

Wonderful opportunities await! The new school year brings possibilities of new friends. This month a Cub Scout can invite a new buddy to join the fun and adventure of Cub Scouting. This single act can influence the lives of many. The boys will make new friends while keeping the old by learning to share and treat buddies with kindness. In the den meeting the boys can learn the value of friendship, cooperation, and respect through games and activities. This new team of buddies can develop secret codes and write messages to each other. They will learn the Cub Scout handshake and motto, which signify belonging to that special group. The boys can practice the buddy system as they go on hikes, work on projects, play games, and participate in sports. This is a great month for boys to earn a Cub Scout Academics or Sports belt loop or pin as they work and play together with an interest they all share.

PACK PLANNING

An important feature in this month's pack meeting is a pack adults' meeting. While the adults attend this meeting, Cub Scouts and their siblings play games in another supervised area so the adult meeting can continue on its own.

Appoint the following committees to help with the meeting:

- **Site Committee.** Secure a location that will accommodate the pack adults' meeting as well as a large area for playing games.
- **Decorations Committee.** Make parking and welcome signs so new families know how to get to the meeting place.
- **Pack Meeting Greeters.** Assign greeters. Prepare blank name tags. Provide markers and straight pins. Prepare the My New Buddies gathering activity.
- **Program Committee.** Determine games to be played and provide for supplies needed. Ensure that all awards are ready to be distributed and a meaningful ceremony is planned.
- **Refreshments Committee.** Prepare treats in advance. Have paper cups for serving refreshments.

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

- **Respectful relationships.** Cub Scouts begin to appreciate and respect boys and leaders in the den as they get to know each other.
- **Friendly service.** Boys discover that they have the ability to serve their fellow Scouts when they welcome new boys to the pack.

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

- **Cooperation.** Boys learn that when buddies cooperate, they have fun working and playing together.
- **Faith.** Cub Scouts have the opportunity to explore their faith through repeating the Cub Scout Promise and working on advancement.

MEMBERSHIP MOMENT

What a perfect theme for conducting your pack's fall roundup. Your council will provide training for planning this event. Encourage every Cub Scout to bring a new buddy to participate in Cub Scouting.

Or as a follow-up to your roundup, have a pack "Bring a Buddy Picnic" or other event to welcome new members. All boys, including new members, can invite friends who did not attend your round-up. Your parent orientation could be conducted at this time instead of at the pack meeting. Play "buddy games" such as wheelbarrow or three-legged races.

Pack Meeting

BEFORE THE MEETING

For this first meeting of the school year and first meeting for many families, it is important to make a good first impression. All committees arrive early to set up their sections of the meeting area. The decorations committee posts parking and welcome signs and sets up tables for name tags, for each den's exhibit, and for refreshments. The program committee sets up the game area and any equipment needed. The refreshments committee will set up a table to serve refreshments at the end of the meeting.

GATHERING

The greeters welcome each family as they arrive. Have each person write his or her name on a name tag. Use pins to attach name tags to clothing. Direct Cub Scouts to area designated for displaying den projects. Den displays could include pictures of last year's den and pack activities to help new families anticipate the fun of the coming year. Give instructions for the My New Buddies gathering activity (2 SEP).

MAIN PART OF THE MEETING

Opening

The Cubmaster conducts The Spirit of Cub Scouting ceremony (3 SEP).

Prayer

A preselected Cub Scout comes forward and says the Thankful for Cub Scout Friends prayer (3 SEP).

Welcome and Introductions

Cubmaster: "Welcome! We're off to a great new Scouting year. To help us get to know each other, let's play Pass the Handshake" (2 SEP).

Icebreaker:

Pass the Handshake

Have all the people sitting at the end of each row shake hands and introduce themselves to those people sitting next to them. The next people then do the same with the persons next to them. Continue down the row.

Song

The pack song leader brings up everyone who is new to the pack. Sing “Hi, Cub Scout” (*Cub Scout Songbook*) as a welcoming song. Provide the words on handouts or a large poster that everyone can read.

Den Demonstrations

Invite dens to explain some of the secret codes they worked on during den meetings this month. Other dens may present skits or songs. Invite the Tiger Cub dens to share about the Go See It adventure they had this month.

Recognition

You will have new families joining your pack this month; conduct a new family induction ceremony to welcome them. Use the Key to Cub Scouting new family induction ceremony (3 SEP).

To present advancement awards, use The Doorway advancement ceremony (3 SEP). Or select an alternate ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Announcements

Use the doorway prepared for the advancement ceremony. Have the committee chair knock loudly from the back of the door. The Cubmaster turns around and opens the door. The committee chair and other members step through and share the pack’s plans for future pack meetings, planned service projects, and words of note. Consider having printed copies of a pack newsletter available at this meeting.

Direct the children and adults to their respective areas while the pack adults’ meeting is conducted.

