



*Bear Den Meeting Plans*

## ***HELPFUL HINTS FOR THOSE LEADING A DEN MEETING:***

- É Your first den meeting will likely be each child's first Scouting experience.
- É In each den meeting plan in this booklet, you will see a section titled "Preparation and Materials Needed." Far in advance of each meeting, review this section and complete the preparation.
- É Refer to each adventure in the Bear Handbook for important information about the advancement activities in each meeting.
- É Arrive early at each den meeting to prepare and set up. The tone you set at the first meeting will determine, to a large extent, the success of your year. Be completely organized prior to the start of the meeting.
- É Wear your adult uniform.
- É Explain clearly to the Scouts what the behavioral expectations are and what the consequences will be. Be friendly but firm with the Scouts.
- É Ask your co-leader or parent helper to arrive at least 15 minutes before the meeting's start time. He or she can help you with final preparations before the Scouts arrive.
- É Having a snack at a den meeting is optional. If you choose to have a snack, plan the time for it so the meeting does not extend past the scheduled ending time. Be sure to ask parents and guardians about any food allergies their Scout has.
- É You may wish to email or distribute a parent information letter at the conclusion of each meeting. The letter informs parents what was completed at each meeting and provides information on upcoming den and pack meetings and activities. Parents appreciate good communication. Prepare the letter prior to each meeting.
- É Complete Youth Protection training and renew it every two years.

# **MEETING 1: ADVANCEMENT TO BE COMPLETED**

## **BOBCAT BADGE**

### **PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED**

- É Bear Handbook for each Scout
- É Poster or handout of the Scout Oath and Scout Law if not everyone has a handbook
- É U.S. flag
- É Flag stand (optional)
- É Den flag and stand (optional)
- É Brief icebreaker game, since this may be the first time the participants meet
- É First Aid kit for Den
- É Parent information letter (optional; see above)

### **FLAG CEREMONY**

*Choose the first Scout alphabetically to be your denner and carry the U.S. flag. The second Scout will be the denner for the next meeting and will carry the den flag today, if you choose to have a den flag. The third and fourth Scouts are the color guards. (At subsequent meetings, rotate through the Scouts alphabetically.) The remaining Scouts in the den and all adults form a reviewing line that the color guard passes on the way to the flag stands. The den leader can call the flag ceremony (see below) at the first few meetings until the Scouts learn how to do so. After the flags are posted, have all recite the Pledge of Allegiance and then read the Scout Oath and Scout Law from the backs of the handbooks.*

- É ðColor guard, advance.ð Scouts walk in unison with the flag(s) to the front of the room
- É ðColor guard, post the colors.ð Scouts place the flag(s) in the flag stand(s)
- É Recite the Pledge of Allegiance
- É Recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law
- É ðColor guard, dismissed.ð Scouts leading the flag ceremony join the other meeting participants and the meeting begins

### **OPENING CEREMONY**

Play an icebreaker game, unless all of the meeting participants know one another already. An example of an icebreaker is to have the den gather in a circle. Choose someone to begin the game (perhaps the person with the last name that starts closest to the letter ðZð and then work through the circle). Have that person say their name and then act out (pantomime) their favorite sport or hobby.

### **ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES**

- É Scouts will complete Bobcat requirements 1-6 (see the Bear Handbook). Remind the Scouts and their parents to complete Bobcat requirement 7 at home if it was not completed in this meeting

### **CLOSING**

- Clean up
- Hand out the parent information letter (optional)
- Invite the parents and guardians to participate in the next meeting

## ***MEETING 2: ADVANCEMENT TO BE COMPLETED***

### ***Forensics (Partial)***

#### ***PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED***

- É U.S. flag
- É Flag stand (optional)
- É Den flag and stand (optional)
- É Bear Handbook for each Scout
- É Den first aid kit
- É Printed copy of the Scout Law
- É Balloons, index cards, and washable ink
- É Chalk and dark-colored paper
- É Magnifying glass, salt, sugar, baking soda, cornstarch
- É Chart from Bear Handbook for recording the analysis



#### ***OPENING CEREMONY***

- Flag Ceremony (see Meeting 1)
- Recite the Pledge
- Recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law
- The Bear Went Over the Mountain song

#### ***GATHERING***

- The Detective Game

#### ***ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES***

- É Explain forensics and how it is used in the solving of crimes (1)
- É Discuss Fingerprints and perform the Fingerprint Analysis Activity (2)
- É Discuss Shoe Impressions and perform the coordinating activity

