



BALOO'S BUGLE



Volume 5 Issue 5

December 1998

Early in November I went to our University of Scouting in Gadsden, Alabama. I had the pleasure of meeting other scouters from around my council. I was asked a couple of questions about information I put in the Bugle and I would like to answer them now. A Scouter asked me if I would put in a "Places to Go, Things to Do" about Northern Alabama. I want Baloo's Bugle to appeal to all youth leaders across the globe, and I try not to load it down with too much local information. But I am thinking about having URLs about unusual museums across the world in the future. Not that this fulfills any particular Cub Scout requirement, it just might be a fun thing to share with the Cubs. I was also asked to include the Cub Scout ranks, ages and grades on my page. We have a team member, Paul S. Wolf, who covers Cub advancement for us at USSSP. He covers in great detail information on this. Visit his area to learn more about rank advancement and information.

<http://www.usscouts.org/advance/cubscout/index.html>

TRAINING TIP

A lot of packs will be having pinewood derbies in the next few months. There will be cars that cross that finish line first and then others Cubs who have cars that don't place as high. It's important that our Cubs realize that doing their best is what is most important. I found the following section in the Cub Scout Leader Book, Chapter 1-4.

CUB SCOUT MOTTO

Do Your Best is the Cub Scout motto. It is one of the most important things for the Cub Scout to learn. Often he becomes so interested in winning that he fails to see the importance of doing the best he can at everything. One boy's best might be quite different from another boy's best. Help the boys see that no one can find fault with them if they always do their best in everything they tackle. As a leader, you can see that the Cub Scout Promise, the Law of the Pack, and the Cub Scout motto are related to everything a Cub Scout does. These are not just tests to be passed in order to qualify for induction. Take advantage of every opportunity to mention how the Promise, Law, and motto fit an activity or service project in which the boys are involved. Help them see this is a good way to live.

In another part of the CS Leader book it defines the part of the Cub Scout promise;

To Do My Best. Your best is not the same as someone else's best. Try to beat your own record, rather than

merely trying to do better than someone else. It makes you feel good to do your best.

"It's better to build boys than to mend men"

TIGER CUBS

Big Idea #15 Fitness and Sports

Denver Area Council

Make "Tin Can Walkers", Practice the Cub Scout Promise, Motto and your Den yell; Go to a hockey game as a tiger den (many colleges will get you in free just call the box office and ask); go for a winter walk along a nature trail; Prepare to give a cheer at your next meeting; Set up a tiger fitness circle relay where Tigers and Tiger partners shuttle through a course of fitness activities. Form a circle as large as the room permits with everyone facing the same direction. Give instructions for various activities as follow:

1. Start walking in a circle, and keep walking between these exercises
2. Start hopping.
3. Make yourself as small as possible and continue walking
4. Make yourself as tall as possible and continue walking, now reach you hands over you head ...
5. Etc.

Keep developing more instructions and remember...KISMIF (Keep It Simple, Make It Fun)

Big Idea #4 Prepare For Emergencies

Denver Area Council

Take your Tigers to the local police and/or fire department for a tour. Or invite the fire department to send an ambulance to your Tiger meeting. Have each Tiger color a poster about safety; Make a first aid kit for each Tiger family;

Review the **WHO, WHAT, WHERE**, of giving information over the phone during an emergency.

WHO is calling, tell the operator your name.

WHAT happened, with enough details to help emergency personnel

WHERE you are calling from, so that you can be found. Make a list of emergency numbers for your area, practice dialing these numbers on an unplugged telephone, have your leader act as the emergency personnel.

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Talk about fire safety and the importance of **STOP-DROP-ROLL**

First aid kit: For each Tiger: Large empty plastic pill bottle or 35mm film can, Band-Aids, sealed alcohol wipes, cotton balls, and a quarter (for phone calls)

Punch two holes in side of the bottle, put pipe cleaner through holes and secure by twisting inside, leaving enough on the outside for a belt loop or tie slide.

Assemble and decorate with reflective tape or paint or pens.

Heart of America Council

The activities in this big idea are designed to equip your child to deal with an emergency when there is no adult present. His knowledge of emergency procedures will strengthen his self-esteem and self-confidence.

1. Make a first aid kit and bring to meeting to share. Parents let the boys decide the important things to put in. At meeting, compare, share and discover if they have all the vital items. Make a Tiger first aid kit using items from everyone's kit. Keep this for use at meetings and outing.
2. Take a field trip to a fire department or hospital.
3. Discuss how medicine is different from candy. Discuss possible harms from taking medicine without parents' permission.

Project:

Know Your Bike

Your bike should be the right size for you. It should be safe and in good riding condition. Have an adult check it out for you. If you notice that something is wrong with it, be sure to tell mom or dad.

Bike Safety Rules

- Always wear shoes. Don't ride barefoot.
- It's best to wear long pants and a shirt with long sleeves.
- Loose fitting clothing can get caught in the spokes.
- Wear a helmet if you have one.
- Know what all the traffic signs mean.
- Follow the same traffic rules as the driver of a car does.
- Ride in the bike lane wherever you can.
- If you must ride on a sidewalk, watch out for people walking.
- Always ride in the same direction as traffic, never against it.
- Watch carefully when crossing driveways and alleys.
- If you have to be out after dark, be sure your bike has good reflectors and a light.
- Wear light colored clothing.
- Have a basket on your bike so your hands can be free for the handlebars.
- Always keep your hands on the handlebars.
- Be cautious--jumping with your bike can be dangerous

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- Don't ride with more than one person on the bike.
- If you see a "No Bikes Allowed" sign, be courteous and don't ride there.

PRE-OPENING ACTIVITY

Bridge Building 101

Simon Kenton Council

Materials: 20 full pages of newspaper. One roll of adhesive tape.

