



Supplemental Bear Den Meeting B

Shavings and Chips

Achievement 19.

Preparation and Materials Needed

- ▶ Materials checklist (add to your den Cub tub of U.S./den flags, paper/pencils, other supplies):
 - Soap bars (a softer bar, such as Ivory, works well) and plastic knives for each Scout
 - Newspapers to collect shavings, paper towels
 - One or more real pocketknives
 - Sharpening stone and oil
 - Soft wood to practice whittling
 - A first-aid kit
 - Whittling Chip cards (and, if you like, patches)
- ▶ Review knife safety information in the *Bear Handbook* and *Cub Scout Leader Book*.
- ▶ It will be helpful to have extra adult helpers at this den meeting.

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

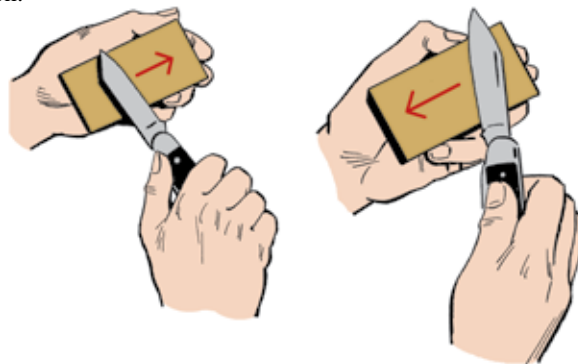
- ▶ Discuss Bear **Achievement 19** "Shavings and Chips."
- ▶ Use this time to discuss participation in coming pack meetings or events, as needed.

Activities

- ▶ **Achievement 19a: Know the safety rules for handling a knife.** Here are some key rules. (See the *Bear Handbook*):
 - A knife is a tool, not a toy.
 - Know how to sharpen a knife. A sharp knife is safer because it is less likely to slip and cut you.
 - Keep the blade clean.
 - Never carry an open pocketknife.
 - When you are not using your knife, close it and put it away.
 - Keep your knife dry.
 - When you are using the cutting blade, do not try to make big shavings or chips. Easy does it.
 - Make a safety circle: Before you pick up your knife to use it, stretch your arm out and turn in a circle. If you can't touch anyone else, it is safe to use your knife.
- ▶ **Achievement 19b: Show that you know how to take care of and use a pocketknife.** Here are key tips:
 - Know how to sharpen a knife. A sharp knife is safer because it is less likely to slip and cut you.:
 1. Place the stone on a level surface.
 2. Wet the stone with a little water or oil.
 3. Place the blade of the knife flat on the stone, then raise the back edge about the width of the blade itself, keeping the cutting edge on the stone.



4. Push the blade along the stone as though you were slicing a layer off the top. Sharpen the other side of the blade in the same manner. This is always better than moving it in a circular fashion.



- Keep your knife dry.
- Keep the blade clean:
 - To clean: Open all of the blades.
 - Twirl a small bit of cloth onto the end of a toothpick, moisten the cloth with light oil, and wipe the inside of the knife.
 - If you have used your pocketknife to cut food or to spread peanut butter and jelly, get rid of bacteria by washing the blade in hot, soapy water along with the rest of your dishes.
- Keep it off the ground. Moisture and dirt will ruin it.
- Keep it out of fire. The heat draws the temper of the steel. The edge of the blade becomes soft and useless.
- Opening and closing your pocketknife:
 - To open a pocketknife, hold in left hand, put right thumbnail into nail slot.
 - Pull blade out while pushing against hinge with little finger of left hand.
 - Continue to hold on to handle and blade until blade snaps into open position.
 - To close pocketknife, hold handle with left hand with fingers safely on the sides. Push against back of blade with fingers of right hand, swinging handle up to meet blade. Let knife snap shut; “kick” at base of blade keeps edge from touching inside of handle.

