

Happy Chinese New Year!—or more appropriately, *Gung Hay Fat Choy!*—the traditional Chinese New Year greeting. This month we welcome the Chinese year 4706. Let’s celebrate and welcome the New Year with dragon dances, paper lanterns, fortune cookies, and oranges for abundant joy. Decorate your blue and gold banquet with banners inscribed with Chinese characters for luck and lots of red—the symbol of a bright and sunny future. Earn the Language and Culture belt loop and pin as you learn about and enjoy the culture of China.

PACK PLANNING

The pack meeting this month will allow boys and their families to experience some of the traditions celebrated during Chinese New Year. Appoint the following committees to help with the meeting:

Decorations Committee. Arrange the meeting area for dens to set up their exhibits. Set up tables and chairs for the banquet. Decorate the room with Paper Lanterns (6 FEB and 10 FEB) and New Year Greeting Couplets (3 FEB).

Welcome Committee. Make name tags for each pack member. If possible, having their name also drawn in Chinese characters will be a highlight. Arrange an area for each pack member to make a Dragon Mask (8 FEB) for the opening activity.

Program Committee. Many advancement recognitions happen at the blue and gold banquet. This group will make sure they are planned in advance and run smoothly.

Banquet Committee. Many months of preplanning will ensure a banquet where everyone is welcomed and supplies are available for all.

Some of the purposes of Cub Scouting developed through this month’s theme include:

- **Fun and adventure.** Cub Scouts will have fun as they explore a new culture and its customs through games and food.
- **Respectful relationships.** Learning about the traditions of a different culture helps boys respect other people.

This theme is designed to promote character development by emphasizing these core values:

- **Cooperation.** Boys learn to cooperate as they plan their contribution to the pack meeting.
- **Compassion.** The blue and gold banquet festivities and abundance of food reminds us to be aware of everything we have and to show compassion for those who have less.

Pack Meeting

BEFORE THE MEETING

All committees arrive in plenty of time to make arrangements and to set up their section of the meeting area. Earlier setup for this important pack meeting will help make the meeting run smoothly.

The decorations committee sets up tables for the den exhibits around the perimeter of the room. The main part of the room will be full of tables for dens to have their meal together. Posters from travel agencies showing the Great Wall and other Chinese tourist attractions will create a good background. The program committee will lay out the awards to be distributed and ensure that all awards are available and that the ceremonies are practiced in advance. The banquet committee will determine the configuration of the room and provide for pack support for all.

GATHERING

Greeters greet pack members as they arrive and direct them to the major areas of the room. Food contributions will be set out on tables. Den displays are set in a separate area. Each person is given

a name tag in the shape of a pagoda. Invite a person who knows Chinese characters to set up a table and show all pack members how to write their names in Chinese characters. Invite Cub Scouts and siblings to create a mask for Chinese Dragon Parade (2 FEB).

MAIN PART OF THE MEETING

Opening

Conduct the Chinese Dragon Parade. A den chief can lead the group around the meeting place to see the tables the dens decorated.

Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster says “Gung Hay Fat Choy,” which in Cantonese mean “Wishing you happiness and prosperity.” Welcome everyone. Introduce all special guests and single out the representative from your chartered organization. Explain that this person represents the organization that provides the charter for your pack. Announce plans for the blue and gold banquet and explain the schedule for the evening.

Prayer

A preselected Cub Scout comes forward and gives the World of Differents prayer (2 FEB). Invite all pack members to join in prayer, meditation, or silence as is their custom.

Song

The pack song leader leads “The Hello Song” (*Cub Scout Songbook*) with additional phrases (2 FEB).

Den Demonstrations

Each den shares a skit, song, or explanation of the things they have done during the month.

Game

Play Chopstick Relay (3 FEB).

Recognition

Conduct the Chinese Zodiac advancement ceremony (2 FEB) or choose a different ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Additional ceremonies may be needed for Arrow of Light Awards and graduation to Boy Scouts.

Announcements

The March theme is Litter to Glitter. Explain pack plans to collect recyclable materials. Announce any camping opportunities that are coming up.

Cubmaster's Minute

The Cubmaster delivers Scouting Is a World All Around Us (3 FEB).

Closing

Use the Scout Spirit closing ceremony (3 FEB) or choose a different ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

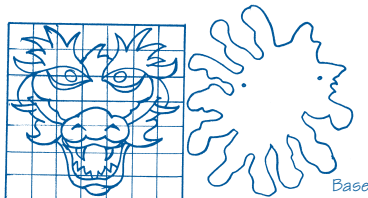
Cubmaster Corner

EVERY DEN HAS A DENNER

An important part of Cub Scouting is the progression to more and more responsibility for boys as they travel through the Cub Scout program. One of the first places a boy experiences this is in his role as denner. The Cubmaster can reinforce this positive experience by congratulating the denners in each den and giving them responsibility to represent the den during the pack meeting. This can take the form of helping to pass out information to the den, coming forward to represent the den if a den award is being given, or simply being the first one to try a game or activity on behalf of the den. Recognition from the Cubmaster will have a positive effect on each Cub Scout denner.

Ceremonies, Games, Songs, Stunts

GATHERING ACTIVITY: CHINESE DRAGON PARADE



Each member of the pack is invited to create a dragon mask and be festooned with streamers for the opening parade.

