
March Roundtable

CUB SCOUT INTEREST TOPIC AND MONTHLY PACK ACTIVITY IDEAS FOR APRIL 2016

Point of Scout Law: Cheerful

Theme: Strike Up the Band

CUB SCOUT INTEREST TOPIC

Cub Scout Camping Program

Lead a discussion on the program benefits of camping. Spring is just around the corner, even in the northernmost reaches of the United States. What a perfect time to talk about Cub Scout camping!

The Boy Scouting program has three specific objectives, commonly referred to as the “aims of Scouting.” They are character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness. Additionally, the mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Which of those ideals is why your Cub Scout joined up? Probably none of them had a place in his decision making! Boys join Scouting to have fun, especially fun in the outdoors. Baden-Powell, the founder of the worldwide Scouting movement, said: “Scouting is a game with a purpose.” The *game* is why the boys join; the *purpose* is achieved through all the program features as they move up the Scouting trail. At the end of their tenure, when they turn 18, Scouts have become the men their parents want them to be, with lots of FUN along the way.

Camping is one of the many fun features of the Scouting program. Young boys have a great desire for outdoor fun, excitement, and adventure, and Scouting promises to fulfill those desires. Organized camping activities at the den, pack, district, and council levels provide many Cub Scouts with their first organized outdoor adventures. Every pack’s annual plan should encourage day camp or resident camp at a council facility, and should include opportunities for pack family camping at a district Cub Scout camporee, and/or at pack overnights.

Camping opportunities for Cub Scouts are many and varied:

Cub Scout day camp is organized by the council, and is a one- to five-day program for Tigers, Wolves, Bears, Webelos, and Arrow of Light Scouts. It is conducted under certified leadership, with the day camp director and program director trained at BSA National Camping School. Pack leaders often make up the nucleus of the day camp staff. Check with your council and district for day camp staffing and attendance opportunities in your council area.

Cub Scout family camping events are often organized through the council or district. These are overnight events involving more than one pack, with the local council or district providing many of the elements to enhance the outdoor experience, such as staffing, food service, housing, and program. These are sometimes referred to as parent-pal, dad-and-lad, and mom-and-me activities, or adventure weekends.

Pack overnights are events involving more than one family from a single pack. They are focused on age-appropriate Cub Scout activities and conducted at council-approved locations. If siblings participate, the event must be structured accordingly to accommodate them. Adults giving leadership to a pack overnights must complete Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO, No. 34162) and must be present during the campout.

Webelos and Arrow of Light den overnight camping introduces a boy and his parent to the basics of the Boy Scout camping program. These campouts are conducted under the leadership of a trained Webelos/Arrow of Light den leader and include two to six nights of camping. Webelos dens are encouraged to have several overnight campouts each year. These campouts should be parent-son events under the direction of the Webelos den leader.

Webelos and Arrow of Light dens are encouraged to visit Boy Scout camporees, Klondike derbies, and other outdoor overnight Scout events. The purpose of these visits should be for the boys to look ahead with anticipation to their future as Boy Scouts. Webelos and Arrow of Light Scouts should not participate in activities designed for Boy Scouts and should not spend the night at events that are Boy Scout-based.

Monthly Pack Activity

PACK CAMPOUT/OVERNIGHTER

A “Camping Committee,” including someone with BALOO training, should be in charge of all the details, but all adults attending should be asked to help in some way. **At least one pack adult member must take BALOO training and must be present during the campout.** This is a one-day training event that introduces the skills needed to plan and conduct pack outdoor activities, particularly pack camping.

APRIL 2016 BREAKOUT RESOURCE SHEET

POINT OF SCOUT LAW: CHEERFUL

THEME: STRIKE UP THE BAND

EXPLAIN – DEMONSTRATE GUIDE – ENABLE

Depending on attendance and the size of your roundtable team, you may run all these breakouts individually, or you may combine them in a manner that works for your district (e.g., put Tiger, Wolf, and Bear breakouts together).

For All Den Leaders

DISCUSSION TOPIC: Day Camp

Provide information about your district or council day camp. If possible have the camp director or a member of the day camp staff come to talk about the opportunities available at day camp.

Tiger Den Leaders

Look at the requirements for the Tiger Tag elective adventure and choose one to demonstrate.

