



Wolf Den Meeting 9

Tools for Fixing and Building

Achievement 5.

Power tools are not appropriate for use by Cub Scouts, review the use of age-appropriate tools for Cub Scouts in the *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book* and *Age-Appropriate Guidelines for Scouting*.

Preparation and Materials Needed

- ▶ For Den Meeting 9, make arrangements for a field trip to your local hardware store or lumberyard or local woodworker (your pack may have ideas about who has safe woodworking tools; chartered organization maintenance or facilities personnel may be willing to assist).
 - Discuss **Achievement 5** requirements with the staff, ask for help from the staff when you visit.
 - Determine if the store will permit the boys to build bookends (or a birdhouse (see Meeting 10) or other suitable alternative wood project) at the store, and if there is adequate space to conduct such activity safely. If the store manager grants permission, then bring wood for the project and enough hammers, saws, nails, and safety glasses for each boy.
 - Power tools are not appropriate for use by Cub Scouts. Review the use of age-appropriate tools for Cub Scouts in the *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book* and *Age-Appropriate Guidelines for Scouting activities* (www.scouting.org/HealthandSafety/Resources/Age-AppropriateGuidelines).
- ▶ Materials checklist (add to your den Cub tub of U.S./den flags, paper/pencils, other supplies):
 - Seven or more tools. Must have pliers, Philips head screwdriver, standard screwdriver, and hammer. Lightweight hammers are a very good idea (many second-graders cannot swing a 16-oz. hammer accurately).
 - Both Philips head and standard screws, and nails
 - Boards for nailing and screws (and removal of nails and screws)
 - Boards or kits to make something useful (For example, birdhouse, bookends or a suitable alternative wood project. A pinewood derby car is useful, right?)
 - Safety glasses and first-aid kit

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.
- ▶ If you're on a field trip, as boys arrive, collect permission slips from parents who are not staying.

Opening

- ▶ Conduct a flag ceremony, indoor (**Achievement 2b**) or outdoor (**Achievement 2f**). Options include:
 - Use the store's employees to participate (they may help you get a good temporary flagpole).
 - Gather in a line, circle, or square. Pledge of Allegiance; have the Scout leading the ceremony tell what the Pledge means (**Achievement 2a**); Cub Scout Promise or Law of the Pack; lead patriotic song.
 - Rotate leadership of flag ceremonies so each boy has a turn at every role (**Achievement 2b**).

Business Items

- ▶ Use this time to discuss participation in coming pack meetings or pack events, as needed.



Activities

- ▶ **Achievement 5:** Tools for Fixing and Building (page 64):
- ▶ **Achievement 5a** (“Point out and name seven tools. Tell what each tool does.”) Have these laid out on a workbench, so they aren’t confused with everything else on the wall or in the toolbox. Put out seven or eight common tools. A few odd tools can add to the fun and interest.
- ▶ **Achievement 5b** (“Show how to use pliers.”)
- ▶ **Achievement 5c** (“Identify a Philips head and a standard/slotted screw. Then use the right tool to drive and then remove one from a board.”) Have boards and screws ready, one setup for each Cub. Show how to put soap on a screw to make it easier to drive. If they are having trouble turning them, go ahead and drill pilot holes for the screws.
- ▶ **Achievement 5d** (“Show how to use a hammer.”) Start five or six nails into a board, then let the kids pound them in and extract them. Wear safety glasses, and explain why (chance of flying shards of metal from the nails). Choose shorter or heavier nails because they are less likely to bend and frustrate the kids. Or choose the same nails that will be used in your project.
- ▶ **Achievement 5e** (“Make a birdhouse, a set of bookends, or something else useful.”)
 - For these steps, be sure to put any available adults to use here.
 - Can arrange for all to watch each element at the same time, and try it out in sequence, or if you have enough tools and adults, go station to station for the name tools, use pliers, drive and remove screws, use a hammer parts.
 - Then have enough time to make a set of bookends (or suitable alternative wood 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 Assignment:** Ask parents to help Cub Scouts complete **Achievement 10:** Family Fun and **Achievement 11:** Duty to God, at home. Also ask families to find a book about birds for their Cub Scout to read before the next den meeting (**Elective 13c**).

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.