Materials: Construction paper, pre-printed pattern of dragon face, 18 in. of elastic cord, decorative scissors, sequins, crepe paper (variety of colors), glue, markers, stapler, glitter glue

Enlarge and photocopy the pattern for the dragon face and base. Pack members may find it easier to fold the paper in half and cut around the pattern. Unfold and cut out areas for eyes, mouth, and nose. Color with crayons or markers.

Cut the base from a large piece of construction paper and glue the face to the base. Have an adult help cut out the eyes. Punch a hole in each side. Tie the elastic cord through the holes. (An alternate method is to thread the cord through the small hole and tie onto a button that lies inside the paper.)

Highlight the colors and shape by adding glitter glue. Tie five 2-foot lengths of crepe paper to each arm. Wear dragon masks and crepe paper streamers for your Chinese Dragon Parade.



OPENING CEREMONY: SPIRIT OF SCOUTING

Equipment: Large candle (real or electric), U.S. flag

CUBMASTER (*lighting large candle in front of room*): This candle represents the spirit of Scouting. It is going to burn throughout our meeting and, like the spirit of Scouting, light up the fun and friendships we enjoy here in our pack. It will remind us of the fun and friendships shared by Scouts around the world. Please stand and repeat the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRAYER: WORLD OF DIFFERENTS

We give thanks for a world where different people have different traditions. Thank you for our families, and for all the families in China and everywhere in the world. Amen.

CHINESE HELLO SONG: HONORED GUESTS

Tune: The Farmer in the Dell
Our honored guests are here,
Our honored guests are here,
Stand up now and take a bow,
Our honored guests are here.

Let's wave and say, "Ni Hao," (*Nee How—"Hello!"*)

Let's wave and say, "Ni Hao."
Let's say "hello" to all our friends,
Let's wave and say, "Ni Hao."

ADVANCEMENT CEREMONY: CHINESE NEW YEAR

Equipment: Purchased fortune cookies, prepared as instructed below

Print messages small enough to fit into the fortune cookies. Suggestions: "Congratulations! You are a Wolf!" "You will soon be promoted to Webelos." "You will earn many important awards."

Fortune Cookie preparation: Cut fortunes into 2½-by-½-in. strips. Put fortune cookies in microwave one at a time for 20–30 seconds to make the cookie pliable. Open and remove the paper fortune. Move quickly to slide your "new" fortune in and press back into closed position before the cookie cools and hardens. Microwave again if needed.

Bobcat, Tiger Cub, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos Scout messages should be kept separated so that boys will receive the appropriate message.

CUBMASTER: The year ahead will be filled with good fortune for each of us. Will (*boy's name*) please come forward? You have made many wise choices as a Cub Scout, which is why you are here tonight. Please choose your fortune and read it to the audience.

ADVANCEMENT CEREMONY: CHINESE ZODIAC

Equipment: Pictures of a tiger, rabbit, cow, rooster, horse, and dragon

CUBMASTER: As we continue our Chinese New Year celebration, we celebrate achievements Cub Scouts of our pack have made.

FIRST LEADER (*shows picture of rabbit*): In the Chinese zodiac, the rabbit is a sign of happiness and learning. We have boys who have been happily learn-

ing Cub Scouting and have earned their Bobcat badges.

SECOND LEADER (*shows picture of tiger*): The tiger is a symbol of bravery and is very active and aggressive. The following boys have earned their Tiger Cub badges.

THIRD LEADER (*shows picture of cow*): The cow is a symbol of hard work and determination. The boys who are about to receive their Wolf badges have also worked hard, and they are determined to achieve the next step in Cub Scouting.

FOURTH LEADER (*shows picture of rooster*): The rooster doesn't waste time. It knows that there are things to do, just like the boys who are receiving their Bear badges tonight. These boys know there are many wonderful adventures waiting for them.

FIFTH LEADER (*shows picture of horse*): The horse is a symbol of bravery and activity and always wants to go forward. It is similar to the boys of our pack who have earned their Webelos badges and activity badges.

SIXTH LEADER (*shows picture of dragon*): The dragon is a symbol used to identify people who have achieved a high status. It is appropriate that we use this symbol to recognize our boys who are receiving their Arrow of Light Award tonight.

CUBMASTER: Let's congratulate each of these boys by giving them a cheer!

CHOPSTICK RELAY

Equipment: Chopsticks, plastic bowls, two or more identical sets of small objects such as cotton balls, jingle bells, dice, gumdrops, etc.

Separate boys into two or more groups. Line them up at one end of the room with a bowl filled with various objects. At the other end of the room, place another bowl on a chair for the boys to carry the objects to. The first boy on each team uses chopsticks to pick up one object out of the bowl. He may only use one hand to pick up the object. He then races to put his item in the other bowl. If he drops the item, he goes back and the next boy gets his turn.

Note: Boys might have a hard time handling chopsticks. (See Banquet Fun below for ideas to help boys use chopsticks.) If that's the case, consider using only cotton balls in the bowls, as they will be easier for the boys to pick up.

CUBMASTER'S MINUTE: SCOUTING IS A WORLD ALL AROUND US

We've enjoyed our blue and gold banquet to celebrate

- the blue of Cub Scouting: truth and spirituality, and
- the gold of Cub Scouting: good cheer and happiness.

Scouts from all over the world celebrate the same ideals. Please think about this and join me in the Cub Scout Promise.

