



# SEPTEMBER 2009

## ▶▶▶ Cub Scout Pockets

Webelos Activity Badges: **Citizen/Communicator**



What could be in a Cub Scout's pocket? It can tell a lot about who he is and what he likes. The boys can share their collections and start new ones! Put some marbles in the boys' pockets and teach them how to play the game of marbles. Pick one of their interests and go on a field trip to explore and learn about it. Take a trip to a rock quarry to search for fossils, or take a nature hike around the den meeting site to pick up collectible items. This is also a great month to educate the boys about what can go on their uniform

and then set goals for rank advancement, special awards, belt loops and pins, and involvement in camps and council events. This might be a good month to work on the Collecting or Marbles belt loop and pin (*Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide*, No. 34299).



### Pack Planning

Plan a pack collection show. Invite a special guest, arrange publicity, and award a patch or ribbon for participation to encourage involvement and collecting. Appoint committees:

**Membership Committee.** Coordinate plans for the pack adults' meeting and activities for all boys and siblings to enjoy. Be sure calendars of pack events for the year are ready to distribute.

**Decorations Committee.** Adorn the meeting area with different collections provided by pack members and collections solicited on behalf of the pack.

**Recognition Committee.** Prepare advancement recognitions and organize the showcase for current dens and new-boy programs.

**Refreshments Committee.** Have ingredients for pocket sandwiches to be served during fellowship time at the end of the meeting.

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

**Character Development.** As boys explore the many things that pockets can hold, they also explore the values that lead to the best kind of character.

**Fun and Adventure.** Boys experience fun and adventure as they explore the idea of what could be found in a pocket.

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

**Compassion.** Exploring what's in a pocket may bring an appreciation of what might be missing from the pockets of others.

**Honesty.** Practicing honesty helps a boy learn to be honest in all aspects of his life.



### Membership Moment

Have boys invite someone to the pack meeting who was unable to attend your fall recruiting event. Present each family with a pocket-shaped packet that includes an application form and information, such as your pack calendar, for the coming year.



### Pack Meeting

#### BEFORE THE MEETING

Plan to set up with plenty of time to spare so you can start the meeting on time. Include in your setup a table for displaying boys' collections. Decorate for the Cub Scout Pockets theme by using enlarged pictures of items that represent collections: coins, rocks, miniature cars, etc. Display Cub Scouting literature for any new parents or prospective Cub Scout families to review.

Assign a den or several pack leaders to serve as a welcoming committee. Pay special attention to new members of the pack to make them feel comfortable and welcome. Provide name tags shaped

like pockets. Encourage all adult pack members to complete Family Talent Survey forms.

#### GATHERING

As families arrive, direct Cub Scouts to the display of collections and den projects. A second area away from the displays can be set up for an easy-joiner game.

#### MAIN PART OF THE MEETING

##### Opening

Use the Candlelight or the Apron Pockets opening ceremony (page 9). Or select a different ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

##### Prayer

A preselected Cub Scout comes forward. Before delivering the prayer, invite audience members

to prepare for prayer in their personal custom. Deliver the Thanks for Smiles prayer (page 9).

##### Icebreaker

A preselected den leads the Pockets cheer (page 10).

##### Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster welcomes everyone to the September pack meeting. Introduce the current pack leaders with a brief explanation of their roles. Explain the plans for the pack adults' meeting.

##### Song

The pack song leader leads in singing "Do Your Best" (page 9).

##### Pack Adults' Meeting

Parents and adults are taken to a separate room (if possible) and given an orientation to Cub

Scouting and an overview of the pack's plans and needs for the coming year.

### Cub Scout Activities

During the pack adults' meeting, engage the Cub Scouts in making neckerchief slides or other suggested activities. Boys practice the Cub Scout Rap (page 9) to perform later.

### Den Demonstrations

Cub Scouts show the neckerchief slides they made and perform the Cub Scout Rap (page 10) for parents. Encourage dens to contribute or share games, songs, or information from their den meetings. Reports reviewing Cub Scout resident camp and Cub Scout day camp experiences may precede the awarding of National Summertime Pack Award pins.

### Recognition

Welcome new Tiger Cubs and their adult partners. Use the Pocket advancement ceremony (page 10) or use a different ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*. Conduct the family induction ceremony (page 10).

### Announcements

A pack newsletter creates good lines of communication between pack leaders and families. Distribute a paper copy of the newsletter this month so all pack members have the yearly calendar of activities. Highlight any money-earning projects and Good Turn opportunities.

A leader dressed in safari gear (pith helmet, khaki clothing, etc.) shares plans for the safari-themed pack meeting next month. Highlight the date, time, and location.

### Cubmaster's Minute

The Cubmaster shares the Cubmaster's Minute: My Pocket of Treasures (page 10).

### Closing

Ask boys and parents who want to join the pack but haven't registered to stay after the meeting. Remind parents to turn in their Family Talent Survey forms. Conduct the Pockets closing ceremony (page 10).



## Cubmaster Corner

### Many Types of Families

Cub Scouting is a program for boys, yes. It's also a program for the family. Cubmasters need to be aware that a boy's family might not have one mom, one dad. Families may be more oriented to the custodial parent, grandparent, or foster parents. Everyone will appreciate your being aware of the family makeup of boys in the pack and formulating appropriate ways of parental involvement in recognition ceremonies.



