



JULY—BRAVE



HOME OF THE BRAVE

A SCOUT IS BRAVE. HOW DOES “HOME OF THE BRAVE” RELATE TO THIS POINT OF THE SCOUT LAW?

A Scout can face danger (or new things) although he is afraid. He has the courage to stand for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at him or threaten him. For a Cub Scout, his home is his community: his neighborhood, his school, and his place of worship. Acts of bravery come in all shapes and sizes, just like Cub Scouts.

NOTE TO CUBMASTER

Pack meetings are best when they are no longer than an hour and a half in length. Pack meeting plans are guides and 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.

◆ BEFORE THE MEETING

Set up tables or areas for the den adventure displays (see above), if applicable.

Be sure the following materials are available for the meeting:

- Flags for the flag ceremony
- A poster of the Outdoor Code with printing large enough for everyone to read, or the words projected on a wall for all to see
- Balloons for the gathering game (check for latex allergies)
- For the closing skit, a large box that Cub Scouts can step into and out of, decorated on the front with knobs and dials
- Props for each occupation in the skit (e.g., chef's hat, plastic firefighter's helmet)

◆ GATHERING—CROSSING THE DELAWARE

As Cub Scouts arrive for the meeting, give each of them a balloon to blow up and tie. When all are ready, have them stand against a wall. On signal, the boys will cross the room, hitting the balloons only with their heads to keep them in the air. No hands are allowed. The first one to reach the end of the room while following these rules wins the game.

◆ OPENING CEREMONY

Cubmaster: “Did you see those Cub Scouts ‘crossing the Delaware?’”

Assistant Cubmaster: “I sure did! I don't think one balloon fell to the floor.”

Cubmaster: “Oh, I think one or two might have hit the floor, but I am very proud of the Cub Scouts for being brave enough to try that new game.”

Assistant Cubmaster: “You are right! Sometimes it is scary to try something new: a new game, a new food, a new den, or a new classroom.”

Cubmaster: “Yes, our Cub Scouts are brave. They may be afraid, but they still try new things and do it with a good attitude.”

Assistant Cubmaster: “Our Cub Scout pack is the Home of the Brave!”

Cubmaster: “Den, please present the colors.”

The flag ceremony is led by a preassigned den. They will present the colors and lead the pack in the Pledge of Allegiance.

◆ OPENING PRAYER

“We give thanks for the everyday people who do brave things: the firefighters who answer the call for help, the doctors who treat the sick, the police officers who work at keeping our cities safe, the bus drivers who take us to school, the military personnel who keep our country safe, the teachers who start each day with a smile—and the Cub Scouts who unselfishly give service to others. May we recognize all of these everyday heroes, and give them our thanks.”

◆ 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 the activity here.

◆ AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Have the audience sing “The Star-Spangled Banner” or lead them in “Clancy to the Rescue.” If the second option is chosen, have sections of the audience repeat their assigned action in the story each time their word is spoken by the narrator:

Clancy: Feel your muscles, like a bodybuilder.

Horses: Slap thighs.

Yell(ed): Shout “Hey, Guys!” with hands cupped around your mouth.

Fire Engine(s): Make a high-pitched siren sound.

Bell: Swing arm like a clapper, saying, “Clang, clang, clang.”

Hose: Say, “Shh-sh-sh,” like water coming from a hose.

Steam: Make a hissing s-s-s-s sound.

Brave: Shout, “A Scout Is Brave!”

If you like **HORSES**, you would have enjoyed living back in the 1800s when **HORSES** pulled old-fashioned steam-type **FIRE ENGINES**. One of these **FIRE ENGINES** was driven by a **BRAVE** hero, **CLANCY**. Yes, sir! **CLANCY** was a real **BRAVE** hero! Every day when there was no fire, he would take the **HORSES** out for exercise, trotting them up and down the streets. If children were playing along the way, **CLANCY** would always stop and let them pet the **HORSES**.

Sometimes, the fire alarms happened during the daytime, but sometimes they happened at night. When the alarm sounded at night, one person would **YELL** up to the firefighters above, and they would wake up and slide down the pole as fast as they could. Then they would run to the **FIRE ENGINE** where the **STEAM** was up, and away they would go to the fire, clanging the **BELL**, with **CLANCY** driving the **HORSES**.

One night most of the firefighters were in bed and the others were playing checkers when the alarm sounded. Where was the fire? At the mayor's big two-story house! Quick as a flash they were there. **CLANCY** stopped the **HORSES** and **YELLED**, "Keep the **STEAM** up, men!" They started the fire **HOSE** and began to squirt water on the fire.

CLANCY strained to see upstairs where the mayor and his wife were trapped. Flames were everywhere! Being so **BRAVE**, he tried to reach them but couldn't get through. So **CLANCY YELLED**, "You'll have to jump!" The firefighters held a net out to cushion their fall. The mayor and his wife were afraid, but **CLANCY** encouraged them, and as the flames licked their heels, they were **BRAVE**, jumped, and came right down into the middle of the net.

The **BRAVE** firefighters kept battling the fire. They put the **HOSE** on it and kept up the **STEAM** in the **FIRE ENGINE**. Before long, the fire was out, so they turned off the **HOSE**, got back on the **FIRE ENGINE**, and returned to the firehouse, clanging the **BELL** all the way. To **CLANCY** and the other **BRAVE** firefighters, it was all in a day's work—but to the **BRAVE** mayor and his **BRAVE** wife, they were heroes. The End.

