- ✓ Tape the cords to the box where they overlap, then trim any extra.
- ✓ This looks great with traditional Japanese papers, plain fabric with a weave to it, or even brown paper!

More Pack & Den Activities*Alice, Golden Empire Council***Learn about Festivals of Light around the world**

Explore how various cultures celebrate light – almost every culture has some celebration at the end of the year or to celebrate the New Year – many with lights. One that fell on November 9 this year is Diwali, a Hindu festival honoring the once banished mythic hero Rama and his wife Sita – Lakshmi, goddess of prosperity, is welcomed into homes decorated at the entrance with patterns made in rice flour, called rangoli. Candles and rows of oil lamps are lit all five nights of the festival, giving thanks for blessings of the past year, and lighting the way for good fortune in the next. One fun custom is drawing small footprints with rice flour and vermilion powder all over the house, indicating that Lakshmi is coming. Diwali is celebrated all over India – in some places, the fourth day is Annakoot, meaning Mountain of Food – statues of deities are given milk baths and offered huge trays of delicious sweets.

Invite pack families to choose a country and share how the Holidays are celebrated there. There is lots of information, including recipes, music, crafts, etc. available on the internet, from teachers, or in books in the Children's section of the library – ask the librarian for help.

Check with local colleges or universities – if they have an International Student's organization, they could share holiday customs from around the world.

Go caroling through a neighborhood or at a convalescent hospital. Then adjourn for Holiday cookies and hot chocolate.

Decorate small trees to share with shut-ins. Each family or den gets a small artificial tree to decorate in some way – deliver along with simple fruit or breads – or just sing some carols as you deliver the trees.

Have each person bring a can of food as their “ticket” to the Pack Meeting. The food can be given to a food bank. Or you could even organize to fill a basket for a family with food for the Holidays.

Make photo-op cardboard cutouts for the Pack Meeting. Trace or use an overhead projector to make large cardboard “murals” of a holiday scene from different countries. Each family gets a mural to paint and display at the Pack Meeting. Leave the faces blank so they can be cut out, making a hole for people to put their head into for a photo op. (*Coloring books can be a great resource for simple pictures – and you can use an overhead projector to enlarge them-Alice*) Families could also be ready to describe how the holidays are celebrated in their assigned, or chosen country.

Collect favorite books in good condition, or collect funds to buy some new ones – present them to a children’s shelter or a school library.

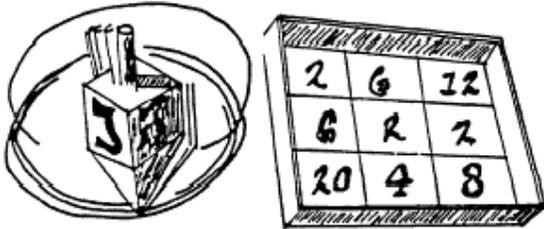
Families, dens or the whole pack can adopt some grandparents for the Holidays, someone without family in the area – invite them to your Pack meeting, have special small gifts for them – and maybe ask them to tell about their childhood Christmas.

Make a Pack calendar for 2008: Take photos of the boys doing activities throughout the year, or have them design a picture for each month. Blank calendar pages are available for printout online – but to make this a really useful calendar, add the dates of special pack activities, such as Blue and Gold Dinner, Pinewood Derby, even den meetings – of course, this means you would have had to have a yearly planning meeting. If you aren’t prepared to do it this year, remember to get an early start in 2008!

GAMES

Dreidel Games

Baltimore Area Council



The Dreidel Game is played by making a game board from a large box top which has been squared off with appropriate numbers in each square. Each player spins the dreidel and

adds or subtracts his or her score depending upon which side of the dreidel faces up and on which number it rests. For example, if the dreidel faces up Stell on 20, the player loses 20. First player to accumulate 25 points is the winner. The Put-Take-Nothing Game begins with each player receiving an equal amount of small candy, raisins or nuts. Each player puts one item into a "pot", or "kitty", and the players spin the dreidel in turn. Scoring is the same as in the Dreidel Game. When a player gets "Gantz", or all, each player puts in another item to make a new "pot". The game ends when one player has accumulated all of the items.

International Games

Baltimore Area Council

Bivoe Ebuma (Clap Ball)

Cameroon, Africa

Divide den into two teams. Teams line up parallel and facing each other six feet on either side of a center line. The two teams toss a small rubber ball back and forth. No player may step across the center line. When the ball is caught, the catcher must clap his hands and stamp his feet once. If a player forgets to clap and stamp, a point is scored against his team. Keep the ball moving fast.

Catch the Dragon’s Tail

Taiwan

Two single lines are formed with each person’s hands on the shoulder of the person in front of him.

Until the signal “GO” is given, the dragons must each remain in a straight line. The starter begins the countdown - “Em-Er-San-Ko!” or “I-2-3-GO!” The “fiery head” of each line then runs toward the “lashing tail” and tries to catch the last man. The whole dragon body must remain unbroken. If anyone lets go, the dragon’s body is broken and the dragon dies. A new dragon must be formed with the head becoming the tail and the next in line having a turn at being the head. If, however, the head player touches the tail, he may continue to be the head.

Ringalevio

USA

Ringalevio is a variation of Hide and Seek. There are two teams, runners and chasers. Chasers stand inside a circle (base), eyes closed counting to 100 while the runners hide in the area. The chasers begin to hunt and when a runner is caught, the chaser shouts “Ringalevio.” The runner is then taken to base. The idea is to capture all runners, but a speedy runner can save his friends by stepping inside the circle (without being caught). When all runners are captured, change sides.

Coyote and The Sheep

USA

One boy is the shepherd, one the coyote and the rest are sheep. The shepherd and the sheep form a line, hands clasped around waist of the boy ahead, with the shepherd in front. As the coyote approaches, the shepherd asks, “What do you want?” The coyote replies, “I want fat meat!” The shepherd calls, “Then go to the end of the line where the fattest lambs are.”

The whole line of sheep still holding onto each other begins to run away. The coyote gives chase, trying to tag the last sheep in line. When the coyote tags the last sheep, the

shepherd becomes the coyote, the next boy in line becomes the shepherd, the coyote goes to the end of the line.

Chef Manda (The Chief Orders)

Brazil

One Cub Scout is the Chief and stands in front. When he says, "The Chief orders you to laugh," all other players must laugh. If he says, "He orders you to laugh," no one should laugh because all valid commands are prefaced by "The Chief". A player who does not obey proper orders is eliminated.

La Canasta (The Basket)

Brazil

The players sit in a circle. Each is assigned the name of a different fruit. "IT" stands in the center and says, "I went to the market and bought some pears and grapes (or other fruit)." The players assigned the fruit "IT" mentioned try to change places while "IT" tries to sit down in one of their places. The one left standing is the next "IT".

Cherry Chop

France

This is usually played with cherry pits at harvest time. You can use pebbles or marbles. Place a shallow bowl about two feet in front of a line of Cub Scouts. Put one pebble or marble in it and give each player 5 or 10 others. In turn, each uses his pebbles to try to knock the pebble out of the bowl. If he succeeds, he keeps it and the leader places another pebble into the bowl. If a player misses, he must put one of his pebbles in the bowl. Winner is the one with the most pebbles at the end of the game.

Pebble

Greece

(6 to 20 players) One player is chosen to be "IT" and is given a small object to hold in his hand (marble, washer, small ball, pebble, etc.) The others stand in line with hands out, palms together and palms up. "IT" selects a goal 10-30 feet away beyond the line of players. He walks along the line and pretends to drop the pebble into each player's hand. Somewhere along the line, he actually does drop the pebble into a player's hand.

