



**Core Value:
Respect**



Holiday Lights

Pack Committee

Why Holiday Lights for the Core Value Respect. Many of our holiday traditions this month involve lights—the star of Bethlehem, miracle of the lamps, the morning star that enlightened Buddha, the bonfires at yule. We show respect for the customs of others by sharing our holiday traditions with the pack and den: lights on a Christmas tree, candles on a menorah for Hanukkah, or on a Kwanzaa kinara. Boys can light the way this month by brightening someone’s holiday season while learning more about how others celebrate this season.

As a pack or den, visit a nursing home, preschool, or children’s ward, and sing holiday favorites. Conclude your outing by sharing cookies decorated by the boys. Help those less fortunate with a service project or toy drive. How about a holiday dessert pot luck? Each family can bring a traditional dessert to share at the pack meeting.

This might be a perfect time to ask pack families to donate to the World Friendship Fund of the Boy Scouts of America, which assists developing nations in providing Scouting to their youth (search “World Friendship Fund BSA” on the Internet). This is also an appropriate month to work on the Language and Culture belt loop and pin, or the Heritages belt loop and pin.

BEFORE THE MEETING

Have printed materials (copies of the word match game, a large poster with the Cub Scout Promise, and the closing song) for families to see. Decorate the room for the holiday season with Christmas decorations, a Hanukkah menorah, a Kwanzaa kinara, etc. (Ask pack families to bring their faith symbols and holiday traditional items to decorate the room.)

GATHERING

The preassigned den hands out copies of the word match game and pencils for families to do together as they arrive. (See the end of this meeting plan for a copy of the word game and word search.) Here are the keys for the word match and the word search.

Word Match Key

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Arabic: SALAM | English: PEACE |
| French: PAIX | Hawaiian: MALUHIA |
| Hebrew: SHALOM | Hindi: SHANTI |
| Italian: PACE | Japanese: HEIWA |
| Latin: PAX | Mandarin: ANPING |
| Russian: MIR | Spanish: PAZ |

Word Search Key

R	O	P	A	X	E	S	L
S	H	A	L	O	M	A	S
P	E	N	T	R	A	L	H
A	I	P	A	Z	L	A	A
C	W	I	N	T	U	M	N
E	A	N	A	C	H	A	T
B	S	G	P	A	I	X	I
M	I	R	P	E	A	C	E



OPENING

CUBMASTER: This month we shine holiday light on our own traditions and culture and the customs of others. As we learn more about one another, we respect the different ways each of us celebrates this time of year around the world.

The preassigned den enters, each member carrying a battery-operated candle. As each boy lights his candle, he says:

CUBSCOUT 1: This is the season of lights.

CUBSCOUT 2: The days are shorter, the nights are longer, brightened by our holiday lights.

CUBSCOUT 3: Many homes light candles to honor the birth of Jesus at Christmas time.

CUBSCOUT 4: Many homes light Hanukkah candles to celebrate the festival of lights.

CUBSCOUT 5: Many homes light the kinara to celebrate Kwanzaa.

CUBSCOUT 6: The most brilliant light comes from the spirit of goodwill and peace toward all.

CUBSCOUT 7: Cub Scouts light up the lives of others by respecting the traditions of all faiths and traditions.

CUBSCOUT 8: Please stand and join us in the Cub Scout Promise.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

“Please prepare yourselves for prayer as is your custom. We give thanks for all who are here with us tonight, and wish those around the world who are celebrating in their own way, a happy, safe, and secure holiday season. May the light of the season lighten our hearts and theirs throughout this year and the next. Amen.”

Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster or assistant Cubmaster welcomes new families and introduces them to the pack, and thanks those who helped prepare for the meeting.

The Cubmaster turns attention to the match game, reading the key and asking if anyone correctly matched all 12 or 11, etc., and so on until a winner family is identified. Do the Rudolph cheer from the *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book*. (Use hands to make antlers on your head and blink your eyes, saying “Blink, blink, blink.”)

The preassigned den leads the pack in “Light the Night” (sung to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”).

Light the Night

*Light, light, light the night,
Candles glowing bright.
Giving, sharing, always caring
Cub Scouts do what's right.*

PROGRAM

Den Demonstrations

Dens talk about service projects they completed during the month and show finished den projects.

CUBMASTER: Thank you to each of our dens. We respect the efforts you made this month and admire your Scouting spirit. Let's give them a Good Turn cheer. (*Each person pairs up with another person and uses one hand with a partner to applaud.*)



Fill Santa's Sack

Divide players into two or more teams. Place the teams at opposite ends of the room. Give each team a scarf of one color for the team (blue for one team, gold for another, etc.), and a big garbage bag. Scatter equal numbers of each color of inflated balloons around the floor in the center of the room. On a signal, each team runs in and fills its sack with as many balloons of its color as it can in the time allowed. Remind them that broken balloons don't count.

RECOGNITION

Cubs Light the Way

Equipment: yule log with battery-operated candles for each rank. Please refer to *Ceremonies for Dens and Packs* for ideas on how to create a yule log.

The Scout and his parents come forward to receive his recognition. The Cubmaster hands awards to parents, and each Cub Scout lights a candle with the assistant Cubmaster's help.

The Cubmaster speaks about each badge as it is presented.

CUBMASTER: The Bobcat badge is symbolized by this light, whose flame glows with the understanding of the Cub Scout Promise and motto, which unite us.