## Ceremonies, Games, Songs, Stunts

### OPENING CEREMONY: CANDLELIGHT

**Personnel:** Narrator, four adult leaders (two leaders and two parents)

**Equipment:** Flashlight; four large candles, each with a paper cupcake pan liner to keep hot wax off the holder's hand and the floor (use battery-powered candles if lit candles are prohibited in your meeting place)

**Preparation:** Turn off room lights. The narrator uses the flashlight to read his or her lines.

**NARRATOR:** A boy who wants to join a Cub Scout pack is like a boy in the dark. He can't do it by himself. But wait! Here's a light in the darkness. *(The first adult leader lights a candle.)* And here's another! *(The second leader lights a candle.)*

Now we have a couple of leaders, and it's getting brighter. But not bright enough, because we need parents' help, too. There! I see a parent's light! *(The third leader lights a candle.)* And now another parent! *(The fourth leader lights a candle.)*

Now we can see clearly. It takes all of us to shine our light to make a brighter day for boys.

### OPENING CEREMONY: APRON POCKETS

**Personnel:** Cubmaster and den leader (wearing an apron with several pockets)

**Equipment:** Prepared strips of red, white, and blue paper; small U.S. flag

**CUBMASTER:** This month our theme is "pockets." Many things can be put in pockets. As parents, you find things that you might not want to find. Sometimes there are bugs and creepy things, and assignments from school or from den meetings that can bring a tear to the eye.

Den leaders have many things in their pockets, too—markers or scissors to finish that craft project, a tissue to wipe a tear, an adhesive bandage to fix a hurt knee. We also can add things to their pockets—a little red in this pocket *(put strips of red paper into the den leader's pocket)*, a little white in this pocket *(put white strips into another pocket)*, and some blue in this pocket *(put blue strips into another pocket)*. Then we tap each pocket three times *(tap pockets)* and what do we find? *(Pull small flag from one of the pockets.)* The flag of the United States of America. Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### PRAYER: THANKS FOR SMILES

We give thanks for the greatest collection that is on display tonight at our pack meeting—the collection of beautiful smiles on the faces of all our family members. We have many things to smile about, and we give thanks for our country, our freedom, and our families. Amen.

### SONG: DO YOUR BEST

**Tune:** "Frère Jacques"

Share with others, share with others.

Do your best, do your best.

Live the Cub Scout Promise,

Do a Good Turn daily.

Cub Scouts rule! Cub Scouts rule!

### PACK ADULTS' MEETING

Use this meeting to orient new adult members of the pack to the workings of Cub Scouting, how they can be involved, and pack operations. For an outline and ideas, see the *Cub Scout Leader Book*, chapter 24.

### CUB SCOUT ACTIVITIES

During the pack adults' meeting, experienced den leaders and den chiefs lead boys in activities. Choose simple activities in which boys can create something to take home with them (see the

*Cub Scout Leader How-To Book* for simple neckerchief slides, games, and puzzles to create). Boys may also learn a rap song or skit to perform for the adults when they return from their meeting.

## **SONG: CUB SCOUT RAP**

Promises, promises are what we say,  
To tell other people how we live each day.  
Starting as a Bobcat, we do a Good Turn;  
It's just the start of what we learn.  
Leaders like Akela show us the way  
To do things right in work and play.

The main idea is to "do our best,"  
Building birdhouses or takin' a test.  
Making promises to God that come from the heart;  
Living up to them shows others we're smart.  
Scouting offers us so much to do,  
Keeping all its promises to me and you.

## **ADVANCEMENT CEREMONY: POCKET**

*Preparation:* Precut pocket shapes from different colors of poster board. Put the pocket shapes across the wall of the meeting room. Glue an oversize envelope to the back of each pocket to hold the advancement awards that are to be handed out. Retrieve the awards from the envelopes for presentation to boys.

CUBMASTER: As we all know, most boys begin their collections in their pockets. Here is a pocket—it's a plain pocket, not very interesting, and it could belong to anyone. But wait—let's give this pocket to a Cub Scout.

*(Den leader places Bobcat badge on pocket.)* Our pocket is turning into something with meaning. It represents a sense of belonging and will soon bring knowledge, skills, fun, and good fellowship to our Cub Scout. We would like to present the following boys their Bobcat badge. *(Call boys and parents forward.)*

*(Den leader places Tiger Cub badge on pocket.)* Now our pocket has more color added. It displays the symbol of a boy working with an adult partner for fun and learning. We would like to present the following boys their Tiger Cub badge. *(Call boys and parents forward.)*

*(Den leader places Wolf badge and Arrow Points on pocket.)* With the Wolf badge, our pocket turns into something even more special. It proudly displays the first symbol of newfound knowledge of the flag, of keeping strong, of tools, of knots, of safety, of books and reading. It means our Cub Scout has mastered feats of skill. *(Call the Wolf Cub Scouts and their parents forward.)*

*(Den leader places Bear badge and Arrow Points on pocket.)* Adding the Bear badge has increased our pocket's meaning even more. It shows our Cub Scout is completing increasingly difficult achievements. He is growing in knowledge and skill. *(Call the Bear Cub Scouts and their parents forward.)*

*(Den leader places Webelos badge and Arrow of Light Award on pocket.)* Our pocket now displays the Webelos badge and the Arrow of Light Award, the highest awards our Cub Scouts can earn. To receive these awards, our Cub Scouts must dedicate themselves to the hard work necessary to earn the required number of activity badges and prove themselves ready to join the ranks of Boy Scouts. Tonight we wish to recognize these boys who have earned Webelos activity badges. Will the following boys and their parents please come forward?