#### ***CLOSING***

- Clean up
- Hand out the parent information letter (optional)
- Provide information on possible den outing for next meeting
- Invite the parents and guardians to participate in the next meeting

## ***MEETING 3: ADVANCEMENT TO BE COMPLETED***

### ***Forensics***

#### ***PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED***

- É U.S. flag
- É Flag stand (optional)
- É Den flag and stand (optional)
- É Den first aid kit
- É Bear Handbook for each Scout
- É A bucket of checkers or similar items and instructions for each boy
- É Magnifying glass, chalk, salt, sugar, baking soda, cornstarch, black paper
- É Chart in the Bear Handbook for recording analysis
- É Organize an outing to a local police station or forensics lab, or as an alternative have a professional from one of those locations visit the den meeting as a guest

#### ***OPENING CEREMONY***

- Flag Ceremony (see Meeting 1)
- Recite the Pledge
- Recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law

#### ***GATHERING***

- Checker Puzzles

#### ***ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES***

- É Discuss the need for observation skills and perform the Powder Analysis (3b)
- É Travel to outing or allow professional to present (4a)

#### ***CLOSING***

- Clean up
- Hand out the parent information letter (optional)
- Invite the parents and guardians to participate in the next meeting

## ***MEETING 4: ADVANCEMENT TO BE COMPLETED***

### ***Bear Claws***

#### ***PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED***

- É U.S. flag
- É Flag stand (optional)
- É Den flag and stand (optional)
- É Den first aid kit
- É Bear Handbook for each Scout
- É Copies of the Knife Know-How Quiz; one for each child
- É Pens/pencils for quiz
- É Bean Bag or small stuffed animal (one for every two children)
- É One of each of the three knives from the Bear Handbook
- É Whittling Chip cards
- É Sharpening stones and old rag for wiping knife blades
- É Pocketknife for sharpening in Activity 1
- É Bars of soap or soft wood for carvings
- É Plastic knives with serrated edges for each boy



#### ***OPENING CEREMONY***

- Flag Ceremony (see Meeting 1)
- Recite the Pledge
- Recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law

#### ***GATHERING***

- Play the Group Juggle game
- Have the Scouts take the Knife Know-How Quiz

#### ***ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES***

- É Introduce the adventure and talk about the goals and activities that are planned
- É Review the Knife Know-How quiz and review knife safety rules
- É Present the three common pocketknives (1)
- É Present Whittling Chip cards to the Scouts (2)
- É Work on soap carvings (3)
- É If needed Bears should finish their two carving projects at home to complete requirement 3

#### ***CLOSING***

- Clean up
- Hand out the parent information letter (optional)
- Invite the parents and guardians to participate in the next meeting

## ***MEETING 5: ADVANCEMENT TO BE COMPLETED***

### ***Bear Necessities***

#### ***PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED***

- É U.S. flag
- É Flag stand (optional)
- É Den flag and stand (optional)
- É Den first aid kit
- É Bear Handbook for each Scout
- É Tent, ground cloth and stakes
- É Flying disc, softball, football or any type of throwing item
- É Small sized rope for knot tying
- É Thermometer
- É Barometer
- É Plans for daytime or overnight campout or outdoor activity (1)



#### ***OPENING CEREMONY***

- Flag Ceremony (see Meeting 1)
- Recite the Pledge
- Recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law
- Recite the Outdoor Code

#### ***GATHERING***

- 500 Game

#### ***ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES***

- É Introduce the adventure and build interest by describing the goals
- É Assemble a tent with the help of the Scouts (4)
- É Make list of items each Scout should take and a list of equipment the group should take on the chosen outing (2 & 3)
- É Demonstrate how to tie two half hitches and explain what the hitch is used for (5)
- É Demonstrate how to read a thermometer and a barometer

#### ***CLOSING***

- Clean up
- Invite the parents and guardians to participate in the next meeting

## ***MEETING 6: ADVANCEMENT TO BE COMPLETED***

### ***Fellowship and Duty to God***

#### ***PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED***

- É U.S. flag
- É Flag stand (optional)
- É Den flag and stand (optional)
- É Den first aid kit
- É Bear Handbook for each Scout
- É Four separate pieces of rope or yarn, at these lengths - 20 ft, 15 ft, 10 ft, and 5 ft



#### ***OPENING CEREMONY***

- Flag Ceremony (see Meeting 1)
- Recite the Pledge
- Recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law

#### ***GATHERING***

- All Together activity

#### ***ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES***

- É Discuss this adventure and explain how you do your duty to God in your daily life (1)
- É Explain that this adventure is mainly a Do-at-Home project and discuss items needed to complete the adventure