When a Scout gets the "pebble", he tries to reach the goal and back to "IT", who remains on the horizontal line. The player on his right attempts to catch the Scout with the pebble. If the runner succeeds in reaching "IT" without being caught, he becomes "IT". If he is caught, the one who catches him becomes "IT". The Scout who receives the pebble may choose his own time to run, but must start before "IT" reaches the end of the line.

Palito Verde (Green Stick)

Greece

"IT" carries a green stick (a neckerchief may be substituted). The other players form a large circle, facing inward with their hands behind their back. "IT" travels around the circle and at some point he places the stick or neckerchief in the hands of a player. That player immediately races after "IT" around the circle. If "IT" is tagged before "IT" can get to the chaser's old place in the circle he remains "IT". If "IT" reaches the space safely the chaser becomes the new "IT".

Scoop Lacrosse

Canada

Lacrosse was played by Canadian and northeastern U.S. Indians. In this variation, lacrosse "sticks" are scoops made by cutting plastics, gallon size bottles. Use a soft rubber ball of about baseball size.

Goals may be two large cartons of the same size or you can set up 5-foot square frames at opposite ends of the field for goals.

Teams try to get the ball into their opponent's goal. Players may pass the ball or run with it but may not touch it with their free hand. A player may try to knock the ball out of an opponent's scoop with his own scoop.

Score one point for each goal.

Look for a version of Scoop Lacrosse called "Laundry Toss" to be played at your February Roundtable for March's "Litter to Glitter" theme - CD

Hanukkah Games

Viking Council

Hide the Dreidle (Hanukkah top) one Cub leaves the room. The others hide the dreidle. The Cub returns. The others yell "hot" and "cold" depending on whether he is near or far. You can use real or paper dreidle.

Hanukkah Peanut Hunt Buy package of peanuts. Write K on 4, H on 4, N on 4, U on 4 and A on 4. Hide all the peanuts, lettered and unlettered, hunt for 5 minutes.

10 points for greatest number

5 points for each lettered peanut

20 points for a Cub finding enough to write HANUKKAH

Pass the Dreidel Cubs sit in circle, start music. Pass the top around the circle. When the music stops, the Cub holding the dreidel drops out. Last Cub is the winner.

Trim the Tree

Viking Council

- ✓ Line up the dens for a relay.
- ✓ Attach large sheets of paper to the opposite wall and give each boy a different colored crayon.
- ✓ On signal, the first boy runs to his paper and outlines a Christmas tree.
- ✓ Then the next boy runs up and draws in a stand.
- ✓ The others draw ornaments or lights.
- ✓ The first team to trim its tree wins.

Variation:

- ✓ Have an adult by the poster paper with a stack of cards
- ✓ On each card is one item to be drawn
- ✓ As each boy arrives, he picks a card and draws the item listed on it.
- ✓ This may mean ornaments are drawn before the tree
- ✓ The results are usually interesting

SANTA TRIP

Trapper Trails

Players sit in a circle. The first player says, "On Christmas Eve, I'm traveling with Santa and I'm going to visit (name a place starting with an "A") and delivering a (name an object strting with "A")." The next player repeats the first place and object and adds a place and object beginning with "B". Continue the game through the alphabet alternating places and objects.

Present Charades*Sam Houston Area Council*

Each boy thinks of a present he would like to give a make-believe friend (or a real friend) and then decides how to act out movements for his chosen present. (For example, if he chose a dog, he could chase his tail around in a circle, give a paw to "shake", or roll over with paws up in the air.) There are no limits on the price, or availability of this pretend present. The leader should consult with each boy as needed to choose a present and work out the movements. When all the boys have decided on the presents and movements, have each in turn act out his present and see who can guess what it is.

CUB GRUB**Potato Latkes (Pancakes) for Chanukah***Baltimore Area Council*

*These are great to make with your den
even if none of you is Jewish!*

Ingredients

Potatoes
Onion
1 egg,
2T flour,
½ tsp. salt,
¼ tsp.
baking powder,
dash of pepper

Directions

Wash 2 or 3 potatoes very well.
Grate them coarsely.
Let the grated potatoes sit for 10 minutes then drain liquid.
Grate in one small onion.
Stir in with a fork: 1 egg, 2T flour, ½ tsp. salt, ¼ tsp. baking powder, dash of pepper.
Use tablespoon to put batter in frying pan with a ¼ inch hot oil.
Fry until brown on bottom then turn and fry on other side.
Eat them hot with applesauce and sour cream.

(or grape jelly Yum Yum CD)

Here is another recipe for Latkes –

Jewish Latkes**(Hanukkah potato pancakes)***Trapper Trails***Ingredients:**

4 potatoes
4 eggs
4 tablespoons flour
applesauce
vegetable oil
frying pan and spatula

Directions

Shred potatoes, add eggs and blend well,
Add the flour and mix well.
In frying pan add oil, heat.
When ready add a small amount of mixture to oil and fry until brown.
Let dry on paper towels.
Now add applesauce to the latke and enjoy!

Hot Spiced Apple Cider*Northwest Suburban Council***Ingredients**

1 Gal. Apple Cider or Apple Juice
1-9 oz bag of Cinnamon Red Hot Candy
1/2 cup Sugar
5 cinnamon sticks
20 - 25 Whole Cloves
1 cup Prepared Cranberry Juice
1 cup Prepared Orange Juice
Butter

Directions

In a large pot, combine all ingredients except the butter.
Over a medium heat, bring to a boil.
Stir frequently until sugar and candies are dissolved.
Reduce heat and simmer for about an hour.
Before serving, place a small pad of butter in each mug.
Pour cider into mug over butter.
Add cinnamon stick and stir.

*Making Christmas cookies is a strong German tradition.
Try one or all of the following three recipes.*

Früchtebrot (Fruit Bread)*Trapper Trails***Ingredients:**

3 eggs
125 grams dried apricots
125 grams sugar
125 grams hazelnuts
2 tsp. rum flavor extract
60 grams almonds
125 grams dried plums
1 tsp. baking powder
butter to grease loaf pan

Directions

- ✓ Preheat oven to 180° C or 350° F.
- ✓ Cream eggs and sugar,
- ✓ Then mix in oats, baking powder, and rum flavor.
- ✓ Chop remaining ingredients coarsely and mix into dough.
- ✓ Sprinkle greased loaf pan with oats and pour in dough.
- ✓ Bake on bottom rack about 90 minutes (time may vary).

Tip: Flatten top of dough so fruit pieces which are sticking out don't burn. After cooling completely you can wrap in aluminum foil and keep for a long time.

Haferflockenplätzchen*Trapper Trails***Ingredients:**

125 grams butter
250 grams quick oats
125 grams sugar
50 grams almonds finely chopped
1 egg separated
1 Tbsp. baking powder
1 additional egg yolk
grated lemon rind

Directions

- ✓ Preheat oven to 180° C or 350° F.
- ✓ Cream together sugar, butter, and 1 egg yolk.
- ✓ Stir in oats, almonds, baking powder, and lemon rind,

- ✓ Mix well.
- ✓ Fold in stiff egg whites.
- ✓ Roll out dough not too thick.
- ✓ Cut out cookies with a round cutter,
- ✓ Put on a greased cookie sheet, and brush with beaten second egg yolk.
- ✓ Place cookie sheet on middle rack and bake about 15 minutes.