Wolf Den Leaders

Look at the requirements for the Code of the Wolf elective adventure and choose one to demonstrate.

Bear Den Leaders

Look at the requirements for the Roaring Laughter elective adventure and choose one to demonstrate.

Webelos and Arrow of Light Den Leaders

DISCUSSION TOPIC: Webelos Camping

What are the opportunities in your district, council, or other councils nearby for Webelos Scouts to experience an overnight camp? If possible, have a representative from the camp come to speak.

Discuss Webelos den camping and the requirement for Webelos den leaders and their assistants to take Outdoor Webelos Leader Skills training (OWLS). Provide information on when and where the next training will be in your district or council.

ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES

For Webelos den leaders, look at the requirements for the Webelos Walkabout required adventure and choose one to demonstrate. For Arrow of Light den leaders, do this with the Adventures in Science elective adventure.

Cubmasters

DISCUSSION TOPIC: Youth Protection Training

Discuss the importance of having **every** adult in the pack take Youth Protection Training (YPT). Invite the Scouter responsible for YPT in the district or council to speak. Brainstorm ways to provide YPT to all of the adults in the pack.

ACTIVITY

Have participants practice the School Band audience participation activity from the Pack Resource Sheet.

Pack Leaders

DISCUSSION TOPIC: BALOO Training

Provide a list of dates and times when the next BALOO (Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation) training will be held in your district or council. **At least one BALOO-trained adult** must be present at all times during campouts, so **more than one adult in the pack** should receive this training to ensure someone will always be available.

BALOO is an all-day training that introduces the skills needed to plan and conduct pack outdoor activities, particularly pack camping. It is divided into two sessions with the first part being about the why and how of Cub Scout camping—planning, equipment, meal preparation, and campfire programs. The second part is a round-robin session—fire safety, stoves, and lanterns; first aid and sanitation; nature hikes and games; and cooking. Scattered throughout the day are plenty of the four S's: songs, stunts, stories, and showmanship.

ACTIVITY

Have participants practice the Balloons on the Blue Danube skit from the Pack Resource Sheet.

APRIL 2016 PACK RESOURCE SHEET

POINT OF SCOUT LAW: CHEERFUL

THEME: STRIKE UP THE BAND

THE POINT OF THE SCOUT LAW TO BE HIGHLIGHTED THIS MONTH

A SCOUT IS CHEERFUL

A Scout looks for the bright side of life. He cheerfully does tasks that come his way. He tries to make others happy.

HOW DOES “STRIKE UP THE BAND” RELATE TO THIS POINT OF THE SCOUT LAW?

Music can make us feel many things; one of the best things it makes us feel is cheerful. As we “strike up the band” this month, we will explore ways to make people happy using music.

Preopening Activity

SAME SONG

Materials: kazoos; names of familiar songs (e.g., “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star,” “Jingle Bells,” “Happy Birthday”) written on slips of paper (Each song title should be printed on two pieces of paper.)

Make each kazoo using a section of cardboard tubing from paper towel, toilet paper, or wrapping paper rolls. Cut a small hole in a piece of waxed paper that is large enough to fit over one end of the tube, and hold the paper on to the tube with a rubber band. Play the kazoo by humming into the open end.

Give each Cub Scout a kazoo and a song title when he arrives, and tell him to wait for the signal before playing his designated tune. Just before the meeting starts, the signal is given and Cub Scouts play their kazoos until each boy finds the one who is playing the same song. Once everyone has found his match, the pairs get in line together to march in for the opening ceremony.

Opening Ceremony

STRIKE UP THE BAND

All Cub Scouts line up to march in with the flags. The order can be as determined by the “Same Song” preopening activity or by dens.

Cubmaster: Assembly, attention (*all stand*). Color guard, advance. (*Scouts begin to come forward with the American flag in front*). Scout salute. (*Everyone in the audience salutes; if they aren't in uniform, they put their hands over their hearts.*)

When the flags reach the front, they remain in the middle with the U.S. flag to the right of the pack flag, facing out. Cub Scouts stand half to the left and half to the right, directed by designated pack leaders.

Cubmaster (*once all Cub Scouts are lined up in front*): Ready. Two. (*All bring down their salutes.*)

Cub #1: Tonight is the night for our musical talents to shine!