CLOSING CEREMONY: SCOUT SPIRIT

Equipment: Large candle (real or electric)

CUBMASTER: Throughout our meeting tonight, this candle, which represents the spirit of Scouting, has been burning. Look steadily at it for a moment. (*Pause.*) Now close your eyes and you'll see that the image of the light remains inside each of us. This is how the spirit lives on here and around the world. Good night, Cub Scouts.

CHEERS AND APPLAUSES

Happy New Year Cheer. Say, "Gung hay fat choy!"

Banquet Cheer. "C'mon gold! C'mon blue! C'mon Cub Scouts! That's me and you!"

Canned Laughter Cheer. Everyone laughs loudly when the lid is taken from a can. Become quiet when the lid is replaced.

Stew-pondous Cheer. **LEADER:** Is it soup?

GROUP: No!

LEADER: Is it broth?

GROUP: No!

LEADER: Is it stew?

GROUP: Yes! It's stew-pondous!

CUB SCOUTING IN CHINA

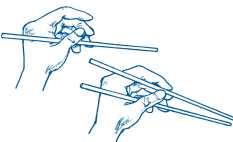
Cub Scouts in Hong Kong have the same Cub Scout Promise as ours, but here's their Cub Scout Law:

Cub Scouts always do their best, think of others before themselves, and do a good turn every day.

BANQUET FUN

Use chopsticks to eat part of your meal.

Place one chopstick firmly between the tips of the forefinger and thumb. Hold the other stick resting between the thumb and forefinger and the ring finger, gripped by the thumb. Move the top stick up and down against the lower stick to grasp food.



Idea to Help Cub Scouts Use Chopsticks

Materials: A set of chopsticks, a rubber band, wrapper from chopsticks, or a business card.

- M. Lay the two chopsticks side by side on a table.
- N. Fasten the thicker ends together with a rubber band about 1/2 in. from the end.
- O. Fold the chopsticks wrapper into a fat rectangle. Push the paper rectangle between the two chopsticks down to the rubber band. This will form a spring. The points will now be apart.
- P. Squeeze your fingers to get the points to come together.

Hint: Hold your bowl of food in the palm of your hand, just beneath your mouth (making less distance to drop your food!).

Never cross your chopsticks when you put them down. It is believed that this will bring bad luck to your host!

CHINESE NEW YEAR DECORATIONS

Decorations are an important part of the celebrations for the Chinese New Year. Favorite colors during Chinese New Year are red and gold. Red symbolizes happiness, and gold symbolizes wealth.

Red is not only a lucky color for the Chinese, but it also frightens off the monster *Nian*, who arrives at this time of year and destroys crops and homes.

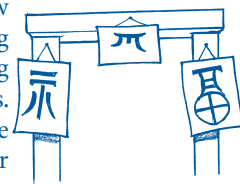
NEW YEAR GREETING COUPLETS

Chinese New Year greeting couplets are hung around doors. They have three pieces. Two longer ones hang vertically on each side of the door, and a shorter one is hung horizontally above the door. The couplets contain traditional greetings and wishes for good luck, good health, and prosperity in the coming year.

The Chinese New Year will begin on February 7, 2008. It will be the year of the Rat.

LUCKY SYMBOLS

The Chinese character "fu" is one of the most popular during the Chinese New Year. It means blessing, happiness, or good fortune. People traditionally paste it on doors and walls to express wishes for the new year.



February Pack Program Page: Chinese New Year

ACADEMICS AND SPORTS PROGRAM

Academics

Language and Culture. The world is a big place, and many different cultures and traditions abound. Start work on this Academics belt loop by learning 10 words that are in a language different from your own.

Sports

Basketball. Many boys are involved in learning basketball either through their schools or school clubs or with the pack. Participating in a game and practicing skills are two requirements toward earning the Basketball belt loop recognition.

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Families can support the Chinese New Year theme together by doing some of the activities in the “Accepting Differences” section of *Cub Scouting’s BSA Family Activity Book*. You could

- Learn how to say “hello,” “good-bye,” “please,” “thank you,” and two other useful phrases in Chinese.
- Pretend to visit China. Discuss how you would feel about trying to talk to others and how you would order food when you can’t read the menu. As a family, eat some Chinese food.
- Go to a Chinese restaurant. How is the food different from the food you usually eat?

DID YOU KNOW?

International Activity Patch

All Scouts and leaders can earn the International Activity Patch. It is a temporary patch worn on the right pocket of the uniform shirt. Check your local council for requirements for earning the patch.



GOOD TURN FOR AMERICA

The blue and gold banquet can act as a reminder that even though we have enough to eat, many people



don’t. The pack can find ways to help the community by collecting food for a food bank, serving as helpers at a meal site for the homeless, or supporting cleanup efforts after a meal has been served. Cub Scouts will find that their efforts are greatly appreciated.

BSA RESOURCES HIGHLIGHT

Cub Scout Songbook (No. 33222A). Songs for derbies, songs for banquets, songs to celebrate Cub Scouting—all this and more are found in this songbook. Most have easy tunes based on traditional songs such as “The Farmer in the Dell” or “Clementine.” Select songs for the pack meeting ahead of time and announce them so that dens can practice and really shine at the pack meeting, when they will be joined by all dens and parents, too.



PACK LEADERS’ PLANNING MEETING

The pack leaders will meet about one or two weeks before the February pack meeting to check final details and start planning for March events.