Pack Adults’ Meeting

Committee members conduct this important orientation. Review and present the material in chapter 24 of the *Cub Scout Leader Book*.

While this meeting takes place, have assigned adults and den chiefs lead games for Cub Scouts and siblings. Assign a minimum of two or three committee members to run games. Play Buddies Tie (3 SEP) and other two-person games. A large selection of games is in the *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book*.

Cubmaster’s Minute

The Cubmaster delivers the Cubmaster’s Minute: Buddies (3 SEP).

Closing

The song leader leads the pack in singing “Be Kind to Your New Cub

Scout Friends” (3 SEP). Be sure all pack members have the words or can see preprinted words so everyone can end the meeting singing together.

REFRESHMENTS

Invite families to the refreshments area. Provide refreshments in halves—fruit that is cut in two, donuts cut in half, etc.—so that people take a half and their buddy takes the other half. Have beverages prepoured, but the individual takes one and gives one to a buddy. (Set filled paper cups out on the table in pairs.)

Cubmaster Corner

PACK MEETING GREETERS

Stress the importance of greeters at each pack meeting. New families may feel awkward, or they may not know if they are in the right place. The greeters will:

- Welcome each family as they arrive at the pack meeting.
- Help families feel at home.
- Give directions to the den display table.
- Explain the gathering activity—either giving instructions for or showing the location of the activity.
- Direct families to where they should sit.
- Provide name tags each month so family members can learn the names of other pack members.

Ceremonies, Games, Songs, Stunts

GATHERING ACTIVITY: MY NEW BUDDIES

Preparation: Prepare copies of the information below.

Directions: Meet and learn something about the other people here tonight. Find people who fit the categories listed below and have them sign the appropriate square. Each person should sign only once.

MY NEW BUDDIES

Same color shoes on as you	Longest hair	Wearing a watch	Tallest person here	Born in same month as you
Same number of people in family	Same color eyes as yours	Someone you just met tonight	Wearing shoes that tie	Knows Cub Scout motto
Wearing black socks	Has a pet bird	Knows who Akela is	Has same hobby as you	Can count to 10 in another language
Curliest hair	Same color shirt as you	Has been out of the country	Your same height	Wears glasses
Knows Cub Scout sign	Likes same TV show as you	Shortest person here	Same color hair as yours	Name starts with same letter as yours

OPENING CEREMONY: THE SPIRIT OF CUB SCOUTING

Equipment: Three candles (real or artificial), U.S. flag

AKELA: I am Akela, the leader of the pack. The candles before me represent the spirit of Cub Scouting.

The first candle is a symbol of a Cub Scout's promise to do his duty to God and his country. (*Light candle*)

The second candle is a symbol of a Cub Scout's promise to help other people. (*Light candle*)

The third candle is a symbol of a Cub Scout's promise to obey the Law of the Pack. (*Light candle*)

Please stand and repeat the Cub Scout Promise, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

I now declare this meeting open. Let the pack meeting begin!

PRAYER: THANKFUL FOR CUB SCOUT FRIENDS

We are thankful for our Cub Scout pack. Please watch over each of us and our families during the year ahead. Amen.

SONG: CUB SCOUT PACK

Tune: I've Been Working on the Railroad
We're a pack of busy Cub Scouts;
Cub Scouts all are we.
We know how to have a good time,
As everyone can see.
Hope you'll choose to come and join us;
Have fun with all the rest.
Don't you want to be a Cub Scout?
With us you'll do your best!

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!

NEW FAMILY INDUCTION CEREMONY: KEY TO CUB SCOUTING

Equipment: Large cardboard key with "Scout Spirit" printed on it; old key on a string

We have with us tonight some families who wish to join Cub Scouting. Will the following families come forward?

(*To boys:*) Before you will be allowed

to enter Cub Scouting, you must realize that you will face many new challenges. You will attend weekly den meetings. You will need to work with Scout leaders and at home with your parents. To achieve the highest rank in Cub Scouting you must set your sights on earning the Arrow of Light Award. You may get discouraged because the trail seems too steep and hard to climb.

There is a key to reaching each of these goals. Do you know what the key is?

The key to Scouting is "Scout Spirit," and it requires the help of a supportive family to turn the key.

(*To families:*) Scout spirit includes teamwork. It includes fair play and good sportsmanship. It includes that "something special" that makes Scouts want to be the best they can be. This key will unlock the door of achievement.

(*Put the key around the Cub Scout's neck.*) Welcome to Pack _____!

ADVANCEMENT CEREMONY: THE DOORWAY

Equipment: Portable door and frame (can be made from a large box such as a refrigerator box, stove box, etc.)

Before you is a doorway. What do you think is behind that door? (*Wait for a response.*) The right answer is anything you can imagine ... except, of course, the past. You can never go backward, only forward.

There are many examples of doors opening to wonderful worlds and adventures. Books are filled with stories of characters passing through doors.

