

PACK RESOURCE SHEET

February 2009 Theme: American ABCs

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

Fun and Adventure. Boys will enjoy the trip through history and across the nation as they discover what it has to offer.

Preparation for Boy Scouts. Boys will learn to honor America as all Boy Scouts should.

Family Understanding. Family relations will be strengthened as family members share their experiences of places they have been.

The core value to be highlighted this month is:

Citizenship. Through learning about places and people in America, the boys will come to understand what being a citizen entails, and develop pride in America.

Pre-Opening Activity: American ABCs

Materials: Large U.S. map, blue and yellow stickers (round dot labels), one gold sticker

Post the map on the wall. Mark the town where the meeting is taking place with a gold sticker. As people arrive, give each person a blue sticker. Ask them to write their initials on the sticker and place it on the map where they would most like to visit (a place they haven't been yet). Encourage them to help each other locating the place on the map. Then give yellow stickers to each family and ask them to place the stickers where the family came from (only if it is different from the town where they now live). If a family is from another country, have them place the sticker outside the United States in the direction that county is located.

During the meeting, select a few initials from the blue stickers on the map and ask them where they want to visit and why.

Opening Ceremony: The ABCs of Our Country

Materials: Large cards with the letters A, B, and C on one side and the scripts on the other side

CUB SCOUT 1: As we think about America, how would you describe it?

CUB SCOUT 2: A—Alabaster cities, all receive justice and American values.

CUB SCOUT 3: B—Bounteous harvest, blessed land, and beautiful scenery.

CUB SCOUT 4: C—Creative citizens, colorful sunsets, and constitutional freedoms.

CUB SCOUT 5: Our stars and stripes fly above our heads.
Please stand as we recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prayer: Thank You

"For the beauty of our county,
For the freedom we have,
For our families and friends,
We thank you, God. Amen."

Song: Visiting the ABCs of America

Tune: "Jingle Bells"

Abilene, Baltimore.... Charlotte's on our way
As we travel through the towns, seeing sites all day.

Forefathers had the sight to help our nation see
All the vistas to the west and towns for you and me.
Travel here—travel there—with our ABCs,
Heading 'cross America to see what we can see.
Travel here—travel there—with our ABCs,
Learning lots of facts to share with our families.

Cheer: ABC Cheer

Divide the audience into three groups. Assign each group a word to say: "America," "Beautiful," and "Country." All say "ABC." "ABC—America, Beautiful, Country—ABC!"

Advancement Ceremony: American Landmarks

Materials: Pictures of American landmarks, large U.S. map mounted on cardboard, tape

Preparation: Place the name of each boy on a picture of a landmark whose first letter matches his initial (Diamond Head for David, for example). Place his award on the map where his landmark should be. Good sources for pictures include old calendars and old travel magazines. Make sure you choose pictures from different parts of the country.

CUBMASTER: This month we have been learning about the beauty of our nation. We have several Cub Scouts who have reached landmarks in their travel through Cub Scouting. (*Cubmaster calls up the Cub Scout and family. The Cub Scout goes to the landmark and picks his picture. Cubmaster indicates where the landmark is on the map. While the Cub Scout swaps the award with the landmark, the Cubmaster talks briefly about the beauty of that landmark. The Cubmaster then presents award to the parents and they present it to their son. Continue with remaining awards.*)

CUBMASTER: Now that we have added pictures of all these beautiful places, our map is much more than just a piece of paper on the wall! Congratulations!

Closing Ceremony: Do Our Best

(*All families in each den stand in a circle with hands on each other's shoulders.*)

CUB SCOUT 1: We've all had a lot of fun tonight,

CUB SCOUT 2: Learning about America the bright,

CUB SCOUT 3: And now before we go on our way,

CUB SCOUT 4: Let's have each family take part as we say,

CUB SCOUT 5: Please repeat after me.

"As a family, we pledge to do our best!!"

Cubmaster's Minute: America the Beautiful

"I'm sure you are all familiar with the song 'America the Beautiful.' We often think of this song as a song of praise for America's physical beauty. Have you ever sung the other verses to this song? They tell us a little something about the history of America. 'O beautiful for pilgrim feet...' celebrates the people who bravely left their homelands to settle this country. 'O beautiful for heroes proved...' helps us to remember all those who fought and died so that we can be free. 'O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years...' reminds us that America was founded on a dream and continues to grow and prosper with that

dream. These verses remind us of the beauty and strength of character of Americans who came before us. Next time you hear or sing this song, listen to the words. Remember the beauty of America—its physical beauty and the beauty of all of its people.”

Game: Crossing America

Materials: Large U.S. map; craft sticks, each painted a different color for each team.