Confirm that special invitations to community members have been sent. These could include the chartered organization representative and local dignitaries such as the mayor, school principal, or a school board member. A clergy member might share the blessing before the meal is served. Be sure to invite pack members to offer their meal blessings in their own way.

The opening part of this meeting will be a parade. Be sure all dens are prepared to participate. A person of Chinese heritage might visit and talk about family life in China and family life here. A bonus would be for that person to share demonstration of Chinese writing.

Even though blue and gold preparations have been communicated to all pack members, an additional e-mail or other timely notice will give busy families a reminder to bring needed utensils and supplies.

Graduation plans for Webelos Scouts joining a Boy Scout troop will require coordination with the local troop (or troops) that will be welcoming the graduating Webelos. Ideas for Arrow of Light ceremonies can be found in *Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Information about any recycling drive for March’s Litter to Glitter theme should be communicated now. Consider collecting aluminum cans and papers for recycling.

The pack trainer leads Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 3, Character Development. An alternate topic may be chosen from the *Cub Scout Leader Book*. Choose a subject for next month.

LOOKING AHEAD

With April’s Abracadabra theme ahead, a committee may choose to investigate having a magician perform.

Day camp is coming. Identify the coordinator for your pack

Plans for the pack overnighter campout should be under way. Be sure plans are communicated to families.

PACK TRAINER HIGHLIGHT

As Webelos Scout parents leave with their boys for Boy Scouting, it is time to evaluate the leadership for next year and their training needs.

Share the location and time of your district Cub Scout roundtable. It’s not only supplemental training, it’s fun every month.

OUTDOOR IDEAS FOR EVERYONE

Tiger Cubs. Attend a local Chinese New Year celebration as a group.

Wolf Cub Scouts. Take a walk to a pond or lake. Observe the footprints that animals make when going to the water’s edge.

Bear Cub Scouts. Work on Elective 2: If you are in an area that has snow, make measurements. Or in an area that has rain, make a simple rain gauge and take measurements. Share the results with your den.

Webelos Scouts. Join a Boy Scout troop during the day for one of their winter camping activities.

Chinese New Year: Tiger Cub Den Meetings

Each Tiger Cub and his adult partner should attend all meetings as a team.

Dens may meet in the evenings or on weekends.

Full or partial credit may be received for the following advancement possibilities highlighted in this month's meeting plans.

WHEN	FIRST WEEK	SECOND WEEK	THIRD WEEK	FOURTH WEEK
<p>The Tiger Cub den leader shares leadership with a Tiger Cub adult partner. This team should review plans before each meeting and check equipment needed.</p>				
BEFORE THE MEETING STARTS	Prepare for planting (<i>Elective 30</i>) by putting dirt into cups. Have supplies for Dancing Dragons and Wall Posters (both 6 FEB) and have books with Chinese art from the library. Have oranges, tangerines, and a U.S. flag.	Collect foods for Candy Tray, materials for Lanterns (both 6 FEB).	Call the Go See It destination to confirm arrangements, times, fees, etc.	Host team writes a thank-you note to the destination of last week's Go See It.
<p>Den leader may collect dues. Den leader checks boys' books for completed advancement requirements and records them on Den Advancement Chart. Boys record own advancement on den doodle, if den has one.</p>				
GATHERING	Plant flowering plants or seeds (<i>Elective 30</i>). Talk about Tiger Cubs planting a new plant for the new year starting on the Chinese calendar.	Use the dragons made last week and have a Dragon Parade through the meeting area.		
OPENING	Recite the Pledge of Allegiance during a flag ceremony (<i>Achievement 2d</i>). Say the Cub Scout motto.	Recite the Pledge of Allegiance. Say the Law of the Pack	GO SEE IT: Visit a television station (<i>Achievement 4G</i>)	
SHARE	Discuss the Chinese New Year theme. Explain where China is and talk about special traditions. Make Dancing Dragons.	Make a Candy Tray and discuss the significance of the objects.	OR a local museum or Chinese center.	Participate in the monthly pack meeting by sharing the Dragon Parade with the Dancing Dragons and information about the den's Go See It.
DISCOVER	Discuss the significance of oranges and tangerines (Candy Tray, 6 FEB). Slice and enjoy. Create Wall Posters to use at the blue and gold banquet.	Make Chinese Lanterns. Play Shoushiling (6 FEB).	At the end of the trip, lead a reflecting discussion with boys and adult partners about their outing. A totem bead may be presented for completion of <i>Achievement 4G</i> .	Tiger Cubs and adult partners sign the thank-you note.
SEARCH	Discuss plans for the Go See It to a television station or other location.	Finalize plans for the Go See It.		
CLOSING	Create a circle by putting hands together in the center. Yell, "Search, Discover, Share!"	Create a circle by putting hands together in the center. Roar as you raise your hands and release.		
<p>This month's shared leadership team reviews the meeting. The den leader should meet briefly with the Tiger Cub and adult partner who will share leadership at the next den meeting.</p>				
AFTER THE MEETING	Den leader files tour permit with local council service center for Go See It.	Talk to Tiger Cub team in charge of the next month. Offer resources or ideas as needed.	Den leader fills out den advancement report for the pack leaders' meeting.	Den leader mails the thank-you note.
<p>CHECK WITH YOUR PACK TRAINER OR CUBMASTER FOR ROUNDTABLE DATES AND OTHER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES.</p>				

Tiger Cub Den Activities

Advancement possibilities highlighted in this month's meeting plans: Achievement 2d; Electives 2, 30

The Go See It this month is an advancement requirement to a television station. While there, Tiger Cubs and their adult partners may ask questions about cultures and traditions that may be different from their own. If there is a Chinese museum or cultural center in your area, you might visit it, too. Learning about dragon parades and practicing one will prepare the Tiger Cub Scouts for their performance at the blue and gold banquet. Encourage families to complete additional achievements, such as Achievement 4F, where families share a meal and stories together.

