#CUBSCOUTS

A SCOUT IS FRIENDLY. HOW DOES “#CUBSCOUTS” RELATE TO THIS POINT OF THE SCOUT LAW?

A Scout is a friend to all. #CubScouts is trending! Communicate in new ways with computers and more to spread the word on how much fun Scouting can be. Let the boys friendstorm who they would like to invite to join Cub Scouting.

NOTE TO CUBMASTER

Pack meetings are best when they are no more than an hour and a half in length. Pack meeting plans are guides which can be adjusted to fit the needs of your pack.

You might consider setting up tables or areas for each den to display pictures and items made during this month’s adventure.

You might consider hosting a panel of experts to answer all your youths’ and adults’ “how to” questions about how to be friendly online but still be safe. This pack meeting could be used to introduce the BSA’s Cyber Chip program.

Run-ons have been added to the Resources section of this plan. Consider assigning the run-ons to Scouts to add a little extra pizzazz to the pack meeting.

◆ BEFORE THE MEETING

Set up tables or areas for each den to display pictures and items made during this month’s adventure, if applicable.

Be sure the following materials are available for the meeting:

- Flags for the flag ceremony
- Poster board and washable markers
- Join Cub Scouting invitations
- A laptop computer or a box made to look like a computer
- A desk or table
- A poster drawn to look like a smartphone or tablet
- A poster or cards showing the meanings of abbreviations used when texting
- Posters with the congratulatory phrase for each rank advancement:
  - “GL in your future Cub Scouting adventures.”
  - “These Tiger Scouts are gr8!”
  - “GJ Wolves!”
  - “WTG Bears!”
  - “TY for your hard work, Webelos!”
  - “MHOTY, Arrow of Light Scouts!”
- Song sheets for the closing song or a projection of the words on a screen or wall
GATHERING
Have Cub Scouts and their parents or guardians friendstorm as they come in. Directions are in the Resources section of this plan.

OPENING CEREMONY
Scene: A group of Cub Scouts is looking at a laptop computer on a desk.

Cub Scout 1: “What cool games! We sure are having fun playing these online games from Boys’ Life.”

Cub Scout 2: “Yeah! It’s too bad not every boy is in Cub Scouts. They’re missing lots of fun stuff. I wonder why they don’t join us.”

Cub Scout 3: “I know, let’s ask the smartphone (or tablet).”

(A Cub Scout holding a poster over his face that looks like a smartphone or tablet walks out.)

Cub Scout 4: (Pushes the home button on the smartphone/tablet) “Why isn’t every boy in Cub Scouts?”

Smartphone/tablet: (In a computer-like voice) “Sorry, I don’t have an answer for that.”

Cub Scout 5: (Pushes the home button on the smartphone/tablet) “How can we can get our other friends to enjoy Cub Scouting with us?”

Smartphone/tablet: (In a computer-like voice) “Let all your friends know about the fun you have at Cub Scouts. Ask your parents or guardians to help you text, post, tweet, or email, or just do it the old way and TALK to them.”

Cub Scout 6: “Let’s start our Cub Scouting fun tonight. Den _____, please present the colors.”

OPENING PRAYER
“We are thankful for the technology that is in our world today. Help us always remember to be kind and friendly as we use this technology, all while being conscious of our safety.”

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
The Cubmaster welcomes new families, visitors, and special guests by introducing them to the pack and thanking all who helped plan and prepare for the pack meeting.

DEN DEMONSTRATIONS
If there is a den that needs to do some type of activity at a pack meeting for the completion of an adventure, please insert it here.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION
Bad Netiquette Stinks
Watch the video “Bad Netiquette Stinks” from www.netsmartz.org/scouting. Talk to your Cub Scouts about earning the BSA’s Cyber Chip card.

OR

Cubby, the Fearless Virus Catcher
Divide the group into six sections; assign one part below to each section. Practice motions and words with each group before beginning the story. The leader who narrates the story should say key words with great drama and pause for each section to do their part.
Message: Swing one arm around rapidly in a circle and say, “Bing!”

Computer: Stand straight up, arms at side, and say, “Beep!”

School: Arms overhead, swing back and forth and say, “Dingdong!”

Teacher: Cup your hands around an imaginary apple and say, “Thanks for the apple!”

Virus: Arms out in front, wiggle your fingers and say, “Munch, munch!”

Cubby: Stand and give the Cub Scout salute, saying, “Do Your Best!”