Our pocket is very special now. It is rich with new possibilities. It opens up a whole new world of challenges. Cub Scouting has taken our plain pocket and turned it into a pocketful of adventure, fun, and excitement. Congratulations to all you boys and your parents on your achievements.

## **CEREMONY: FAMILY INDUCTION**

*Personnel:* Cubmaster, pack committee chair, four pack leaders

*Equipment:* Four candles (can be battery-powered) with candleholders

*Arrangement:* Pack leaders stand on one side of candles; new boys and their parents stand on the other side.

CUBMASTER *(to parents):* We welcome you and your son to Cub Scout Pack \_\_\_\_\_. Much of the success of Cub Scouting depends on a boy's family support. We want Cub Scouting to be successful in your son's life. As leaders of our pack light these candles, we offer you these challenges.

FIRST LEADER *(lights candle):* Learn to have a lot of fun with your boy. Encourage and help him with his achievements. Help him progress regularly through the adventures of Cub Scouts and one day into Boy Scouts.

SECOND LEADER *(lights candle):* Learn to live together better ... as Cub Scouts, in a den, as families, in neighborhoods, and as a nation.

THIRD LEADER *(lights candle):* Practice the Cub Scouting principles of participation, recognition, and security, and move with your son into Boy Scouts upon his transition from Cub Scouts.

FOURTH LEADER *(lights candle):* Extend and strengthen the influence of Scouting on boys, parents, and the community.

COMMITTEE CHAIR: We welcome you and your family into our pack. Good luck and good Scouting with your son.

## **CUBMASTER'S MINUTE: MY POCKET OF TREASURES**

*(Cubmaster pulls out a collection of "stuff" from his or her pockets. Explain why these items are carried and how they help the owner to be prepared for emergencies. Conclude with the following:)*

Everything a boy collects in his pockets or elsewhere is important to him, just as he and his family are important to our pack. We have to work together to be successful. If our pack is successful, all of us will feel good about ourselves and each other. Let's remember to be prepared—by what we carry in our pockets, and with the people we have in our lives who help us succeed!

## **CLOSING CEREMONY: POCKETS**

*Personnel:* Seven Cub Scouts

*Equipment:* Cards with letters that spell P-O-C-K-E-T-S

Each boy holds up his card as he speaks his line:

**P** is for *pack*—which brings us all monthly fun and excitement.

**O** is for *our*—our families give us support in all we do.

**C** is for *Cub Scouts*—our den friends are special friends.

**K** is for *keep*—we always keep doing our best.

**E** is for *everyone*—everyone is welcome to join the fun of Cub Scouting.

**T** is for *terrific*—you'll agree the games and projects we do *are* terrific.

**S** is for *Scouting*—and starting a new year with new Cub Scout friends.

ALL: Welcome to Pack \_\_\_\_\_!

## **CHEER: POCKETS**

Divide the group in half. As boys point to the first group, that side shouts its letters one at a time: P-O-C. Boys then point to the second group, which shouts its letters one at a time: K-E-T-S. Then boys ask the whole group: "What does that spell?" Both sides answer: "Pockets!"

## September Pack Program Page: Cub Scout Pockets

### ACADEMICS AND SPORTS PROGRAM

#### Cub Scout Academics

**Collecting.** Boys love to collect things. This month they can earn the Collecting belt loop and pin as they begin collecting marbles, stamps, coins, leaves, books, or anything they're interested in.

**Marbles.** Cub Scouts will have fun learning to play games with the marbles they've been collecting. Encourage them to earn the Marbles belt loop and pin.

#### Cub Scout Sports

**Soccer.** Soccer is a great fall activity for Cub Scouts. As they learn to play the game, they can apply their skills to earn the Soccer belt loop and pin.

### DID YOU KNOW?

#### Family Involvement

Cub Scouts need good pack leaders. They also need family support. Cub Scouting is a family program. Families can be involved by working with their Cub Scout on advancement at home, providing ways for their Cub Scout to earn money for den dues, helping at den meetings when needed, providing transportation, attending pack meetings, and presenting advancement awards to their Cub Scout at pack meetings.

Leaders understand that it is the responsibility of the parents and family to teach their children. Leaders should encourage family involvement throughout a Cub Scout's advancement.

### GOOD TURN FOR AMERICA

As noted in the *Boy Scout Handbook*: "To people who know about Scouting, the daily Good Turn is one of the finest features of our movement." The record of Good Turns, small and large, that Scouts have done since the day Scouting was founded is truly impressive. Do a Good Turn by collecting litter, salvaging used books for setting up libraries for children or adults in a residential situation, or collecting coats and mittens to donate to a homeless shelter before the colder weather ahead.

### BSA RESOURCES HIGHLIGHT

**National Council Web site:** [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org).

Adult leaders, families, and Cub Scouts will find answers to their questions at the national Boy Scouts of America Web site. Families learn what their role is, get answers to frequently asked questions, and learn the correct placement of insignia. Leaders find program support and information, including downloadable forms. This is also the place to hear Cubcasts with ideas on using the monthly theme and updated program ideas for a well-run den and pack.

### PACK LEADERS' PLANNING MEETING

The pack leaders meet a week or two before the pack meeting to finalize plans for September and develop plans for October's safari-themed pack meeting.

