



Webelos Den Meeting 15

Scholar and Artist

Scholar activity badge (complete).

Preparation and Materials Needed

- ▶ Read the Artist chapter in the *Webelos Handbook*.
- ▶ Identify any parents or other pack resources who are artists and could be your activity badge counselor for this meeting. An artist may be an art teacher or anyone who has talent in drawing, painting, sculpting, animation, cartooning, pottery or crafts. See if the artist can visit your den meeting, or you might do this meeting as a field trip to the artist's studio or classroom.
 - Be sure any guest speaker knows how long the presentation should run, and that you've confirmed what can or should be covered that would be interesting and fun for the Scouts.
 - Show them the Artist chapter in the *Webelos Handbook*.
- ▶ If you are doing this as a field trip, inform Scouts and families about when and where to meet.
- ▶ Materials checklist (add to your den Cub tub of U.S./den flags, paper/pencils, other supplies):
 - Items to create a scrapbook. The scrapbook should be sturdy enough to protect the artwork from weather and accidents, but it should be easy to carry. It could be a binder containing pocket folders or a large file folder. It may be as simple as construction paper stapled together in book form with space for gluing boys' artwork.
 - Paper, pencils, lamp, tape, construction paper cut to bookmark size, assorted magazines.
 - Assorted objects to make mobiles, such as dowel rods, coat hanger wire, craft sticks for small mobiles, or pieces of children's toys, and whatever your imagination sees, as choices for the main structure. Thin wire, heavy thread, yarn, or fishing line to suspend the ornaments.
 - Hammer, nails, and large wooden blocks to create a template for bending wire for the mobiles.
 - Items for any other elements you determine you want the Scouts to create.
 - Towels, soap, and water for cleanup.
 - Artist activity badge pins for each of your Scouts (so they can be awarded if completed today), and compass emblems or points (if those will be completed today).
- ▶ Read the Scholar chapter in the *Webelos Handbook*.
- ▶ Identify any parents or other pack resources who are educators and could be your activity badge counselor for this meeting. Or you might see if a teacher or principal from a local school would serve in that role—this meeting can really work well with a respected guest speaker.
 - Be sure any guest speaker knows how long the presentation should run, and that you've confirmed what can or should be covered that would be interesting and fun for the Scouts.
 - Show any guest speaker the Scholar chapter in the *Webelos Handbook*.
- ▶ If you are doing this as a field trip, inform Scouts and families about when and where to meet.
- ▶ Materials checklist (add to your den Cub tub of U.S./den flags, paper/pencils, other supplies):
 - You might bring old school books from when you or an even older relative went to school.
 - Scholar activity badge pins for each of your Scouts (so that they can be awarded if completed today), and compass emblems or points (if those will be completed today).

Before the Meeting

- ▶ Review After the Meeting at the end of the previous den meeting plan for necessary preparation and materials.
- ▶ 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.
- ▶ If you have background materials for the activity badge, Scouts may be interested in reviewing those.
- ▶ If you're on a field trip, as boys arrive, collect permission slips from parents who are not staying.
- ▶ 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 (rotate planning and leadership to complete **Webelos requirement 6**), with Pledge of Allegiance; maybe recite the Cub Scout Promise or sing a patriotic song; perhaps add a roll call, uniform recognition, or den yell.
- ▶ If you have a guest, give a formal introduction, including what the guest will do for you.



Business Items

- ▶ Remind the boys of appropriate behavior, including safety considerations, at the site of your visit.
- ▶ Use this time also to discuss participation in upcoming pack meetings or events as needed.
- ▶ Explain that today's meeting is to work on the **Scholar activity badge** because of the importance of education and the school system.
- ▶ **Verify:** During the meeting or by reviewing the boys' handbooks, confirm completion of **Scholar 11**.

Activities

- ▶ **Scholar Activity Badge:** Requirements are to do this first requirement, and then three of 2 through 13 (This meeting plan does 1, plus 5, 11, and 12.):
 1. With your parent, guardian, or Webelos den leader, complete the Positive Attitude Character Connection.
 - a. **Know:** Discuss with your parent, guardian, or your Webelos den leader, what it means to have a positive attitude and the "BEST" steps you can take to have a positive attitude. (**B**elieve it can happen, **E**xpect success, **S**et your mind, and **T**ry, try, try.)
 - b. **Commit:** Plan with your parent, guardian, or your Webelos den leader, how you will apply the "BEST" steps for a positive attitude in doing your schoolwork and in other areas of your life.
 - c. **Practice:** Do your "BEST" to have a cheerful and positive attitude while doing the requirements for this activity badge.
 5. List in writing some important things you can do now because of what you've learned in school.
 11. Ask a parent and five other grown-ups these questions:
 - What do you think are the best things about my school?
 - What are its main problems?
 - Tell what you think were the best answers and why.
 - Have boys share the responses with their den members.
 12. List and explain some of the full-time positions in the field of education.