Make several teams using the parents and boys. The object is to make a bridge as strong as possible. The bridge must span an imaginary river of 20 inches. The winner can be the bridge that is the strongest, if several are actually made.

Using judges is the best way to decide the winner, using categories: Looks most like a real bridge, Looks least like a real bridge; Looks like you guys were not building a bridge at all, etc.

Takes 10 to 15 minutes, or this game can be a project for the Webelos dens to bring into the Pack meeting.

Options: Add 10 feet of dental floss and one small tube of glue.

Please check out the last page for an additional pre-opening activity that I did.

OPENING CEREMONY

Pinewood Derby Opening

Santa Clara Council

Have Cubs with each letter on posterboard with their part written on back

P A Pinewood Derby is fun for all,
But the whole family must answer the call.

I I will enter the competition real soon
To win or lose or whatever my doom.

N Neatly I painted my car with dad's expert help,
But please let me run it all by myself.

E Excitement runs all though the night,
No matter who wins, it will be alright.

W We would all like to come in first,
But if not, our bubble wouldn't burst.

O On with the races, don't hesitate,
For this Pinewood Derby can't wait.

O Open the gates, down the track; then we can rest.
For, being Cub Scouts, we've done our best.

D Don't mind tonight, where your car places;
Cub Scouting will help you through all life's races.

Pinewood Derby Opening

Santa Clara Council

Cubmaster:

If you take a moment tonight to contemplate these cars, you will realize that an awful lot of painstaking work went into each one. There is much creativity and ingenuity represented here. I don't know, but I imagine that each car was designed to be the fastest. Of course, not all cars

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will win. As we begin our pack meeting, keep in mind that in Cub Scouting, as in life, the victors are those who put forth earnest effort. As a great marathon runner from Kenya, a country in Africa, once said "To win is to finish. To finish is to win." Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Many Sides

Santa Clara Council

Den Leader: We will try to show you the many sides to little boys we proudly call son, but remember, these are all one boy.

1st Cub: I'm the one who lives in his dreams, always off on a cloud, at least that's how it seems!

2nd Cub: I'm the one all full of dirt, so very sure that soap and water will hurt.

3rd Cub: I'm the show-off and athlete; I just can't stand to get beat.

4th Cub: I'm the pouter, sensitive and shy, but I try to make people think I'm a real tough guy.

5th Cub: I'm the angel, neat and obedient. Mom wouldn't trade a day with me for all the money in the mint.

6th Cub: I'm the Cub Scout, the one we boys like best. That's 'cause I'm different from the rest. So everyone, please join us as we say the Promise we try to live by every day. (Audience and boys say the Cub Scout Promise)
Den Leader: They're all these boys and even more. There are lots of surprises for you in store. So love them. Protect them, and try to understand. It's a very hard job growing up to be a man.

Repair A Cub Scout

York-Adams Area Council

Props:

Hammer with "Do My Best" sign on it

Screwdriver with "Do My Duty" sign on it

Pliers with "to God and Country" sign on it

Saw with "Help Other People" sign on it

Block plane with "Law of the Pack" sign on it

Setting: Cub Scout is on stage. He is about as scruffy as one can imagine. His shirttails are out, his face is grungy, his hair is a mess, he is slouching, and he has the most forlorn frown on his face.

Other Cub Scouts enter and proceed with the repairs...

Cub 1: Wow! This guy's in pretty bad shape. We'd better fix him up. I'll use my "Do My Best" hammer. He "hammers" on the Cub Scout and the Cub tucks in his shirt and begins to stand straight.

Cub 2: Well, that's a start! Let me use this "Do My Duty" screwdriver. [He pretends to "make adjustments" to the lad and the Cub combs his hair and stands a little straighter.

Cub 3: That's getting him somewhere! Here, I'll give these "to God and Country" pliers a try. Again, the Cub gets tweaked a little more and he stands at attention.

Cub 4: Hey, he's just about there! Let me work on him

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with this "Help Other People" saw. Don't really use it! But as Cub 4 cuts away, the Cub Scout wipes off his face with a wash towel.

Cub 5: By Golly! I think we're about done! Just let me give him a little touchup with this "Law of the Pack" plane. [A little shave here and a little shave there and the Cub Scout responds by changing the frown into a great big smile.

Former Grubby Cub: Gee, thanks, guys! I guess I just needed to get with the program—the Cub Scout program, that is. Let's all stand now and join in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

LEADER IDEAS

Since you are, or maybe should be, gearing up for your Blue and Gold Banquets I have some leader recognition ideas that I thought you would enjoy. Here is a letter from Mike Bowman on recognition he posted on Scouts-L

Went shopping today and already the merchants are geared up for the Christmas season. Made me think that it is going to start getting awfully busy before too very long. As we move into the season pressures on our time may mount up, so it may be a good idea to think about a special gift now before we get to busy.

What this? He's flipped right? Nope, I'm talking about a simple gift that any of you can give. It's called recognition of the efforts of fellow Scouters for the sacrifices they've made to help out their Scouts.

You see, in most Councils nominations for some pretty important awards must be submitted before too long. In many Councils nominations for the Silver Beaver award are due at the end of December and nominations for the District Award of Merit are due in January.

If you have a dedicated Scouter of long tenure that has really gone the extra mile to be of service, you may want to ask for a nomination form at your local Scout Service Center. The Silver Beaver Award is the highest honor given to an adult Scouter by a Council. Nationally recipients have an average of 11 years tenure and have made contributions at the Council, District, and Unit level. The District Award of Merit recognizes outstanding contributions at a District level. There is no requirement for either award that a Scouter have filled a particular position. So get out your pens and write up a nomination, if you know a deserving person.