Narrator: “One morning, a young boy named Josh got up early and checked his email to see if he had a new message from school. Josh turned on his computer. The message from his teacher came back immediately: ‘Emergency! Every computer in the school has gotten a virus!’ The young man knew this was no ordinary disaster, so he turned off his computer and quickly changed into his special superhero costume. Josh became Cubby, the fearless virus catcher. As Cubby got to school, he spotted his teacher.

“In his deepest voice, he said, ‘Good morning, ma’am, I received a message that this school has a computer virus!’

“Why, it’s Cubby!’ she said. ‘The fearless virus catcher! Right this way.’ The teacher rushed to the computer lab. Cubby pretended he didn’t know his way around the school, just to protect his secret identity.

“Cubby leaped into action! Neatly folding his cape, he turned into a stream of electrons and entered the nearest computer like a lightning bolt! Looking out through the monitor screen, Cubby could see his teacher gasp in surprise. Over in the corner by the memory chips slouched the nasty virus! Cubby grabbed the virus by its tail and trapped it in his special containment unit. Immediately, he sent a message to his teacher: ‘One computer freed, nine to go.’

“The school was going crazy, as word of the virus hunt spread. From computer to computer he jumped, trapping each virus, then sending a message to his teacher: ‘Another computer saved!’ Finally, Cubby was down to his last virus, but it was nowhere to be found. He crawled through the computer, searching behind the power supply, around the hard drive, and through the circuits. At last, Cubby spotted the virus on a flash drive in the USB port.

“Letting out a fierce yell, Cubby jumped on the virus and wrestled it into his special containment unit. Exhausted, Cubby materialized in front of his teacher, dragging the smoking containment unit holding all the viruses.

“I got the last one, ma’am,” he said proudly. ‘You truly are a friend to the school and a superhero!’ cried the teacher. ‘All in a day’s work,’ said Cubby, as he rushed off to change. A few moments later, Josh wandered into the room, saying, ‘Hey, it looks like I missed all the excitement.’ The teacher scratched her chin thoughtfully and wondered to herself, ‘I wonder why Josh is never around when Cubby is chasing a virus.’”

◆ RECOGNITION

Adventure Loops and Pins:
(Note: Adventure loops and pins can be presented at a meeting or as immediate recognition in the den.)
By den, call the names of those Cub Scouts who have completed the month’s adventure to come forward.

- Have the den leader pass out the awards to the boys as they receive a Cub Scout handshake from the Cubmaster.
- If time allows, invite the den leader or den chief of the den to speak about the adventure work done for that month and have the den stand and be recognized.
- Use a positive cheer to recognize their accomplishments.

Other options:

- Have the den stand and be recognized or come forward to receive certificates for the adventure they have completed. This option would be appropriate for a den that has already received the adventure loop or pin.
- Adapt the advancement ceremony for the month’s theme into an adventure loop presentation if no rank badges are being presented.

**RANK ADVANCEMENT**

For each rank, call each Scout and his parents or guardians by name and ask them to step forward.

Display a large poster or large cards showing the meanings of abbreviations used when texting. (See the “Resources” section of this meeting plan.)

**Cubmaster:** *(With his or her smartphone in hand)* “Let’s see, I have lots of names in my contacts that I could text, lots of friends I could tag on my page, and some followers on my social media accounts. I want to let them all know about the friendly Cub Scouts we have in our pack.

“We have these new Cub Scouts that have earned the Bobcat badge. I just know that they will be BFFs. Will the following Bobcats and their parents or guardians join me? *(Hands out the Bobcat badges.)* Pack, please join me in giving our new Bobcats a congratulatory message. *(Holds up a sign that says, ‘GL in your future Cub Scouting adventures!’ and asks the pack to read it with him/her.)*

“The next group of Cub Scouts have been ISO new adventures and found them. Will the following Tigers and their parents or guardians join me? *(Hands out the Tiger badges.)* Pack, please join me in giving our new Tigers a congratulatory message. *(Holds up a sign that says, ‘These Tiger Scouts are gr8!’ and asks the pack to read it with him/her.)*

“WB, Wolf Scouts! These Cub Scouts have had so much fun with their adventures you can always hear them LOL. Will the following Wolves and their parents or guardians join me? *(Hands out the Wolf badges.)* Pack, please join me in giving our new Wolves a congratulatory message. *(Holds up a sign that says, ‘GJ Wolves!’ and asks the pack to read it with him/her.)*