Butterplätzchen*Trapper Trails***Ingredients:**

250 grams flour
 1 Tbsp. baking powder
 125 grams sugar
 100 grams butter
 1 pkg. vanillin sugar (1 tsp. vanilla flavor)
 1 egg
 condensed milk

Directions

- ✓ Mix all ingredients except condensed milk into a dough and cool in refrigerator for 2 hours.
- ✓ Preheat oven to 180° C or 350° F.
- ✓ Roll out dough about 1 centimeter thick and cut out cookies.
- ✓ Brush with condensed milk and bake about 15 minutes (time may vary).

Mulled Wine for Kids – England*Trapper Trails***Ingredients:**

2 cups water
 1 cup sugar
 2 dozen whole cloves
 4 cinnamon sticks
 1 crushed nutmeg
 The peel of 1 orange and 1 lemon
 2 ½ cups of hot lemon/lime juice
 2 liters non-alcoholic grape juice

Directions

- ✓ Heat the water and the sugar, cloves, cinnamon, nutmeg, and peel.
- ✓ Boil for 5 minutes and leave to simmer for 5 minutes more.
- ✓ Strain this syrup into a large pot and add the citrus juice;
- ✓ Heat until it is gently bubbling.
- ✓ Add the grape juice and keep the mixture on a low heat. Serve with a slice of lemon.

Wassail – England*Trapper Trails***Ingredients:**

1/2 cup sugar
 4 cups boiling water
 3 whole allspice
 6 whole cloves
 1 tablespoon ground ginger
 1 piece stick cinnamon 1" (2.5 cm) long
 1/3 cup orange juice
 2/3 cup lemon juice

Directions

1. Pour sugar into 2 cups boiling water; boil 5 minutes.
2. Add spices; cover and let stand 1 hour.
3. Add remaining water and fruit juices;
4. Mix well, then strain.
5. Reheat to boiling. Serve warm.

Easy French Toast*Trapper Trails***Ingredients:**

1 1/4 cups egg nog
 8 slices bread

Directions

- ✓ Pour egg nog into shallow bowl.
- ✓ Dip bread into egg nog.
- ✓ Cook bread in hot greased skillet or griddle until golden brown on both sides.
- ✓ Serve with syrup or powdered sugar.

Mexican Wedding Cookies*Trapper Trails***Ingredients:**

½ cup almonds
 ½ cup pecans
 2 sticks cold butter, cut into pieces
 1 3/4 cup powdered sugar (1/4 cup and 1 ½ cups)
 1 Tbsp vanilla extract
 2 cups flour
 1 tsp. anise seed

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 325 F
2. Grind almonds and pecans in food processor,
3. Then add butter and continue to grind until smooth.
4. Add 1/4 cup powdered sugar and vanilla,
5. Then mix again.
6. Add flour and anise seeds and grind mix until blended.
7. After flouring hands, roll the dough into small balls
8. Place them about an inch apart on ungreased cookie sheet.
9. Bake 15-20 minutes or until brown on the bottom.
10. Cool for 15 minutes, then roll the still warm cookies in the rest of the powdered sugar. Let cool again, then add more powdered sugar.

Italian Biscotti*twice cooked cookies**Trapper Trails***Ingredients:**

2 ½ cups flour
 1 1/4 cup sugar
 1 tsp. baking powder
 ½ tsp. anise seeds
 1 Tbsp. grated orange peel
 pinch of salt
 3 large eggs, plus 2 large egg yolks
 1 tsp. vanilla

Directions

- ✓ Heat oven to 350 F.
- ✓ In the bowl of an electric mixer (using a dough hook, if possible) combine flour, sugar, baking powder, anise seeds, zest, and salt.
- ✓ Beat together eggs, yolks, and vanilla.

- ✓ Add to dry ingredients, and mix until a sticky dough is formed.
- ✓ Line a baking sheet with parchment paper (or grease and flour a baking sheet).
- ✓ Turn mixture out onto a floured board.
- ✓ With floured hands, roll into logs about 12 inches long, and transfer to baking sheet. (Or, for a gourmet-sized cookie, form entire mixture into a long log about 4 inches wide and 2 inches tall – it will spread while baking.)
- ✓ Bake until golden brown and firm to the touch in the center, 25 to 30 minutes.
- ✓ Remove from the oven and let stand until cool enough to handle
- ✓ Reduce oven temperature to 275 F.
- ✓ Using a serrated knife, slice logs on an angle into bars about ½ inch thick.
- ✓ Return to cookie sheet cut side up (or stand on end) and bake until lightly toasted and hard, 15 to 20 minutes.
- ✓ Let cool completely.
- ✓ Biscotti will keep for several weeks in an airtight container, and are best served with hot chocolate or milk.

DOUGHNUT SNOWMEN

Trapper Trails

Ingredients:

Powdered doughnuts
mini doughnuts
doughnut holes
Haviland thin mints
miniature Reese's cups
pretzel sticks
black and orange gel frosting
Fruit Rollups

Directions

- ✓ Stack doughnuts large to small to make snowman.
- ✓ You can use pretzel sticks to hold them together.
- ✓ Use gel frosting to make face and buttons.
- ✓ The mint with Reese's cup placed upside down on top makes the hat and
- ✓ Cut Fruit Rollups to make a scarf around snowman's neck.

SNOWBALL COOKIES

Trapper Trails

Ingredients:

1 cup (2 sticks) margarine or butter, softened
1 cup sugar
1 tsp. vanilla
1½ cups pecans, finely ground
2 cups flour
1/4 tsp. salt
1/2 cup powdered sugar

Directions

- ✓ Beat margarine, sugar and vanilla in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until creamy.
- ✓ Blend in pecans, flour and salt.
- ✓ Refrigerate dough 1 hour.
- ✓ Shape dough into 1-inch balls.
- ✓ Place on ungreased cookie sheets, 2 inches apart.

- ✓ Bake at 350° for 10 to 12 minutes or until set.
- ✓ Remove from cookie sheets; cool on wire racks.
- ✓ Dust with powdered sugar.
- ✓ Store in airtight container.

YUMMY SNOWFLAKES

Trapper Trails

You know those paper snowflakes you fold and cut? Well, how about making some you can eat!

Ingredients:

Flour tortillas
Scissors
Powdered Sugar

Directions

- ✓ Gently fold the tortilla into quarters (don't crease it, or it will tear).
- ✓ Cut pieces out to make cool snowflake designs when you open it up! (You might want to practice that part with paper first.)
- ✓ With the help of an adult, fry the tortilla until it's crispy.
- ✓ Then, sprinkle it with powdered sugar.
- ✓ That's it! Snow never tasted so good!

M&Ms HOT CHOCOLATE

Trapper Trails

Ingredients:

1/2 cup plain chocolate M & M's
2 cups hot milk

Directions

- ✓ Place candy in blender.
- ✓ Add hot milk.
- ✓ Whiz until smooth.

Holiday Punch

Greater St. Louis Area Council

Mix two packages unsweetened raspberry punch powder with 1-cup sugar.

Add 4 cups cranberry juice.

Stir in 12 cups crushed ice and water.

Makes 16 cups.

Edible Ornaments

Trapper Trails Council

Ingredients

1 cup butter or margarine
1 1/2 cup powdered sugar
3 cups flour
2 - 4 tablespoons heavy cream
red and green food coloring
2 dozen chocolate kisses
2 dozen maraschino cherries
Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Directions

1. Cream butter, sugar, and vanilla until fluffy.
2. Blend in flour, salt, and enough cream to hold dough together.
3. Divide dough in half.
4. Tint one half with red food coloring and the other half with green food coloring.
5. Mold a Tablespoon of red dough around each Kiss (that is unwrapped)
6. Mold green dough around cherry.