- Review the pack adults' meeting information from the *Cub Scout Leader Book*. Share preparation assignments among leaders.
- Have a newsletter and/or calendars for distribution.
- Be sure the paperwork for the National Summertime Pack Award has been submitted in a timely manner so the award can be presented this month to the boys who have earned it and the ribbon award added to the pack flag.
- Conduct Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 9, Pack Budget Plan, to prepare for a year of fiscally sound Cub Scouting activities. Or choose a different topic that best meets your pack's needs. See the current *Cub Scout Leader Book* for detailed outlines. Select a topic for next month's discussion.

### LOOKING AHEAD

Webelos Scouts need interaction with local Boy Scout troops. See that Webelos den leaders maintain contact with one or more nearby troops so that Webelos Scouts may visit troop meetings and activities and make an informed selection of which troop to join.

### PACK TRAINER HIGHLIGHTS

Be sure all records for returning leaders are up to date. If there is a change of position, remind leaders to be trained in their current positions. Be prepared with the dates of local Cub Scout Leader Position-Specific Training courses in your district. Emphasize that training is an ongoing and essential part of Cub Scout leadership. Prepare a list of additional training opportunities: pow wow, University of Scouting, leader roundtables, Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO), Outdoor Leader Skills for Webelos Leaders, and Wood Badge.

### SPECIAL: MEMBERSHIP PREPARATIONS

- Be sure key leadership positions are filled. Be prepared to present information at the pack meeting to encourage new members to take meaningful roles.
- Recruit a newsletter editor. Provide information to pack families through the newsletter and refer to that information during announcements at the pack meetings.
- Recruit a leader to fill the pack trainer position.
- Have plenty of membership applications available at this month's meeting to follow up on your successful recruiting event.
- Follow up on Family Talent Survey Sheets completed by pack members. This tool will provide resource information on all pack adults.



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### TIGER CUB DEN MEETINGS

Each Tiger Cub and his adult partner should attend all meetings as a team. Dens may meet in the evening or on weekends.

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 the equipment needed.</p>				
<b>BEFORE THE MEETING STARTS</b>	Have U.S. flag, paper, pencils, and materials for Pocket Scrapbook ( <b>Achievement 1D</b> ).	Have U.S. flag. Have supplies for Pita Pocket snack and paper plates for Paper Plate Shuffle game.	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>				
<b>GATHERING</b>	Do the What's in Your Pocket? activity.	Tiger Cub adult partners assist their Tiger Cubs in learning the Law of the Pack ( <b>Bobcat Trail 2</b> ).	<p>Take a Go See It to a newspaper office or radio station (<b>Achievement 4G</b>)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Take a Go See It to a museum and see a collection of interest.</p> <p>At the end of the trip, lead a reflecting discussion with boys and adult partners about their outing.</p> <p>A Tiger Cub Immediate Recognition bead may be presented for participation and completion of <b>Achievement 4G</b>.</p> <p>If pictures were taken at the Go See It, they can be put in the Tiger Cubs' new Pocket Scrapbooks.</p>	<p>Participate in the monthly pack meeting by displaying Cub Scout Pocket Scrapbooks and sharing information about the den's Go See It.</p> <p>Tiger Cubs and adult partners sign the thank-you note.</p>
<b>OPENING</b>	Demonstrate the Cub Scout salute ( <b>Bobcat Trail 7</b> ). Using the Cub Scout salute, say the Pledge of Allegiance as a repeat-after-me ( <b>Achievement 2D</b> ).	Using the Cub Scout salute, say the Pledge of Allegiance. Using the Cub Scout sign, say the Cub Scout motto ( <b>Bobcat Trail 4, 6, and 7</b> ).		
<b>SHARE</b>	Review the Pocket activity. Each boy shares one item from his pocket and tells what it means to him. Repeat the activity with his adult partner sharing something from his or her pocket.	Tiger Cubs show their collections and tell why they collect the items, how they take care of them, and how they display them ( <b>Elective 16</b> ).		
<b>DISCOVER</b>	Make a Cub Scout Pocket Scrapbook ( <b>Achievement 1D</b> ).	Make and enjoy Pita Pocket snacks. Play Paper Plate Shuffle.		
<b>SEARCH</b>	Plan the month's Go See It to a newspaper office or radio station ( <b>Achievement 4G</b> ). Ask the boys to bring a collection to the next meeting.	Review details for the Go See It. Discuss what the boys can expect to see on the outing and what behaviors are expected.		
<b>CLOSING</b>	Review the Cub Scout sign and what it means. Practice the Cub Scout sign and review the Cub Scout motto ( <b>Bobcat Trail 4 and 6</b> ).	Teach the Cub Scout Promise. Have Tiger Cubs say the Promise while practicing the Cub Scout sign ( <b>Bobcat Trail 1 and 4</b> ).		
<p>This week'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>				
<b>AFTER THE MEETING</b>	Den leader files local tour permit with local council service center for Go See It outing.	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 thank-you note.
<p>ADULT PARTNER RECORDS ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES DONE DURING THE DEN MEETINGS IN THE TIGER CUB'S HANDBOOK.</p>				

## Advancement possibilities highlighted this month: *Bobcat Trail 1, 2, 4, 6, 7; Achievements 1D, 2D, 4G; Elective 16*

This month the Tiger Cub den may be meeting for the first time, and Tiger Cubs may not know the other boys in their den. It's important to encourage the boys to get to know each other by doing activities that give everyone an opportunity to talk, share, and interact. The boys will share what is in their pockets as well as a favorite collection; what someone collects can often tell a lot about the person and can help form new friendships. The Cub Scout Pocket Scrapbook that the boys make this month can be used to collect their memories and advancements as they progress through Cub Scouting and into Boy Scouting. Pictures and handouts from the Go See It will make a good start to filling the scrapbook.