#### ***CLOSING***

- Clean up
- Hand out the parent information letter (optional) invite parents to participate in the next meeting



# ***MEETING 7: ADVANCEMENT TO BE COMPLETED***

## ***Fur, Feathers, & Ferns (Partial)***

### ***PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED***

- É U.S. flag
- É Flag stand (optional)
- É Den flag and stand (optional)
- É Den first aid kit
- É Bear Handbook for each Scout
- É Binoculars
- É Pictures of local animals, birds and plants
- É Live plant or leaves
- É Magnifying glass (enough for 1 per two Scouts)
- É Seeds or compostable material, cups, soil and water



### ***OPENING CEREMONY***

- Flag Ceremony (see Meeting 1)
- Recite the Pledge
- Recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law

### ***GATHERING***

- Have Scouts plant seeds or construct the ðcompost in a cupö (6 or 7)

### ***ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES***

- É Introduce the adventure and explain the goals
- É Explain binoculars and how to use them to observe nature from afar
- É Use magnifying glasses to observe plants or leaves and compare what is seen with the naked eye (5)

### ***CLOSING***

- Clean up
- Hand out the parent information letter (optional)
- Remind Scouts and parents of the Do-at-Home project - research extinct animals and to be ready to discuss at the following meeting
- Remind Scouts and parents to dress appropriately for the hike that will take place at the next meeting

## ***MEETING 8: ADVANCEMENT TO BE COMPLETED***

### ***Fur, Feathers, & Ferns***

#### ***PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED***

- É U.S. flag
- É Flag stand (optional)
- É Den flag and stand (optional)
- É Den first aid kit
- É Bear Handbook for each Scout
- É Essential Six for each Scout
- É Binoculars
- É Magnifying glasses (enough for 1 per two Scouts)
- É Paper and pencil for each Scout

#### ***OPENING CEREMONY***

- Flag Ceremony (see Meeting 1)
- Recite the Pledge
- Recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law
- Recite the Outdoor Code
- Recite the principles of Leave No Trace

#### ***GATHERING***

- Prepare the Scouts for a one mile hike with stretching
- Discuss last meetings Do-at-Home project about extinct and endangered animals

#### ***ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES***

- É Conduct a 1-mile hike through a neighborhood, park or other suitable location (1)
- É Look for animals that can be observed in most settings
- É Allow Scouts to use the binoculars for a better view and explain why watching from a distance might be preferable to getting closer (4)
- É Stop to examine items with the magnifying glasses (5)
- É Plan an additional outing to a zoo, wildlife refuge, or nature center if the schedule allows (2)

#### ***CLOSING***

- Clean up
- Invite Parents and guardians to participate in the next meeting and hand out information letter (optional)
- Have Scouts find a place of historical interest close to their community and prepare to share about it at the next meeting

# ***MEETING 9: ADVANCEMENT TO BE COMPLETED***

## ***Paws for Action (Partial)***

### ***PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED***

- É U.S. flag
- É Flag stand (optional)
- É Den flag and stand (optional)
- É Den first aid kit
- É Bear Handbook for each Scout
- É 3 x 5 cards and pencils for each Scout
- É Copies of a blank U.S. map for each Scout
- É Ideas for Community Clean up projects
- É Details for next weeks Go-See-It meeting at a Fire Station (3a)



### ***GATHERING***

- Have Bears write the names of as many states as possible on the blank U.S. map

### ***OPENING CEREMONY***

- Flag Ceremony (see Meeting 1)
- Recite the Pledge
- Recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law

### ***ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES***

- Learn about our nation's flag and have Scouts display one at home for 30 days (1)
- Discuss the Do-at-Home project, assigned last week, regarding historical places of interest (2b)
- Using 3x5 cards make a list of emergency numbers, discuss where it should be kept and how to call for help in an emergency. Discuss who could help if a parent or guardian is not available (3b)
- Plan a cleanup project that benefits your community and schedule a date to execute (4a)

### ***CLOSING***

- Clean up
- Hand out the parent information letter (optional)
- Invite the parents and guardians to participate in the next meeting

## ***MEETING 10: ADVANCEMENT TO BE COMPLETED***

### ***Paws for Action***

#### ***PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED***

- É Den first aid kit
- É Tour and activity plan (if required by local council practices), signed activity consent forms , and a copy of the *Guide to Safe Scouting*
- É Identify a lead person at the fire station who will give the den a tour and answer questions about what the team does and how team members work together

#### ***GATHERING***

- Remind Bears about behavior expectations while on the den outing
- Explain any rules or regulations for the outing