7. Roll cookies between palms of hand to make smooth, round balls.
8. Place balls 1" apart on ungreased cookie sheet.
9. Bake 12-14 minutes, or just until cookies are set (cookies must not brown)
10. Let cool completely.
11. Dip each cookie into icing

Icing

Blend together:

- 2 Cups powdered sugar
- 1/3C heavy cream
- 2 teaspoons vanilla

Directions

Mix and divide into two bowls.

Tint one red and the other green.

Then roll into desired topping (Chocolate jimmies, colored sugar, crushed peppermint, confetti, sprinkles, etc.)

Peanutty Nuggets

Trapper Trails Council

Ingredients

- 1/3 cup peanut butter
- 1/4 cup margarine
- 3 cups miniature marshmallows
- 4 cups Life Cereal (whole pieces)

Directions

1. Combine peanut butter and margarine in medium pan.
2. Melt over low heat, mixing well
3. Add marshmallows, stirring constantly until melted and smooth
4. Fold in cereal
5. Spread onto greased cookie sheet
6. Chill until firm break into nuggets
7. You can spoon into muffin cups before chilling if you so desire

Yummy Igloo

Trapper Trails Council

Ingredients:

- 1/2 apple, cored,
- miniature marshmallows,
- peanut butter

Directions

1. Place apple cut side down on a plate
2. Spread with peanut butter all over the outside of the apple
3. Cover peanut butter with the miniature marshmallows

Festive Popcorn Trees

Trapper Trails Council

Ingredients

- 12 Cups popped popcorn
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup light corn syrup
- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- Green food coloring
- 1/2 cup M&M's

Directions

Pop popcorn and pour into a large bowl.

Combine sugar and corn syrup in medium saucepan.

Bring to a boil over medium heat.

Stirring constantly, boil 1 minute.

Remove from heat.

Add peanut butter and green food coloring.

Stir until peanut butter is melted completely.

Pour over popcorn and mix well.

Lightly butter hands and shape into trees.

While still warm add M&M's candies by pressing them into the trees.

Place on a baking sheet covered with wax paper.

Let cool completely.

Graham Cracker Treasure Chest

Trapper Trails Council

Ingredients

- 4 Graham Crackers
- M&M candies or other coated candies,
- tube of frosting,
- peppermint candy canes (if desired)

Directions

- ✓ You will need 4 graham crackers; one graham cracker broke in half.
- ✓ For the bottom piece, frost all the way around the edges of one graham cracker.
- ✓ Frost three sides of each of the graham crackers that make up the main body of the treasure chest.
- ✓ Push them together, you'll want to have some sort of surface that will help support them while they dry. I used a cookie sheet.
- ✓ Once you have all the graham crackers together let dry about 15 minutes then decorate with frosting and candies.
- ✓ If you wish you may add candies or some other prize inside the treasure chest.

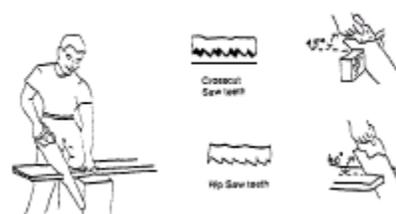
WEBELOS

This is the second month for both of these badges. These ideas are intended to supplement last month's. So if you haven't used all the ideas in last month's issue, go on back to that issue as well as looking here. CD

CRAFTSMAN TECHNOLOGY GROUP

Southern NJ Council

The Craftsman activity pin will not be an easy one for some of the boys to complete. Encourage the boys to put forth their best effort. Give praise when praise is deserved, and give encouragement in other areas. Do not encourage competition while working on Craftsman, this can cause boys to get careless in their attempts to "win" and could cause injuries to occur.

Handsaws

Handsaws have come a long way since the earliest Stone Age man made his by chipping notches in a piece of stone or flint. Today's saws are made of steel, with handles designed for a firm grip and with two different types of teeth. These two very important saws in a wood worker's tool kit are a rip and a crosscut saw. While both saws look alike in size and shape, a close examination of the teeth will disclose several differences - the shape and spacing of the teeth, and the way the teeth are filed. Rip-saw teeth are designed to cut with the grain of the wood and so are straight-filed, each tooth cutting as a small chisel. Crosscut saw teeth are designed to cut across the grain and so are bevel-filed, each tooth cutting the wood fibers like a sharp knife. Both saws have a "set" in the teeth ... that is, alternate teeth are bent outward slightly, so the saw set will be slightly wider than the thickness of the blade to provide clearance and make cutting easier.

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High quality saws are taper-ground for the same reason. The most popular size of rip and crosscut saws is 26 inches, with five or five and one-half teeth (point to the inch for rip saws and eight or ten teeth to the inch for crosscut saws.)

To rip a board, hold at 45 to 60-degree angle. Take long, easy strokes. Don't force saw. To start a cut, use thumb as a guide for blade. Extending your forefinger on handle, helps to steer saw in straight line. For crosscutting, hold the saw at an angle of 45 degrees. Steady the board so it does not vibrate.

Working with Plastics

Acrylic sheets are used for plastic projects. Almost any plastic supplier has scrap acrylics which you can purchase from them for a minimal price. (They may offer to donate the pieces.) You can also find sheets of acrylic in many home improvement stores. You will need fairly thin acrylic (1/8" thickness is plenty) for these projects. You can use clear or colored sheets, depending on the project you choose.

It is important that you plan ahead. You will have to do some of the work yourself. For example, an adult should oversee the use of ovens or appliances. For simple thermoforming, a kitchen oven, electric hot plate, heat gun, hair dryer or strip heater can be used. There are many variables involved in heating and forming plastics, so

experiment in advance with scrap pieces so you'll know what to expect at the meeting.

As a general rule, the plastic should be heated as quickly and uniformly as possible. The plastic should be very pliable or rubbery for good forming, when heated. When heating in an oven, set the temperature at 350 degrees.

General Procedures:

1. Before you heat any plastic, be sure to remove all masking paper and foreign matter from it.
2. For simple bends, first cut to shape the pieces to be formed.
3. Finish the edges the way you want them to appear in the final project.
4. Wear soft cotton flannel gloves when handling the heated plastic.
5. Form all pieces as quickly as possible, as the plastic cools quickly.

Working with Leather

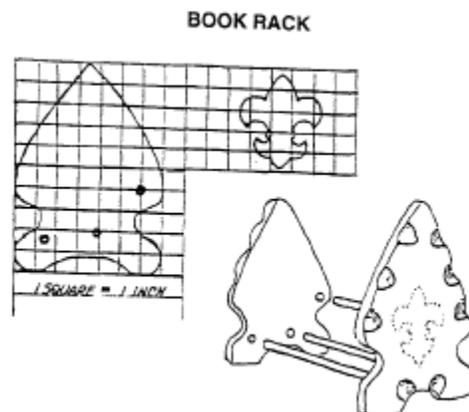
Leather crafting is a fun hobby that many boys may carry into adulthood with them. It is best to start with simple projects like key chains and coasters. Then let the boys work their way up to more difficult items such as wallets or belts.

Leather Tooling Tips

- Dampen leather for ease of tooling, but don't leave it dripping wet.
- Have the boys draw a design on paper before starting. Then they can trace the design onto their piece of leather with an awl.
- Let the boys practice with their tools on scrap leather first.
- Leather stains or acrylic paints can give your projects an added dimension.
- Put a scrap of wood under each boy's project.

Projects

Book Rack:



Keeping your Scouting books, and other books that you are reading, in this rack will help you find just the book you want quickly.

