



Bear Den Meeting 14

Take Care of Your Planet

Achievement 6.

Preparation and Materials Needed

- ▶ If applicable, make arrangements for a field trip to a recycling facility. A field trip is the most interesting way to complete the achievement. You can still complete the achievement, but you'll need to jazz it up in an interesting and fun way with other requirements.
 - If you meet at a large school or church, there may be trash/recycling options there, and a facilities person who might be able to make it interesting. Or a local trash or recycling service might be willing to come visit your den meeting with a presentation if you ask.
- ▶ For additional information, you might look at <http://www.epa.gov/kids/>, the Environmental Kids Club site at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (or do an Internet search for "environmental kids").
- ▶ Materials checklist (add to your den Cub tub of U.S./den flags, paper/pencils, other supplies):
 - Bring unfinished birdhouses, hammers, safety glasses, paint, and smocks.
 - Families may bring aluminum cans for recycling. **Note:** Scouts and parents may also just do their own recycling without hauling all of those cans to dump on the den leader!
 - Arrow Points for those completing the requirements today.

Before the Meeting

- ▶ Make final preparations with assistance from any assistant den leader or other parent helper, den chief, and/or denner. Organize the space (seating, flags, advancement charts, activity materials, handouts, etc.). If you're snacking, organize space for that and the cleanup.

Gathering

- ▶ Have a gathering activity (games, puzzles, other) that will keep Scouts interested and busy, and that others may join as they arrive. If the den desires, serve a healthy snack during this time.
- ▶ Collect dues, record attendance and any advancement completed at home (a good job for an assistant den leader). Assign parents to meeting roles and hand out a meeting plan to each.

Opening

- ▶ Flag ceremony (indoor or outdoor; rotate roles to complete **Achievement 3f**) with Pledge of Allegiance; the Cub Scout Promise or a patriotic song (of other opening).
- ▶ Consider a roll call, uniform inspection, or den yell.

Business Items

- ▶ Use this time to discuss participation in coming pack meetings or pack events, as needed.
- ▶ **Verify:** Review the boys' handbooks to verify completion of **Achievement 5d** and **Achievement 6d-f**.

Activities

- ▶ **Achievement 6, Take Care of Your Planet.** Do three of the seven:
 - **Achievement 6a:** Save five pounds of glass or aluminum, or one month of daily newspapers. Turn them in at a recycling center or use your community's recycling service.
 - **Achievement 6c:** Have each boy report on what he learned about your trash-hauling company and what happens to your trash after it is hauled away.
 - **Achievement 6d:** Discuss all the ways water is used at home. Repair leaky faucets.
 - **Achievement 6e:** Discuss the kinds of energy available and the kinds your family uses.
 - **Achievement 6f:** Have each boy report on what he found out about how electricity is generated for his home.
 - **Achievement 6g:** Take part in a den or pack neighborhood cleanup project.



Closing

- ▶ Award (or recognize) any advancement completed at this meeting; thank hosts, guests, and helpers.
- ▶ Closing ceremony: Retire the colors (fold and return the flag), or have a den leader's minute with a Living Circle, or the Law of the Pack and den yell (or other ceremony).
- ▶ Hand out or send family information letter.

- ▶ **Home Assignments** if not complete:

- **Achievements 6e** and **6f**: Each boy should lead a family discussion about the kinds of energy his family uses (including electricity) and how to conserve energy.
- **Achievement 6d**: With an adult, check for dripping faucets and repair or correct those problems.

After the Meeting

- ▶ If you've changed the sequence of den meetings, double-check to make sure you will still advance your boys appropriately and check with the Cubmaster to make sure you stay coordinated with the pack.
- ▶ Refreshments: If appropriate
- ▶ Cleanup: Recruit enough help to do a good job. Scouts always leave an area as clean, or cleaner, than they found it.