



Webelos Den Meeting 5

Webelos Citizens Introduction

Citizen activity badge (partial).

Preparation and Materials Needed

- ▶ Identify any parents or other pack resources who are interested in coordinating service projects, because they would be useful to have at this meeting as a service project is planned.
 - 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.
- ▶ Read the Citizen chapter in the *Webelos Handbook*.
- ▶ Materials checklist (add to your den Cub tub of U.S./den flags, paper/pencils, other supplies):
 - Several U.S. flags so the Scouts can practice folding and care of the flags.
 - Poster board, markers, paper.

Service Project

Citizen requirement 8 and **Citizenship belt loop requirement 3** are to participate in a family, den, or school service project. This requires planning and discussion with the boys and can take some time. Develop a plan to begin with Den Meeting 5.

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.
- ▶ 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

- ▶ Use this time to discuss participation in upcoming pack meetings or events as needed.
- ▶ Explain that today's meeting is to work on the **Citizen activity badge**, one of the badges required for the Webelos badge, because of the importance of recognizing our rights and responsibilities as citizens.

Activities

- ▶ **Citizen Activity Badge:** Requirements are to do requirements 1 through 8, and then two of 9 through 17 (This meeting plan covers 1, 3, and 8. Other elements are covered in succeeding meetings.):
 1. With your parent, guardian, or Webelos den leader, complete the Citizenship Character Connection.
 - a. **Know:** List some of your rights as a citizen of the United States of America. Tell ways you can show respect for the rights of others.
 - b. **Commit:** Name some ways a boy your age can be a good citizen. Tell how you plan to be a good citizen and how you plan to influence others to be good citizens.
 - c. **Practice:** Choose one of the requirements for this activity badge that helps you be a good citizen. Complete the requirement and tell why completing it helped you be a good citizen.
 - Doing this in small groups helps allow each Scout to participate more fully.



- You might tie this into the den’s code of conduct, (or create a den code of conduct now if you don’t have one). As members of your den, they are also “citizens” of the den. The den leader can lead the Scouts to note how they can be good citizens in the den.
 - Rights and duties of citizens include these (also refer to the *Webelos Handbook*; several of these rights and duties don’t apply to people until they are adults. Stress those that are applicable to Webelos Scouts.):
 - The right to equal protection under the law and equal justice in the courts
 - The right to own property
 - The right to be free from arbitrary search or arrest
 - The right of free speech, press, and assembly
 - The right to equal education and economic opportunity
 - The right of religious freedom
 - The right to choose public officials in free elections
 - The right to have legal counsel of your choice
 - The duty to obey the laws
 - The duty to respect the rights of others
 - The duty to be informed on issues of government and community welfare
 - The duty to serve on juries, if called
 - The duty to vote in elections
 - The duty to serve and defend our country
 - The duty to assist agencies of law enforcement
 - The duty to practice and teach principles of good citizenship in the home
3. Describe the flag of the United States and give a short history of it. With another Webelos Scout helping you, show how to hoist and lower the flag, how to hang it horizontally and vertically on a wall, and how to fold it. Tell how to retire a worn or tattered flag properly.
- For the history of the U.S. flag, here is a quiz to help boys learn some of the history of our flag. After they have had an opportunity to discuss and study the questions and their answers, ask them the questions and let them answer either orally or in writing (you might divide the den into teams, quiz show style):
 - The flags of which five countries flew over our country (or parts of it) before it became the United States of America? (*Spain, France, Holland, Sweden, and England*)
 - What was the English flag of the 13 colonies called? (*The Queen Anne flag*)
 - When the colonists decided on a flag of their own, what did they call it? (*The Grand Union flag*)
 - How did the Grand Union flag differ from the Queen Anne flag? (*It had 13 stripes of red and white.*)
 - What was the name of the flag made after the Declaration of Independence? (*Old Glory*)
 - How did Old Glory differ from the Grand Union flag? (*The union was blue with 13 white stars instead of the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew.*)
 - What is the largest number of stripes the U.S. flag has ever had? When and why? (*The U.S. flag had 15 stripes during the War of 1812, because two new states had been added.*)
 - Why was the flag changed back to 13 stripes? (*Because it began to lose its symmetry and beauty.*)
8. As a Webelos Scout, earn the **Cub Scout Academics belt loop for Citizenship**. Complete these three requirements:
1. Develop a list of jobs you can do around the home. Chart your progress for one week.
 - For **belt loop requirement 1**, distribute the attached family job chart.
 - If you have time, you can start to have the Scouts complete that, and share ideas about what jobs they do at home, and why sharing the responsibility is the right thing as a citizen.
 2. Make a poster showing things that you can do to be a good citizen.
 3. Participate in a family, den, or school service project.
 - For **belt loop requirement 3**, discuss with the Webelos Scouts a service project you could conduct.
 - You could approach it completely openly, and solicit ideas just from the Webelos Scouts.
 - Or you might seed the discussion with ideas that you and other parents have.

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- If your project is to donate canned and nonperishable food items to a local food bank, they might collect and bring those to the next den meeting.
- You may have a different service project; perhaps collecting toys, books or clothing, and donating them to shelters or agencies; perhaps an anti-litter cleanup campaign. Use the resources of your parents and community and the ideas of your Scouts.
- You might have the Scouts promote the project by making posters for it (and expand the food items collection to schools and/or other institutions).
- With all of the flag work, this service project poster planning may not get completed here, and may need to carry over to one of the following meetings.
- If the next meeting will not have a community leader visit, you can definitely use that meeting for service project planning and poster making.

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).

- ▶ You can add Athlete progress chart activities into this meeting at various points.
- ▶ Those activities are curl-ups, pull-ups, push-ups, standing long jump, quarter-mile walk or run, vertical jump, and 50-yard dash
- ▶ Taking a break to check on *just one* of those can be a good active break in your meeting.

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

Closing

- ▶ Award (or recognize) any advancement completed today; 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).

- ▶ **Home Assignment: Citizenship belt loop requirement 1:** Develop a list of jobs you can do around the home. Chart your progress for one week. (Webelos Scouts should return their completed job charts at the next meeting.) Continue to review the Citizen chapter in the handbook.

- ▶ 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.



Webelos Citizenship Belt Loop, Requirement 1

Develop a list of jobs you can do around the home.

Chart your progress for one week.

On this chart, list the jobs that you will do at home every day.

- Chart your progress as you do these for a week.

Name: _____

Day Job					
Sunday					
Monday					
Tuesday					
Wednesday					
Thursday					
Friday					
Saturday					