Cub #2: Our band of Cub Scouts has assembled to show us how to be CHEERFUL, which is the eighth point of the Scout Law.

Cub #3: Audience, please join us by singing “Hail the Flag,” as we strike up the band and play the tune of “Yankee Doodle” on our kazoos!

(Cubmaster leads “Yankee Doodle,” also on the kazoo. Parents sing words passed out in advance or projected on-screen.)

Cub #4: Thank you. Please be seated.

Songs

HAIL THE FLAG

Tune: “Yankee Doodle”

Strike up the band—let’s celebrate
The flag of our great nation.
Drums will roll, and bugles shout,
As we jump to attention.

Chorus:

Hail the flag—red, white, and blue.
Hail to you, Old Glory.
Symbol of our liberty,
You tell our country’s story!

Thirteen stripes and 50 stars
Tell the world about it.
We started small, but now are big,
And proud are we to shout it!

(Repeat chorus.)

IT ISN’T ANY TROUBLE

Tune: The Battle Hymn of the Republic

It isn’t any trouble just to S-M-I-L-E.
It isn’t any trouble just to S-M-I-L-E.

Whenever you’re in trouble,
It will vanish like a bubble

If you only take the trouble just to S-M-I-L-E.

It isn’t any trouble just to DO YOUR BEST!
It isn’t any trouble just to DO YOUR BEST!

Whenever you’re in trouble,
It will vanish like a bubble

If you only take the trouble just to DO YOUR BEST!

Prayer

Oh, Mighty Akela, thank you for all the music you have put into our hearts. Please help us to use it throughout our lives to make others and ourselves cheerful. AMEN.

Cheer or Applause

Tuba Applause: Group repeats “Oompah-pah, Oompah-pah!”

Trumpet Applause: Place hands to your mouth as if playing a trumpet and shout out, “Ta-da, ta-da!”

Kazoo Applause: When the Cubmaster raises his or her hand, all play their kazoos as loudly as they can. When he or she puts the hand down, all stop.

Trombone Applause: Place both hands near your mouth. Then move one hand out and back while make sliding note noises as if you are playing the trombone.

Advancement Ceremonies

BAND OF ADVANCEMENT

Materials: pictures posted around the room of each musical instrument referred to in the ceremony (piccolo, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, saxophone, drums, cymbals); a short piece by John Philip Sousa ready to play at the end

Cubmaster (*could be wearing a top hat and tails or holding a big baton*): A band has many instruments—all of them combining together to make for some great music. It works the same way in Cub Scouting. Let’s put together our Cub Scout Band:

- What kind of a band would it be without the wonderful, mellow sounds from our first section, the Bobcats? These are our own band’s clarinets. Like the clarinet, the Bobcat brings a special sound to the band. The clarinet is a woodwind instrument, as you might know—and that definitely puts me in mind of our Bobcats. They are so full of energy, like the wind. (*Call up the Bobcat recipients and their parents to receive the badges. Have parents award the badges and let them return to their seats.*)
- The Tiger section will be our piccolos. Theirs is usually a high-pitched sound of fun and excitement. Why, just this past month, the sounds of laughter and squeals of good times were heard as they worked on their latest Tiger adventures. Let’s see what all the noise was about. (*Call up the Tigers and their adult partners. Have partners present awards and let them return to their seats.*)
- What instrument can be quiet, mellow, and pensive one moment, and in the next be blaring with joy and excitement? I refer to, of course, both the trumpet and the Wolf. (*Call up the Wolf recipients and their parents. Have parents present the awards and let them return to their seats.*)