(*Start with Bobcat rank, and follow in succession.*) As you stand on this side of the door, you are a (*current rank*) Scout. When you open the door and pass through it, you will never be a (*current rank*) again. Instead, you will come through the other side as a (*next rank*) Scout.

It's only by opening doors, real ones or imaginary ones, that we progress in life. I commend you for wanting to improve yourself and for accepting new challenges. You may approach the door with your parents. I will meet you on the other side. (*Cub Scout and his parents pass through door.*)

Congratulations, (*next rank*) Scout! I now present this award to your parents to present to you.

(*After all awards are presented, sing "Cub Scout Spirit."*)

GAMES

Buddies Tie

Materials: Rope, small box, and ribbon for each team

Divide boys into teams of two. Each team stands side by side with the first boy's left hand tied to the second boy's right hand. They proceed to wrap a package with their free hands. The task includes wrapping the package, binding a ribbon around it, and tying a bow. The pair that finishes first is the winner.

New Buddy Shoe Scramble

Cub Scouts put their shoes in a pile 25 to 30 feet from the starting line. A leader mixes up the shoes so that no pairs are together. On signal, one member of a buddy duo runs to the pile, picks out his friend's shoes, grabs them, returns to the start, and puts them on his buddy.

When the buddy's shoes are on, that buddy races to the pile, grabs the pair of shoes for the first runner, returns, and puts them on his buddy's feet. The first team of buddies done is declared "Best Buds."

Buddies Afloat

Materials: Newspapers

Divide boys into relay teams; give each team a pad of several sheets of newspaper (this is the "raft"). Two players ride the raft at once. The skipper stands in front; the passenger stands behind. On signal, the skipper bends over and takes hold of the newspaper pad. Then, by shifting weight and sliding the papers forward, the crew maneuvers the raft to a finish line 10 feet away. They then grab the paper and run back to the next pair on their team. Continue until everyone has raced.

CUBMASTER'S MINUTE: BUDDIES

What is a buddy? A buddy is a friend—someone to have fun with, to do things with, someone you can trust, someone you can count on.

Have you heard of the buddy system? The buddy system is when two people pair off and watch out for each other. Using the buddy system is important in swimming, bicycling, hiking, or any other activity. Many of you have reviewed the buddy system in your den meetings this month.

Having a buddy isn't just fun. Being with a buddy also helps you stay safe. There is safety in numbers.

As we get to know each other, we will find out that it's fun to have buddies of all ages.

CHEER: HOO-RAY, HOO-RAY
Hoo-ray! Hoo-ray!

Hooray, hooray, hooray!
We're the Cub Scouts of the BSA!

APPLAUSE: ROUND OF APPLAUSE

Version 1. Clap while moving arms in a circular motion.

Version 2. Clap while standing and turning around.

REFRESHMENTS: DECORATE A BUDDY

Before the pack meeting, make sugar cookies shaped like gingerbread men. Provide frosting and candy decorations. Have each person frost a cookie and add candy decorations to their cookie buddy.

September Pack Program Page: New Buddies

ACADEMICS AND SPORTS PROGRAM

Cub Scout Academics

Astronomy. September brings clear evening skies to most regions. Cub Scouts will have an opportunity to learn about objects in the sky and then view them in the evenings, while earning the Astronomy belt loop and pin as recognition.

Cub Scout Sports

Bicycling. "B" is for buddy and for bicycling. Cub Scouts can work with a buddy to earn the Bicycling belt loop while practicing their riding skills.

FAMILY ACTIVITY

Being the new kid on the block can be difficult. This month families will have fun doing activities in "Adjusting to a Move." Other helpful activities will be found in this section of *Cub Scouting's BSA Family Activity Book*. Cub Scouts can help new families by sharing phone numbers, taking them snacks on moving day, and recommending local services and shops.

DID YOU KNOW?

Den Chief

A den chief is an older Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, or Venturer who serves as the activities assistant at den meetings and helps the den in its part at the monthly pack meeting. Being a den chief gives a Scout a chance to practice leadership skills. He or she also helps the denner and assistant denner to be leaders.

A den chief can be a buddy to the Cub Scouts in the den. One responsibility of the den chief is to be a friend to the boys in the den. A den chief should understand the meaning of friendship.

GOOD TURN FOR AMERICA

How would you feel if you didn't have friends? Some people's circumstances don't allow them to have many friends. This month the pack may choose to go to a children's hospital or a shelter for the homeless and play games and read stories to the children.

BSA RESOURCES HIGHLIGHT

Cub Scout Scrapbook (No. D32013); Cub Scout Photo Frame Scrapbook (No. D30004). With the beginning of a new Cub Scouting year, families will enjoy recording memories of their sons' Scouting experiences. Boys may also use the scrapbooks to preserve their projects, artwork, and photographs.

PACK LEADERS' PLANNING MEETING

The pack leaders meet a week or two before the September pack meeting to coordinate all elements of the September meeting and outline den and pack activities for the October pack meeting.