Similarly, most religious organizations have an adult award for outstanding service to youth, Scouting, and the religious organization. If you know of an adult leader who has been active in his/her religious organization and has given outstanding service, you may want to consider a nomination for this individual. Tenure requirements vary by religious organization. For more information contact your Council's Religious Relationships Committee.

There are many other adult training and achievement recognitions in Scouting as well. If you have adult leaders

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that meet the requirements, take the time to give them the gift of recognition. And even if they don't meet the requirements yet, special homemade recognitions, certificates, and fun awards are always appreciated.

Mike

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<http://members.tripod.com/colonialdistrict>

For our Blue and Gold I have taken the yellow playtex gloves, filled them with that insulation that gets hard, then decorated them like a hand. At Walmart I got the cheap jewels and put them on like rings and bracelets, etc. and gave them a "helping Hand" award. Then one year I took cheap slippers and panty hose and made a face with glue on eyes and hair from like Hobby Lobby to rest their feet from all the running around. Then next year I took really cheap hats and made them so tacky! I glued blue and yellow netting on them with blue and gold jewels on them. That was for all the hats they have worn in scouting

nucook2@I1.net
Nancy Jones

Last year I wrote this recognition poem for my daughter's basketball coaches. I have made a few changes to the words but I thought I would reprint it.

A Den Leader's PayDay
(substitute the candy where you see *)
Sometimes we were **Butterfingers**
But always a **Joy**
We always did **Snicker**
After all, we are boys.

We wanted to give you **\$100,000 Grand**
But had **Zero** money
So that idea was canned.

We **M & Made** you this card
With **Mounds** of love and rhyme
To thank you for giving up
so much of your time.

Put in a row of Hershey Hugs and Kisses and have the Cubs sign it. I used poster board for mounting the candy and a calligraphy pen for printing the poem. Visit Professor Beaver's site with lighthearted, fun award ideas

http://www.usscouts.org/profbvr/fun_awards/index.html

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AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Johnny fixes it good!

York-Adams Area Council

Here is an Audience Participation skit for the theme. The characters and their sounds are:

Johnny: "I can fix it!"

Dad: "'Be careful, son."

Wrench: "Oh Nuts!"

Screwdriver: "Straight or Phillips?"

Bike: "Drrrinnngggg, Drrrinnngggg"

Pliers: "Hold me tight!"

Johnny had a problem. His bike was broken. Now Johnny and his dog, Ralph, could not ride to the park to play with his friends. But Johnny, being a very smart Cub Scout, knew how to fix the bike. However, he needed a box-end wrench, a pair of pliers, and a screwdriver. So he asked his dad if he could borrow a box-end wrench, a pair of pliers, and a screwdriver. His dad said "Sure, but make sure you take care of the box-end wrench, pliers, and screwdriver and return them as soon as you're finished. "I will Dad," said Johnny. So Johnny and Ralph went into the back yard to fix his bike with the box-end wrench, pliers, and screwdriver. Since Johnny knew how to use a box-end wrench, a pair of pliers, and a screwdriver, bike was soon fixed and ready to ride. Ralph helped all he could. Johnny took a quick spin to make sure everything was alright and then he called Ralph to go with him to the park. "Oh," said Johnny. "I'd better return these tools to Dad before we go." But when he reached for the tools, the pliers and screwdriver were there but the pliers were missing. "Oh no! What would Dad think?" said Johnny. He looked all around for the pliers. He looked in the bushes, but no pliers! He looked all over the yard, but no pliers! Finally, he noticed Ralph digging in the garden. Johnny went over to Ralph and there were the pliers in his bone hole. So the pliers were found. And Johnny was able to return the box-end wrench, the pliers, and the screwdriver to his Dad. Everyone was happy the bike was all fixed—except Ralph!

GAMES

Games

The Pancake Toss

San Francisco Bay Area Council

Take several old ping pong paddles or make paddles out of scraps of wood. The first boy on each team takes a paddle and flips a leather pancake to a finish line and back. The next boy takes the paddle and does the same till everyone has had his turn. First team finished wins.

Flashcards

Make a set of tool flashcards. Using 3x5 cards put pictures of tools on them. Make two cards of each tool.

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The name of the tool can be written on the back if needed. These can be used in several ways:

- Concentration - put all cards face down on table or floor. Boys take turns turning over two cards at a time. If cards match the boy keeps them. If unmatched he must turn them back over trying to remember them for later. The winner is the boy with the most cards when all have been matched.
- Use as regular flashcards to help Cub Scouts learn all the names of the various tools.
- Use as flashcards with boy telling the use of the tool on the card held up.

Tool Charades

San Francisco Bay Area

Instead of a title or saying, give the boys the names of tools. Each must then get his team to guess the tool by pantomiming its use.

Paper Cup Pyramid

Trapper Trails Council

One member of each den wears a cardboard hat (a square piece of cardboard that is fastened under the chin with string.) Each team builds a pyramid by placing a layer of cups on top of each other. The highest pyramid in 5 minutes wins, if it doesn't fall.

Do a pyramid stunt have boys make a three level pyramid like cheerleaders do.

FUN FOOD

Just a few morsels of ideas

Build a hero sandwich

Build a submarine sandwich

Or how about a Dagwood sandwich

Get sandwich cookies and have a cookie tower building contest. This can also be done with crackers.

Use saltine crackers and build a cube.

ADVANCEMENT CEREMONY

Advancement Ceremony

San Francisco Bay Area

Props: Cubmaster dressed in a work smock wearing a carpenter's tool belt. Awards and mother's pins are taped to pieces of wood scraps that are hidden in his tool belt. Be sure to emphasize the "puns" though out the ceremony.

Cubmaster: Tonight, we have some boys who "saw" the opportunity to "nail down" some advancements. At times these boys had to keep "hammering" on some of the tougher requirements, but, they kept on "drilling", "curving" and "sanding" and finally "cut" through. We "wood" like to honor them tonight.

