

August



Core Value:
Honesty

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Honesty

Play Ball

Pack Committee

Why Play Ball for the Core Value Honesty. It is easy to forget how important it is to be honest when one is playing a game and really wanting to win; however, a Cub Scout is a person who always tells the truth and is worthy of trust. This month we reinforce how important it is to be honest, especially when playing baseball with friends.

BEFORE THE MEETING

Gather all of the supplies for the meeting including: construction paper pennants for each Cub Scout, markers, and flags for the opening ceremony. In addition, either make a large banner with the words to "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" or arrange to have the words projected so that everyone can see them. You will need pencils, glue, and copies of the crossword puzzle if using the alternative gathering activity.

(Note: If you have the music available, have it ready to be played during the audience participation section of the pack meeting.)

GATHERING

Let each Cub Scout choose a construction paper pennant when he enters the pack meeting room. Ask him to choose a marker and write on the pennant why it is important to be honest when playing ball. Tape the pennants around the room for decoration. Don't forget to check with your chartered organization for permission to tape anything to the walls.

OR

Glue the crossword puzzle (see the end of the meeting plan) to the pennants and hand them out to the Scouts. Here is the key.

Across

- When the runner gets to the base before the ball, he is _____ safe _____ .
- I am the official for the game. _____ umpire _____
- When the ball reaches the base before the runner, he is _____ out _____ .

Down

- When the ball is batted out of bounds, it is called a _____ foul _____ .
- I stand for "runs batted in." _____ RBI _____
- A Cub Scout is honest; he does not _____ cheat _____ at baseball.

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¹ S	A	² F	E	³ R		⁴ C	
		O		B		H	
		⁵ U	M	P	I	R	E
		L					A
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OPENING

The preassigned den presents the colors and leads the pack in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cub Scouts can either hold a poster board “baseball” with the letter they are representing written on it or hold baseball gloves, balls, and bats as props. (Note: For safety reasons, consider using plastic bats instead of wooden or metal bats.)

CUB SCOUT 1: **H** is for the **HOME RUN** I am going to hit at the game.

CUB SCOUT 2: **O** is for the **OUTFIELD** where I hit the ball, when it doesn’t go out of the park.

CUB SCOUT 3: **N** is for the **NO-HITTER** I plan to pitch.

CUB SCOUT 4: **E** is for an **ERROR** not made by my team.

CUB SCOUT 5: **S** is for my **SLIDE** into home plate for a run.

CUB SCOUT 6: **T** is for the **TRIPLE PLAY** I plan to make today.

CUB SCOUT 7: **Y** is for **YOUR** favorite game and mine—baseball.

CUB SCOUT 8: Hey, we didn’t spell BASEBALL; we spelled HONESTY.

ALL: Yeah, because it’s how we play OUR game.

CUBMASTER: Thank you, Den _____, for that great opening ceremony. Pack, let’s thank them with the Big Hand cheer. (Everyone holds up their hands, holding their fingers as wide as possible to make their hands look bigger.)

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

“We give thanks for our health and our friends. Thank you for giving us games like baseball to enjoy. Help us to never be dishonest or cheat when we play ball. Help us to remember that a Cub Scout always tells the truth and is a person worthy of trust.”

Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster welcomes new families, introduces them to the pack, thanks those who helped prepare for and plan the pack meeting, and reminds all of the Cub Scouts to be sure to take their pennant home after the meeting.

Run On

CUB SCOUT 1: I know a guy who is a diamond cutter.

CUB SCOUT 2: Does he cut big diamonds?

CUB SCOUT 1: Sure, he mows the grass at the baseball field.

PROGRAM

Den Demonstrations

Ask each den in turn to talk about their adventures during the last month. Call each to the front to do so.

CUBMASTER: Thank you to each of the dens that has shared its adventures with us. Let us salute them by giving them the Home Run cheer. (Simulate swinging a bat at a ball, shade your eyes with your hand, and yell, “It’s out of the park!”)



Audience Participation

CUBMASTER: OK, everyone stand for the seventh-inning stretch. Everybody stretch now. Do you know what the traditional activity is during the seventh-inning stretch? It's to sing a very special song called "Take Me Out to the Ballgame." Let's all sing it together.