Plan your fall pack adults' meeting. An outline of the pack adults' meeting can be found in the *Cub Scout Leader Book*. Have the pack calendar and newsletter to distribute. Consider having a sign-up sheet so that all pack families can receive the newsletter and related messages online, thus saving your pack postage expenses.

While the adults attend their meeting, the boys will have fun playing games that require teamwork. Determine the number of leaders needed to run the games and make assignments. The games for this month's pack meeting should be games in which teams of boys play or compete together, not against each other. For many games it may be best to make teams of boys who are the same age and of similar height and weight.

Discuss plans for the October meeting. October's theme is "Adventures in Books." Each den will have the opportunity to write a skit and make costumes to be performed at the pack meeting. When planning for refreshments for all meetings, consider any food allergies of Cub Scouts, siblings, and adults.

The pack trainer leads Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 6, Leadership Training. The information will include the importance of and need for the various levels of training available to all Cub Scout leaders. The *Cub Scout Leader Book* has plans for this and all topics that will help the pack go and grow.

LOOKING AHEAD

October is Fire Safety Month. As a way of saying "thank you" to your local firefighters, the pack may consider taking treats to the local fire station.

PACK TRAINER HIGHLIGHTS

Before the monthly pack leaders' planning meeting, ask leaders to bring a calendar, or provide one for each leader. Then ask them to then bring that calendar with them each month to the planning meeting. The calendars will be used to enter roundtable and all training dates as well as den and pack events.

Provide all local training dates and locations and encourage all leaders to be trained leaders.

OUTDOOR IDEAS FOR EVERYONE

Tiger Cubs. Gather fallen leaves of various shapes and sizes. Make a picture using the leaves.

Wolf Cub Scouts. Go on a bike ride with a buddy.

Bear Cub Scouts. Work on *Elective 20* and learn to roller-skate. Remember to use a helmet and proper protection.

Webelos Scouts. Go to an orchard and pick apples.

New Buddies: 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>				
BEFORE THE MEETING STARTS	Have a U.S. flag. Gather materials for the Tiger Cub Den Banner (6 SEP).	Have a U.S. flag in place. Gather materials for My Friend's Favorite Things (6 SEP). Prepare directions for the Go See It next week.	Call the Go See It destination to confirm arrangements, times, fees, etc.	The 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>				
GATHERING	Boys decorate their tiger for the Tiger Cub Den Banner (6 SEP).	Play My Friend's Favorite Things (6 SEP).		
OPENING	Recite the Pledge of Allegiance (<i>Achievement 2D</i>) and the Cub Scout motto (<i>Bobcat Trail #6</i>).	Recite the Pledge of Allegiance and practice the Law of the Pack.		
SHARE	Tiger Cubs share information about their best buddy. Ask the Tiger Cubs to bring a picture of a good time they have had with friends or their best buddy for next week's meeting. Talk about ways for boys to make new friends (<i>Elective 9</i>).	The Tiger Cubs can use the pictures they brought to help them share a favorite time they had with friends or their best buddy. Talk about the experience Tiger Cubs had doing Elective 9.	Take a Go See It to a newspaper office, radio station, or television station (<i>Achievement 4G</i>). At the end of the trip, lead a reflecting discussion with boys and adult partners about their outing.	Participate in the monthly pack meeting by sharing the song learned in the second den meeting, the Tiger Cub Den Banner, and information about the den's Go See It.
DISCOVER	Finish the Tiger Cub Den Banner. Teach the Cub Scout sign (<i>Bobcat Trail #4</i>).	One Tiger Cub and his adult partner teach a song (<i>Elective 6</i>). Discuss how you can add hand motions, costumes, or some other pizzazz element for performing at the pack meeting.	A Tiger Cub immediate recognition bead may be presented for participation and completion of <i>Achievement 4G</i> .	Tiger Cubs and adult partners sign the thank-you note.
SEARCH	Plan to go to a television station, newspaper office, or radio station for the Go See It for this month.	Finalize plans for the Go See It. Have adults work on the Honesty Character Connection with their Tiger Cubs during the week.		
CLOSING	Use the Cub Scout sign and recite the Cub Scout Promise (<i>Bobcat Trail #1</i>).	Recite the Cub Scout motto. Remind everyone of the Go See It.		
<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>				
AFTER THE MEETING	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 Tiger Cub Den Advancement Report for the pack leaders' meeting.	Den leader mails thank-you note.
<p>ADULT PARTNER RECORDS ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES DONE DURING THE DEN MEETING IN THE TIGER CUB'S HANDBOOK.</p>				

Tiger Cub Den Activities

Advancement possibilities highlighted in this month's meeting plans: Achievements 2, 4G; Electives 6, 9; Bobcat Trail 1, 4, and 6.