- Our next group is older and a little more toned down, but their sound can be just as fun and free-flowing as the Wolves’ trumpets. These are our Bears—the trombones of our band. You can just picture the light flashing off the brass of a trombone as the slide moves back and forth and, yes, it also might sound a little more brassy than the trumpet; these guys are getting older and starting to reach out a little more. (*Call up the Bear recipients and their parents. Have parents present the awards and let them return to their seats.*)
- As our band nears completion, we notice a certain lack of rhythm. I wonder what it’s missing? The drums, of course—that solid resounding *pum-pum-pum* that comes from the Webelos Scouts. Tonight we add a little bit of bass drum to our band as we recognize the Scouts who have attained Webelos rank. (*Call up Webelos Scouts who have earned the Webelos badge. Hand out awards and have boys return to their seats.*)
- Now we add our next instrument, the saxophone of the Webelos adventures. Here’s an instrument with some sound. And just as the sax brings a certain amount of pizzazz to the band, so do our Webelos Scouts bring that same kind of pizzazz to the pack. They do us proud as they work so diligently to earn their adventure pins. (*Call up Webelos Scouts, hand out the awards, and have boys return to their seats.*)
- There is no sound that spells “finale” quite like the clash of the cymbals. They may not sound off very often, but when they do, everyone stands up and takes note. And that’s how it is with our Webelos Scouts who have completed the requirements for the most honored and highest award in Cub Scouting—the Arrow of Light Award. (*Call up Webelos Scouts who have earned the Arrow of Light. Hand out awards and have boys return to their seats.*)

To close out our awards ceremony, we will listen to a short piece written for all of our band “pieces.” This piece is for you. (*Everyone plays the Sousa piece on their kazoos.*)

MUSICAL SCALE CEREMONY FOR ARROW OF LIGHT

Materials: cutout or poster of the Arrow of Light Award

Cubmaster: Tonight we have some Scouts who have completed all the requirements for the Arrow of Light Award. (*Call up recipients and their parents.*) The seven rays emerging from the Arrow of Light symbol remind us of the seven notes of the musical scale that also climb consistently higher:

- DO (doe)—DON’T think they’ve ever forgotten to Do Their Best!
- RE (ray)—They have been a RAY of sunshine to our pack!
- MI (me)—reminds ME of the individual growth each of them has achieved.

- FA (fa)—represents their FAmilies, who have supported them and encouraged them along the trail.
- SO (so)—The awards that look SO good on their uniforms are indicative of the many new skills they have learned.
- LA (la)—is for the Scout LAW, which they have learned and will continue to live up to as they continue into Boy Scouts.
- TI (tea)—Is for the TEAM work that has helped them grow into young men of character.

Now I will present the Arrow of Light badges to the parents, who will present them to their sons. (*Presents badges.*) That will bring us back to DO (doe). DON'T you want to show how very proud we are of all of them by joining me in congratulating these Arrow of Light Scouts on the highest achievement of their Cub Scouting career? (*Leads applause.*)

Games

INSTRUMENTAL BUZZ

Have the Cub Scouts sit in a circle. Select a number and show it to the players, but tell them not to say it aloud. Let's say the number is 5. Start off counting around the circle. When the counting reaches any number that includes a 5, that player must name a musical instrument without saying the number. Counting should be rapid. When a boy can't think of an instrument, he is out. No instrument may be repeated.

PICK UP THE BEAT

The game leader explains that he or she will clap out the rhythm of a song, and boys should raise their hands as soon as they can guess the name of the song. Start with easy songs such as "Row, Row, Row Your Boat," "Oh My Darling, Clementine," "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean," "Jingle Bells," "Bingo," "Happy Birthday," "Yankee Doodle," or "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star." Try more difficult songs if time permits. See which den guesses the most songs.

MUSICAL KIM'S GAME

"Kim's Game" comes from Rudyard Kipling's book *Kim*, the story of an Irish orphan who grew up in India. As a young man, Kim was trained for government intelligence work. The training involved showing him a tray of stones and gems for one minute. After covering the tray, they would ask Kim how many stones he saw and what kind of stones they were. Lord Baden-Powell included Kim's Game in his book *Scouting Games*, and Boy Scouts have been playing it ever since.

For this game, arrange 10 to 20 musical-related items (instruments, drumsticks, music) on the floor or a table, and cover them. The teams stand around the game area. Then the cover is raised and the players are allowed to look at the items for one minute, without speaking. The items are covered again, and each team writes down as many items as team members can remember. The longest correct list wins.

MUSICAL CHAIRS

Form a circle of chairs facing outward. Have a Cub Scout sit on each chair, then "Strike Up the Band" by playing music. When the music starts, the boys get up and start to march around the circle, and the leader removes one of the chairs. When the music stops, all try to take a seat. The player who doesn't get a seat is out. Repeat until only one boy is left.