Sing in unison the chorus to "Take Me Out to the Ballgame":

*Take me out to the ball game,
Take me out with the crowd;
Buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jack,
I don't care if I never get back.
Let me root, root, root for the home team,
If they don't win, it's a shame.
For it's one, two, three strikes, you're out,
At the old ball game.*

Run On

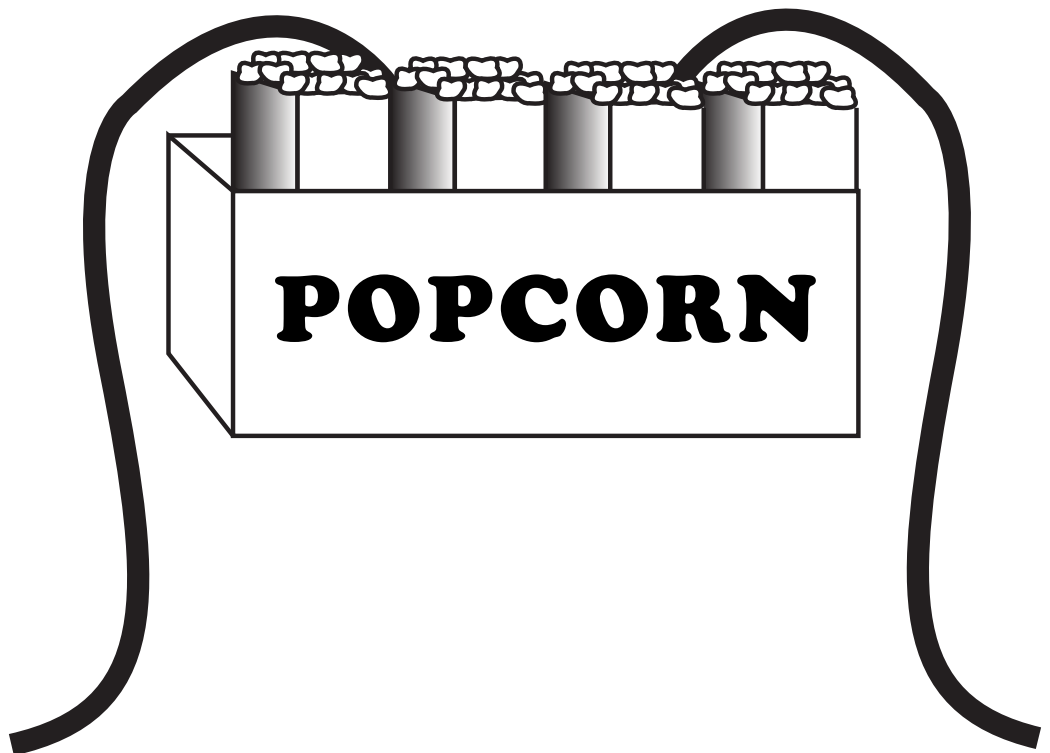
CUB SCOUT 1: Hey _____, do you know which animal can hit the baseball farthest?

CUB SCOUT 2: No, what kind?

CUB SCOUT 1: Why, a BAT, of course.

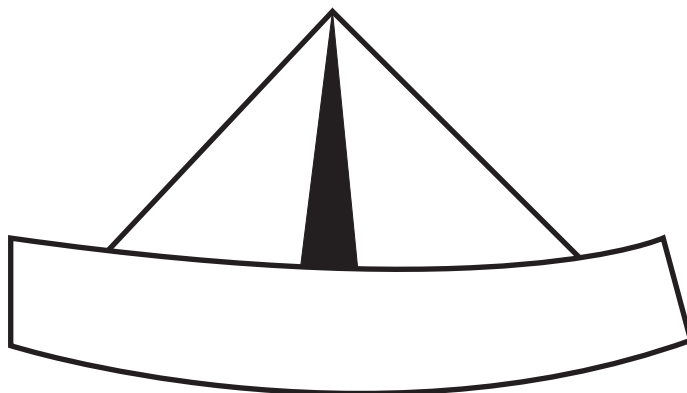
RECOGNITION

For the recognition ceremony, make a popcorn tray out of a cardboard tray (like soda and bottled water come on at the grocery store) and a piece of ribbon. Paint or decorate the tray and attach a 1- to 2-inch-wide ribbon to the sides of the box. Make the ribbon long enough to go around the neck of an adult, and have the tray rest about waist level. (See picture below for example.)