### WHAT'S IN YOUR POCKET?

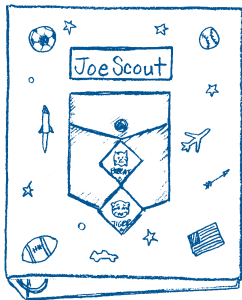
*Materials:* Paper, pencils or pens

Have boys remove everything from their pockets. Make sure they get everything from all of their pockets: pants and shirt, front and back—put it all on a table. With the aid of their adult partner, write down the name of each item. Who has the most in his pockets? Who has the least in his pockets? Who has the most interesting thing in his pocket? Boys will share information from this activity later in the den meeting.

### CUB SCOUT POCKET SCRAPBOOK

*(Achievement 1D)*

*Materials:* Three-ring binder or folder, blue craft foam or felt, cardstock, black button, rank emblem stickers (from the BSA or computer clipart) sized to fit the pocket, stickers representing things the boys like to do, markers, paint pen, glue or low-temperature glue gun



From craft foam, cut a pocket and flap that is approximately the size of the Cub Scout's uniform pocket. Attach pocket flap to pocket, matching sides and tops. Glue a black button to the pocket flap. Attach the pocket to the front of the binder.

Using a paint pen, put the boy's name on a cardstock tag the width of the pocket and about 1½ inches high. Attach 1 inch above the pocket. Have each Tiger Cub decorate the front and back of his scrapbook with stickers and markers, drawing and attaching items that symbolize things unique to the Tiger Cub.

As the boys advance, they can add the rank emblem sticker to the appropriate place on the pocket on the front of the scrapbook. For inside the scrapbook, they can make a pocket from two pieces of cardstock, one piece half the height of the other, glued around the sides and bottom; the top is left open for storing items to be attached to the scrapbook pages when time allows or for storing items that cannot be attached to pages. Punch three holes in the side of the pocket so it can be put into the binder. Boys can continue to add to this scrapbook as Cub Scouts and through their Boy Scout years.

Hint: On the front of the binder or folder, attach the pocket only on the sides and bottom, leaving the top open. Slide paper rank-advancement emblems into the pocket; remove and attach them to the pocket as the Cub Scout earns them.

Elective 18: The pocket on the front of the scrapbook can be made from blue felt or cardstock instead of craft foam. If you use felt, you may also teach the Tiger Cubs how to sew a button onto the pocket flap.

### SNACK: PITA POCKET

*Ingredients:* Pita bread cut in half crosswise, fruit-flavored cream cheese, fresh or well-drained canned fruit (bananas, mandarin orange segments, apples, berries), or dried fruit cut into bite-size pieces



*Be sure to find out about allergies before preparing any snack.*

Help Tiger Cubs gently open the pita bread, leaving the bottom closed so there is a pocket to hold the filling. While the adult partner gently holds the pocket open, the Tiger Cub uses a butter knife to spread cream cheese inside, on one half of the opened bread. Put in a few slices of fruit in a single layer inside the pocket. Hold the pocket shut and enjoy one bite at a time!

### MAKE YOUR OWN MARBLES

*Materials:* Baking or self-hardening clay in several colors (available at craft stores)

Roll a small piece of clay into a ball; use two or three colors to create multicolored marbles. Each boy should make 10 small marbles and one larger marble. Bake the clay according to package directions. Play marbles during the next den meeting.

### GAME: PAPER PLATE SHUFFLE

*Materials:* One paper plate for each Tiger Cub, one for each adult partner, and one extra for each team

Divide the group into equal teams. Each person gets one paper plate; each team gets one additional plate. Set up a start line and a finish line.

The goal is to move from start to finish by stepping only on the paper plates. The most effective way is to move forward in single file. Each person stands on his or her paper plate. The last person passes the extra plate quickly up the line to the first person, who puts it on the ground. Then the team may move forward one step (one plate). Players must always stay on the plates.



*Extra Time During a Meeting?*

*Discuss how the Cub Scout Promise is a foundation of Cub Scouting. See the Cub Scout Leader Book for additional ideas.*



### WOLF CUB DEN MEETINGS

*Dens may meet after school, in the evening, or on weekends. Review theme pages before planning den meetings.*

