



MAY—KIND



MY ANIMAL FRIENDS

A SCOUT IS KIND. HOW DOES “MY ANIMAL FRIENDS” RELATE TO THIS POINT OF THE SCOUT LAW?

A Scout knows there is strength in being gentle. It is important to be kind to all creatures great and small. This month we will explore ways to be kind to our animal friends.

NOTE TO CUBMASTER

Pack meetings are best when they are no more than one and a half hours in length. Pack meeting plans are guides and can be adjusted to fit the needs of your pack.

You might consider setting up tables or areas for each den to display pictures and items made during this month’s adventure.

◆ BEFORE THE MEETING

Set up tables or areas for each den to display pictures and items made during this month’s adventure, if applicable.

Options for guest speakers:

- Wild animal keeper to discuss their care
- Service animal trainer or handler
- Pet rescue organization/local animal shelter director
- Mounted police
- Police K-9 unit dogs
- Zoo presentation
- Reptile handler
- Veterinarian
- Forest ranger

Confirm plans with the guest speaker, and provide him or her with the time allotted for the presentation. Prior to scheduling an event with animals, obtain permission from the meeting place.

Be sure the following materials are available for the meeting:

- Flags for the flag ceremony
- Tape
- Paper
- Large pictures of the ranks of each den
- Song sheets with the words to the closing song

◆ GATHERING

Play Who Am I? As participants arrive, tape a slip of paper with an animal name on each person’s back. Participants are to circulate and may ask one “Yes” or “No” question of each other to determine the name of the animal pinned to them. Samples of animals to use are ostrich, giraffe, tortoise, parrot,

alligator, whale, goldfish, dalmatian, kangaroo, elephant, owl, buffalo, fox, antelope, rhinoceros, lion, hyena, lobster, boa constrictor, gecko, and llama.

◆ OPENING CEREMONY

The flag ceremony is led by a predetermined den. They will present the colors and lead the pack in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Have “KIND” spelled out on sheets of paper, one letter on each. Have a Cub Scout hold up each sheet in turn to spell out the word.

Cub Scout 1: “K—A Cub Scout is kind to a kingfisher by keeping our streams and waterways clean.”

Cub Scout 2: “I—A Cub Scout is kind to an iguana by not pulling his tail or any other animal’s tail.”

Cub Scout 3: “N—A Cub Scout is kind to a nighthawk bird by putting out a bird feeder.”

Cub Scout 4: “D—A Cub Scout is kind to a dog by petting and feeding him daily.”

Cub Scout 5: “See, a Cub Scout is kind to all animals.”

◆ OPENING PRAYER

“We are thankful for our animal friends great and small. Help us show kindness to them all.”

◆ WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Cubmaster welcomes new families, visitors, and special guests by introducing them to the pack and thanking all who helped plan and prepare for the pack meeting.

◆ DEN DEMONSTRATIONS

If there is a den that needs to do some type of activity at a pack meeting for the completion of an adventure, please insert it here.

◆ AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

If you have a speaker, it would take the place of an audience participation activity.

The Thing

Divide the audience into six groups. Assign a part to each group and have them practice. The narrator reads the story, and groups respond to the appropriate words. See the parts below.

Cub Scout: “Do Your Best.”

Cricket: “Krick, krick”

Duck: “Quack, quack”

Snake: “Hiss, hiss”

Frog: “Croak-it, croak-it”

Brook: “Babble, babble”

Thing: “What’s that?”

Narrator: “Once upon a time, a **Cub Scout** went walking along the shore. The first creature he met was Johnny **Cricket**. Good morning, Mr. **Cricket**, said the **Cub Scout**. ‘What are you doing here?’ said the **Cub Scout**. ‘I’m singing because the **Thing** was kind to me and did not try to catch me.’ ‘Where is the **Thing**?’ asked the **Cub Scout**. ‘Oh he’s around,’ said the **cricket** mysteriously.

“Soon the **Cub Scout** met a **duck**. ‘Good morning, Mrs. **Duck**,’ he said. ‘What are you doing?’ ‘Oh, I’m swimming along because the **Thing** has been kind to me and did not try to catch me.’ ‘Where is the **Thing**?’ asked the **Cub Scout**. ‘He’s under the blue,’ answered the **duck**.

“The **Cub Scout** wondered if that meant under the sky. He walked along a little farther and soon met a **snake** slithering along the shore. ‘Good morning, Mr. **Snake**,’ said the **Cub Scout**. ‘What are you doing here?’ ‘I’m slithering away because the **Thing** did not try to catch me,’ replied the **snake**. ‘Where is the **Thing**?’ asked the **Cub Scout**. ‘Under the gold,’ replied the **snake**.

“And the **Cub Scout** thought the **snake** meant under the sun. Soon, he met a **frog** sitting on a lily pad. ‘Good morning, Mr. **Frog**,’ said the **Cub Scout**. ‘What are you doing here?’ ‘I’m sitting happily on the lily pad because the **Thing** did not try to catch me,’ answered the **frog**. ‘Where is this **Thing**?’ asked the **Cub Scout**. ‘In the blue,’ answered the **frog**.