Will Cub Scout _____ please come forward with his

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parents? _____ has "chiseled" through the requirements for the Wolf badge. (Cubmaster takes the Wolf award from his tool belt and holds it up.) We "wood" like to have his parents present him this award. (Cubmaster hands the award to the parents who present the boy the award.) _____ "wood" you please pin the mother's pin on your mother.

Other "puns" which could be used when making presentations include: "filed", "planed", "sharpened", "glued", "cut", "painted" or any other tool related name or adjective.

The Racetrack Advancement

Santa Clara Council

Personnel: Cubmaster, Den Chief

Equipment: Racetrack Ceremony Board (instructions below), flashlight, badges pinned on small shapes (racing cars for Bobcats; green flags for Wolf badges or Arrow Points; red flags for Bear badges or Arrow Points; white flags for Webelos Activity badges, checkered flags for Arrow of Light Awards.)

Setting: Room is darkened. Den Chief stands with flashlight behind ceremony board. At the appropriate time, he illuminates the proper cutout with flashlight. Cubmaster reads script.

In an auto race, drivers must advance in position. Tonight we have a special way to honor our racing drivers who have advanced in Cub Scout rank. The first step in any race is to establish a qualifying time. Tonight we have some new Bobcats who have qualified as drivers on our Cub Scout advancement track. (Den Chief illuminates racing car cutout.) Will the following boys and their parents come forward? (Read names. Asks the boys to repeat the Promise and Motto, and tell them to remember them well)

The green flag symbolizes those drivers who have qualified for a Wolf position on our advancement track. Will the following boys come forward? (Call boys and parents. Den Chief illuminates green flag). Because your parents were helping you and cheering for you, we would like them to present the badges to you.

The red flag indicates that a driver is more experienced and skillful in handling his car and is moving up among the track leaders. Will the following boys and their parents please come forward? (Call them. Have the red flag illuminated) Just as pit mechanics help drivers to refuel and change parts, so your parents have helped you. They thus share in your honor. (Parents present badges)

The white flag tells us that the driver has but one lap to go to reach the checkered flag, the Arrow of Light. He has learned to manage the turns, jams, and upsets. Will the following Webelos Scouts come forward to receive their activity badges? (Call boys and parents forward. Have

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white flag illuminated) Many a driver wins because of the support given by his pit crew. Your parents have helped you in earning these badges and your Webelos leader has been an important part, too. (Webelos leader presents Activity Badges.)

The checkered flag announces the end of the race. It shows that the driver has reached the goal and has won the right to go on to bigger races - the Indianapolis 500 -, which is Scouting. Will the following boys come forward to receive the highest track award, the Arrow of Light? This is the only badge in Cub scouting which may be worn on the Boy Scout uniform. Your parents share in your achievement, since they have helped you do your best and have traveled the track of Cub Scouting with you.

Congratulations to All!!

Race track Ceremony Board: Cardboard or plywood rectangle. Flags and car shapes are cut out and backed with cellophane of the proper color. Flashlight illuminates cutouts at proper time.

Recognition Ceremony

San Francisco Bay Area Council

Attach awards to card stock cut in the shape of wood working tools (i.e., saw, hammer, tape measure, etc.) Captions on the awards could match the tool:

"Way to measure up!"
"You really hammer down problems!"
"You saw us through!"

Building Cub Scouts

York-Adams Council

This ceremony focuses on the boys' advancements as a true "building" of the Cub Scouts.

Note that this and other ceremonies should be reviewed and modified to suit the specific awards being giving at the meeting. This ceremony is written so that any particular award can be used or omitted without impacting the whole of the ceremony.

CUBMASTER: And now we get down to the essence of tonight's theme, Cubstruction. To me, Cubstruction is the building of our Cub Scouts! And haven't they grown! As we think back a year, a month, or even a week ago, we see that these guys have really grown. (And you parents who just got back from buying new clothes *again* this year, know what I mean!) And while they are growing physically, they're also growing in mind and in spirit. Tonight we look closely at how these guys have grown.

(BOBCAT)

Any time you learn something new, you've grown! You don't have to add an inch to your stature, just learn something new and you've grown by it. Well tonight we recognize some of our Cub Scouts for doing just that. List names of Bobcat recipients and call them with their

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parents to the front of the room. The Bobcat award does not require you to build a birdhouse or to climb a rope, but it does require you to build yourself. These guys have been working hard to understand the basic requirements for being a Cub Scout. They have learned the Promise and the Law of the Pack. They have also learned and practiced the handshake, motto, Cub scout sign and the salute. They now know what the word WEBELOS means in Cub Scouting. And they have worked with their parents to be prepared should someone try to approach them improperly. They have really grow—and that's what Cubstruction is all about! Hand parents the awards to present to the boys and congratulate them with the Cub Scout handshake. Offer an applause and ask them to take their seats.

(WOLF)

Next we have our Wolf Cub Awards. These guys are really building themselves. They started as new Cubs (and Tigers) and now they have done some really hard work to earn their Wolf awards. List names and invite them with their parents to come forward. When I look through the Wolf Book, I find many different Cubstruction activities. Even the first activity is all about building the Cub Scout. They do physical "Feats of Skill" like the crab walk and ball throwing. (Parents, when was the last time you tried to do the crab walk?) And then there are the "learning about making things" activities, like learning about how to use and care for tools. And finally, there are activities that help build these guys into better citizens. They have paid close attention to the neighborhood and their homes, seeing what they can do to make them a little better. Tonight we award these Cub Scouts their Wolf badge for truly showing us what Cubstruction is all about. Hand out badges to parents to give to the boys. Congratulate them and offer a suitable applause. Have them sit down.