It also helps to keep your room in order. Making this book rack is not difficult and is a good woodworking project. The end boards of the rack are cut out in the shape of a huge

Indian arrowhead. See template for pattern. These are cut from one-half inch hardwood.

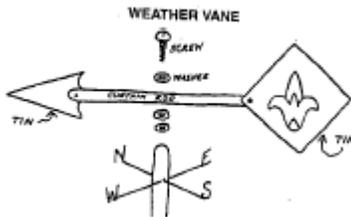
Sandpaper the edges off smooth and "chip" the edges with a half-round file. The chip grooves are made on the outside of the end boards only. The inside surface is left smooth. Three, one-half inch dowels are used for the spreaders. They are 12 inches long, and the ends are glued into holes made in the end boards. These holes must stop short of going through. The proper location of these holes can be determined from the pattern. When boring the holes, be sure to make the ends right hand and left hand. Otherwise, you will be in trouble.

A thin piece of plywood about 1/8 inch thick is used for the Scout emblem. Make one for each end and glue them in place as indicated in the illustration. The rack can be finished any way you desire. It can be stained and lacquered, or finished natural. If you like bright colors, it can be painted with enamel. The emblem should be a contrasting color.

Weather Vane:

Materials:

- 20" Curtain Rod
- Coathanger Wire
- Tin or Aluminum
- Broomstick or dowel
- Bolts, washers, screws
- Glue
- Enamel Paint



Construction:

1. Using patterns enlarged from the above illustrations, cut arrowhead, Webelos insignia and compass point initials from tin. Roll edges so they will not be sharp and dangerous.
2. Paint with enamel.
3. Bolt arrowhead and Webelos insignia ends to curtain rod.
4. Drill small holes in 4 sides of broomstick.
5. Solder initials to wire. Glue ends of wire in holes of broomstick.
6. Punch hole in middle of curtain rod.
7. Screw curtain rod to top of broomstick, using washers, so arrow will swing freely when the wind blows.
8. When installing vane, be sure that the stationery compass directional initials point correctly, i.e. N is due North, etc.

Drafting Word Search:

B S D E F R L D C G C I F D B
 L A C V P E E L I F E D G E D
 J R A R L Y C X E C E A G S J
 P T V U A H T T A I O T S K R
 Y I R C A S E F T W K J T E X
 Q S U L Y T S A R N A L P A L
 D T K S D A G R A P H I C S M
 F B E T R T I D C E L C T R M
 H S U R B E R Q E A U A R A N
 L M K A C C N I C R N A E B T
 J I O C S A D D A D E B N E I
 Q C C K O R A C E N Q Z E Y F
 N L N N A L Y E I R G H M P C
 G I I O E Q B L E P S L O O T
 C P B P A P E R B L A D E C E

Accuracy	Acetate	Arcs
Artist	Bars	Beam
Blade	Block	Board
Brush	Caliper	Case
Chalk	Clip	Copy
Curve	Desk	Draft
Easel	Edge	File
Graphics	Inks	Linear
Matte	Paper	Pencil
Plan	Render	rule
Sheet	Stand	Stylus
Tools	Trace	

Make a family Checker or Chess Game:

Alice, Golden Empire Council

To make the board: Your checkerboard will need 8 alternating rows of 4 black squares and 4 red squares, each square 4cm x 4cm. Measure this out on a piece of cardboard, even if you plan to make your board on good quality plywood. If you are using wood, you can either paint or stain the squares. Then cover them with a finish, which could even be as simple as several coats of white glue.

You could also use a contact paper on a piece of heavy cardboard or foam core board. You will need to trace and cut out 32 red contact paper squares and 32 black contact paper squares. Cut them out carefully so the edges are straight and the squares are as perfect as possible. Before removing the backing from the contact paper, lay out all the squares on the table. Arrange them so the checker board is centered. If you make a mistake, the contact paper will peel off easily, and you should be able to reapply the square.

Once the entire checkerboard is in place you will need to cover it with a protective sheet of clear contact paper. Using the lines on the back of the contact paper, determine where to cut the sheet so it will cover the entire checkerboard. Cut it out carefully, and peel back only one corner. Apply that corner to the corresponding corner of the checkerboard, and slowly and carefully peel back the rest of the backing as you press the clear contact paper into place. Smooth out any air bubbles with your fingers. Small air bubbles may be pricked with a pin and smoothed out if necessary.

Make a set of 12 black checkers and 12 red checkers using a dowel cut in ½' interval, then painted or stained, half red and half black.

You can also purchase plastic checkers, but it's more fun to make your own. You could also use clay, using a round mold of appropriate size to form the checkers. You might be able to find a bottle cap that is the right size to use as a "cookie cutter." Embellish the checkers by making impressions using coins, buttons, or other objects if desired. You can also make serrated edges on the checkers using a small knife if you wish. Bake the polymer clay checkers according to package directions.

Make a bag or box to hold the checkers.

Another option: For a unique checkerboard game, use an old card table to attach your contact paper squares. This simple project is a great way to recycle a table that would have otherwise been discarded. Your checkerboard game table, complete with homemade checkers, will more than likely be passed down and enjoyed by future generations.

SCIENTIST MENTAL SKILLS GROUP

Explore Chromatography with M&M's!

Alice, Golden Empire Council

Chromatography is a method of analyzing complex mixtures by separating them into the chemicals they contain. In police work, drugs from narcotics to aspirin can be identified in urine or blood samples. But Webelos can also use chromatography to separate out the different colors in a black permanent marker (they aren't just black) - or for more fun, the actual colors in M&M's! Go to

http://www.yesmag.ca/projects/paper_chromaBW.html

for specific instructions and great diagrams to test the permanent marker. Here's how to do the M&M test:

- ✓ Open a bag of M&M's – choose about 5-6 of different colors.
- ✓ Put them in a small amount of water in a glass or cup and stir around until the color comes off. Note that the water will be all one color – remove the M&M's and stir till colors are all dissolved into one color – usually something grayish.
- ✓ Point out that the colors seem to have all blended together – the bright colors seem to have disappeared.
- ✓ Now take a coffee filter, or even a paper towel, and cut a strip long enough to reach down into the water – you could even staple the top edge to make a loop that you can hang from a pencil. But make sure the paper reaches down to touch the water.
- ✓ Now leave it overnight, or till your next den meeting – the various colors will separate out on the paper, showing that they really didn't disappear into a single color.
- ✓ To take this a step further, separate out a bag of M&M's by color. Then make a graph to show how many of each color are in a bag of M&M's. If each boy has his own bag, they can "eat" their experiment. *(One of my boys was so intrigued that he went home and created*

several kinds of graphs on his computer to show the composition of his bag-Alice)

Here's the science behind it: Because molecules in ink or even the colored coating on M&M's have different characteristics, such as size and solubility, they travel at different speeds when pulled along a piece of paper by a solvent (the water). For example, the grayish water color, (or even black ink) contain several colors. The water soluble colors behave differently due to their molecules, and separate into a sort of "rainbow" of colors. Go to the website and try using the black permanent marker – your boys can practice some "CSI" techniques – try the secret note challenge!

Riddles about Science and Scientists:

Alice, Golden Empire Council

Some famous scientists were invited to a party. Can you guess what they studied by reading their responses?

Response: Ampere was worried he was not up to "current" norms of the party.

Answer: Discovered electric current produced fields.

You may also be surprised to see how often a discovery was named for the scientist. For some fun riddles about science and scientists, go to:

<http://www.kids.niehs.nih.gov/rdparty.htm>

You can also click on a fun song about inventions, called "Mother Necessity."

