



NOVEMBER—HELPFUL



CUBS IN ACTION

A SCOUT IS HELPFUL—HOW DOES “CUBS IN ACTION” RELATE TO THIS POINT OF THE SCOUT LAW?

It is never too early in our lives to begin helping other people. Scouting has promoted being helpful to others since it began in 1907 in England. Being helpful to others is what William D. Boyce experienced one foggy night in London, when a Scout helped him find his way. Boyce was so impressed that the Scout helped him and refused a reward that he incorporated the Scouting program in America in 1910.

Our Cub Scouts find active ways to help others in their neighborhoods and spread the goodwill of Scouting. By teaching and living the Scout slogan to Do a Good Turn Daily, we are keeping the third point of the Scout Law: A Scout is helpful.

NOTE TO CUBMASTER

Pack meetings are best when they are no more than an hour and a half 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.

This month, Webelos Scouts working on their Arrow of Light rank may wish to set up an exhibit to share information about the World Friendship Fund. This meets requirement 10b in their Building a Better World adventure.

With the assistance of the pack committee, den leaders, and parents, decide on a service project that can be performed during this pack meeting. Depending on the weather in your location, you may have an outside service project like a neighborhood cleanup, recycling project, or Good Turn for your chartered organization. You could also choose an indoor project such as preparing care packages for needy families, or thank-you packages for soldiers and local firefighters and police officers. Make certain the project is age-appropriate for the Cub Scouts.

Including the time spent on the project, try to keep the meeting length the same as usual.

◆ BEFORE THE MEETING

Set up tables or areas for den displays, if applicable.

Be sure the following materials are available for the meeting:

- American and pack flags for the opening ceremony
- Recognition for advancements, etc.
- Materials for the service project: tools and equipment for outdoor projects, other items for care or thank-you package projects
- Make certain that BSA national policies, as well as your local council policies, are followed if you are leaving your usual meeting place.
- Materials for the gathering activity: tape or chalk to make the checkerboard (or a pre-painted tarp or sheet) and red and black small plastic plates for the checkers.
- Large posters with the words of the Outdoor Code, if applicable

◆ GATHERING

- Option 1: Exhibit on World Friendship Fund by the Arrow of Light den
- Option 2: Giant Checkers—This may be played indoors or out.

To play Giant Checkers, create a giant checkerboard on the floor using tape, string, etc. You can also pre-paint a tarp or old sheet that can be rolled up and reused in the future.

As the boys arrive, they can join a side and help their team play checkers using the plastic plates as the checkers. Teamwork and cooperation should be stressed. If your pack is large, you may wish to set up several large checkerboards.

◆ OPENING CEREMONY

The Cubmaster asks a preassigned den to present the colors. Have the group recite the Pledge of Allegiance. If your service project is outdoors, you may also recite the Outdoor Code. (The text of the Outdoor Code is available in the Resources section.)

◆ OPENING PRAYER

“We are thankful that your light shines in us. We ask that we become more aware of those around us who are in need of our help and pray that our light may shine through their darkness.”

◆ WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Cubmaster welcomes new families and any special guests, introduces them to the pack, and thanks those who helped with the service project preparations for this pack meeting.

Introduce any special guests.

◆ 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

Complete of the service project. Everyone can help—Cub Scouts, families, etc.

◆ 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

Cubmaster: “Here is a badge of rank. (*The Cubmaster holds up one of the badges.*) Just as it takes many tiny stitches to weave this badge, it takes many people doing both big and small things that are helpful to you in your journey through Scouting.

“Cub Scouts, please accept your badge of rank as recognition of all you have accomplished thus far on your trail through Scouting, and then turn and thank those who have helped you to this point.”

The Cubmaster calls the names of those Cub Scouts who have earned their Bobcat rank and asks them to come forward with their parents or guardians. Repeat for each rank in turn.

As the different ranks are presented, the Cubmaster says:

Bobcat: “Scouts, this Bobcat rank is the first step in Cub Scouting. You have learned about the Scout Oath and Law with the help of your den and families.”

Tiger: “Our Tigers have worked together and partnered with caring adults who helped them in fun adventures.”

Wolf: “The Wolf badge recognizes all that the Wolves have learned while having fun, working as a team, and helping each other.”

Bear: “The Bears worked hard while having lots of fun, learning how to work together to achieve a common goal.”

Webelos: “The Webelos badge is recognition that the Webelos Scouts have put the ideals of Scouting into action. They are helpful to others.”

Arrow of Light: “The Arrow of Light Award is presented to these Scouts who have put the Scout Oath and Law into action.”

◆ CUBMASTER’S MINUTE

(If indoors, turn the lights down low.) “Close your eyes and very quietly pretend the year is somewhere around 1909, and you are in a strange town and have lost your way. The fog is so thick that you cannot see your hand in front of your face. You are struggling to find your way when suddenly, from out of nowhere, steps a young man who says he can help you. Once you reach your destination, you offer to pay the young man, but he refuses your money and tells you he is a Scout and cannot accept payment for a Good Turn. You ask him some questions and get more information about this thing called Scouting, and then the young man disappears. Soon, that information comes to America, and the rest is Scouting history. All thanks to a young man helping a lost man find his way. Let us continue this example as we search for and help those in need.”

◆ CLOSING

A preassigned den retires the flags.

RESOURCES

Outdoor Code

As an American, I will do my best to:

- Be clean in my outdoor manners.
I will treat the outdoors as a heritage.
I will take care of it for myself and others.
I will keep my trash and garbage out of lakes, streams, fields, woods, and roadways.
- Be careful with fire.
I will prevent wildfire.
I will build my fires only where they are appropriate.
When I have finished using a fire, I will make sure it is cold out.
I will leave a clean fire ring, or remove all evidence of my fire.
- Be considerate in the outdoors.
I will treat public and private property with respect.
I will use low-impact methods of hiking and camping.
- Be conservation minded.
I will learn how to practice good conservation of soil, water, forests, minerals, grasslands, wildlife, and energy.
I will urge others to do the same.