(BEAR)

When I started this ceremony, I pointed out that Cubstruction is more than just physical growth. It is also spiritual and mental growth. Tonight we recognize Cub Scouts who have earned their Bear badge. List off Bear candidate names and invite them and their parents to the front of the room. The first requirement in the Big Bear Book is for them to grow in their faith by earning their Religious Award or by regularly attending and participating in their Church activities. These Cub Scouts are building themselves spiritually. They also pay special attention to our Country, completing requirements that focus on being good, solid citizens. And they have completed requirements that pay special attention to being a part of a family—these guys are learning (and that's building) more and more that they are not the center of the universe, but a contributing part of it. They have also completed requirements that they do for themselves—physical exercise and mental skills, for example. These Bear Scouts are solid examples of being Under Cubstruction. Hand parents the awards to present to the

boys and congratulate them. Offer an applause and ask them to take their seats.

(WEBELOS)

A word about uniforms, now. A few years ago, the BSA changed the uniform to allow Webelos Scout to begin wearing the Boy Scout uniform pants and shirts. In part, this was to focus their attention on moving into Boy Scouts. But I can't help but think that part of the reason was that so many parents were yelling and screaming about having to buy a second (or third) blue Cub Scout uniform as these bean sprouts really started "shooting up" in size. These guys are really growing! But, again, the growth isn't all physical. Tonight we recognize some of our older Cub Scouts for having earned their Webelos badge. List names and invite them with their parents to come forward. These Webelos Scouts *have* done some physical building by completing their Physical Fitness Activity Badge. But they also have earned at least two other Activity Badges in areas outside of the physical development area. Maybe they've earned a Technology Group badge or a Mental Skills badge, but they have grown more than just physically. They also have started on their path to becoming Boy Scouts. They have studied the Boy Scout Oath and Law and have learned the basic elements for being Boy Scouts. (Much like our Bobcats learn the basic elements of being a Cub Scout.)

Cubstruction is alive and well with these guys. Hand parents the awards to present to the boys and congratulate them. Offer an applause and ask them to take their seats. Finally we come to the top of our Cub Scouting "growth curve." Some Webelos build themselves up to the point of earning the highest award offered in Cub Scouting—the Arrow of Light. List names and invite them with their parents to come forward. When these guys started out in Cub Scouts, they were building a foundation. For most, it starts in Tigers, others join as Wolf Scouts, and the rest join in Bears and Webelos. But they start with building a solid foundation. And then they add the superstructure or framing. This is where they earn their badges of rank. Finally, they put on the finishing touches—the hardest part of the job. It's the difference between "rough carpentry" and "finish carpentry." And these guys have done a great job in putting on the final touches. Hand boys the parent's Arrow of Light pins to present to their parents. Then give parents the awards to present to the boys and congratulate them. Offer an applause and ask them to take their seats. And so there you have it! The building of a Cub Scout!

Akela's Arrow Piedmont Council

A tradition in a pack started many years ago. It is to present our graduating Arrow of Light recipients a real arrow with color (use plastic tape) bands for each of their ranks obtained while in Cub Scouts. This is to remember

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their Cub Scout years. The following ceremony shows the arrow's features.

Cubmaster - As we hold this arrow, we see it is a totem. This totem has many things to tell about our tribe.

When you look at an arrow, you see a long, sturdy and straight shaft. This shaft supports many tails. The color bands called the crest are orange, blue, brown, green, red and yellow. The crest stands for the ranks of Tiger, Bobcat, Wolf, Bear, Webelos and Arrow of Light. This shaft is our pack, which will stay true in flight by its fletching. These are the 3 feathers, which represent the leaders, parents and the Cub Scouts.

The notch at the end of the shaft stands for the support of the sponsor. The point of the shaft is symbolic of many things in Scouting. Cub Scouts are given arrow points for earning electives and the Arrow of Light award is the highest award in Cub Scouting.

So Cub Scouts, always remember, when you receive an arrow point or the Arrow of Light NEVER bend to wrong, because a crooked arrow always strays off target, but a straight arrow always stays true in flight.

(Present personalized arrows.)

Good Luck in Boy Scouting!

SKITS

Building A Better World Santa Clara Council

11 Cub Scouts, each holding a card with a letter on the front and his line on the back. Each speaker holds up his letter as he says his line. Last line is delivered by all.

Take a **B** for brotherhood, boosting for each others good.

Take an **E** for every land to share in earth's riches everywhere

Take a **T** for trustfulness, trusting more, and fearing less.

Take a **T** for teamwork, for joining hands to put things through.

Take an **E** for an equal chance for each nation to advance.

Take an **R** for real respect in spite of race, creed or sect.

Take a **W** for will to work for peace with faith and skill.

Take an **O** for opportunity to keep our speech and action free

Take an **R** for reverence for a guiding providence.

Take an **L** for love to spread around when need and bitterness are found.

Take a **D** for dignity of man devoted to a bigger plan.

(All hold letters up)

There you have it--that is how to build a **BETTER WORLD**, right now.

Tools In Cub Scouting Santa Clara Council

Cub Scout 1: (carrying a hammer) In Cub Scouts we learn to build character.

Cub Scout 2: (carrying a plank) It is not what the boy does to the wood, but rather what the wood does for the boy.

Cub Scout 3: (carrying a plane) Through Cub Scouting we learn to remove the sharp edges off our personalities.

Cub 4: (carrying sandpaper) As we grow in Cub Scouting, we become more refined and smooth in our manners.

Cub Scout 5: (carrying a tool chest) Our talents are gathered together and we get a chance to try them out when our den works on the themes each month.

Cub Scout 6: (walking with a parent) Our parents help us learn how to use the tools of life when they help us pass our achievements.

All: Thank you all for helping us grow into well-rounded citizens.