Divide players into teams. Lay the U.S. map on the floor and have one team line up on the eastern side of the map. The first player tries to toss his stick toward the nearest state. The next player tries to toss his stick to a state that is farther to the west than the previous stick. If the stick lands closer to the east or lands in an ocean, it does not count. Play continues until a stick lands on a state that touches the Pacific Ocean or the last team member has made a toss. Count how many sticks landed on the map. Teams take turns. The team with the highest count wins.

Game: ABC Lineup

Preparation: Write the names of cities or towns that begin with each letter of the alphabet on index cards. Make two identical sets, one written in blue and the other in red.

Select an equal number of red and blue cards so that the total number of cards equals the number of players. Scatter cards face down in one area of the room. On signal, all players run to the area and pick up a card. Without talking at all, they must line up by color in alphabetical order. The color group that lines up first without any mistakes is the winner.

Game: ABC Song?

Practice the tune for the alphabet song. Once the players know it, change the words to those of another well-known song. For example, sing “Mary Had a Little Lamb” to the tune of the alphabet song.

Project: Postage Stamp Neckerchief Slide

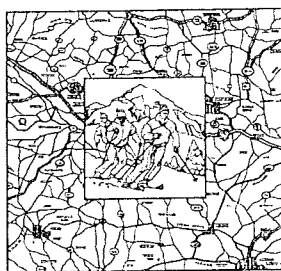
Materials: Canceled postage stamp that suggests patriotism or scenery of America, thin wood piece slightly larger than the stamp, paintbrush, white glue, ½-inch PVC pipe section

Sand the wood piece smooth and glue the stamp on it. Use a paintbrush to coat the entire surface with slightly diluted white glue. When dry, attach the PVC pipe section to the back.

Project: Map Picture Frame

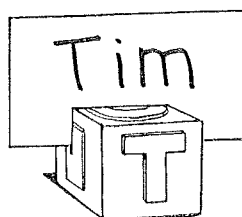
Materials: Old map from a field trip or vacation, a photo from that trip, thin cardboard, clear report cover or sheet protector, tape, scissors

Cut the map larger than the cardboard. Make an opening on the cardboard smaller than the photo. Cover with the map, securing it on the back with tape. Cut the clear plastic larger than the frame opening. Tape it on the back of the frame. Tape the photo to the plastic.



Project: ABC Block Place Card Holder

Materials: Old wooden alphabet block, coping saw, C-clamp, cardstock or index card



Secure the block with a C-clamp and cut a slit with a coping saw. Cut cardstock to size. Write the name. Use for the banquet or at home.

Skit: America the Beautiful

Setting: Seven Cub Scouts dressed like artists carrying palettes and brushes, narrator, U.S. flag, music (“America the Beautiful”)

NARRATOR: We are honored to have as our guests a group of artists who are going to combine their efforts and talents to paint us a great masterpiece.

ARTIST 1: I will paint for you the tradition and charm of New England. (*Steps behind curtain*)

ARTIST 2: I will portray through my brush the tremendous harbors of New York City. (*Steps behind curtain*)

ARTIST 3: My artistry will show you the charm of our Southland. (*Steps behind curtain*)

ARTIST 4: May I add to our canvas just a little of the beauty of our great Midwest? (*Steps behind curtain*)

ARTIST 5: Our great Southwest will be my task to portray. (*Steps behind curtain*)

ARTIST 6: Our beautiful West Coast reaches from the hot Mexican border to the colder snows of Alaska. (*Steps behind curtain*)

ARTIST 7: I will complete our picture with famous Waikiki Beach and Diamond Head. (*Steps behind curtain*)

NARRATOR: And now for the unveiling. May I present our greatest masterpiece!

(As the curtains are slowly parted and “America the Beautiful” is played, the flag is solemnly shown.)

WEBELOS ACTIVITY BADGE PROJECTS

Scholar: Do You Know Your Alphabet?

What letter is:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. A vegetable? | 7. An actor's signal? |
| 2. A body of water? | 8. A drink? |
| 3. Part of the head? | 9. Gravitational acceleration? |
| 4. A female sheep? | 10. An exclamation? |
| 5. Part of a house? | 11. An insect? |
| 6. A bird? | 12. A question? |

Answers: (1) P; (2) C; (3) I; (4) U; (5) L; (6) J; (7) Q; (8) T; (9) G; (10) O; (11) B; (12) Y.

Engineer: Super Paper

Materials: Paper, tape, book

If you tried to support a book on the thin edge of a sheet of paper, the paper would crush. That is because the weight of the book would be concentrated on a small surface area. By changing the shape of the paper, you can change the surface area of the paper and the weight of the book will be distributed over a greater surface area.

Fold single sheets of paper into different shapes and see which shape is more stable. Use tape if necessary.