CANDY TRAY

Traditional Chinese foods and dishes have significance. The Tray of Togetherness is a circular or octagonal tray filled with candy and dried fruit:

Candied Melon: Represents growth and good health (candied fruits)

Red Melon Seed: Dyed red to symbolize joy, happiness, truth, and sincerity (you can use watermelon)

Lychee nut: Represents strong family relationships (Cub Scouts could use any type of nuts, but you might want to avoid peanuts because of possible allergies.)

Cumquat: Symbolizes prosperity

Coconut: Symbolizes togetherness

Lotus seed: Represents many children (pumpkin seeds could substitute)

Other foods with significance:

Tangerines and oranges represent prosperity.

Noodles, long and uncut, symbolize longevity.

Dumplings symbolize riches.

A **whole fish** represents togetherness and abundance.

A **whole chicken** represents completeness and prosperity.

SHOUSHILING (ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS)

A long time ago in China, warlords played a game called *shoushiling*, which some consider is the origin of the game Rock, Paper, Scissors. *Shoushiling* can be translated as "hand-command." Players count one, two, three, and then show their hands in one of three positions:

A clenched fist for Rock.

All fingers extended, palm facing downwards, for Paper.

Forefinger and middle finger extended and separated into a "V" shape, for Scissors.

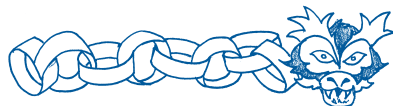
Winners are determined as follows: Rock smashes Scissors (Rock wins); Scissors cuts Paper (Scissors win); Paper covers Rock (Paper wins).

WALL POSTERS

In China, people use wall posters as a means of communication and personal expression, to express their opinions. They hang them on walls at parks and other public places.

Have a large piece of butcher paper for each boy (or purchase poster board). Give them markers, crayons, or colored pencils. Let them make their own wall poster with their message and design a border around it.

DANCING DRAGONS



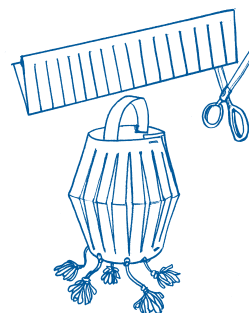
Materials: Various colored sheets of construction paper, scissors, tape or glue (enough tape to close the dragon loops and the dragon head; glue will work also if you have time to allow it to dry), sticks or string to hang dragons

Boys make dragons out of loops of construction paper and add a dragon head that they design and decorate themselves.

Before you start the project, take the time to make one chain-loop dragon to show the boys what their Chinese Dragon might look like. Encourage the boys to be creative when designing their dragon's head. Chinese celebrations and parades incorporate many colors. The brighter the better! Consider hanging the dragons up as part of the decorations for the blue and gold banquet.

LANTERN

(Elective 2)



Materials: 12-by-18-in. construction paper, drawing paper, scissors, Chinese New Year or Spring Festival background information, markers, crayons, or colored pencils

Use either colored paper or white paper for each lantern. If using white paper, decorate the paper lantern with any design or color. However, the Chinese consider red a lucky color. You may also want to draw Chinese characters or pictures of the Chinese zodiac animals.

Fold the paper in half and cut from the fold line not quite to the edge, about every 2 in. Open and fold out as shown. Staple at the top and bottom. Cut an additional strip to serve as a handle at the top. Add tassels made of yarn or ribbon to the bottom.

To make tassels, wind yarn 10 times around a 4-in.-wide piece of cardboard. Before cutting the yarn, slip a 10-in. piece of yarn under all the yarn at one end. Remove the cardboard; make an overhand knot with long piece, pull tightly, and tie knot to secure. Cut through all the yarn loops at the opposite end. Attach to the bottom of the lantern.

Chinese New Year: Wolf Den Meetings

Dens may meet after school, in the evenings, or on weekends.

Review the theme pages before planning den meetings.

Full or partial credit may be received for the following advancement possibilities highlighted in this month's meeting plans.