WHEN	FIRST WEEK	SECOND WEEK	THIRD WEEK	FOURTH WEEK
Den leader, den chief, and denner review plans before each meeting and check equipment needed.				
<b>BEFORE THE MEETING STARTS</b>	Prepare phone number list. Prepare items for What's in the Pocket? game. Have ingredients for Edible Marbles.	Prepare materials for Street Safety game. Gather materials for Marble Sharpshooter ( <b>Elective 4b</b> ). Have on display different ideas for organizing collections.	Call the destination of your outing to confirm arrangements, times, fees, etc.	Denner writes thank-you to last week's destination. Have items to play marbles and Marble Chop Suey ( <i>Cub Scout Leader How-To Book</i> ). Gather items for Treasure Box.
Den leader collects dues.				
<b>GATHERING</b>	Den chief practices <b>Bobcat Trail 3, 4, and 7</b> with new den members. Pair up members from last year with new den members.	Collect permission slips. Play Marble Sharpshooter ( <b>Elective 4b</b> ).		Boys sign thank-you note or card. Den chief helps boys play Marble Chop Suey ( <i>Cub Scout Leader How-To Book</i> ).
<b>OPENING</b>	Play Marble Sharpshooter ( <b>Elective 4b</b> ).	Using the Cub Scout salute, say the Pledge of Allegiance. Using the Cub Scout sign, say the Cub Scout motto ( <b>Bobcat Trail 4, 6, and 7</b> ).		Boys stand and recite the Cub Scout motto and Law of the Pack.
Den leader checks boys' handbooks for completed achievements and electives and records them on Den Advancement Chart. Boys record own advancement on den doodle, if den has one.				
<b>BUSINESS ITEMS</b>	Introduce this month's theme and collections. Ask boys what kinds of things they collect and what they think would be a good item to collect ( <b>Achievement 6b</b> ). Announce that boys will show collections in three weeks.	Discuss plans for the pack meeting. Boys share information about their collections. Encourage all boys to begin a collection if they haven't already decided on something. Discuss various ways to organize the collections.	Take a den field trip to a museum, library, private home, or other location that features a collection.	Boys show their collections ( <b>Achievement 6c</b> ). Discuss the field trip and write thank-you notes. Review the den's preparation for the pack meeting.
<b>ACTIVITY</b>	Make Phone Number List ( <b>Achievement 4a</b> ). Make Edible Marbles. Play What's in the Pocket?	Finish Phone Number List. Play the Street Safety game ( <b>Achievement 9d</b> ).	At the end of the trip, lead a reflecting discussion with the boys about their outing.	Discuss with the den the choices presented in <b>Achievement 12d</b> . Show a collection of marbles and play a game of marbles ( <b>Elective 4e</b> ). Make a Treasure Box.
<b>CLOSING</b>	Remind boys to bring their phone number list back next week. Recite the Law of the Pack. Send home permission slips for outing on THIRD WEEK.	Review plans for the field trip. Den leader presents a closing thought on the core value of compassion.		Encourage boys to bring friends to join the pack. Form a Living Circle, give the Cub Scout sign, and recite the Cub Scout Promise.
Denner supervises putting away equipment. Den leader, den chief, and denner review the meeting and check details for the next meeting.				
<b>AFTER THE MEETING</b>	Den leader files local tour permit with council service center for outing planned for THIRD WEEK.		Den leader fills out advancement report for the pack leaders' meeting.	Den leader mails thank-you note.
ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO RECORD ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES DONE DURING THE DEN MEETINGS IN THE CUB SCOUT'S HANDBOOK.				

**Advancement possibilities highlighted this month: Achievements 4a, 4b, 4e, 6b, 6c, 9d, 12d; Bobcat requirements 1, 2, 3, 4, 7**

Pockets contain many special things—items from the boys' collections, maybe; or important phone numbers, or a note home. Pockets, like boys, have special qualities. This is a good month to start exploring both. Get a good start on the year and encourage new Cub Scouts to complete their Bobcat requirements. The boys can work together. Pair those who have achieved the Bobcat rank with those who have not. Additional achievements are completed in the den; encourage boys to share with their parents when they return home.

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

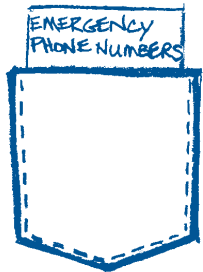
- **Achievement 10**, Family Fun: Families may enjoy working on a collection together. Gather leaves or rocks on a walk; collect postcards or brochures from places you visit.
- **Elective 4**, Play a Game: Marbles is a game you can carry in your pocket.

## PHONE NUMBER LIST

### (Achievement 4a)

*Week 1.* Ahead of time, prepare a list of local emergency numbers. Make places for boys to insert phone numbers that apply to their family. Copy the list for boys to take home and fill in the blanks.

*Week 2.* From a sheet of craft foam, cut a pocket shape (slightly smaller than the uniform shirt pocket). Glue only the bottom and sides of this pocket shape onto a second craft foam sheet. Use felt markers to create the "stitching" on this pocket. Boys



slide their phone list inside the pocket.

## WHAT SHOULD A CUB SCOUT DO?

### (Achievement 12d)

Gather Cub Scouts in a circle or around a table; make it a comfortable setting. Present the idea that there is a new boy at school who walks using crutches. Lead a discussion for boys to examine their perceptions of another individual who deals with a challenge. Den leaders may modify the central point of this discussion to reflect a specific challenge facing a boy or girl at the Cub Scout's school or church.

## GAMES

### What's in the Pocket?

Collect about 15 nature items such as pinecones, nuts, and shells; place each in a small paper sack. Pass the sacks around a circle and let the boys try to identify the object by feeling the bag, without opening or looking into the bag.

## Street Safety

### (Achievement 9d)

Prepare two sets of paper strips with the rules for street safety shown in the Wolf Handbook, Achievement 9d. Leave blanks in the rules; for example, "Don't \_\_\_\_\_ in the street" and "Wear your \_\_\_\_\_ while riding in a vehicle." Place one set of strips into a paper bag folded like a pocket; put the second set of strips into another, identical bag. The den leader monitors the bags.