- **Achievement 19c: Make a carving with a knife.** Work with your den leader or other adult when doing this. For this den meeting, the carvings will be done with soap and a plastic knife. (*Option:* If the leader is comfortable that the boys will follow the safety rules for handling a knife and they have earned their Whittling Chip cards, have boys make a carving with a real pocketknife.)

- How to use your knife:
 - When using the cutting blade, do not try to make big shavings or chips.
 - Easy does it.
- For course cutting, grasp handle with whole hand.
- Cut at a slant. Do not “saw” with a knife!
- Make a stop cut to control the shaving cut.
- Always cut away from you.

- **Achievement 19d: Earn the Whittling Chip card.**

- Review and know the safety rules, the rules for care of a pocketknife, and the rules for how to use a pocketknife. Read, understand, and promise to abide by the Knives Are Not Toys guidelines (*Bear Handbook*, page 150).
- Take the POCKETKNIFE PLEDGE:
 - “I understand the reason for safety rules.
 - “I will treat my pocketknife with the respect due a useful tool.
 - “I will always close my pocketknife and put it away when I’m not using it.
 - “I will not use my pocketknife when it might injure someone near me.
 - “I promise never to throw my pocketknife for any reason.
 - “I will use my pocketknife in a safe manner at all times.”

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Closing

- ▶ Award (or recognize) any advancement completed at this meeting; thank hosts, guests, and helpers. Depending on level of achievement, award the Whittling Chip cards (and, if you like, patches). Otherwise, award at a following meeting (or weekend event) when you are sure it is earned.
- ▶ 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.

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.



Knife Safety Signoff for Bear Rank

Your Cub Scout knife is an important tool. You can do many things with its blades. The cutting blade is the one you will use most of the time. With it you can make shavings and chips and carve all kinds of things.

You must be very careful, and think when you whittle or carve. Take good care of your knife. Always remember that a knife is a tool, not a toy. Use it with care so that you don't hurt yourself or spoil what you are carving.

a. Know the safety rules for handling a knife. (Date: _____/Signature: _____)

Safety Rules (Selected)

- A knife is a _____, not a _____. It can be used to make _____.
- _____ carry an open knife in your hand.
- When you are not using a knife, _____ it and put it _____.
- Keep your knife _____ and _____.
- Close the blade with the _____ of your _____—and your _____ out of the way.
- _____ use a knife on something that will dull or break it.
- _____ use a knife to strip the bark from a tree.
- _____ carve your initials into anything that does not belong to you.
- _____ throw a knife.
- Be _____ when you use a knife—maintain the “_____ circle.”
- To pass a knife to someone, first _____ the pocketknife.
- If you have an open knife, the person handing it away should hold the knife by the _____, and the person receiving should grab the _____.
- When you pass any knife, never let go until the receiver says “_____.”

b. Show that you know how to take care of and use a pocketknife.
(Date: _____/Signature: _____)

Care and Use Rules (Selected)

- A sharp knife is safer because _____.
- A dull knife is dangerous because _____.
- To sharpen a knife, use a _____.
- When sharpening a knife, turn the back of the blade up _____ degrees from “flat” (90 degrees is “straight up”).
- When sharpening a knife, hold the stone (a) on your leg?, (b) on a flat surface?, (c) firmly?
- When sharpening a knife, scrape the blade (a) backward?, (b) sideways?, (c) forward?
- A dirty knife is dangerous because _____.
- When you are using the cutting blade, make (a) big cuts?, or (b) small cuts?
- Close the blade with the _____ of your hand, and with _____ hand(s).

d. Earn the Whittling Chip card (Date: _____/Signature: _____)

Complete parts a and b above, and know “The Pocketknife Pledge”

- I understand the reason for _____ rules.
- I will treat my pocketknife with the _____ due a useful tool.
- I will always _____ my pocketknife and put it away when not in use.
- I will not use my pocketknife when it might _____ someone near me.
- I _____ never to throw my pocketknife for any reason.
- I will use my pocketknife in a safe manner at _____ times.