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## Foreword:

This booklet is designed with care and devotion in a manner that would hopefully have pleased Lord Baden Powell. This is a collection of my ceremonies from over the last decade as a Cub Master. Many of these are my originals, however, they are by no stretch of the imagination, unique.

Cub scouting is built on the ability to borrow and, at times, add one's own spice to the recipe for success. I hope that this is helpful in creating a fun and meaningful experience as the boys earn their advancements. In everything a cub leader does, he does it to build a better cub scout. Ceremony is an important part of this process.

There are plenty of ceremony books already out in publication. Why do I write my own ceremonies? To promote good will, make them unique for the situation, and, if truth be told, I am still a cub scout at heart. If one were to ask my committee chair, the answer would be that I am still a ten year old boy trapped in a man's body. I enjoy putting on costumes and since Halloween comes but once a year, I needed an excuse to dress as a cowboy or a knight in armor or an Indian Chieftain.

I do have to say thank you to several key people in my life who helped to make this possible. First, to my wife, Stephanie, I need to say thanks for never saying "no" to letting me pursue my love of scouting. She has been my sounding board for ceremonies and unfortunately has to bear all of the lame jokes that sometimes accompany the original ideas. Secondly, to my kids, Wesley, Ryan, Megan, Michael, Emily and William. They have been the group that I have experimented on and the reason for the creativity in my life. I am proud to be a father of an Eagle Scout, with three more trailing close behind. Finally, a big "thank you" to my mentor, Mike Hicks. Mike has been my inspiration to build a better cub pack. From being my sponsor and ticket counselor for Woodbadge, to being the long time friend that only scouting can bring, you truly uphold the narrow path to the mountaintop.

I want to thank all of you who take the time to read this. Please feel free to use it in your cub packs. This is given freely to make your program stronger. Please feel free to share these with other packs as we must all work together for the benefit of the boys.

Finally, I want to say that the journey has been difficult, and at times I have wanted to turn back. However, the view from the mountaintop is well worth it. Hopefully, some day all scouters will be able to join together at the top!

*"I used to be a Beaver ..."*

# Painted Tiger Cub Graduation Ceremony

## Tiger Graduation Ceremony

### CHARACTERS:

- Akela—Cubmaster
- Baloo—Asst. Cubmaster
- Bagheera—Tiger Cub Group Coach
- Drummer—A Cub Scout Assistant

### MATERIAL:

- Orange paint
- Cub Scout Shirts
- Yellow Neckerchief (already rolled)
- Neckerchief slide

*(Drummer begins slow, rhythmic beat.)*

**Akela:** Would the following Tiger Cubs and their parents please come forward.

*(Bagheera reads the names of the Tiger Cubs. They assemble in a line with the Tiger Cub in front, parents behind holding the boys' Cub Scout shirts.)*

**Akela:** For the past several months, you and your family have explored new and exciting things and places. You have taken each part of the Tiger Cub Motto “Search, Discover, Share” and have used it in your home, school, and neighborhood.

You and your adult partner have searched out, in your home and community, new activities which have shown you how people work together and have fun together.

*(With orange paint, Baloo draws foot prints on right cheek.)*

**Akela:** You and your adult partner have discovered that by doing things together with friends and family, you feel a sense of being a part of the family, community, and country.

*(With orange paint, Baloo draws an open hand on the left cheek.)*

**Akela:** The things you have searched out and shared with your family, friends, and fellow Tiger Cubs, which let them learn about you and the things you saw and did. Now it is time to move along the Scouting Trail. In Cub Scouting, your family is important, just as it is throughout your whole Scouting experience. Support in earning each badge comes from your family as well as from your den leader. Your parents will help you each step along the way. On behalf of our pack, I would like to welcome you into the next step of Scouting with your Cub Scout uniform shirt and the Cub Scout neckerchief.

*(Parents put shirt on Tiger Cubs, over their Tiger Cub T-shirts. Bagheera places the neckerchief around each Scout's neck and ties it with the neckerchief slide.)*

*(Akela, Baloo, and Bagheera then shakes each Tiger Cub's and his parent's hand.)*

# Tiger Graduation

Props:

- Coals of scouting
- Tiger paw
- Akela mask
- Wolf neckerchief & slide

**Cubmaster:** Would all the Tigers and their Adult partners come and join me here on stage. Today you will become a scout in a wolf den. But before you cross over the coals of scouting, let's look back on what you've learned this year.

*(Ad lib with the four points of the Tiger paw.)*

**Cubmaster:** Now, would all the Adult partners who have made the commitment to be den leaders please cross over as we prepare to cross our Tigers. (Den leaders go to other side to receive boys.)

**Cubmaster:** Cross with care as you enter into your new Wolf den. *(Have the boys cross and receive their neckerchiefs and slides.)* Look, I see a visitor.

*(Enter Akela the Wolf)*

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Greetings cubmaster. I see you have brought me many fine young boys ready to discover what scouting is all about. I hope that they are ready to have fun as they climb the wolf trail.

**Cubmaster:** Are you boys ready to have fun?

**Asst. Cubmaster:** They sound ready, so now I will give them the sign of the Wolf to remember this day.

# A Halloween Tale

A Bobcat Ceremony

*Set up is minimal. A table with pumpkins (frowns on one side, smiles on the other) and the Bobcat awards.*

Many of you have heard the story of the Headless Horseman and the Legend of Sleepy Hollow. However, how many of you have heard the Legend of the Lone Cub Scout?  
*(Pause as some scouts may raise their hands.)*

Many years ago, dating all the way back to the year 1973, when dinosaurs still roamed the earth, there was a cub pack, not too much different than Cub Pack XXX. There were wolf dens, bear dens and even a few Webelos dens. Unfortunately, there were no Tiger dens. The pack was not very courageous and many of the boys were afraid to go out on Halloween for fear of attack from the Lone Cub Scout.