The Wolf badge is symbolized by this light. Our candles glow brighter for this Scout who has grown in his understanding of his family and community.

The Bear badge, its light glowing even brighter, is presented to this Scout in recognition of completion of achievements at home with his family, in his community, for his personal growth, and for his citizenship skills.

The Webelos badge is symbolized by this light, which glows brighter still with the confidence this Scout has gained in completing his activity badges and understanding of Webelos.

The Arrow of Light is the brightest of all, for it glows with the full light of Cub Scouting.

(An alternative is to use electric candles for all ranks, attached to a dimmer switch. The assistant Cubmaster can turn up the dimmer switch slightly as each rank is announced, until it is at full light with the Arrow of Light. Look in *Ceremonies for Dens and Packs* for ideas. This can be adapted to a closing ceremony by dropping the word "badge," adjusting some verbiage and saying at the end, "each level of Cub Scouting brightens our world and lights the way for others around the world as we learn about others and respect their traditions.")

Candle Cheer

Hold hands together as a tiny flame, say "Flicker," expand hands, say "Flicker, flicker," then expand hands even wider and say "Flame!"

Cubmaster's Minute

We all share a sense of wonder at the lights of the season—the light of hope and peace for the future—whatever our religious beliefs. As we respect our own beliefs and the beliefs of others, we light a powerful flame, which unites us all. Though individually we may be very different, by respecting those differences we unite—as a den, a pack, a nation, and a world, lighting the way for the future. (As the Cubmaster speaks, the assistant Cubmaster circulates, handing each Scout a small flashlight to hold up.)

CLOSING

The Cubmaster asks all families to stand and sing together the "New Year of the Gold and Blue" (sung to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne").

New Year of the Gold and Blue

Should all our Cub Scouts

Do their best

From this year to the new,

We'll have a kind and thoughtful world

With the help of gold and blue.



Optional: Snow Globe Cheer

Pretend to pick up a big snow globe. Shake it, look at it, and say, “Ooh, aah, special!”

Optional: Run-Ons

CUB SCOUT 1: (Enters, somersaulting)
 CUB SCOUT 2: What are you doing?
 CUB SCOUT 1: Good Turns!

Optional: Jokes

Santa to Mrs. Claus: Why are you giving me an umbrella?
 Mrs. Clause: I hear rain, dear.

What do you call an old snowman?
 Water!

What does Santa do in his garden?
 Hoe, hoe, hoe!

What kind of candle burns longer, a blue candle or a gold candle?
 Neither. Candles always burn shorter!

Optional Audience Participation

If appropriate to your pack membership, perform “The House Where Santa Clause Lives” from the Cub Scout Leader How-To Book.

Optional Skit: Mr. Boyce and the Good Turn

(Adapted from Trapper Trails Pow Wow, 2003)

Characters: Someone dressed as William D. Boyce in hat and coat carrying an umbrella and briefcase; one Scout in full uniform, carrying a lantern with “Good Turn” written on it; narrator; other Scouts can be Londoners hurrying past Mr. Boyce.

NARRATOR: It is a foggy night in London. The year is 1909. An American businessman is lost in the fog.

BUSINESSMAN: I don’t think I can find my way tonight.

SCOUT: May I help you, sir?

BUSINESSMAN: I am looking for this address. Can you tell me where to find it?

SCOUT: I will take you there. (The Scout leads the businessman to center stage.)

SCOUT: Here you are, sir.

BUSINESSMAN: Thank you, and here you are (holding out money) for helping me.

SCOUT: Thank you, sir, but I can’t accept anything. I am a Scout, and this is a Good Turn.

NARRATOR: The gentleman was W.D. Boyce. He respected the values shown by the Scout and was so impressed with this action that he looked up the Scouting movement in England. He brought back to America a suitcase full of Scouting information. He incorporated the Boy Scouts of America on Feb. 10, 1910.

The “unknown Scout” who helped him in the fog was never heard from again, but he will never be forgotten. That Scout’s Good Turn is what brought Scouting to our country.

AFTER THE MEETING

- ▶ Refreshments
- ▶ Cleanup



Word Match

The following words translate to “peace” in many languages. How many can you guess? Match the words with the language:

- | | |
|---------|----------|
| Peace | Japanese |
| Salam | Italian |
| Paix | Latin |
| Shalom | Mandarin |
| Pace | Hindi |
| Pax | English |
| Maluhia | Arabic |
| Shanti | Spanish |
| Heiwa | Russian |
| Anping | Hawaiian |
| Paz | French |
| Mir | Hebrew |

Word Search

Many words translate to “peace” in other languages. Find and circle the following words for “peace.”

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Arabic: SALAM | English: PEACE |
| French: PAIX | Hawaiian: MALUHIA |
| Hebrew: SHALOM | Hindi: SHANTI |
| Italian: PACE | Japanese: HEIWA |
| Latin: PAX | Mandarin: ANPING |
| Russian: MIR | Spanish: PAZ |

R	O	P	A	X	E	S	L
S	H	A	L	O	M	A	S
P	E	N	T	R	A	L	H
A	I	P	A	Z	L	A	A
C	W	I	N	T	U	M	N
E	A	N	A	C	H	A	T
B	S	G	P	A	I	X	I
M	I	R	P	E	A	C	E