Make a paper hat using newspaper or other paper of the same size. Directions can be found at <http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Paper-Hat>. (Or you can wear a purchased paper forage hat.)



Decorate boxes to look like boxes of popcorn with the names of the boys to receive the awards written on the back of the boxes, along with the list of awards to be presented. Place the popcorn boxes filled with the awards for each den in the cardboard tray. The Cubmaster dons the paper hat and wears the tray around his or her neck.

CUBMASTER (Yells loudly): Popcorn, peanuts, cotton candy!

ASSISTANT CUBMASTER: How about some awards for our honest, hardworking Cub Scouts?

CUBMASTER: Funny you should want that. I just happen to have (name of award) for (call the name of each Scout to receive the award). (Have each Cub Scout and his parent or guardian come to the front of the room to receive his award.) Gentlemen, I understand that you have worked hard to achieve this rank/award and it is my pleasure to present you with the (name of award/badge). You have done your best to meet all of the requirements for this badge/award, just like a baseball player works to win the World Series. I hope you treasure this award as much as a baseball player would a World Series ring.

Repeat as needed for each award to be presented.

CLOSING

Cubmaster's Minute

I hope you all realize that it is great to have goals like the players in our opening, but even more importantly we must always remember to play with honesty. I know that it is tempting to claim you're not out when you know you are or to claim the ball is fair when you know it is foul, but that is wrong. Baseball legend Bo Jackson said, "Set your goals high and don't stop until you get there." Cub Scouts, set your goals high, and don't stop until you reach them, but do it the Cub Scout way—with honesty.

CLOSING CEREMONY

What Is a Good Sport?

CUB SCOUT 1: We hear a lot about being a good sport, but what does that mean?

CUB SCOUT 2: It means learning the rules and following them.

CUB SCOUT 3: It means being honest and not cheating.

CUB SCOUT 4: It means thanking the other team for a good game whether you win or lose.

CUB SCOUT 5: It means congratulating the winner when you lose.

CUB SCOUT 6: It means not being boastful when you win.

CUB SCOUT 7: It means always following the Cub Scout motto of Do Your Best to help your team.

CUB SCOUT 8: It means playing the Cub Scout way, with honor.

August



The preassigned den retires the colors.

CUBMASTER: Thank you, Den _____, for the wonderful closing ceremony. As we leave this evening, let us remember the words of Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting: "Honesty is a form of honor."

Additional Run Ons

CUB SCOUT 1: Hey _____, do you know how baseball players stay so cool during hot summer games?

CUB SCOUT 2: No, how do they stay cool during hot summer games?

CUB SCOUT 1: They sit next to their FANS.

CUB SCOUT 1: Hey _____, do you know why it was really hot after the baseball game?

CUB SCOUT 2: No, why was it so hot after the baseball game?

CUB SCOUT 1: All the FANS left.

CUB SCOUT 1: Hey _____, do you know how baseball is like an angel food cake?

CUB SCOUT 2: No, how is baseball like an angel food cake?

CUB SCOUT 1: They both need a good BATTER.

CUB SCOUT 1: Hey _____, do you know why it takes longer to run from second to third base than it takes to run from first to second base?

CUB SCOUT 2: No, why does it take longer to go from second to third base than first to second base?

CUB SCOUT 1: Because of the SHORT STOP, of course.

CUB SCOUT 1: Hey _____, what are you doing with all of those shoes?

CUB SCOUT 2: I am going to put them on my house, of course.

CUB SCOUT 1: Why would you do that?

CUB SCOUT 2: I want to see a HOME RUN.



Across

- 1. When the runner gets to the base before the ball, he is _____ .
- 5. I am the official for the game. _____
- 6. When the ball reaches the base before the runner, he is _____ .

Down

- 2. When the ball is batted out of bounds, it is called a _____ .
- 3. I stand for "runs batted in." _____
- 4. A Cub Scout is honest; he does not _____ at baseball.

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