It's a new school year, and a new year of Cub Scouting is ahead for the Tiger Cubs and their adult partners. This month the Tiger Cubs will get to know their den mates as they work together on a Tiger Cub den banner and do the My Favorite Things activity. Working together will help Tiger Cub den members get to know each other better, and it will give them the opportunity to practice being honest, respectful, and cooperative. For this month's "Go See It," visit a newspaper office, magazine publisher, television or radio station, or historical museum to see how communication has changed over the years. Have the Tiger Cubs show off their banner and sing a song for the pack meeting.

CHARACTER CONNECTION: HONESTY

(Bobcat Trail #1)

Meet with the adult partners to explain the ways to discuss a Character Connection with the boys. Use the Go See It as an opportunity to talk about honesty.

- What does honesty mean?
- Why it is important for us to be honest?
- Why is it important for reporters to report honestly?
- Is it always easy to be honest?
- What if we will get into trouble if we are honest?
- What if a reporter has to report something that he doesn't want to report, but must if he is to be honest?
- Ask boys: "Do you think friends who are honest with each other make the best friends?"



Indoor Egg Toss

Preparation: Blow the contents from a fresh egg. (Make a small hole in the small end of the shell and a slightly larger hole in the large end; empty the egg by blowing in through the small end and forcing the egg's contents out through the large end.) Rinse out the eggshell and allow it to dry. Put a small piece of tape over the small end. Fill the shell with confetti through the large hole, then tape over the large hole. Prepare one egg for each Tiger Cub team.

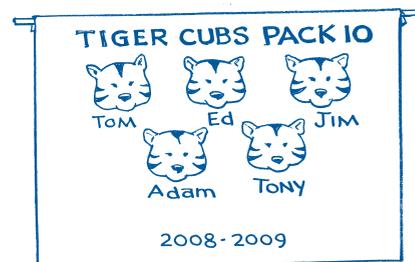
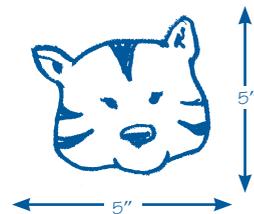
Have the boys throw the eggs to their partners as you direct them. For instance: toss straight to your partner, toss to your partner using an overhand throw, or toss standing on one foot. A Tiger Cub team is eliminated when their egg drops and breaks. The last pair to have an unbroken egg is the winner. Remember to have the boys clean up the confetti! This game provides the opportunity to practice and discuss communication, cooperation, good sportsmanship, and respect for others.

TIGER CUB DEN BANNER

Materials: Rectangular piece of blue felt big enough to hold a tiger head for each current Tiger Cub plus a few potential future Tiger Cubs, orange felt squares (one for each Tiger Cub) with tiger face outline drawn on it, black marking pens, fabric glue, and dowel rod 4 inches longer than the long edge of the blue felt

Have each Tiger Cub decorate a tiger head with a black marker. When done, have the adult partner cut out the head. With adult partner assistance, the Tiger Cub uses fabric glue to glue the head onto the blue felt. Put boy's name below his tiger head. Leave space for extra heads in case additional boys join the

den during the year. Finish banner by turning under and gluing one inch of the top (long edge) of the banner to make a casing through which to insert the dowel rod. Write "Tiger Den _____ 2008–2009." A string may be tied to the ends of the dowel rod and the banner hung on a nail or hook during den and pack meetings. This project may take more than a single gathering time to finish; work on it as you have time.



Hint: Make a template of the tiger head by cutting it out of heavy plastic (a heavy page protector or the plastic from a bacon package—thoroughly washed) or out of single-thickness cardboard (the backing of a pad of paper, for instance). The template makes it easier to get the outline of the tiger head on the felt. The den leader can draw outlines on the felt ahead of time or have each adult partner outline a head for his or her Tiger Cub to color in.

GAMES

My Friend's Favorite Things

Materials: Pictures of animals, toys, foods, and clothing cut from magazines; paper; glue; pencils or pens

Boys work together in pairs. Each boy in the pair picks out his six favorite things from the pictures available, or he may draw his own items if he wishes. He hands them to his partner, telling him why they are his favorite things; boys take turns doing this. The partner glues the six items onto a sheet of paper and puts his partner's name on the paper, as: My Friend (*friend's name*).

Hang these on a wall for the boys to look at as they have time. If time permits, talk about the things that the boys picked in common with other boys as well as some of the different things the boys like—the things that make them special and unique.