DEN ACTIVITIES

A Genius Kit can be used in your den meeting or as a pre-opening activity

A genius kit is something you put together that the boys take and make something from. Example, a paper sack filled with 2 paper plates, some q tips, paper cup, maybe a 1 liter empty bottle, wire, paper clips, etc... Anything you want to put in them.

At one of our roundtables all adult leaders were given the same thing and had to bring back a completed item the next roundtable. I used the above items to make a lamp complete with a pleated shade made from the paper sack! Of course I won a painted lightbulb for the brightest idea. As long as you put the same in everyone's kit it can contain anything.

**Nancy Jones
Missouri**

Genius Kits

York Adams-Area Council

I can't imagine that anyone hasn't at least seen a description of the Genius Kit activity, but for those that haven't I am including my description here. And for those that have never done a Genius Kit activity, you are really missing out on one of the most incredible, eye-opening activities you could possibly imagine. We run one of these activities at least every couple years because they are always fun and the results are never the same.

What is a Genius Kit?

Well it's a group of 20 or more odds and ends thrown together into a container and given to a boy to turn into something. (Variations include letting the boys pick their

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own items from a large open container, but again, the items are odds and ends.)

What is the purpose of the Genius Kit activity?

The object is to let the kids use their imaginations to come up with some of the most unbelievable creations from the junk they have. You will be amazed at the results!

How do you run a Genius Kit activity?

I have seen them run two different ways. First, as said above, is to give the kids a chance to pick their own items from a general junk bin and then let them work on making their creations. The other way is to give each boy an identical Genius Kit and have each one come up with his own creation.

We also apply rules depending on how we are running the event. For example, when we've given the boys all the same items, we've said no painting and only the materials supplied and clear glue can be used. This keeps them from adding to their creations beyond the "level playing field." Finally, this activity doesn't lend itself to a large group setting. The hot glue and white glue can end up everywhere and might hurt someone. If you want to incorporate it into the Pack Meeting, have the boys work on them at home and bring them in for display and judging. (This is just my opinion.)

How do you judge the Genius Kits?

For either "method," we try to have enough categories that virtually all of the creations get ribbons. It isn't easy for the judges, let me tell you. Your best bet is to make sure you have ribbons or certificates for all participants and then you can come up with some Top Prizes.

I was floundering a bit for ideas when I started with the Cubstruction theme. Mike was kind enough to send me these ideas.

This is a fun one where you can go wild on handicraft, shopcraft, and games that involve building - you know the ones where you stack up blocks and pull 'em out one at a time. Cubstruction is wonderful because it is a prime opportunity for hands on doing experiences instead of being lectured to death. And you can get a little crazy and maybe off track with building by adding odd things like building a monster submarine sandwich, making a huge pizza, touring places that make things, going to a construction lot or lumber yard and letting the boys pound nails, making bird houses for the spring, helping to fix up a park (service projects) or a building, etc. How about making Cub Stools for the meeting place - real simple with a square piece of plywood about 18' square and four pre-cut 2x2s for legs, have the board prepared with pre-drilled guide holes and let the boys screw on the legs and then paint them with splashes of various colors or decorate 'em with decals and the like. Sing the John Henry song or others with steam engines, action, banging and clanging. How about a skit using a variation of the big bad wolf and three pigs with a few local refinements to make it funny, but get across the point of the story.

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How about a special pack uniform for the month with construction helmets borrowed for the meeting and tool belts as props for a skit or song. Can't remember the song but we had one where every so often it called for a clap or bang and instead we had the cubs lined up and let them bang a piece of sheet metal with a hammer. The noise was terrible, but they liked the rowdiness.

Modeling Dough

Alameda, Marin, Piedmont & San Francisco Bay Area Council

Homemade Modeling Clay

Mix 2 cup table salt and 2/3 cup water in saucepan. Simmer over medium heat, stirring constantly until mixture is well-heated (approx. 3-4 minutes). Remove from heat. Add mixture of 1-cup cornstarch and 1/2 cup cold water.

Mix hard. This will make thick, stiff dough. Add food coloring if desired. Store in plastic bag in refrigerator.

Salt-Flour Modeling Dough

Combine 1/2 cup and 1 cup flour. With your hands, mix and knead enough water to make a stiff dough. Tint with food coloring or tempera paint. Store in plastic bag in refrigerator.

Cornstarch Baking Soda Dough

Mix 1 cup cornstarch, 2 cups baking soda. Add 1 1/4 cups water and mix. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring constantly. This will thicken to the consistency of slightly dry mashed potatoes. Store in refrigerator up to two weeks. Recipes may be cut in half.

Bread Modeling Dough

Remove crusts from several slices of white bread. Break up bread into small pieces and mix with white glue. Add a few drips of lemon juice. Mix until it is the consistency of clay. Color with tempera paint. Store in plastic bag in refrigerator.

I have been feeding goldfinches and housefinches for about 3 or 4 years. The goldfinches (especially the males) are simply beautiful during the summer. But now that the weather has turned decidedly cold here I have decided to also feed the other wild birds who aren't vacationing in Florida. Below are some ideas that you can share with your Cubs about feeding birds and some recipes.

Rules For Feeding Birds

Alameda, Marin, Piedmont & San Francisco Bay Area Council

1. **Once you start, continue.** Birds will get use to coming and finding food in your feeders. Don't disappoint them.
2. Birds need moisture too. If you don't have regular birdbath for water, use an old hub cap or shallow pan on top of an overturned garbage can. If temperature

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is freezing, boil water every morning and pour over pan, taking out ice. Remaining water will cool quickly for birds to use.