WHEN	FIRST WEEK	SECOND WEEK	THIRD WEEK	FOURTH WEEK
Den leader, den chief, and denner review plans before each meeting and check equipment needed.				
BEFORE THE MEETING STARTS	Have materials for Fortune Cookie Neckerchief Slides (8 FEB); bring Chinese fortune cookies to show and share.	Provide preprinted sheets for Chinese Zodiac Animals (8 FEB). Have Dragon Mask materials (8 FEB).	Have materials for Lanterns (6 FEB) and Red Envelopes (8 FEB); have marbles.	Have ingredients for an easy Chinese treat such as stir-fried vegetables or rice with sweet and sour sauce.
Den leader collects dues.				
WHILE CUB SCOUTS GATHER	Boys snack on Chinese fortune cookies and start to write their own fortunes for later.	Boys work on Chinese Zodiac Animals word search.	Learn to count to 10 in Chinese (8 FEB) (<i>Elective 22b</i>).	Learn to say "hello" in Mandarin: <i>Ni Hao</i> (nee how) (<i>Elective 22a</i>).
OPENING	Boys form a line facing the U.S. flag, say the Pledge of Allegiance, and take turns telling what the pledge means (<i>Achievement 2a</i>).	Den forms a living circle. Denner leads the Law of the Pack.	Learn and sing the first verse of "The Star-Spangled Banner" (<i>Elective 11b</i>).	Boys assigned a flag ceremony conduct the opening (<i>Achievement 2b</i>).
Den leader checks boys' books for completed achievements and electives and records them on Den Advancement Charts. Boys record own advancement on den doodle, if den has one.				
BUSINESS ITEMS	Explain some of the Chinese cultural traditions that will be explored this month. Give details about the blue and gold banquet.	Discuss the significance of the Chinese zodiac animals. Practice assignments for the pack meeting.	Assign boys who have not completed a flag ceremony to do the opening next week.	Practice the Pack Dragon Dance (8 FEB) for the pack meeting. Follow with a Character Connection on Cooperation (8 FEB).
ACTIVITY	Make Fortune Cookie Neckerchief Slides. Additional fortune cookies will make good table decorations for the blue and gold banquet. Make blue and gold invitations with red construction paper. Draw a dragon on the front.	Make Dragon Masks. Play Zodiac Animals game: Each boy picks one of the animals of the Chinese zodiac and acts the part. The first boy who correctly guesses is next to play.	Make Lanterns and Red Envelopes as decorations for the blue and gold banquet. Play a game of marbles (<i>Elective 4e</i>).	Warm some sweet and sour sauce (available at supermarkets) and pour over warm rice for a treat, or make an easy homemade Chinese dish such as egg-drop soup.
CLOSING	Boys give their den yell.	Den leader leads the Dragon Dance as practice for the pack meeting.	Boys gather in a circle and give a grand howl.	Boys line up and bow as a Chinese sign of respect to the den leader.
Denner supervises putting away equipment. Den leader, den chief, and denner review the meeting and check details for the next meeting.				
AFTER THE MEETING			Den leader fills out den advancement report for the pack leaders' meeting.	

CHECK WITH YOUR PACK TRAINER OR CUBMASTER FOR ROUNDTABLE DATES AND OTHER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES.

Wolf Den Activities

Advancement possibilities highlighted in this month's meeting plans: Achievements 2a, 2b; Electives 4e, 11b, 22a, 22b

The lunar or Chinese New Year is the beginning of spring in China. Each year is represented by one of 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac: dog, dragon, horse, monkey, ox, pig, rabbit, ram, rat, rooster, snake, and tiger. For New Year celebrations, houses are cleaned and decorated with paper cutouts and poems. Children traditionally receive a red envelope with money inside. The festivities end with the parade of lanterns. A dragon dance is performed to scare away bad luck and invite good luck. This month's den activities highlight all the fun of the New Year, and the end of the month will bring a chance to taste an oriental treat. (Many recipe books are available at your local library or online.)

Encourage Cub Scout families to work on additional achievements and electives that support this theme such as:

- *Achievement 8c, Cooking and Eating:* Families could work together to experiment with Chinese cuisine at home.
- *Achievement 12, Making Choices:* Cub Scouts can work with their parents or guardian to discuss situations that lead to making important choices.
- *Elective 14a, Pets:* Pets are indoors more during this time of year; it's time to take good care of them.

CHINESE ZODIAC ANIMALS

Find the words horizontally, vertically, backward, forward, or diagonally.

B	M	C	N	S	F	R	T	E	C
C	H	O	S	H	O	S	I	S	D
T	A	R	N	O	L	O	B	R	C
A	X	R	S	K	T	T	B	O	N
N	A	T	J	N	E	X	A	H	E
M	E	B	S	O	R	Y	R	G	X
R	M	X	N	G	F	E	S	O	O
G	I	P	A	A	B	A	G	D	P
G	N	O	K	R	K	A	W	I	L
G	L	G	E	D	C	J	A	S	T

Tiger Oxen Monkey Rat
Dog Horse Ram Rooster
Dragon Pig Rabbit Snake

PACK DRAGON DANCE

Select one boy to be the head of the dragon. (Boys can take turns doing this.) Other boys will need a paper plate covered with strips of green and red crepe paper streamers. (Glue streamers on the paper plate; add elastic string to make a hat for boys to wear.) The head of the dragon leads the other boys in a conga line dance around the gathering place. Make it more fun by including members of the audience.

CHARACTER CONNECTION: COOPERATION

Cub Scouts, you just did the dragon dance.

- How were you able to "slither" around the room without running into things or each other? When people work together for a common goal, we often call it *cooperation*.
- Why do you think cooperation is important?



- How does cooperation help you in your work at school? How about your duties at home?

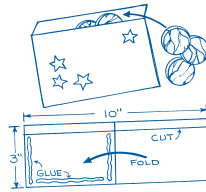
I challenge you to observe cooperation happening during the week ahead, and see the way it helps things run smoothly.

RED ENVELOPES

Materials: Red paper, glue sticks, scissors, small gold stickers, gold coin chocolates, tape

Cut a 3-by-10-in. rectangle out of the red paper. Fold along the long edge up to about 1/2 in. from

the end (for the envelope flap). Carefully glue the side edges together. Decorate the outside with gold stickers and place some gold coin chocolates inside. Fold down your flap and tape it shut to keep your coins from falling out.