New Buddies: Wolf 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.				
BEFORE THE MEETING STARTS	Have supplies for Buddy Bracelets (8 SEP). Have U.S. flag and supplies for making posters for the PAL ceremony (8 SEP).	Have U.S. flag. Have phone books and materials for Phone Number Holder (8 SEP).	Call the destination of your outing to confirm arrangements, times, fees, etc.	Denner writes thank-you to last week's destination. Have pen and paper for doing secret codes and a large bowl for Friendship Salad.
Den leader collects dues.				
WHILE CUB SCOUTS GATHER	Start the meeting outside with the game of New Buddy Find (8 SEP).	Collect permission slips. Assistant den leader reviews the different ways to display the flag (<i>Achievement 2c</i>).	Collect permission slips.	Boys sign thank-you note or card. Den chief explains how the secret code works (<i>Elective 1a</i>).
OPENING	Den chief demonstrates the proper way to present the flag. Say the Pledge of Allegiance (<i>Achievement 2a</i>); review what each phrase means.	Cub Scouts lead a flag ceremony and display the flag in a different way from their usual formation. (For example, use an outdoor flag pole.)	Practice the buddy check that will be used during the outing.	Form a semicircle around the U.S. flag and sing "America" (<i>Elective 11a</i>).
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.				
BUSINESS ITEMS	Discuss the New Buddies theme. Discuss pack meeting plans for the month and how the den will participate. Explain the buddy system (<i>Elective 23d</i>).	Boys review phone books for numbers to include in the list of phone numbers they are compiling (<i>Achievement 4a</i>). Review the buddy system and call for a buddy check.	Visit the site of a local Habitat for Humanity project.	Practice the PAL opening to perform at the pack meeting. Make sure boys face forward and project their voices. Review so that each Cub Scout is aware of the order in which he will present his part.
ACTIVITY	Make two Buddy Bracelets (8 SEP), one for the Cub Scout and one for his buddy. Make posters for the PAL ceremony to use for the pack meeting.	Prepare a list of phone numbers to have at home. Complete Phone Number Holder (8 SEP).	Conduct a buddy check at some point during the outing.	Boys work together to create a secret code between buddies. Write a note to the buddy and exchange. Decipher the note. Create and enjoy the Friendship Salad (8 SEP).
CLOSING	Give the Cub Scout sign and say the Cub Scout Promise (<i>Bobcat #1, #4</i>). Send home permission slips for outing on THIRD WEEK.	Boys line up by buddy and salute each other with the Cub Scout salute. Buddies salute the den leader together as they leave. Remind boys to bring materials for salad in two weeks.	At the end of the trip, lead a reflecting discussion with boys about their outing.	Gather and sit together in a circle; discuss <i>Achievement 12d</i> . Ask boys if there are new boys at school who could use a friend. Thank Cub Scouts for their contributions to the meeting as they leave.
Denner supervises putting away equipment. Den leader, den chief, and denner review the meeting and check details for the next meeting.				
AFTER THE MEETING	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.				

Wolf Den Activities

Advancement possibilities highlighted in this month's meeting plans: Achievements 2c, 4a, 12d; Electives 1a, 11a, 23d.

Boys will find new buddies, play with the new buddies, and show how to conduct a buddy check. They will learn that buddies are everywhere: firefighters, police officers, and Akela are all types of buddies. These are people who can help and people who can help solve problems. Establishing how the buddy system works during den meetings and outings will make the months ahead run smoother for the den. Finish the month by discussing *Achievement 12d*; give the boys a chance to explore the many kinds of friends they can make.

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

- *Achievement 4f*, Know Your Home and Community: Boys can visit a local historic site and learn about buddies in the history of your community and how they worked together.
- *Achievement 7e*, Your Living World: Cub Scouts can learn about how people protect the world. They may be doing it with a friend, or making new friends doing it. Either way, buddies can work together to make the world a better place.
- *Elective 20a*, Sports: Boys can play a game of tennis with a buddy.

GAMES

New Buddy Find

Arrange all boys except one ("It") in pairs, standing back to back with their elbows locked. Pairs are scattered randomly over the playing area. When "It" calls "All change," each boy must find a new buddy and hook elbows with him. At the same time, "It" tries to find a partner. The boy left without a partner becomes the next "It."

Buddy Blow

Materials: Table-tennis ball and straw for each Cub Scout

This is a contest to see who can keep a ball going the longest. Boys pair up with a buddy. Each boy holds a table-tennis ball over the end of a straw. Tip head back and blow hard. Release the ball; it will stay suspended as long as you blow.

Buddy Relay

Materials: Tennis balls or oranges (one for each buddy team)

Buddies pair up. The two buddies carry a ball or orange across the room and back again by holding it between their foreheads. If dropped, start again. When the first pair completes their circuit, the next pair begins. Hand over the ball or orange quickly. Teamwork for this game involves moving in tandem with the partner and gently covering the distance while hurrying.

Hot or Cold

Materials: Small object such as a button or small Cub Scout coin

Boys sit still and close their eyes as "It" walks around and hides a small

object in the room. He should walk in many areas and pause several times as if hiding the object. On signal, Cub Scouts open their eyes and walk around the room. "It" says things like "Jake is cold" when Jake is far from the object, or "Daniel is warmer" as Daniel moves close to the object, or "Bobby is hot" when Bobby is near the object. The boy who finds the object becomes the next "It."

