

PACK RESOURCE SHEET

APRIL 2012

Core Value For April

Faith: Having inner strength or confidence based on our trust in God. With their family guiding them, Cub Scouts will grow stronger in their faith. Through den and pack activities boys will learn to understand and respect people whose faith is different from theirs.

Preopening Activity: Religious Emblems

Preparations: Enlarged copies of the religious emblems for Cub Scouts. The emblems are available in the *Insignia Guide*, Duty to God brochure, or the boys' handbooks. Cut apart the emblems and post them in various parts of the room. Make sure to keep together the picture of the medal, name of the program, and faith. On sheets of paper, copy only the religious emblems (without the name of the program or faith).

As people arrive, give each person a sheet with the emblems printed on it. Instruct them to go around the room and find the symbol and read the name of the program and faith. Encourage people to help each other find all the emblems.

Opening Ceremony: Faith

Materials: Five large cards with letters to spell out "faith" on one side and script on the other

CUB SCOUT 1: F is to follow. We follow the beliefs of our faith and practice them with our family.

CUB SCOUT 2: A is to act. We act in ways that show our love and faith.

CUB SCOUT 3: I is to involve. We involve ourselves in helping others with service projects and learning about our faith.

CUB SCOUT 4: T is to thank. We thank our God for our families, our friends, and all that he has given us.

CUB SCOUT 5: H is to hope. We hope for a better world as we practice our faith.

Prayer: Prayer of Thanks

Everyone holds hands and each person says one word for what he or she is most thankful.

Recognition Ceremony: North Star

CUBMASTER: For thousands of years, men have known that the North Star is fixed. Shepherds knew it before the time of Christ, and seamen have used the North Star and other heavenly bodies to guide their ships to port ever since they first dared leave the sight of land. Even today, the North Star guides many travelers to help find their way.

Cub Scouts don't need stars to find their way. But we do have our own guiding stars to help us through life. They are your church and your school, for instance. In Cub Scouting, our navigational aids are the Promise and the Law of the Pack. They tell us how we should act and what we should do for ourselves and for others. The Cub Scout Promise and the Law of the Pack are just like the stars by which the seaman steered his ship.

Tonight we honor the Cub Scouts who are navigating straight and true on the Cub Scouting trail. With their parents' help, they have completed requirements for many awards and have shown that they live by the Promise and the Law. (*For each award, give a brief explanation of the award and call forward the recipients and parents. Present the awards to parents so they can present them to their sons.*)

Recognition Ceremony: Religious Emblem Square Knots

Materials: Religious emblem square knots

CUBMASTER: When a Cub Scout recites the Cub Scout Promise, he promises to do his duty to God. Tonight the following Cub Scouts have kept their promise by completing the requirements for the religious emblem of their respective religious institutions. (*Call the boys and families forward.*)

As you can see, these boys have already received a medal from their religious institution in recognition of their achievement. These are not Scouting awards. The religious bodies in the United States have programs to recognize members of youth organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America and the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., who demonstrate faith, observe their creeds or principles, and give service. Scouting recognizes this achievement by presenting them with this square knot to place above the left pocket of the uniform shirt. This knot is so special that a boy can wear it on his Boy Scout uniform and adult uniform as he grows older.

Because parents play an important role in guiding their children in their religious growth, I'll ask the parents to present the religious emblem knots to their sons. (*Parents present the knots to their sons.*)

Congratulations!

Recognition Ceremony: Recruiter Recognition

Materials: Recruiter strips

CUBMASTER, COMMITTEE CHAIR, or MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: Boys make a difference for our Cub Scout pack by inviting their friends or recruiting new boys from school. Would the following boys come forward to receive their recruiter strips? (*Call their names and present recruiter strips.*) Congratulations to these boys for making a difference in their dens and our pack.

Remember that boys can join Cub Scouts any time of the year. Always put out the Cub Scout welcome mat to your friends.

Cubmaster's Minute: North Star

"We all enjoy gazing at the stars in the sky. Stars are especially beautiful when you are away from the city lights. Among all those stars, there is a special one. That's the North Star. It is special because while the positions of other stars change throughout the night, the North Star remains constant. Since ancient times, the star has been used for navigation and has guided people on their journeys on land and sea. Just like your faith. Your faith guides you on your journey throughout your life."



Character Connection: Faith

What does faith in God or a higher power mean?
How does a person's religion guide him or her?
How does your faith make you feel comfortable?
What can you and your family do together in the next four weeks to show greater faith?

See *Fun for the Family*, No. 33012, for family activities related to this month's core value, faith.

Closing Ceremony: Open Up!

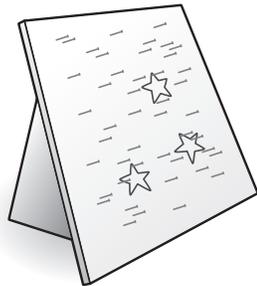
- CUB SCOUT 1: Wake up! Have a beautiful day.
- CUB SCOUT 2: Light up! Put on a smile.
- CUB SCOUT 3: Lift up! Fill with high spirit.
- CUB SCOUT 4: Turn up! Come to every den and pack meeting.
- CUB SCOUT 5: Stand up! Stand for what you believe in.
- CUB SCOUT 6: Toughen up! Get strong in mind and body.
- CUB SCOUT 7: Polish up! Improve your manners.
- CUB SCOUT 8: Look up! Turn your eyes skyward.
- CUB SCOUT 9: Open up! Trust in God with all your heart.

Game: Make a Constellation

Materials: 2-by-2-foot board, wire (14-gauge electrical wire, 16-gauge flower

Preparation: Hammer large nails randomly on a 2-by-2-foot board. Make five to seven stars from wire and tape their ends together securely.

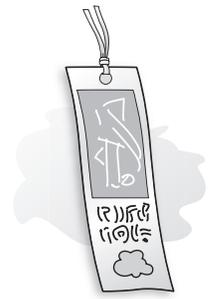
Lean the board against a chair. Players take turns tossing wire stars. When all stars are on the board forming an original "constellation," boys can name it and make up stories. Vary the distance according to the age and ability of the boys.



Project: Symbol of Faith Bookmark

Materials: Craft foam, markers, scrap paper in multiple colors, hole punch, scissors, glue, ribbon

Cut craft foam approximately 1½ inches by 5 inches. Younger children are advised to make their pieces larger. Punch a hole at one end of the rectangular craft foam piece. Decorate the bookmark strips with various symbols and sayings of any chosen faith using cutout pieces of paper and markers. Examples of symbols are the nine-pointed star of the Baha'i faith, Christianity's cross, Judaism's Star of David, the crescent moon and star of Islam, or any of the symbols of the world's faiths. When the bookmark is done, attach a piece of ribbon through the hole.



Snack: Golden Stars

Ingredients:

- 1/3 cup melted butter
- 1 package yellow dry gelatin dessert mix
- 8 cups popped popcorn, unflavored

Put popcorn in a clean paper sack. Pour butter over popcorn, close sack, and shake well. Sprinkle dry gelatin dessert over popcorn, close sack, and shake well again.

Note: Be aware of food allergies and diet restrictions.

Did You Know?

Declaration of Religious Principle. The Boy Scouts of America maintains that no person can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing an obligation to God and, therefore, acknowledges the religious element in the development of youth members. However, the BSA is absolutely nonsectarian in its attitude toward that religious development. Its policy is that the organization or institution with which youth members are connected shall give definite attention to their religious life. Only adults willing to subscribe to this declaration of principle and the Bylaws of the Boy Scouts of America shall be entitled to certificates of leadership.