◆ 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 parent or guardian by name and ask them to step forward.

Cubmaster: "As we explored being brave this month, we learned that a brave person will stand up for what he thinks is right even if others laugh at him or threaten him. Sometimes this can be hard to do, but being brave can mean doing what is right even when you are afraid. Our pack is the home of the brave."

Bobcat: "Our brand new Scouts showed their bravery as they accepted the challenge to learn the Scout Oath and Law, and the Cub Scout motto. They also learned the handshake, sign, and salute." *(Call up Bobcats and their families, and hand the badge to each parent or guardian to present to the Scout. Then lead the audience in a hearty roar to cheer on the recipients.)*

Tiger: "Our new Tiger Scouts are brave! They went on a hike in the woods and looked for signs of wild animals. They were a little unsure at first, but they are pro hikers now." *(Call up Tigers and their families, and hand the badge to each parent or guardian to present to the Scout. Then lead the audience in the Tony the Brave Tiger cheer: "You'rrrrrrre brave!")*

Wolf: "Our new Wolf Scouts learned how to be brave by being prepared for scary things that can happen like a natural disaster or weather changes when you're on an outing. Knowing what to do can help

you be brave even when you are scared.” *(Call up Wolves and their families, and hand the badge to each parent or guardian to present to the Scout. Then lead the audience in a wolf howl cheer.)*

Bear: “Bear Scouts have learned about famous Americans who had amazingly scary challenges but faced them bravely like Neil Armstrong, the first man on the moon. They also visited with local brave citizens like firefighters or police officers. These new Bear Scouts have learned from examples of bravery in everyday life.” *(Call up Bears and their families, and hand the badge to each parent or guardian to present to the Scout. Then lead the audience in the Soldier cheer: Stand at attention, salute, and yell, “Well done!”)*

Webelos: “As a boy grows older and moves out into the world, he faces more difficult situations. These Webelos Scouts showed great bravery when they cooked meals for each other and even greater bravery when they ate those meals.” *(Smile and pause for the audience to enjoy this gentle joke. Then call up new Webelos Scouts and their families, and hand the badge to each parent or guardian to present to the Scout. Then lead the audience in a hero cheer, shouting several times, “Brave and loyal, strong and true!”)*

Arrow of Light: “Arrow of Light Scouts have learned the Scout Law and serve as good examples to younger Scouts by making wise and moral decisions. An Arrow of Light Scout is brave when he talks over a problem with someone he trusts and respects, and then makes the right decision even when it requires great courage.” *(Call up Arrow of Light recipients and their families, and hand the badge to each parent or guardian to present to the Scout. Then lead the audience in a final advancement cheer: “Prepare to launch Cub Scouts into the world. All together ... All systems go ... We have Bravery!”)*

◆ CUBMASTER’S MINUTE

A Scout Is Brave

In the Scout Law we say, “A Scout Is Brave.” What does that mean to you? *(Allow time for people to contribute answers.)* We tend to think of bravery as overcoming fear so we can take action to save a life or help someone in some way. Most of the time, what we have to overcome is the fear of physical harm to ourselves. But there’s another kind of bravery. It’s the bravery to overcome fear of ridicule from our friends. It’s the courage to stick with what you know is right, no matter how unpopular that might be. Bravery in those situations is even more amazing than bravery in a sudden crisis or emergency, because when you have more time to think about it, the decision can be harder to make. It’s hard to do the right thing when *everybody* is urging you to do something you know is wrong. It takes courage and character to withstand that kind of pressure from your friends. But it’s the mark of a brave Scout. Let’s do our best to be brave, even in the toughest times.

◆ CLOSING

A preassigned den performs the “When I Grow Up” closing ceremony.

Set the large box with knobs and dials in front of the audience. Note that the occupations in this skit can be changed, depending on what the boys choose to be or the props that were collected.

Cub 1: *(pointing to the box)* “Ladies and gentlemen, this is the fantastic, terrific, magical future machine. It takes a lot of courage to enter this machine because, once you go inside, you will know your future career. Pretty scary, huh? Who will be brave first?”

Cub 2: “Let me try it first.”

Cub 1: “OK, enter the chamber.”

(Cub 2 steps into the box, and Cub 1 turns the dials.)

Cub 1: *(after a few seconds)* “Come out and reveal your future.”

Cub 2: *(stepping out)* “Wow, I’m going to be a fireman. I will bravely put out fires.”

(Repeat this pattern with Cubs 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 saying the following lines as they leave the box.)

Cub 3: “Hey, I’m going to be a policeman. I will bravely fight crime.”

Cub 4: “I’m going to be a soldier. I will bravely protect our country to keep us free.”

Cub 5: “An astronaut! I’m going to be an astronaut. I will bravely go to outer space.”

Cub 6: “Yay, I’m going to be a sailor. I will bravely protect our country at sea.”

Cub 7: “I will be in the U.S. Air Force, and I will bravely fly jet planes.”

(Then Cub 8 steps toward the box.)

Cub 8: “I’m not so sure about this, but here goes!”

Cub 1: *(guiding Cub 8 into the box)* “This way.” *(Turns dials.)*

Cub 8: *(inside the box)* “WOW!”

Cub 1: “What is it? What will you be?”

Cub 8: *(stepping out of the box)* “I will be the bravest of all! I will be *(pauses for suspense)* a Cubmaster!”
(Flexes his muscles and struts off the stage.)

The preassigned den retires the flag.