



## Wolf Den Meeting A

### Grow Something and Bird Nests

Elective 15. Elective 13.

### Preparation and Materials Needed

- ▶ Encourage Cub Scouts to participate in your pack's summertime activities, such as marching in parades, going to a ball game, having a campfire and marshmallow roast, and participating in Cub Scout day camp. Boys may be able to earn the National Summertime Pack Award pin by participating in events.
- ▶ It is recommended that the den (now a Bear Cub Scout den!) plan an activity or outing at least once a month during the summer so that the den will qualify for the National Den Award. (The National Den Award requirements and application can be found at [www.scouting.org/CubScouts/CubScoutingForms/forms](http://www.scouting.org/CubScouts/CubScoutingForms/forms).)
- ▶ Obtain permission to plant flowers or bulbs at your meeting place, school, park, or church.
- ▶ Recruit one or more green-thumb or gardening types to help lead and teach this, if possible.
- ▶ Materials checklist (add to your den Cub tub of U.S./den flags, paper/pencils, other supplies):
  - Garden tools and enough flowers or bulbs and soil amendments so each boy can plant several.
  - Bring bird nesting material (short pieces of yarn, straw, or string), and mesh bags (like three or five pounds of onions/potatoes come in at a grocery store, or make bags out of hardware cloth).
  - Have books available about American Indians for loan to Cub Scouts who did not complete **Elective 10a** at home.

### 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), especially check handbooks for completion of **Elective 10a**.
- ▶ Assign parents to meeting roles and hand out a meeting plan to each. If you're on a field trip, collect permission slips from parents who are not staying.

### Opening

- ▶ Conduct a flag ceremony, indoor (**Achievement 2b**) or outdoor (**Achievement 2f**). Options include: 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.

### Business Items

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

### Activities

- ▶ **Elective 15b** ("Plant and raise a flower bed.") or **Elective 15a** ("Plant and raise a box garden."):
  - Plant flowers or bulbs on the grounds of your meeting place, school, park, or church.
  - If applicable, assign Scouts and families jobs to return and water as/if needed.
- ▶ **Elective 13b** ("Put out nesting material (short pieces of yarn and string) for birds and tell which birds might use it."):
  - Put out the bird nesting material when you go outdoors to plant the flowers or bulbs.
  - Put the nesting material into the mesh bags, and tie them up off the ground.
  - **Suggestion:** If you put out birdhouses in Meeting 10, you can put nesting material on or near those.
- ▶ Have the boys and adults walk around and pick up trash, and make the area neat and clean.

## **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.

## **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.