Form two teams. Boys begin at a starting line 10 feet from the bags. On signal, each boy runs to his team's bag, pulls out a strip, and whispers the answer to the den leader or assistant den leader. If his answer is correct, the boy keeps the paper; if he answers incorrectly, he puts the strip back into the bag. Either way, the Cub Scout then runs to the starting line and tags the next boy in his team. A team wins when it has correctly answered and collected all the paper strips in its bag.

## IDEAS FOR ORGANIZING COLLECTIONS

Explore the world of collections. Many things beyond stamps, coins, and toys can be collected. Boys will find there are many ways to display items that are special to them:

- Use painted egg cartons to hold rocks, marbles, or similar objects.
- A felt banner with dowels at the top and bottom makes a great display for pins or patches.
- Glue items onto foam meat trays and cover with plastic wrap.
- Use scrapbooks to keep and preserve Cub Scout items, photographs, brochures, or postcards from places visited on field trips.

## TREASURE BOX

*Materials:* Small wooden box or metal or plastic canister, acrylic paints, paintbrushes, sealer; stickers of boys' favorite collectibles, wrappers from baseball card packages, or colorful advertisements for decorations

Paint the container with acrylic paints, letting the paint dry between coats. (To speed things up, use a handheld blow-dryer to dry paints.) Finish with a coat of acrylic sealer. Cut logos, slogans, and pictures from baseball card wrappers or advertisements and glue them to the container. The decorated treasure box may be finished with another coat of sealer.

## SONG: POCKET SONG

*Tune:* "Good Night, Ladies"

I've got a pocket,  
You've a pocket,  
We've got pockets,  
To show our Cub Scout fun.  
Earning badges,  
Earning pins,  
Earning everything—  
Cub Scouting's lots of fun.

## SNACK: EDIBLE MARBLES

*Ingredients:* One package each: chocolate sandwich cookies with vanilla filling (regular size), 8-ounce cream cheese (softened), white chocolate chips

Put entire package of cookies into a large resealable plastic bag; crush cookies. To mix the softened (room-temperature) cream cheese into the crushed cookies, drop the cheese into the bag and knead. Form mixture into balls, about ½ inch; put balls in freezer to harden slightly. Melt white chocolate chips in double boiler. Remove balls from freezer, place on wax paper, and drizzle with melted chocolate. Enjoy, or refrigerate for later.



# SEPTEMBER 2009

## ▶▶▶ Cub Scout Pockets

### BEAR CUB DEN MEETINGS

*Dens may meet after school, in the evening, or on weekends. Review theme pages before planning den meetings.*

WHEN	FIRST WEEK	SECOND WEEK	THIRD WEEK	FOURTH WEEK
Den leader, den chief, and denner review plans before each meeting and check equipment needed.				
<b>BEFORE THE MEETING STARTS</b>	Have materials for Pocket neckerchief slides.	Have U.S. flag and supplies to make Pocket Snacks.	Call the destination of your outing to confirm arrangements, times, fees, etc.	Denner writes thank-you to last week's destination. Have supplies to make cookies ( <b>Achievement 9a</b> ) and supplies to make a den scrapbook ( <b>Achievement 8c</b> ).
Den leader collects dues.				
<b>GATHERING</b>	Practice requirements <b>1–7 on the Bobcat Trail</b> . Pair new boys with boys who have earned their Bobcat badge.	Collect permission slips. Pair up the boys and do the two-person contests in <b>Achievement 16b</b> .	Collect permission slips.	Boys sign thank-you note or card. Den chief reviews the procedures for a flag ceremony.
<b>OPENING</b>	Form a semicircle around the flag and recite the Cub Scout Promise ( <b>Bobcat Trail 1</b> ).	Do the Bobcat Trail ceremony.		Den members share in creating a flag ceremony ( <b>Achievement 3f</b> ).
Den leader checks boys' handbooks for completed achievements and electives and records them on Den Advancement Chart. Boys record own advancement on den doodle, if den has one.				
<b>BUSINESS ITEMS</b>	Discuss the theme for the month. Ask if boys collect things. Use that information to select a specific location for the trip in two weeks.	Review <b>Achievement 11c</b> —what to do in a school bus accident.	Based on the boys' interests, take a field trip to a natural history museum.  A trip to your local post office will serve to inform boys of the stamp collecting information available there ( <b>Elective 22a</b> ).  At the end of the trip, lead a reflecting discussion with boys about their outing.	Practice the material the den will present as a part of the pack meeting.
<b>ACTIVITY</b>	Make Pocket neckerchief slides. Play Snap the Pocket.	Finish additional two-person contests as needed to complete <b>Achievement 16b</b> . Make Pocket Snacks ( <b>Achievement 9b</b> ).		Create a den scrapbook ( <b>Achievement 8c</b> ).  Bake cookies ( <b>Achievement 9a</b> ).
<b>CLOSING</b>	Say the Law of the Pack. Send home permission slips for outing on THIRD WEEK.	Boys give the den leader the Cub Scout salute as they leave the meeting area.		Boys who participated in the flag ceremony now retire the flag. Sing "Taps" as the meeting ends ( <i>Cub Scout Songbook</i> ).
Denner supervises putting away equipment. Den leader, den chief, and denner review the meeting and check details for the next meeting.				
<b>AFTER THE MEETING</b>	Den leader files local tour permit with council service center for outing planned for THIRD WEEK.		Den leader fills out advancement report for the pack leaders' meeting.	Den leader mails thank-you note.
ENCOURAGE FAMILIES TO RECORD ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES DONE DURING THE DEN MEETINGS IN THE CUB SCOUT'S HANDBOOK.				