“These Bears have gotten right B2W on their adventures! Will the following Bears and their parents or guardians join me? *(Hands out the Bear badges.)* Pack, please join me in giving our new Bears a congratulatory message. *(Holds up a sign that says, ‘WTG Bears!’ and asks the pack to read it with him/her.)*

“BTW, our Webelos Scouts are having so much fun with their adventures, they make it look EZ. Will the following Webelos Scouts and their parents or guardians join me? *(Hands out the Webelos badges.)* Pack, please join me in giving our new Webelos Scouts a congratulatory message. *(Holds up sign that says, ‘TY for your hard work, Webelos Scouts!’ and asks the pack to read it with him/her.)*

“IMO, we have the best Arrow of Light Scouts! Will the following Arrow of Light Scouts and their parents or guardians join me? *(Hands out the Arrow of Light badges.)* Pack, please join me in giving our new Arrow of Light Scouts a congratulatory message.” *(Holds up sign that says, ‘MHOTY, Arrow of Light Scouts!’ and asks the pack to read it with him/her.)*
CUBMASTER’S MINUTE:
“Computers, smartphones, tablets, and the Internet can be lots of fun and a great way to keep in touch with friends. Remember to always be just as good a friend online as in person. It is also a good idea to take some time to be AFC (away from computer) and spend time with your friends outside and put the ‘outing’ in Cub Scouting.”

CLOSING
Have words to the song written out so boys can read them as they sing.

As we close tonight with the excitement of sharing Cub Scouting with all our friends, we will close with a song.

Be Kind to Your New Cub Scout Friends
Tune: “Stars and Stripes Forever”

Be kind to your new Cub Scout friends,
For a true friend is nothing to squander.
Be kind to your friends in the pack,
Where the friendships will always last.
You may think that this is the end.
Well, it is!

Cubmaster: “Will Den _____ help us retire the flags?”

Flags are retired.
Friendstorming
Hang a poster board for each age group. As the families enter the room, ask them to think of friends who are not in the pack and whom they would like to invite to join the fun of Cub Scouts. Have the boys work together to come up with as many names as they can. They (or an adult) will write the names on the poster board. The goal is to have each group fill up the poster with as many names as they can think of. The Scouts can then fill in the names of their friends on invitations they can give out to their friends. This invitation can be for a rally or join Scouting night or the next pack meeting. If the parents or guardians agree to it and the Cub Scout has a smartphone, the Scouts can send out a group text message with the information from the invitation. (See this Resources section for an example of an invitation.)

Cyber Chip
For more information about the BSA’s Cyber Chip, go to www.scouting.org/filestore/youthprotection/pdf/100-053.pdf.

The Scout Law and Cybersafety/Cyberbullying
To learn more about the Scout Law and safety online, go to www.scouting.org/filestore/youthprotection/pdf/100-055_wb.pdf.

Skit and Run-Ons

Skit
(A Cub Scout comes on, vigorously waving a butterfly or fisherman’s net.)

Cub Scout 1: “Hey, what are you doing?”
Cub Scout 2: “I’m catching computer viruses.”
Cub Scout 1: “What’s that you’re using?”
Cub Scout 2: “It’s an INTER-net.”

Run-On 1
Cub Scout 1: “Did you hear how they caught the burglars who were robbing all the computer stores?”
Cub Scout 2: “No, how’d they catch them?”

Run-On 2
A teen walked into a store to buy curtains and said, “I want those curtains over there to fit my computer screen.”

“Computers don’t need curtains,” said the salesman.

“Hello,” the teen said. “I have Windows.”

Run-On 3
Cub Scout 1: “What does a computer eat?”
Cub Scout 2: “I give up.”
Cub Scout 1: “Chips! So, how does a computer eat chips?”
Cub Scout 2: “You got me.”
Cub Scout 1: “It bytes!”

Text Message Abbreviations
BFF: Best friend forever
GL: Good luck
ISO: In search of
gr8: Great
WB: Welcome back
LOL: Laughing out loud
GJ: Great job
B2W: Back to work
WTG: Way to go!
BTW: By the way
EZ: Easy
TY: Thank you
IMO: In my opinion
MHOTY: My hat’s off to you.
AFC: Away from computer
Dear ______________,

I have so much fun with my Cub Scout pack that I want you to join us. Please come visit us on ______ at ________. We get to do lots of fun stuff, like learn about fires, make pinewood derby cars, and even shoot BB guns at camp. Check it out at Cubscouts.org.

Hope to see you there.

Your friend,

___________________

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___________________