Other Ways to Complete the Scholar Activity Badge

Other requirements that could be done in addition to, or in lieu of, 5, 11, and 12 are:

2. Have a good record in attendance, behavior, and grades at school.
 3. Take an active part in a school activity or service.
 4. Discuss with your teacher or principal the value of having an education.
 6. While you are a Webelos Scout, earn the **Cub Scout Academics belt loop for Language**.
 7. While you are a Webelos Scout, and if you have not earned it for another activity badge, earn the **Cub Scout Academics belt loop for Mathematics**.
 8. While you are a Webelos Scout, earn the **Cub Scout Academics belt loop for Chess**.
 9. Trace through history the different kinds of schools. Tell how our present public school system grew out of these early schools.
 10. Make a chart showing how your school system is run.
 13. Help another student with schoolwork. Tell what you did to help.
- ▶ **Artist Activity Badge.** You might need to work in completion of Artist projects begun last meeting, but not yet complete.
 2. Create a scrapbook (portfolio) of your **Artist activity badge** projects and show it to your den leader.
 - As boys create works of art, the scrapbook or portfolio is used to keep the work safe. The scrapbook should be a complete collection of the boy's work, even if some of it isn't finished.
 - He can be proud of all of it! (Be sure to praise the good elements of the work.)
 8. Make a mobile, using your choice of materials.
 - See the material list above, and use your imagination and that of your Scouts.
 - Here's a helpful way of shaping wire for mobiles and constructions. Draw an outline of your design on paper. Place the paper on a wooden block and drive nails part of the way in along the outline. Wind wire around the nails, and you have your wire shapes.
 - Use the dowel rods, coat hanger wire, craft sticks, pieces of children's toys and other items for the main structure. Then use thin wire, heavy thread, yarn, or fishing line to suspend the ornaments you make to hang on the mobile structure.



10. Create a collage that expresses something about you.
 - *Collage* is a French word describing a work of art created by pasting different items onto a surface. You can use just about anything you want to create a collage: old photographs, greeting cards, magazine pictures, or even junk mail.
 - Choose a subject for your collage that tells something about you, about what Cub Scouting means to you, or about a friend, a pet, or your favorite sport. Find some pictures about your subject and arrange them in an interesting way on a piece of cardboard. When you are pleased with your design, paste the pictures down. Use a thin, even coat of paste so that the pictures don't wrinkle.

Want More Fun Activities?

Play Tag Team Art:

- ▶ Line members up in relay fashion (this may be done in teams). Have a large piece of paper taped on the wall or hung on an easel. Have the first boy begin drawing an object or design on the paper, without telling anyone what he is drawing. Allow him 30 seconds, and then signal for the next boy. This boy adds to the original picture or design. Each boy follows in turn, each having 30 seconds as the artist.
- ▶ When each boy has had a turn or two (depending on how the picture is taking shape), signal a stop.
- ▶ After all have had time to admire their handiwork, have the first boy share what his original intent was for the drawing.

Or play Artist Charades:

- ▶ Divide the group into two teams. Each has a large sheet of paper. Teams line up in relay fashion.
- ▶ On a signal, the first boy in each line runs to the leader, who gives him the name of an object to draw.
- ▶ The boy goes to his paper and begins to draw the object. As he progresses with his artwork, his team tries to guess what he is drawing.
- ▶ When they guess correctly, the next boy in line takes his turn as artist. The game continues until all members have drawn. The team that finishes first wins.

- ▶ In the boys' *Webelos Handbooks*, sign the requirements met (and update your records).

Want More Fun Activities?

Having done or started Webelos I Den Meeting 4 ("Athletes Practice Fitness"), you will have a good, active, physical activity to insert in this meeting (which has more talk and research, and a need for physical action).

- ▶ Taking a break to check on *just one* of those can be a good active break in your meeting.

Closing

- ▶ Award (or recognize) any advancement completed today (ideally, award the activity badge, belt loop or compass item completed today, and recognize later at the pack meeting); thank hosts, guests, helpers.
- ▶ Closing ceremony (rotate planning and leadership to complete **Webelos requirement 6**): Retire the colors; maybe with the Boy Scout Oath and/or Law, or the Law of the Pack and/or den yell. Den leader may add a den leader's minute comment.
- ▶ Remind the Webelos Scout who will plan and lead the next meeting's flag ceremony, and remind about home assignments (and include these in any family information letter or e-mail).
- ▶ 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.