3. Feed everyday and early 5:30 or 6 a.m., is not too early to get out and check feeders. This is when the birds eat.

Bird Cake

Materials:

- Wild bird seed
- 1/2 pound suet
- 12 ounce juice can
- Long piece of wire (such as telephone)
- Piece of vegetable (onion or potato)

1. Cut vegetable sack to fit inside can top with extra sticking up above can top.
2. Cut suet into small pieces and heat in double boiler so it won't burn. Let cool and harden. If any pieces of meat are seen, remove them.
3. Reheat suet. After it has melted again, mix in one-cup birdseed. Pour this mixture into can. Cool until it hardens.
4. To remove birdcake from can, set can in warm water. Carefully run a knife around inside to loosen sack. Pull top of sack to get cake out.
5. Tie ends of sack with wire, leaving enough wire to tie to tree limb. Hang as far out from trunk as possible to keep it from squirrels.

Food for Birds:

Sunflower seeds	Corn
Small seed mixture	Peanut
Bread crumbs (but no mold)	Popcorn
Combination suet and seed	Suet in mesh bag
Rolled oats	Corn Meal
Buckwheat	Thistles
Wheat	

Occasional Special Treats

Peanut Butter	Bits of apple	Other fresh and dried fruits
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Bird Treat

Save all crumbs, cookies, bread, cake, cereal, potato chips. Add to pan of melted suet or bacon grease. Stir in some peanut butter. Pour mixture into 2 paper cups. Insert stick into each one. Refrigerate 24 hours. Peel paper cups away and insert a third stick between ends of two treats to

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join them together. Tie length of twine to end of stics and hand.

STUNTS AND TRICKS

Cheers

Denver Area Council

Deep-sea diver cheer: Hold one hand over head, puff out cheeks and say "blub, blub, blub"

Home run Cheer: Simulate swinging a bat at a ball, shade your eyes with your hand and yell (loud) "There She goes!"

Woodcutter's Applause: Nod your heads, as if asleep, and start cutting the zzz's.

Plane Applause: Hold imaginary plane in hands and plane the wood to the sound of "zzzziiiiipp!"

Hammer Applause: Hold nail in one hand and hammer with other hand, saying "Bang, bang, bang, ouch!" (and shake hand that got hit).

Jackhammer Applause: Hold jackhammer with both hands and begin using it. "Bap-bap-bap-bap-bap!"

SONGS

Pinewood Derby Song

Tune: De Camptown Races
York Adams Area Council

Cub Scouts all join in the song,

Do-da, do-dah!

Pine car track is mighty long,

Oh, do-day-day!

CHORUS:

Going to run so fast,

Going to get ahead,

Bet my money on a blue pine car,

Somebody bet on the red.

Black cars, blue cars, green and gray,

Do-da, do-da!

Are running on the track today,

Oh, do-da-day!

CHORUS

Pine cars do have lots of class,

Do-da, Do-dah!

Even though they don't use gas,

Oh, do-da-day!

CHORUS

They're the pride of all the Dens,

Do-da, do-da!

Built by Cub Scouts and their friends,

Oh, do-da-day!

CHORUS

Toolbox Song

(Tune: I'm a Little Teapot)

By Joalene and Cordell Whitmer
San Francisco Bay Area Council

I'm a pair of pliers just because
Here is my handle here are my jaws.

Chorus:

Keep me in your toolbox bright and new
Take me out and I'll work for you.

I'm a coping saw that's strung to tight
Pull me then push me to use me right.

Chorus:

I'm a big strong hammer, a mighty tool.
Hit the nails only, that's the rule.

Chorus:

I'm a handy wood plane, give me a try.
I can help you out if your door's too high.

Chorus

Working With Wood

(Tune: I've Been Working on the Railroad)

I've been working for the Derby, planning my racing car!
All my family has been helping, my car should be the star.
Can't you hear the crowds a-cheering,
As we win the prize
Pinewood Derby time's exciting
For all the Cub Scout guys.

CLOSING CEREMONY

Pinewood Closing

Santa Clara County

Form a circle around a the derby track

Cubmaster:

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success"
This is a quote from the famous carmaker, Henry Ford.
All of the dens come together to form the beginning of our pack.
Keeping together at our monthly pack meeting is progress.
Working together in Cub Scouting is surely a success story of which you can have a great part.
Let's remember this in the coming months.
Please repeat with me the Law of the Pack.
Thanks for coming out for our Pinewood Derby tonight.
We've worked together and made ever boy in Pack ____ a winner!

TRAINING AROUND THE U.S.

Lorie, from South Carolina sent this

Indian Waters Council University of Scouting (formerly

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1. Ask a member of the local Red Cross or emergency trauma team to visit your den and show you how to save lives by learning:
Hurry cases
Shock
Other minor emergencies
2. Consult with the local fire marshal, emergency services team, or police department to find out how to plan an emergency escape route, or find where most home accidents are likely to occur in and around the home.
3. Consult the Boy Scout Field Book for safe bicycling tips.

Tie Slide Band Aid Slide

Material:

Thin piece of wood or tongue depressor
Pipe cleaner
Band-Aid
Clear contact paper

1. Cut a thin piece of wood or tongue depressor the shape of a Band-Aid.
2. Make 2 holes in the middle and make a pipe cleaner ring.
3. Then stick on a real Band-Aid and cover.

Webelos Advancement

by Dave O'Leary
Piedmont Council

(Webelos leader brings forward Webelos Scouts and parents receiving that rank.

Cubmaster - Now you can see that these Cub Scouts are on the upward trail. They are moving forward and keep working for the highest award in Cub Scouting, the Arrow of Light. Parents our congratulations to you and your Webelos Scouts. Thank you for the fine work you have done in Scouting. (Parents present badges to sons.)

December is the last month that your Scouts are eligible to participate in the Pedro Reading Patch Program. Read how your Cubs can earn a patch from Pedro.