Audience Participation

THE SCHOOL BAND

Divide the audience into four groups. Assign each group a part to perform when their designated word is read in the story:

Cub Scout: "Do your best!" (make Cub Scout sign)

Tuba: "Oom-pah-pah!" (pretend to play tuba)

Drum: "Rat-a-tat-tat!" (pretend to play drum)

Cymbals: "Clang, clang!" (pretend to play cymbals)

Band: All groups say their line at once.

Johnny CUB SCOUT's school was forming a BAND, and he wanted to be a part of it, but he had to decide which instrument to play. There were openings in the BAND for the TUBA, the DRUM, and the CYMBALS. He loved the deep, resonant tones of a TUBA. The rhythm of a DRUM would set the tempo for any song the BAND would play. And the ring of clashing CYMBALS was a sound he loved to hear. How could he decide?

Johnny CUB SCOUT asked the BAND instructor if he could try out all of them. The TUBA sounded wonderful, but it was rather large for him to carry. The CYMBALS were fun, but the sound kept ringing on and on in his ears. The steady beat of the DRUM, however, was just what he liked. So that's how Johnny CUB SCOUT became the brand new DRUMMER in his school BAND!

Skits

THE SOUND PROPS

Materials: noisemakers such as drumsticks, drum, bell, whistle, musical instruments, etc., carried by each Cub Scout

Cub #1 (*walks on stage*): I've just got to find THE SOUND. I've just got to!

Cub #2 enters the stage.

Cub #1: Have you got THE SOUND?

Cub #2 demonstrates the sound of his instrument.

Cub #1: No, that's not the right sound. That's not it at all.

Each boy comes on stage one at a time, and Cub #1 asks him about the sound. Each demonstrates. Cub #1 rejects all sounds. Suddenly, there is a chime, bell, or triangle sound from offstage—or a boy wearing a cook's hat enters ringing a triangle.

Cub #1: That's it! That's THE SOUND!

All Cub Scouts: What is it? What is THE SOUND?

Cub #1: Why, it's THE SOUND that's calling me to dinner. What better sound can there be?

BALLOONS ON THE BLUE DANUBE

Materials: band director's baton; balloons—one for each Cub Scout—blown up but not tied (Before staging the skit, check to make sure that none of the boys has a latex allergies, and that there are no latex restrictions at the meeting place.)

Cub Scouts stand in a line, holding their filled balloons shut with their fingers. The den leader or den chief stands in front and directs. The boys hum "The Blue Danube" while one or more of them releases a little air from his balloon to punctuate each phrase: "Duh-duh-duh-duh-duh" Blat-blat, blat-blat ... "Duh-duh-duh-duh-duh" Blat-blat, blat-blat, etc. To punctuate the end, break one balloon. Then have all the Cub Scouts take a bow. Try to keep a straight face!

Note: The boys can create a noisier air release if they lick the ends of their balloons just before the "song" begins. Make sure they hold on to the balloons to keep them from flying away during the performance. Obviously, the skit should be practiced several times in advance.

Cubmaster's Minute

STRIKE UP THE BAND

Tonight our Cub Scouts have demonstrated "Cheerful" by "Striking Up the Band" and having fun with music and musical things. What a wonderful world we could have if everyone tried to not only be cheerful, but to live by ALL the points of the Scout Law. Please keep them in your mind as you travel down the Cub Scout trail this month.

Closing Ceremony

THE SCOUT LAW—POINT 8

Cub #1: Tonight's pack meeting theme has been "Strike Up the Band" so we could think about "Cheerful"—the eighth point of the Scout Law.

Cub #2: Cheerful is something we should all try to be, and we should help other people be cheerful, too!

Cub #3: There are 11 other points of the Scout Law, and all are very important. Please stand and say the Scout Law with us.

Cub #4 makes the Cub Scout sign; then all the others make the sign.

Cub #4: A Scout is:

Cub #5 (*holds up poster showing the first three points*): Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful

Cub #6 (*holds up poster showing the next three*): Friendly, Courteous, Kind

Cub #7 (*holds up poster showing the next three*): Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty

Cub #8 (*holds up poster showing the last three*): Brave, Clean, and Reverent.

Cub #9 (*gives the command to return to attention*): Ready, TWO.

All the boys put down their signs.