DRAGON MASK

Materials: Two 9-in. paper plates, construction paper in bright colors, craft stick

Provide several different pictures and drawings of dragons for boys to use to design their own mask (check online or in books at the library). You'll want to include some key highlights, such as large eyes and nose, horns, scales, sharp teeth, and flaring nostrils.

Precut strips of construction paper, about 23 in. long and 1 in. wide. You can fold them back and forth like an accordion to add effect. Glue the strips around the edge of a paper plate. Add a craft stick to the back of the first plate and glue the second plate to the back over the craft stick for a handle.

Create a mane for your dragon by using a contrasting color of construc-

tion paper large enough to hide the plate surfaces, and glue on. After creating a dragon face, glue it to the mane. Additional items such as bells and noise makers may be added to the dragon mask.

FORTUNE COOKIE

NECKERCHIEF SLIDES

Materials: Brown felt, small slips of paper, glue, 1 in. length of PVC pipe

Cut the felt into 3-in. circles. Lay a written fortune (see below) across the middle. Run a small bead of glue around the edges away from the fortune, fold, and hold in place for 30 seconds.

Push the felt half circle together in the middle so that it makes the shape of a fortune cookie. Add some glue where the felt meets when pushed together, push, and hold until the glue sets. Add a piece of PVC pipe to the back of the felt to create a neckerchief slide.

Boys can write their own positive fortunes on small pieces of paper, such as "You will find peace and happiness"; "Always do your best"; "The Cub Scout follows Akela"; "You will do well on your next test."

COUNT TO 10 IN CHINESE (MANDARIN)

Duplicate this to poster size so the boys can see it clearly when they learn to count to 10 in Mandarin during the gathering period of week 3.

Arabic	Chinese	Arabic	Chinese
1	yee	6	lyo
2	uhr	7	chee
3	sahn	8	bah
4	suh	9	jyo
5	woo	10	shi

Chinese New Year: Bear Den Meetings

Dens may meet after school, in the evenings, or on weekends.

Review the theme pages before planning den meetings.

Full or partial credit may be received for the following advancement possibilities highlighted in this month's meeting plans.

WHEN	FIRST WEEK	SECOND WEEK	THIRD WEEK	FOURTH WEEK
Den leader, den chief, and denner review plans before each meeting and check equipment needed.				
BEFORE THE MEETING STARTS	Have supplies for Bucket Balance (10 FEB). For each boy, bring at least one library book related to China.	Have materials for Chopstick Challenge and for making Jump Ropes (both 10 FEB).	Call the destination of your field trip to confirm arrangements, times, fees, etc.	Denner writes thank-you note to last week's destination. Have sticks for Chopstick Challenge (10 FEB); supplies for Lanterns (10 FEB).
Den leader collects dues.				
WHILE CUB SCOUTS GATHER	Have library books about China, Chinese art, history, and geography for boys to look at.	Collect permission slips. Demonstrate how to use chopsticks.	Collect permission slips. Review appropriate field trip behavior for the den. Review the buddy system if attending an outdoor event.	Boys sign thank-you note or card. If weather permits, start the meeting outdoors and play Chinese Hop Scotch (<i>Achievement 15b</i>).
OPENING	Use the Scouting in Asia opening (10 FEB).	Facing the den flag, boys say the Cub Scout Promise.		Boys face the flag and denner leads the Pledge of Allegiance.
Den leader checks boys' books for completed achievements and electives and records them on Den Advancement Charts. Boys record own advancement on den doodle, if den has one.				
BUSINESS ITEMS	Discuss the Chinese New Year theme and explain that the den will make table decorations for the blue and gold banquet. Also discuss what the den will do to participate in the program.	Explain the trip for next week, and tell boys that the following week, they will write a letter to a company that makes something they use (<i>Achievement 17e</i>).	Attend a Chinese community parade marking the New Year. OR Visit a local grocery store that specializes in products that are used in Chinese cooking. OR Visit a Chinese restaurant.	Write a letter to a company that makes something you use (<i>Achievement 17e</i>). Choose a company for a product that may come from China, such as food, electronics, clothing, or dishes. It may be one that was discovered last week during the field trip.
ACTIVITY	Play Chinese Wall (10 FEB) (<i>Achievement 15b</i>) and Bucket Balance.	Whip the ends of a rope for jump ropes (<i>Achievement 22a</i>). Play Chopstick Challenge (<i>Achievement 15b</i>).	At the end of the trip, lead a reflecting discussion with boys about their outing.	Make Lanterns. Play Charades (<i>Achievement 17b</i>). Use phrases/words that are associated with China, such as <i>fortune cookie</i> , <i>chopsticks</i> , <i>Great Wall</i> , and zodiac animals such as snake, pig, horse, etc.
CLOSING	Cub Scouts give their den yell. Send home permission slips for field trip during the third week.	Boys form a semicircle around the flag and denner leads a closing flag ceremony from <i>Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs</i> .		As they leave the meeting, boys give the den leader and den chief the Cub Scout handshake.
Denner supervises putting away equipment. Den leader, den chief, and denner review the meeting and check details for the next meeting.				
AFTER THE MEETING	Den leader files local tour permit with council service center for field trip planned for third week.		Den leader fills out den advancement report for the pack leaders' meeting.	Den leader mails thank-you note.
CHECK WITH YOUR PACK TRAINER OR CUBMASTER FOR ROUNDTABLE DATES AND OTHER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES.				