Trapper Trails Council

The Scientist Activity Badge is recommended to be presented in a two month format, as outlined in the Webelos Program Helps booklet. This outline presents the Badge in eight weekly meetings. Every requirement is covered in the outline. Each Scout who attends all meetings will satisfy all requirements, even though only six of the nine electives are required.

The Scientist badge lends itself to many different demonstrations, with which the Scouts will have a lot of fun. As the Webelos Den Leader you should read the book ahead of time and be prepared with your demonstration materials. Make sure you try out your demonstrations BEFORE the meeting. Examples are given here, but use your imagination -- you can think up very good demonstrations too! Use the Program Helps and the Webelos Activities book. Lists of materials needed are not given here for demonstrations taken from the Webelos book.

Use the Webelos book in the meeting. Have the Scouts read sections from the book. Then give them hands-on experience doing the demonstrations. Use all your other resources, like the Webelos Resource Book -- there are a lot of demonstrations in the Webelos Resource Book.

Plan one or more outings to show first hand one or more of the principles discussed in the Den meetings. Examples: Visit an airport and observe wing shapes, observe planes taking off, go flying.

Requirement 4 of Scientist has the Webelos Scout earn the Science Belt Loop.

The requirements are:

Complete these three requirements:

1. Explain the scientific method to your adult partner.
2. Use the scientific method in a simple science project Explain the results to an adult.
3. Visit a museum, a laboratory, an observatory, a zoo, an aquarium, or other facility that employs scientists. Talk to a scientist about his or her work.

Week 1**Requirements to be fulfilled:****Do These:**

2. Read Pascal's Law. Show how it works.
3. Show in three different ways how inertia works.
4. Begin work on Science Belt Loop

Discussion and Demonstration:

1. Read the introduction and requirements. Discuss the requirements and how they will be worked on in and outside the Den. Make sure you alert the Scouts and the parents about any field trips that will be planned. Also, make sure you telephone the parents a few days before the field trip -- it helps attendance.
2. Read pages on Pascal's Law. "Pressure of a gas or liquid is equal on all sides of a sealed container." Use a balloon as an example.

Demonstration: You will need a soda bottle, 1/4 cup of vinegar and 1/4 cup of baking soda. Put the vinegar in the balloon, and the baking soda in the soda bottle. Put the balloon tightly over the mouth of the soda bottle and tip up the balloon to make the vinegar go into the bottle. The balloon will begin to expand as the CO₂ is generated from the reaction. The point is that the pressure in the bottle and balloon increases as the gas is produced. The bottle cannot expand so the balloon does in all directions.

The Cartesian Diver demonstration: You will need a glass jar, a sheet of rubber such as cut from a balloon, a medicine dropper and a rubber band. Fill up the jar nearly to the top with water. Suck a water into the medicine dropper until it just floats at the top of the water in the jar. Place the rubber sheet over the mouth of the jar and fix it to the top with the rubber band. Now press on the rubber to increase the pressure in the bottle. The "diver" will submerge and go toward the bottom of the jar. Release the rubber and the "diver" goes back up to the top. What has happened is that when you push on the rubber, the pressure in the jar increases, forcing more water into the dropper, causing it to be heavier than the lift provided by the air in the dropper -- it submerges.

3. Read pages on inertia. "A body in motion stays in motion unless acted on by some outside force. A body at rest stays at rest unless acted upon by an outside force." Demonstrate inertia using a coin on a card over a bottle as shown in the book. Demonstrate using glass of water and strip of paper. These are "at rest"

demonstrations. Demonstrate "in motion" inertia using a rolling ball hit by another rolling ball.

Extra credit: How is inertia expressed? Inertia is Mass times velocity. Mass can be expressed as pounds. Velocity can be expressed as feet per second. So inertia is expressed as pound-feet per second. If a 1 pound ball travels due North at 1 foot per second and is hit head on by a 1 pound ball traveling at 2 feet per second due South, what might happen.

Additional Pascal's Law Demonstration:

- ✓ Place a glass in water, turn it upside down and lift it slowly. What happens when the bottom of the glass rises above the surface of the water. The water stays in the glass and is raised with it. But as the top of the glass breaks the surface of the water, the water in the glass falls out. This happens due to the fact that the air is pushing down on the water outside the glass and when the glass breaks the surface, air can rush in. The air no longer supports the water so the water falls out according to Pascal's Law.

Additional Inertia Demonstrations:

- ✓ Place a doll in the middle of the back of a pickup type truck. The pickup bed needs to be large enough for the doll to slide in. Move the truck rapidly forward and then make it turn a curve sharply. The doll will slide to the side of the truck since it will keep wanting to go in a straight line accordingly to the principle of inertia.
- ✓ Place several books on a smooth table. Push them toward a stick or another book you are holding as an obstacle. When the bottom book is stopped by the obstacle, the books on top continue due to the law of inertia.
- ✓ Place a bucket on the floor, drop a ball into it. Easy, it drops right in. Now while walking past the bucket try to drop the ball in when your hand is positioned exactly above it. You miss. This especially shows up if you try to do this while running past the bucket. Since the ball has acquired your moment of inertia it tends to keep going forward after you have dropped it; thus it misses the bucket.
- ✓ Put a marble, golf ball, or ping pong ball into a glass or jar that is laying on its side. Move the glass forward quickly, then stop it. Due to Newton's First Law (Inertia), the ball continues forward though the glass is stopped.

Homework:

- ✓ Look for examples of Pascal's Law or inertia around your home and school, to tell the Den next week.

Week 2**Requirements to be fulfilled:**

1. Read Bernoulli's Principle. Show how it works.

Do Six of These:

5. Show the effects of atmospheric pressure.

Discussion and Demonstration:

1. **Read pages on Bernoulli's Principle.** "When air moves quickly, pressure is low." Demonstrate Bernoulli's Principle with card and thread spool. Demonstrate by blowing over a strip of paper.

Demonstrate by blowing over a straw in a glass of water.

Extra credit: Aircraft wings are curved on top to reduce the air pressure, but paper or balsa wood gliders have flat wings. Why do they climb? Discuss angle of attack.

2. **Read pages on Atmospheric Pressure.** "We live in a blanket of air. That air exerts 15 pounds per square inch pressure on all surfaces at sea level." Demonstrate with candle in a bottle turned upside down in a bowl of water. Demonstrate with crush the can. Demonstrate with a can filled with water and holes in lid and side. Demonstrate with the cork boat, glass and water.

Another demonstration: Float a ball in the air flow from a fan. The ball stays in place because the pressure is lower in the flow -- the higher pressure outside the flow forces it to stay put.

Extra credit: What is a vacuum? The absence of air or anything else. It is hard to create a vacuum on earth. Why? Because you have to overcome the 15 pounds per square inch atmospheric pressure. Suppose we want to create a vacuum inside a 12-inch cube. Do you know how to calculate the surface area of a 12 inch cube? The mathematical formula is $6 \cdot L \cdot L$, where L is the length of a side or 12 inches, and 6 is the number of sides. $L \cdot L$ is 144, so $6 \cdot L \cdot L$ is 864 square inches. So the pressure on the cube is 864 square inches * 15 Pounds per square inch, or 12,960 Pounds of pressure! That's a lot of pressure to overcome in order to make a vacuum!