SAY YES TO READING!

Each year Boy's Life has exciting program that encourages reading. I have gotten the following information and strongly encourage participation in this program. My son has received Pedro Patches in the past through this program. It really is a win-win type deal. **Write a one-page report titled "The Best Book I Read This Year" and enter it in the Boys' Life 1998 "Say Yes to Reading!" contest.**

The book can be fiction or nonfiction. But the report has to be in your own words. Enter in the one of these three age categories:

- * 8 years old and younger,
- * 9 and 10 years old,
- * 11 years old and older.

When Pedro receives your report, he will send you a free patch. The top three winners from each age group will also get to pick a book from our special prize list, receive copies of "Codemaster" books 1 and 2, a set of the limited-edition Codemaster patch-and-pin set--plus have their names announced in this column!

The contest is open to all Boys' Life readers. Be sure to include your age and your grade in school on the entry.

Send your report, along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope, to: BSA, Boys' Life Reading Contest, S204, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079. Entries must be postmarked by Dec. 31, 1998.

Web Sites

The BSA has a new look at their web site, check it out

<http://www.bsa.scouting.org/>

Cub Scout Advancement

<http://www.usscouts.org/advance/cubscout/index.html>

Cub Scout Pack 113-lots of links

<http://www.inlex.dra.com/mbac/MtTOro/Pack113/pack113.shtml>

Pack 1828 in Texas Stop by, say hi by signing their guestbook

<http://www.scoutsusa.org/units/p1828/pack1828.htm>

Cub Scout Pack 610

http://www.jenrob.net/pack610/pack610_slinks.html

Pack 710--check out their sand castle competition link

<http://members.icanect.net/~esver/>

Check out Miss Val's Scouting Page

<http://members.aol.com/FlaValG/index.htm>

Another site I enjoyed

http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/bill_fish/the_mes.htm

Tiger Cub program

Fitness and Sports

Sports Illustrated Site for Kids

<http://www.sikids.com/>

Benny Goodsport

<http://www.bennygoodsport.com/>

Fitness For Kids

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<http://www.fitnesslink.com/changes/kids.htm>

US Olympics-PBS School

http://www.ibm.pbscyberschool.org/ski/index_ski.html

Nutrition-Burger Town

<http://burgertown.kidscom.com/>

Milk--It's on everyone lips

<http://www.whymilk.com/>

Prepare for Emergencies

<http://members.cruzio.com/~hoax1950/KidsFireSafetyTips.html>

Sparky the Fire Dog

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

Safety Quiz for Kids

<http://city.wheaton.lib.il.us/pd/kids.html>

Smokey the Bear

<http://www.smokeybear.com/>

Bike Safety

<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/kids/biketour/index.html>

Safety Bear's Home Page

<http://www.dps.state.ak.us/AST/safety/safebear.htm>

Traffic Safety Kids Page

<http://www.nysgtsc.state.ny.us/kids.htm#Top>

Leicester Police Dept. Index

<http://www.leicesterpd.org/index.htm>

Safety Tips

<http://www.leicesterpd.org/safety.html>

more safety tips

<http://www.summitems.org/safety.htm>

Family Safety Tips

<http://www.safekids.org/F2SAFTYC.HTML>

Kid eye Safety

<http://www.optima-hyper.com/kidsafe.htm>

Kids, Sports and Exercise

http://kidshealth.org/parent/nutrition/kid_sports.html

Theme Related

Pinewood Derby

<http://usscouts.org/pinewood/index.html>

PINEWOOD DERBY TIPS FOR TOOL IMPAIRED CUB

SCOUT LEADERS

<http://users.aol.com/randywoo/pine/pinetip.htm>

Webelos

Always a great job by Skip and Pete

<http://www2.inow.com/~wag/ranks/webelospins.html>

Check out the quiz the Inky Squid Patrol took for the Fitness and Readyman badge.

<http://www2.inow.com/~wag/squids.html>

Readyman Emergency Checklist--Barb Creighton, Pack 114

<http://www.creighton.edu/~bsteph/pack114/funpages/web-rdy2.html>

Fitness

Barb Creighton from Pack 114 has a fun fitness activity page

<http://www.creighton.edu/~bsteph/pack114/funpages/web-fit1.html>

Fitness Link

<http://www.fitnesslink.com/>

10 Tips for healthy eating for kids

<http://ificinfo.health.org/brochure/10tipkid.htm>

Readyman

Surgeon General report about kids and smoking

<http://www.health.org/kidsarea/pubs/sgr4kids/sgrmenu.htm>

Food Pyramid

<http://www.nal.usda.gov:8001/py/pmap.htm>

Visit the Slide Show for great Neckerchief Slide Ideas:

<http://home.att.net/~llmcgraw/etowah/slides.htm>

Home page for United States Scouting Service Project

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

Adult Leader Resources

Are you on day camp staff. Judy sent me this information and site

Lots of Cub day camps, Resident camps and Family camps are recruiting directors and program directors for next summer's fun, and an important factor in this process is training -- National Camp School!

This site:

http://users.aol.com/lwjones/scouts/ncs/n_camp_s.html

now has the 1998 camp schools' schedules. It is great

Mike Bowman's District site visit their camporee

<http://members.tripod.com/colonialdistrict>

Fun Stuff

Send a hero a hero sandwich

<http://www.mayo.com/westmayo/cyber/cyber.html>

Foxcentration

<http://www2.ucklick.com/client/slp/fx/>

New Year's History and Customs

<http://wilstar.com/holidays/newyear.htm>

Learn2com--the ability utility

<http://www.learn2to.com/>

Resources

The scouting graphics for all levels of scouting are available on line at

<http://usscouts.org/library.html>

It is also available for purchase as a CD Rom at the following number 1-800-SCOUTER