Bear Den Activities

Advancement possibilities highlighted in this month's meeting plans: Achievements 15b, 17b, 17e, 22a

Our Chinese neighbors across the Pacific are this month's focus for Cub Scouts. Many options are available for special trips to explore the culture of China. Take the visit one step farther and write a letter to a company that makes something you saw on the trip. Playing two organized games this month (Achievement 15b) will bring the boys farther on their advancement trail.

Encourage Cub Scout families to work on additional achievements and electives that support this theme such as:

- *Achievement 15c, Games, Games, Games:* Boys can research a new game and then share and play it with den members.
- *Achievement 23, Sports, Sports, Sports:* Spring is around the corner and boys can learn about some team sports to be ready.
- *Elective 11b, Photography:* Take five pictures of the same subject in different kinds of light.

OPENING CEREMONY: SCOUTING IN ASIA

LEADER: There are Scouting programs all around the world. In some countries, like Japan, the Scouting program is similar to ours. In fact, the Boy Scouts of Nippon use almost the same Scout Oath and Law as ours. Japanese Cub Scouts are aged 8 to 11. A Cub Scout in the Philippines is a KAB Scout, and he has a promise and Law of the Pack, too. The Cub Scouting ideals are the same as far away as Asia. Another thing we share with Cub Scouts in these countries is the Cub Scout salute. Let us stand and render that Cub Scout salute to our own den flag. Follow me in the Pledge of Allegiance to the red, white, and blue flag of our country.

GAMES

(*Achievement 15b*)

Chinese Wall

Draw two parallel lines about a yard apart. One or two Cub Scouts stand between the lines and can't go beyond them. The others try to run from one line to the other without being touched by boys in the middle. If they are touched, they join the boys in the middle. This continues until everyone has been caught. A leader calls out when Cub Scouts should try to cross from side to side.

Chopstick Challenge

Materials: Set of chopsticks for each boy, bowls, cotton balls and/or beans

Give each boy a set of chopsticks and a bowl with 20 cotton balls in it and an empty bowl. They may sit at a table with their bowls or kneel on the floor. On a signal, boys use the chopsticks to move the cotton balls from one bowl to the other. If you find this is too easy, let the boys try to move beans from one bowl to another.

Lame Chicken

Materials: 10 sticks, 10 or 12 inches long, for each team

Lame Chicken is a hopscotch-type

game that originated in China. Arrange each team's sticks in a row about ten inches apart, like rungs on a ladder. The team lines up behind the first stick. The first player (lame chicken) must hop over these sticks on one foot. If he touches a stick with a foot or touches both feet to the ground, he must start over. When he has hopped over the last stick, the lame chicken then (still on one foot) turns, picks up the last stick, and hops back to the starting point, where he drops the stick and the next player starts. The team to finish first wins.

BUCKET BALANCE

Materials: Four buckets, two large dowels, 40 soft balls and/or beanbags of different sizes

Divide boys into two teams. Place the dowel across the top of one shoulder of one boy on each team. Have the other team members put a bucket on each end of the dowel. Give teams 20 soft balls or beanbags. Boys place the balls into the buckets, trying to balance them.

JUMP ROPE

(*Achievement 22a*)

Jump ropes were created in China at least 1,500 years ago. They called them "jumping 100 threads" because the rope looked like many separate threads whirling around. In the last few years, jump rope, also known as "rope skipping," has become a popular competitive sport worldwide—there are many national and international rope skipping organizations.

Let the boys make their own jump ropes. Buy clothesline. The proper way to determine the length of a jump rope is to have each boy stand on the rope with both feet and hold both hands straight out at the waistline. The distance from one hand, down under the feet, to the other hand, is the length to cut for each boy. Let them whip (or fuse) the ends to

keep the rope from unraveling.

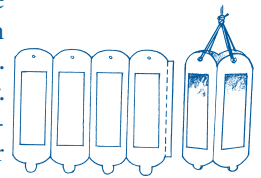
LANTERNS

Materials: Construction paper, tissue paper, string, scissors, glue

Enlarge the pattern to fit an 8½-by-11 in. sheet of paper.

Trace onto construction paper and note the dotted lines. Cut around the outside, and cut out the window rectangles. Make tissue paper inserts that are 2½ by 4½ in. Each lantern will need four of them. Glue into place behind the windows.

Punch holes where indicated. Fold the lantern along the dotted lines and glue the "tab" down. Insert string into the holes and hang.



BLUE AND GOLD DEN CONTRIBUTIONS

China. Make your own "china" for use at the blue and gold banquet. Decorate the edges of sturdy paper plates with flowers or Chinese characters or shapes using paint or watercolors. Let dry and then use as part of the place setting for the banquet. Make more for family members.

Place Cards. Create place cards with family member names on them. You can find Chinese characters for names online or in a library book. Then boys can print the names on 3-by-5-in. cards. If boys can't find a name, they could choose characters that stand for positive words to describe each of their family members, and use that character instead of the name.

Placemats. Give each boy 8½-by-14-in. sheets of paper (or larger)—enough for each boy to make one placemat for each family member. Cub Scouts can copy Chinese characters onto the sheet of paper.