Additional Bernoulli's Principle Demonstrations:

- ✓ Cut a soda straw about 2/3 thirds through about the midpoint of the straw. Fold the straw back so that it forms a 90 degree angle. Pour colored water into the a glass or cup and have the scouts blow hard into the opposite end of the straw. Air moving rapidly across the top of the straw will cause the air pressure to lower within the straw causing the water to rise in the straw and go down in the glass.
- ✓ Place two ping-pong balls on the table about two inches apart. With a straw blow a steady stream of air between the two balls. As you blow the balls will come together until they hit the stream of rushing air and bounce back apart.
- ✓ Cut a long thin strip of paper and make a fold 1/8 from each end. Try and blow under the beneath the bridge formed to try and blow it over. The more you blow the more it will bend toward the surface it is sitting on. Air pressure is higher above the paper bridge then below, so the paper is bent toward the surface.
- ✓ Make an airfoil section (section of an airplane wing) by gluing a strip of paper around a straw, pencil or small stick. Hold the stick in front of you and blow a stream of air over the leading edge of the airfoil. The airfoil should rise.

Homework:

- ✓ 1. Look for examples of Bernoulli's Principle, and atmospheric pressure at work around your home and school, to tell the Den next week.

Week 3

Requirements to be fulfilled:

6. Show the effects of air pressure.
7. Show the effects of water pressure.

Discussion and Demonstration:

1. Read pages on Air Pressure. "If we compress air -- increase the air pressure -- we can put it to work for us. Example of compressed air: Blow hard into a bottle. A balloon. Demonstrate air pressure with the newspaper ball and soda bottle. Demonstrate with the hot water bottle lifting books). Demonstrate with the balloon lifting a glass.
2. Read pages on Air and Water Pressure. "Air pressure keeps water out of a diving bell." Demonstrate with a glass and pan of water -- push down on the glass, the water is displaced. Float a bottle cap and push down on the glass to push the bottle cap to the bottom.

Other Air & Water Pressure Demonstrations:

- ✓ Hold a glass over a dishpan and fill to the brim with water. Cover the top with a piece of cardboard. Press on the cardboard with one hand, turn the glass upside down and let go of the hand touching the cardboard. The cardboard will stay stuck to the glass.
- ✓ Stick a clear straw in a glass of colored water (for clarity), suck up the water until the straw is full. Putting your tongue or a finger over the straw lift it out of the water. The water will stay in the straw until you let go.
- ✓ Fill a glass with colored water, place the short end of a bendable straw in the glass and bending the straw so that the long end will be below the surface of the water in the glass. Place a second shorter glass next to the first. Suck on the long end until water starts to move up the straw. Point the long end in the second glass and let the water flow out. The water will continue to flow until the water reaches the same level in both containers.
- ✓ Fill a dishpan with water. Poke several holes in the bottom of a detergent bottle using a small pick or cork screw. Place the bottle in the water and fill with water. Bring the bottle out and the water will run out the bottom. Put a finger over the hole in the lid of the bottle and the water will stop running. The bottle can be used for a shower when outside.

Homework:

- ✓ Look for examples of air pressure, and air and water pressure at work around your home and school, to tell the Den next week. [Bicycle tires, car tires, tire pumps, aerosol cans, etc.]

Week 4

Requirements to be fulfilled:

9. Explain what causes fog.

Discussion and Demonstration:

1. Read pages 295-297 on Fog. "Did you know that air has water in it?" Demonstrate making fog with the hot water in a bottle and place an ice cube at the top of the bottle (page 296). Demonstrate with cold water in the bottle and light a wooden match, drop into bottle (pages 296-297).

Homework:

- ✓ Have you walked in a cloud? Have you played games at school out in the field when it was so foggy you could

not see your friends? What does fog smell and taste like?

Week 5

Requirements to be fulfilled:

10. Show how crystals are formed. Make some.

Discussion and Demonstration:

1. Read pages on Crystals. "When many liquids cool, they make geometric shapes called crystals. All crystals of one material are identical." Bring examples to show. If a microscope is available bring salt, sugar, and any other crystalline materials you have available to view under the microscope.

Demonstrate crystal making by with sugar crystals.

Homework:

✓ With your parents, try making sugar crystals at home. Bring your experiment to the next Den meeting. You need to protect you experiment from mold, so cover it up. What did you learn? How easy is it to dissolve the sugar in the water? Why do you have to heat the water?

Week 6

Requirements to be fulfilled:

11. Define balance. Show three different balancing tricks.

12. Show in three different ways how your two eyes work together.

Discussion and Demonstration:

1. **Read pages on Balance.** "Balance is when the center of gravity (or center of mass) is exactly over a pivot point (of fulcrum)." Show examples of balance, using a ruler or yard stick balanced on your finger, a mobile, a teeter-totter. Bring a weeble and show how the center of mass is so low that it returns to equilibrium on its own. (What's a weeble? A weeble is one of those very annoying standup toys that you can hit at the top, it falls over and then comes back up to right itself automatically.)

Balancing Tricks from the book -- have all Scouts try all of these: Back up to a wall and try to pick up a paper at your feet. Chair lift leaning against the wall. Stand sideways to a wall; try to bring the outside foot up to the one next to the wall.

2. **Read pages on How Your Two Eyes Work Together.** "Binocular vision means two eyes. Your two eyes work together to give you depth perception -- because your brain can put the two images together, the brain can figure out how far away things are."

Demonstrate with the paper tube trick, making it appear as though you have a hole in your hand . Have all Scouts do this. This shows how the brain puts the two images together.

Demonstrate by holding two pencils at arms length, and changing focus to beyond the pencils. This shows how the brain makes the eyes refocus to perform depth perception.

Demonstrate the "finger sausage". This shows how your brain can play tricks.

Question: Your eyes are wonderful sensing instruments, but where is all the work being done?

Homework:

- ✓ Look for examples of balance at work around your home and school, to tell the Den next week. Do you have a weeble? Bring it to the Den meeting. Why is it so hard to knock over a weeble?
- ✓ Can you find other ways your eyes work together and share that with the Den next meeting?

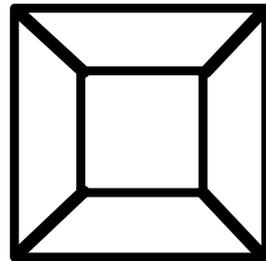
Week 7

Requirements to be fulfilled:

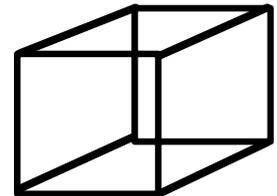
12. Show what is meant by an optical illusion.

Discussion and Demonstration:

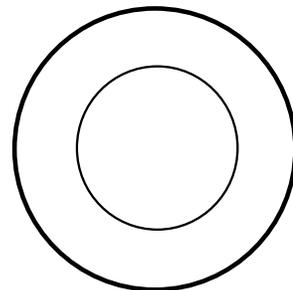
1. Read about Optical Illusions - "An optical illusion is when our eyes tell us something that isn't really true." Demonstrate with the optical illusions in the book.



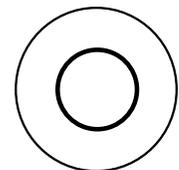
Is the Inner square closer or farther away?



Are you looking down or looking up at this box?



Which dotted circle is smaller?



2. Obtain copies of a pamphlet on eye care from the local optometrist. Give a copy to each Scout. Skim over the pamphlet in the meeting.

Additional Optical Illusion Demonstrations:

- ✓ 1. Make a frame out of construction paper or cardboard and attach a piece of cellophane. Draw a picture (i.e. a house) on a piece of white paper using a marker the same color as the cellophane. Look at the picture through the cellophane and the picture disappears.
- ✓ Fill a drinking transparent glass with water. Set a nickel in the palm of your hand and hold the glass over the coin. If you look down into the glass you will see the coin without any trouble. Cover the top of the glass with your other hand and look at the coin through the side of the glass and you will notice that it seems to disappear. The reason for this illusion is that first you looked straight down at the coin. The second time you looked through the side of the glass. When looking through the side of the glass the light rays are bent as they pass

through the water and you couldn't see the coin. This is known as refraction.