BUDDY BRACELETS

Materials: Cording from fabric or craft shop, yellow pony beads, blue pony beads, alphabet beads

Measure the cording or string so that it fits around the boy's wrist and has an overlap of 3 inches on each end. Boys string on a yellow bead, a blue bead, and an alphabet bead.

Encourage boys to share their buddy bracelets with a boy who would like to join Cub Scouting.

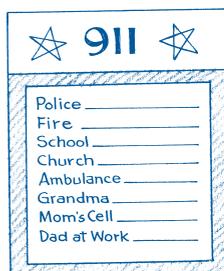
PHONE NUMBER HOLDER

(*Achievement 4a*)

Materials: Craft foam sheets, paper

Preparation: Precut sheets of 3½-by-4-inch paper. Precut 6-by-5-inch and 5-by-1½-inch foam sheets.

Glue smaller strip of foam to the top of the larger piece. Cut out shapes from scrap foam pieces or color with markers.



Glue paper with phone numbers onto the bottom part of the larger piece of foam.

OPENING CEREMONY: PAL

Cub Scouts prepare large pieces of paper with the letters P, A, and L printed on them. Write out phrases on the back of each paper. Add additional large papers for additional boys in your den (a smile or picture could be on the front).

DEN LEADER: "Pal" is just one word for "friend," and our Wolf Cub Scouts are going to tell us how some of the world's great religions think we should treat people:

P—Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. (*The Bible*)

A—Try your best to treat others as you would wish to be treated. (*Confucianism*)

L—What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor. (*Judaism*)

Other terms to use might be "friend," "buddy," or "chum."

As new Cub Scouts learn the Cub Scout Promise and the Law of the Pack, a poster in the meeting place will help them.

Cub Scout Poster Set (No. D32068)

Posters with the Cub Scout Promise, Law of the Pack, and Code of Conduct will be useful to new Cub Scouts and their families.

SNACK: FRIENDSHIP SALAD

Materials: Cans of fruit or fresh fruit brought by boys; large bowl

Explain that the boys will make a friendship salad. Each boy brings a can of fruit or a piece of fresh fruit. They add it to the salad in a large dish. Mix and enjoy.

New Buddies: Bear 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.				
BEFORE THE MEETING STARTS	Have materials to make buddy invitations (10 SEP) and chalk for Path to My Buddy (10 SEP).		Call the destination of your outing to confirm arrangements, times, fees, etc.	Denner writes thank-you to last week's destination. Have materials for Communication Art (10 SEP). Bring marbles to activity.
Den leader collects dues.				
WHILE CUB SCOUTS GATHER	Boys learn to take fingerprints (<i>Achievement 7a</i>).	Collect permission slips. Pair up and work on two-person contests (<i>Achievement 16b</i>).	Collect permission slips.	Boys sign thank-you note or card. Play Communication Art (10 SEP).
OPENING	Denner presents U.S. flag; den recites Pledge of Allegiance (<i>Achievement 3f</i>).	Conduct the Handshake Opening (<i>Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs</i>).		Have denner call roll; each boy answers by telling his favorite part of the hike on Week Three.
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.				
BUSINESS ITEMS	Introduce the "New Buddies" theme. Talk about the use of the buddy system (<i>Cub Scout Leader Book</i>) and what a buddy check is.	Part of being a buddy is helping each other. Discuss what to do in a bus accident (<i>Achievement 11c</i>).		Rehearse how the den will explain the buddy system and how it is used, which will be the den contribution to the pack meeting.
ACTIVITY	Make invitations for "Bring a Buddy to Scouting." Buddy can be invited to the third-week outing, a den meeting, or a pack meeting. Go outside and play Path to My Buddy (10 SEP).	Review the two-person contests done earlier. Finish any that were not completed before the beginning of the meeting. Lead a Character Connection on Cooperation (10 SEP). Make Trail Food Twosome (10 SEP, <i>Achievement 9e</i>) for next week's hike.	Go on a nature hike on a nature trail or to a city park, state park, botanical garden, or local Scout camp. (See <i>Cub Scout Leader Book</i> for ideas on themed hikes.) Use the buddy system on the hike. Work on the Cub Scout Outdoor Activity Award (1, 3, and/or 13).	Teach the boys the rules of playing marbles (<i>Achievement 23b</i>). Talk about the requirements for the Marbles belt loop (<i>Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide</i>). Play a game of marbles (<i>Achievement 23c</i>).
CLOSING	Recite the Cub Scout Promise and Law of the Pack. Remind boys to deliver or send their buddy invitations. Send home permission slips for outing on THIRD WEEK.	Den leader calls for buddy check. Boys find buddy and respond by numbering off.	At the end of the trip, lead a reflecting discussion with boys about their outing.	Sing "The Buddy Song" (10 SEP). Cub Scouts shout out their den yell.
Denner supervises putting away equipment. Den leader, den chief, and denner review the meeting and check details for the next meeting.				
AFTER THE MEETING	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.				