## Advancement possibilities highlighted this month: *Achievements 3f, 8c, 9a, 9b, 11c, 16b; Elective 22a; Bobcat Trail requirements 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7*

Pockets reveal many things. Pockets often reveal a boy's collecting passion. This theme presents a wonderful opportunity for boys to begin their own collections of neckerchief slides and patches, or the infinite variety of common items that people collect for fun such as sports cards and comic books. Making treats together and working together on the two-person contests will give the Cub Scouts the opportunity to get to know each other and learn about the fun of Cub Scouting.

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

- **Achievement 8e**, The Past Is Exciting and Important: Boys can explore the history of their community.
- **Achievement 11e**, Be Ready: Families can plan escape routes and practice in case of emergency.
- **Elective 22b**, Collecting Things: Mount and display a collection of objects.

### OPENING CEREMONY: BOBCAT TRAIL

Boys form two lines. The two lines face each other. On signal from the den leader, all boys make the Cub Scout sign (*Bobcat 4*). The den leader explains what the Cub Scout sign means. Next, boys reach across the space between their two lines and give the Cub Scout handshake to those opposite (*Bobcat 5*). The boys in one line ask those in the other line to say the Cub Scout motto (*Bobcat 6*); the boys repeat, "Do Your Best," then switch, with the other line asking and the first line answering. All boys in unison say the Cub Scout Promise (*Bobcat 1*) and the Law of the Pack (*Bobcat 2*). Then all boys face the U.S. flag and give the Cub Scout salute (*Bobcat 7*).

### PET ROCKS

*Materials:* Rocks and pebbles, glue, wiggle eyes, pom-poms, fun fur, scissors, acrylic paints, paintbrushes

Put pebbles and craft supplies in the center of a table and invite the boys to use their creativity to make and decorate their pet rocks. Look for natural features in the rocks that resemble noses, chins, ears, and so on. (Shells can also be used in this creative way.)

### POCKET SNACKS

*(Achievement 9b)*

*Ingredients:* Wheat bread, cheese slices, finely chopped lettuce

Give each boy a piece of bread, a cheese slice, and lettuce. (Adjust the recipe if boys are allergic to any ingredients.) Lay the cheese on the open piece of bread; put the lettuce on one half of the cheese. Fold the bread over. To seal the open edges, press a fork along the sides of the bread.

### COIN/STAMP COLLECTION MAP

*Materials:* Coins or stamps from other countries, world map

Have the boys bring to the den meeting coins or stamps from their native countries or any countries they have visited, or foreign coins they have accumulated. Tape a world map onto a large matte board. Have the boys point out where the coins or stamps came from. Place coins in plastic coin envelopes, then tape them to the corresponding location on the map.

### SHELL-COLLECTING IDEAS

Tiny shells can be kept in small bottles with screw caps or corks. Medium shells may fit into matchboxes. Larger shells can be kept in cardboard boxes. Shells can be mounted on cardboard with household cement. Each shell should be identified and labeled. For a special display, use household cement to glue shells to golf tees, then press the points of the tees into a piece of rectangular foam.

### POSTAGE STAMP NECKERCHIEF SLIDE

*Materials:* Craft foam, chenille stem, low-temperature glue gun, reproduced photographs

Photograph the Cub Scout den. On a computer or at a copy shop, have the photo reduced to 1¼ by 2 inches. Prepare a page of the photos so each Cub Scout will have one to use. Cut pieces of craft foam to fit the photo and glue photo in place. Glue a chenille stem ring to the back as the slider.

### GAMES

#### Coin Toss

*Equipment:* Chair or stepladder, three coins for each boy, three open boxes

Give each boy three coins and direct the players to put the coins in their pockets. Place three open boxes on the floor in a row in front of

a sturdy chair or stepladder. Boys climb two or three steps up the stepladder, then drop a coin into an open box below. Score one point for every coin that lands (and stays) in a box.

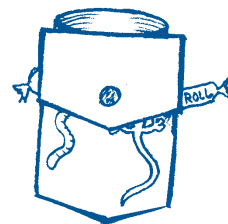
#### Snap the Pocket

Explain that boys will click their heels to make sounds like pockets snapping shut. Boys stand with their feet apart. They jump upward, strike their heels together, and land lightly with their feet apart again.

### POCKET NECKERCHIEF SLIDE

*Materials:* Blue craft foam or felt, glue, black pen, slider (1-inch piece of ½-inch PVC pipe or plastic tubing, or film canister with cuts for neckerchief to pass through), miniatures of things a boy might put in his pocket (plastic worms and frogs, snakes made from pipe cleaners, candy and gum wrappers, etc.)

Cut a rectangle of craft foam or felt, 3¼ inches by 1¾ inches; cut each short edge to a shallow point to look like a Cub Scout pocket and flap. Glue the pocket's contents (frogs, candy wrappers, etc.) about 2 inches up from the bottom. Fold over the top 1¼ inches to form the pocket flap; glue in place. Draw a button on the pocket flap (or glue or sew a small button onto the flap). Glue pocket to slider.



*When writing on craft foam, use craft paint or ballpoint pen. Do not use felt pens—they take a long time to dry and tend to smear.*