Homework:

- ✓ Do you know who M.C. Escher was? He was a famous artist that specialized in optical illusions. Do you any optical illusions around your home? If so, bring something in to show the Den next week.
- ✓ Read an eye care pamphlet at home. How can be take better care of our eyes?

Week 8

Requirements to be fulfilled:

- ✓ Makeup week.
- ✓ Review all requirements, dwell on anything missed, sign off books.
- ✓ Take Field Trip for Belt Loop if not already done

Discussion and Demonstration:

1. Who can tell us what Bernoulli's Principle is? Do you remember a demonstration of it?
2. Who can tell us what Pascal's Law is? Do you remember a demonstration of it?
3. Who can tell us what inertia is? Do you remember a demonstration of it?
4. Who can tell us what atmospheric pressure is? Do you remember a demonstration of it?
5. Who can tell us what air pressure is? Do you remember a demonstration of it?
6. Who can tell us what the effects of air and water pressure are? Do you remember a demonstration of it?
7. Who can tell us what causes fog? Do you remember a demonstration of it?
8. Who can tell us how crystals are formed? Do you remember a demonstration of it?
9. Who can define balance? Do you remember a demonstration of it?
10. Who can tell us different ways how your two eyes work together? Do you remember a demonstration of it?
11. Who can tell us what is meant by an optical illusion.
12. What did we learn from the book on eye care?

**POW WOW
EXTRAVAGANZAS**

Let me know as soon as your date is set. I will post whatever I receive. I am hoping to retire in 2007 and visit lots of Pow Wows!!! CD

Southern NJ Council

Rock Around the Pack

Commissioner Dave is the Pow Wow Chair this year!!

January 19, 2008

Lakeside Middle School, Millville, NJ

Call Southern NJ Council, 856-327-1700, extension 32, or visit the website, www.snjscouting.org for more information

Great Salt Lake Council

Get a C.L.U.E.

"Cub Leader Ultimate Adventure"

Scouter Jim is going to be there!!!

November 3 and 10, 2007

Juan Diego Catholic High School, Draper, UT

Contact Scouter Jim Jones at bobwhitejonz@juno.com for more information.

Utah National Parks Council Pow Wow

"China Goes for the Gold"

Saturday, October 27, 8am-3:30 pm

Mountainview High School

665 West Center Street in Orem, Utah

More Information: (801) 437-6222. or

<http://www.utahscouts.org/>

Or

Saturday, November 3, 8am-3:30 pm

Desert Hills Intermediate School

936 E Desert Hills Drive, St. George, Utah

More Information: (801) 437-6222. or

<http://www.utahscouts.org/>

Buckeye Council Pow Wow

"Reflections of the Future"

Commissioner Karl is part of this Big Show!!

Saturday, November 10, 8am-3pm

Our Lady of Peace School

1001 39th St NW, Canton, Ohio

More Information: 330 580 4272

Baltimore Area Council

Cub Carnival

November 3, 2007

Overlea High School

5401 Kenwood Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21206

Contact Lil at (443) 573-2500 or go to

www.baltimorebsa.org

Del-Mar-Va Council

Super Cubs

November 17, 2007

Dover High School, Dover, DE

More information.- www.delmarvacouncil.org (Be sure to type the word council!!) or 302 622 3300 or

1-800-766-SCOUT (7268)

National Capital Area Council

Pirates of the Potomac



November 17, 2007

Annandale High School in Annandale, VA

For more information. 301-214-9156 or

<http://www.boyscouts-ncac.org> or write

adonfor@boyscouts-ncac.org

Santa Clara County Council

University of Scouting

January 19, 2008

Some where in Santa Clara county Council territory

Sakiko or Gary, please help!!

More information.- www.scccbsa.org or 408-280-5088 or
302 622 3300 or write jonathan@scccbsa.org

San Gabriel valley Council

Long Beach Area Council

Verdugo Hills Council

**The Save the Date Flyer makes me think it will be a
western theme**

February 2, 2008

Somewhere in Southern California???

More information.- The San Gabriel Valley Council site was
the only one with any info – www.sgvcbbsa.org or
626-351-8815

Maybe Julie will fill me in with all the needed info!!

WEB SITES

<http://www.holidays.Kaboose.com> online games, crafts,
jokes, recipes, family fun ideas, A to Z Christmas, Kwanza,
clip art, and more.

<http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday> lots of Christmas and
Winter fun – other seasons and holidays also

<http://falcon.jmu.edu/~ramseyil/holidays.htm>
all kinds of holidays and countries, links to other good
websites as well; includes songs, crafts, etc.

For some fun riddles about science and scientists, go to:

<http://www.kids.niehs.nih.gov/rdparty.htm>

Optical Illusions:

Great optical illusions at the same website:

<http://www.kids.niehs.nih.gov/illusion/illusions.htm>

ONE LAST THING

Permissions

Baltimore Area Council

It is OK to try something you don't know.
It is OK to make mistakes.
It is OK to take your time.
It is OK to find your own pace.
It is OK to do it your way.
It is OK to bungle – so next time, you are
free of the fear of failure enough to succeed.
It is OK to risk looking foolish.
It is OK to be original and different.
It is OK to wait until you feel ready.
It is OK to experiment – *safely!*
It is OK to question the “shoulds.”
It is special to be **you!**
It is necessary to make a “mess,”
which you should be willing to clean up.
The act of creation is often messy.

Top 10 Reasons to be a Cub Scout Leader

Baltimore Area Council

- #10 To help your community and to wear fancy duds.
- #9 To witness stupid comic skits for free.
- #8 To do stupid comic skits for free
- #7 To conduct a one-hour meeting that took three
anguish-filled hours to prepare for Cub Scouts who
only want to know, “What’s the snack?”
- #6 To sew hundreds of little patches on a uniform only to
have your son outgrow it.
- #5 To go out and enjoy nature with a bunch of nine-year-
olds instead of watching the University of (Your
home State) play football.
- #4 To provide the perfect excuse to your friends so you
don ‘t have to golf, go to dinner, or play tennis with
them.
- #3 To get rid of ail those worthless pieces of string, yam,
fabric, wire, and plastic milk bottles.
- #2 To collect and store forever priceless crafts made
from useless pieces of string, yam, wire, and plastic
milk bottles.
*and the number one reason why someone
would be an adult Scout volunteer. . . .*
- #1 To clear your wallet or purse of those filthy, germ-
laden \$10 or \$20 bills!



POW WOW BOOKS NEEDED

All my fall Pow Wow Books have run out.

Those of you with Fall Pow Wows

I need your books as soon as you can get them to me –

Pat in Baltimore,

Cubmaster Bob in Heart of America.

The lady at Rice who sends me Sam Houston Area Council and Scouter Jim at Great Salt Lake have written and promised me CDs

Alice's daughter-in-law(?) at Utah National Parks

I really would like a St. Louis this year.

How about Crossroads of America (Indianapolis)??

Chief Seattle – is Vince still there??

And many more National Cap, Three Fires, Viking, Trapper Trails, Alapaha Area Council (See I remembered the AREA) ...

Thank you in advance

The Southern NJ Council Pow Wow CD will be out in January and you will get a copy of that along with copies of whatever else I receive.

Dave