Bear Den Activities

Advancement possibilities highlighted in this month's meeting plans: Achievements 3f, 7a, 9e, 11c, 16b, 23b, 23c (partial).

Boys will learn about the buddy system in Scouting—why we use it and how to be part of a buddy check. They will invite a buddy to visit a den meeting, outing, or pack meeting to encourage him to join Cub Scouting. They will play games that involve a buddy and talk about the Character Connection on cooperation.

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

- *Achievement 24a*, Be a Leader: With an adult, follow up on your Bring a Buddy invitation to encourage a new boy to join Cub Scouting.
- *Achievements 9b–9g*, What's Cooking? These achievements offer an opportunity for the Cub Scout and a buddy to do various cooking tasks.
- *Elective 17a, 17e*, Repairs: This elective offers an opportunity for the Cub Scout and a buddy to do simple home repairs.

BRING A BUDDY TO SCOUTING INVITATION

(*Achievement 18d*)

Materials: Construction paper or cardstock, magazine pictures, stickers, markers, glue, envelopes

Each boy makes an invitation to show what he likes about Scouting and why he would like his buddy to visit his den meeting. Make sure each invitation has information regarding where and when the meeting is held. Invitations can be hand-delivered or mailed. If the buddy is invited to the third-week outing, enclose a permission slip.

SHOEPRINT CAST

(*Achievement 7a*)

Materials: Plaster of Paris, water, container, stirring stick; cardboard to make ring

Pair up with a buddy; each buddy makes a shoeprint in soft dirt. Place a ring of cardboard around the print. Gently pour plaster of Paris into the track and let dry. After drying, lift the plaster and gently brush off the dirt. Compare the plaster track to the actual track.

BUDDY PAINTING

(*Elective 9a*)

Materials: Easel paper (or similar), paintbrushes, acrylic or watercolor paints, old shirts for cover-ups

Tape two pieces of large easel paper together. Talk about what a “buddy” is (a friend). Divide boys into groups of two or three to paint a picture on the paper cooperatively. They should decide before beginning to paint what their subject will be. It might be a landscape, a fantasy scene, or each other. The object is to work together to create a masterpiece! With the finished paintings, have an art show at the pack meeting.

PEBBLE PAPERWEIGHT

Materials: Jar lid, plaster of Paris, pebbles

Fill a large plastic jar lid nearly to the top with plaster of Paris. In the wet plaster, form a design with washed and dried pebbles or brightly colored shell bits. Designs might be the shape of a bear, the Cub Scout sign, a car, the flag, etc. Have coloring books or magazines to inspire the Cub Scouts in their creations. Let paperweights dry until plaster has set.

PATH TO MY BUDDY

Materials: Large sidewalk area, chalk

Cub Scouts draw different “paths” on the sidewalk from a “start” line to an “end” line approximately 25 feet away. The paths may cross each other several times.

Boys are buddied up. One starts at the “start” side, the other at the “end” side. They follow the route as quickly as possible. Note that they will be crossing with other players, and need to problem-solve who will cross over a line first. When the first Cub Scout reaches the “end,” the buddy returns to the “start” by following the path back.

GAME: COMMUNICATION ART

Materials: Paper; pens, pencils, or markers; simple pictures from a storybook or coloring book

Boys pair up. One boy describes a shape in a picture (without revealing what it is) while his partner draws the picture from his instructions. When complete, compare the drawing to the picture.

SONG: THE BUDDY SONG

Tune: Frère Jacques

This can be sung as an echo song or in the round.

Who's my buddy? Who's my buddy?
Hey, it's you! Hey, it's you!

I'm so glad you are my friend.
I'm so glad you are my friend.
You're the best. You're the best.

CHARACTER CONNECTION: COOPERATION

- Ask boys to give an example of a situation showing cooperation at home or at the den meeting.
- Ask them how the situation might be different if cooperation didn't happen.
- Ask them how cooperating with a buddy makes them feel.
- Tell them to think of ways in the week ahead that they can show cooperation at home, at school, or Cub Scouting.



SNACK: TRAIL FOOD TWOSOME

(*Achievement 9e*)

NOTE: Before serving this snack, be sure no one in the den has peanut allergies.

Materials: Healthy ingredients for trail snacks (dry cereal, raisins, peanuts, dried fruit, etc.), mixing containers, sealing plastic bags

Pair the boys with a buddy. Let them create their own version of trail food snacks and put in sealed plastic bags. When finished, compare the different varieties of recipes. Talk about how we are each different, but we are also alike.

Using Plaster of Paris

Plaster of Paris is an inexpensive craft medium that can be found in craft stores and home improvement supply stores. Read the instructions on the package for the correct measurements of plaster and water. Once mixed, any leftover plaster should be put in the trash, never down a drain as it will harden and potentially clog pipes.