



Core Value: Respect

December

Respect

Core Value of the Month

Respect: Showing regard for the worth of someone or something.

Through interacting with pack families, Cub Scouts will develop appreciation and respect for different families and traditions. Through pack service projects, they will learn to treat the environment with care.

Pack Planning Meeting

Pack leaders meet one or two weeks before the pack meeting to finalize plans for December and develop plans for the January pack meeting.

Pack Committee

- Check with den leaders to make certain that advancement reports are completed and turned in.
- Ensure that all parts of the pack meeting are assigned to dens or leaders.
- Leaders report what their boys will do for den demonstrations.
- Collecting things for a family in need should be discussed in detail. Make sure that the dens are aware of the ages of any children involved.
- A potluck refreshment table is a nice way to share during the holidays. Ask each den to bring enough snacks to feed their group. This way there is plenty for everyone.
- The blue and gold banquet committee reports on the plans for this important event.
- January is the pinewood derby month. Be sure that the needed committees and volunteers are in place. If any position needs filling, explain that job at the pack meeting and invite pack members to volunteer. Distribute pinewood derby kits to the boys at the pack meeting.

Cubmaster Corner

- **Many Types of Families:** Cub Scouting is a program for boys. It is also a program for the family. Cubmasters need to be aware that many Cub Scouts do not come from traditional two-parent homes. Some boys live with a single parent, other relatives, guardians, or foster parents. Cub Scouting considers a boy's family to be the people with whom he lives. 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.
- In most packs, the Arrow of Light recognition ceremony for Webelos Scouts will occur in two months. Be sure that opportunities are available for these boys to complete specific requirements. Plan a ceremony that is both meaningful and memorable for the Webelos Scouts and their families.

Pack Trainer

- The pack trainer conducts Unit Leadership Enhancement No. 12, Planning Special Events. The blue and gold banquet is two months from now; preplanning will make for a smooth, successful, and special celebration of the birthday of Cub Scouting. You may also choose a different topic that better suits the current needs of your pack. See the *Cub Scout Leader Book* for detailed outlines. Select a topic for next month.

Program Highlights

Academics and Sports

The Cub Scout Academics and Sports program is a great way to help fulfill the aims of Scouting—building character, developing citizenship, and encouraging mental and physical fitness. This month you might feature these belt loops and pins.

- **Good Manners:** Cub Scouts will learn to be polite and respectful, write a thank-you note to someone who has given them something or done something nice for them, and know how to introduce two people correctly and politely.
- **Ice Skating:** Ice Skating is a great winter activity for Cub Scouts. As they learn to ice skate, they can apply their skills to earn the Ice Skating belt loop and pin.

See the *Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide* for more information.

Outing in Scouting

- **Cub Scouts.** Visit an outdoor holiday display. Go ice skating or roller skating.
- **Webelos Scouts.** Take a day hike. Be sure to gauge the weather carefully and take layers of clothing as needed.

Resource Highlight: *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book*

Used with the *Cub Scout Leader Book*, this book will enable you to plan den and pack programs that will be fun for everyone. And while boys are having fun, they will be learning, advancing in rank, and strengthening relationships with one another.

The December Pack Meeting

Respect

BEFORE THE MEETING

- Plan to set up with plenty of time to spare so you can start the meeting on time. Set aside display areas for dens to share their activities with all families.
- If collecting items for a Good Turn project, set up a special area for families to drop off items.
- Set up the refreshment table away from the regular meeting area.

GATHERING

Greeters welcome the Cub Scout families and show them where to place their contributions. Direct families to the refreshment table where they can leave their snacks.

Preopening Activity

Holiday Handshake

As families arrive, give each person five holiday- or season-related stickers. Invite them to walk around the room and introduce themselves to five other people, shaking hands, and presenting each person with a sticker, who may then stick it on his or her shirt. Encourage them to meet pack families they do not know well.

OPENING

Opening Ceremony

Have a pre-assigned den present the colors and lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Or select a different ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Prayer (Cub Scout or Leader)

"During this holiday season and every day of the new year, please help us remember to have respect for others and to do our Good Turn daily with a joyful heart."

Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster welcomes all Cub Scouts and families, and introduces any special guests. The Cubmaster might have an extra large jingle bell and ring it as he or she draws the attention of the boys.

PROGRAM

Den Demonstrations

Dens are invited to share information about their activities this month. Dens may share songs, perform a skit, show den projects completed, or share information from their trips in the community or Good Turns.

Game

Carrying Goodwill Relay

Materials: Three gift-wrapped boxes, similar in size, per team.



Divide participants into teams. Pair up the players within each team and station them about 10 feet apart. On signal the first pair carries the three boxes with two hands, each boy using one hand as shown. The object is to carry the gifts to the next pair without dropping them. If they drop the gifts, they must stop and pick them up before going on. Cheer for all players for their efforts.

RECOGNITION

Use the ceremony below or use a ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs*.

Snowflake Ceremony

Materials: A large cut-out snowflake, awards attached to small snowflake cutouts.

CUBMASTER: *(Holding the large snowflake)* This giant snowflake is a symbol of the wonder of the winter season. No two snowflakes are alike, and each is one of the most beautiful objects formed by nature. In the same way, every Cub Scout is a unique wonder, learning and progressing through life in his own way. Tonight, we have Cub Scouts who are creating their own singular designs in life by traveling further along the Cub Scout trail. *(Call forward the Cub Scouts and their parents or guardians. Present awards.)* Congratulations!

CLOSING

Announcements

Encourage all boys to continue with their advancement. Announce the date and time of next month's pack meeting.

Distribute pinewood derby kits to the boys.

Cubmaster's Minute

Like snowflakes, we are all different and unique. We must show respect for our fellow man. Respect for his beliefs, respect for his belongings, respect for his privacy, and respect for the ground he walks on and the air he breathes. In so doing, we show respect for ourselves and secure freedom for all.

Closing Ceremony

Holiday Candles

Setup: Turn off the room lights; each denner holds a single candle.

CUBMASTER: This is the season of lights. It is the time when the days are shorter and the nights are longer. But somehow the world seems brighter. Thousands of homes burn candles to light the way for the Christ child. Thousands more have candles burning to commemorate the miracle of Hanukkah. Thousands will be lighting the candles to symbolize the seven principles of Kwanzaa. Even the stars in the winter sky seem brighter. But the most brilliant glow comes from the spirit of goodwill that you live all year through the Cub Scout Promise and the Law of the Pack.

AFTER THE MEETING

- Refreshments
- Cleanup