“The **Cub Scout** walked on and said, ‘I wish somebody could show me the **Thing**.’ ‘Good morning, **Cub Scout**,’ said the **brook**. ‘I can show you the **Thing**. Just look in my face.’ The **Cub Scout** looked into the **brook**, and he saw the . . . kind **Cub Scout!**”

◆ RECOGNITION

Adventure Loops and Pins:

(Note: Adventure loops and pins can be presented at a meeting or as immediate recognition in the den.)

By den, call the names of those Cub Scouts who have completed the month’s adventure to come forward.

- Have the den leader pass out the awards to the boys as they receive a Cub Scout handshake from the Cubmaster.
- If time allows, invite the den leader or den chief of the den to speak about the adventure work done for that month and have the den stand and be recognized.
- Use a positive cheer to recognize their accomplishments.

Other options:

- Have the den stand and be recognized or come forward to receive certificates for the adventure they have completed. This option would be appropriate for a den that has already received the adventure loop or pin.
- Adapt the advancement ceremony for the month’s theme into an adventure loop presentation if no rank badges are being presented.

◆ RANK ADVANCEMENT

Animals Are Important in Cub Scouting

Props: Large pictures of the ranks of each den

Cubmaster: “People have long admired and loved animals for their appearance, qualities, and character. The symbol of our country is an animal—the bald eagle. It is a beautiful bird, and yet it is strong. Animals are important in Cub Scouting, too.”

Bobcat: “The bobcat is a swift, skillful hunter and the smallest of the wild cats. Bobcats in Scouting are the newest Scouts, who will learn skills and pursue the badge of their rank. Will the following Cub Scouts (*call the name of each Bobcat to be recognized*) and their parents or guardians please come forward to receive your Bobcat badge?”

Tiger: “The tiger is the largest of the wild cats, and every single tiger in the world has his own distinct pattern of stripes. Tigers in Scouting are experiencing wonderful adventures to earn the badge of their rank. Will the following Tigers (*call the name of each Tiger to be recognized*) and their parents or guardians please come forward to receive your Tiger badge?”

Wolf: “The wolf works in a group to hunt. The wolf is a loyal animal that keeps the same mate for life. Wolves in Scouting work in groups to learn leadership and develop skills. Will the following Cub Scouts (*call the name of each Wolf to be recognized*) and their parents or guardians come forward to receive your Wolf badge?”

Bear: “The bear is a large creature that can be fierce if angered but is normally peaceful and non-aggressive. Bears are bigger Cub Scouts who always show consideration to those smaller, and strive to live peacefully with others. Will the following Cub Scouts (*call the name of each Bear to be recognized*) and his parents or guardians come forward to receive your Bear badge?”

Webelos: “The Webelos is not actually an animal but one who is a loyal Scout. He has learned the Outdoor Code and the Leave No Trace principles. He understands there is strength in being gentle to all animals. Will the following Webelos Scouts (*call the name of each Webelos Scout to be recognized*) and his parents or guardians come forward to receive your Webelos badge?”

Arrow of Light: “The Arrow of Light is the last rank in Cub Scouting. The Cub Scout who achieves this rank has learned about building a better world. He is kind to all animals, especially the Bobcats, Tigers, Wolves, and Bears. He is kind to other Webelos Scouts as well. Will the following Scouts (*call the name of each Scout to be awarded the Arrow of Light*) and his parents or guardians please come forward to receive Cub Scouting’s highest honor, the Arrow of Light?”

◆ CUBMASTER’S MINUTE

“Mahatma Gandhi once said ‘The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way animals are treated.’ Let’s promise to treat our animal friends kindly.”

◆ CLOSING

Be Kind to Your Web-Footed Friends

Tune: “*Stars and Stripes Forever*”

Be kind to your web-footed friends,
For that duck may be somebody’s mother.
She lives in a nest in a swamp,
Where the weather is always damp.

Be kind to your fur-bearing friends,
For a skunk may be somebody’s brother.
Be kind to your friends with the stripes,
Including raccoons and snipes.

Be kind to your four-footed friends,
For a bear could be somebody’s father.
He lives in the forest trees,
And he could be covered in fleas.

(The preassigned den retires the flags.)

RESOURCES

Run-Ons

Cub Scout 1: “I just spotted a leopard.”

Cub Scout 2: “Don’t be silly. They grow that way.”

Cub Scout 1: “My parents bought me a bird!”

Cub Scout 2: “What kind?”

Cub Scout 1: “A keet.”

Cub Scout 2: “You mean a parakeet.”

Cub Scout 1: “No, they only bought me one.”

Cub Scout 1: “Knock, knock!”

Cub Scout 2: “Who’s there?”

Cub Scout 1: “Goat.”

Cub Scout 2: “Goat who?”

Cub Scout 1: “Goat to the door and find out.”

Cub Scout 1: “What kind of dog washes clothes?”

Cub Scout 2: “A laundermutt.”

Applause

Big Bear: Stand up. Pretend to be a bear standing on his hind legs and give a big “Growl.”

Wolf Applause: Cup your hands around your mouth, bend over at the waist, and as you straighten up, howl like a wolf until you are tilting your head back and leaning backward. Do this three times, “Aaaaaarooooooooooooo!”