#### ***OPENING CEREMONY***

- Recite the Pledge of Allegiance and Scout Oath and Law. If there is not a United States flag, ask one Scout to display the flag on his uniform for the group
- Remind Bears that a Scout is courteous and that, as guests during the den outing, they will have a great opportunity to practice that part of the Scout Law

#### ***ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES***

- Fire Station Visit (3a)

#### ***CLOSING***

- Clean up
- Hand out parent information letter (optional)
- Invite the parents and guardians to participate in the next meeting
- Provide a thank you note to the Fire Station staff

# ***MEETING 11: ADVANCEMENT TO BE COMPLETED***

## ***Baloo the Builder (Partial)***

### ***PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED***

- É U.S. flag
- É Flag stand (optional)
- É Den flag and stand (optional)
- É Bear Handbook for each Scout
- É Den first aid kit
- É Samples of the hand tools referenced in the Bear Handbook
- É Scraps pieces of wood
- É Sample pieces of different types of wood (pictures can be used)
- É Safety glasses for each Scout



### ***GATHERING***

- Play the Akela Says game

### ***OPENING CEREMONY***

- Flag Ceremony (see Meeting 1)
- Recite the Pledge
- Recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law

### ***ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES***

- Demonstrate the best tools to have in your toolbox and how to safely use them (1)
- With adult supervision, have Bears practice using at least four of the tools demonstrated (1)
- Select, plan and define the materials for the projects you will complete in requirement 3 (2)

### ***CLOSING***

- Clean up
- Hand out the parent information letter (optional)
- Prepare Scouts and parents to wear work clothes instead of uniforms for the next meeting
- Invite the parents and guardians to participate in the next meeting

## ***MEETING 12: ADVANCEMENT TO BE COMPLETED***

### ***Baloo the Builder (Partial)***

#### ***PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED***

- É U.S. flag
- É Flag stand (optional)
- É Den flag and stand (optional)
- É Bear Handbook for each Scout
- É Den first aid kit
- É Two paper plates per Scout
- É Stapler
- É Tools and materials for projects. Enough for each Scout
- É Safety equipment for everyone participating in the activity
- É An alternate location such as a wood shop, garage, or trade school may be needed if the normal meeting space is not suitable for the planned projects

#### ***GATHERING***

- Build a ðFlying Saucerö and throw like a discus. Farthest throw wins.

#### ***OPENING CEREMONY***

- Flag Ceremony (see Meeting 1)
- Recite the Pledge
- Recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law

#### ***ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES***

- Quickly review the tool safety rules
- Building a project (3)
- If this first project is completed Scouts may begin working on the second project (3)

#### ***CLOSING***

- Clean up
- Hand out the parent information letter (optional)
- Invite the parents and guardians to participate in the next meeting

## ***MEETING 13: ADVANCEMENT TO BE COMPLETED***

### ***Baloo the Builder***

#### ***PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED***

- É U.S. flag
- É Flag stand (optional)
- É Den flag and stand (optional)
- É Bear Handbook for each Scout
- É Den first aid kit
- É Water based paint (several colors), stain, sealant
- É Old rags to apply the paint or stain
- É Paint brushes
- É Disposable breathing masks
- É Disposable gloves
- É Activities to keep Scouts occupied while waiting for their project to dry. Checkers, Crosswords, Word search etc

#### ***GATHERING***

- Play Red Light, Green Light

#### ***OPENING CEREMONY***

- Flag Ceremony (see Meeting 1)
- Recite the Pledge
- Recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law

#### ***ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES***

- Complete second project if not finished during the last meeting or at home (3)
- Apply paint, stain or sealant to one of the two projects (4)
- If needed use any additional time to help Scouts catch up on any previous adventures they may need to complete

#### ***CLOSING***

- Clean up
- Hand out the parent information letter (optional)
- Invite the parents and guardians to participate in the next meeting

# ***MEETING 14: CELEBRATION OF COMPLETING THE BEAR BADGE***

## ***PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED***

- É Invite parents and guardians to attend this meeting
- É Consider the need for a larger room for this meeting with appropriate seating for adults.
- É Prepare an appropriate ceremony for presenting the Bear badge to each Scout
- É U.S. Flag
- É Flag stand (optional)
- É Den flag and stand (optional)
- É Refreshments to be served to the parents and guardians after the program (optional)

## ***OPENING CEREMONY***

- Flag Ceremony (see Meeting1)
- Recite the Pledge
- Recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law
- Thank all guests for attending

## ***ACTIVITIES***

- Conduct a ceremony for awarding the Bear badge to each Scout