The Lone Cub Scout was known to pull cub scouts away from their dens and drag them down. He would tell them that they could not learn the tough Cub Scout law or the Cub Scout oath. He would fill them with the fear of doubt. Any boy caught in the Lone Cub Scout's grip would quickly wear a frown on his face. He would be replaced in his den with an orange pumpkin. For you see, a den leader would rather teach a pumpkin than have a boy that was filled with doubt and fear from the Lone Cub Scout.

There was one brave boy who decided it was time to face the Lone Cub Scout and find out why he was so mean. This brave little boy went into the field on Halloween night and waited for the Lone Cub Scout to appear. A little before 9:00 in the evening it happened. The Lone Cub Scout and the brave little boy were face to face. The Lone Cub Scout looked at the boy and said, "A Cub Scout follows Akela and will not be drug down by you." He continued, "A Cub Scout helps the pack go through participation in fund-raisers, games, song and skits. The Pack helps the Cub Scout grow through caring den and pack leaders. And finally, the Cub Scout gives good will and this is why I am here today. Why are you so mean to Cub Scouts?"

This caught the Lone Cub Scout off guard. Here was a scout who knew the Cub Scout Law and tried to live by it. He suddenly felt his frown start to turn upside down. He met a scout who was willing to be his friend. He no longer said, "I can't", but now said, "I'll try".

Tonight we have six boys who also do not know the meaning of "I can't". These boys have earned their Bobcat award. Will the following boys and their parents please come forward?  
*Call the boys for the awards.*

*After they have come forward* We are proud of you for all of your hard work. Tonight, we present you with your Bobcat. Remember though, you can not wear it right side up until you have done a good turn, just as the brave little cub scout from our story. Also, here is a pumpkin for each of you. Notice that on one side it is frowning, just as the Lone Cube

Scout had done. The other side shows the frown turned upside down because a Cub Scout that says "I'll try" also has many friends to help him along the way.

Congratulations on your accomplishment. Continue to go forward and spread the good will of Cub Scouting. Let's give these boys some thunderous applause.

# Bobcats Reach for the Stars

A Bobcat Ceremony

**Narrator:** A long time ago, back when the Native Americans were the only people in North America, there was a tribe that lived in the North Eastern mountains of Pennsylvania. The tribe was known as the Pawnee Indians and they lived in what we call the Pocono Mountains.

Legend has it that when the very first Pawnee Indian climbed to the top of the mountain range, he was a shooting star race across the sky. He noted where it had hit the earth and went to find this star. The star was buried into the earth. When it had hit, it had killed a bobcat. The Indian thought that this was a sign from the Great Creator in the Heavens. He skinned the bobcat and carefully wrapped the animal skin around the fallen star. The Pawnee Indians started a tradition on that night.

The Pawnees had many symbols in the stars. There were both the Great Bear and the Little Bear. Both were known for their cunning and wisdom. Also in the sky were the Eagle and the Lion. The lion stood for power and speed. The eagle stood for the leader who stands out by himself. Today, boy scouts still recognize this symbol by making the eagle the highest rank a Boy Scout can earn.

The night that the star fell from the sky, the Pawnees came up with a new constellation. This was called the Skidi, or as we know it, the Bobcat, in honor of the bobcat that had been killed that night on the mountain top. The Bobcat included the cunning and wisdom of the bear, the power and speed of the lion and the ability to stand alone like the eagle. This is what the Skidi looked like. *(pause as transparency is shown)* As time went by, Skidi became known as all of the stars in the heavens.

The Indians began to wrap all of the newborn children in the skin of a bobcat. This was to symbolize that they were a gift from the Heavens and therefore possessed the ability to have all of the skills of the animals in the sky.

New cub scouts, regardless of their age, must first earn the Bobcat. We use the rank of Bobcat to recognize all of the potential found in these new scouts.

Would the following boys and their parents please come forward. *(Call the names of the boys, when all have come forth, call for Akela)*

Akela, there are two boys who wish to meet you.

*(Ad lib presentation ceremony)*

## Bobcat Badge Ceremony

**Cubmaster:** My friends, you are like that small Indian boy wishing that you can answer the call of the great ceremonial drum and be members of the tribe. Every boy who joins Cub Scouts, whatever his age, first earns the Bobcat badge by learning the Cub Scout Promise, the Cub Scout Sign, the Cub Scout Salute, the Cub Scout Handshake, the meaning of Webelos, the Law of the Pack, and the Cub Scout Motto “Do Your Best.”

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Would the following scouts and their parents please come forward?  
(*List boys earning the Bobcat badge.*)

**Cubmaster:** (*Insert name*), do you see the stars in the sky? That is the constellation Big Dipper and the big star is the North Star. For many years man has used these stars as a guide to show them the way as they traveled. As you join Cub Scouts you are starting a trip. You will experience adventures and excitement, meet new friends and learn new skills. However, as you begin this trip you need a “North Star” to guide you. The “North Star” is Akela ... Akela can be your parents, your den leader, even I your Cubmaster. It is our responsibility to help you along the way.

**Cubmaster:** (*Insert parents’ names*), I ask of you, will you accept the responsibility to be (*insert scout’s name*) ‘Akela’, to help guide him along the Cub Scouting trail?

**Cubmaster:** (*Insert scout’s name*), you’ve already started your trip by earning the Bobcat badge. Congratulations!

(*Present Bobcat badge to parents.*)

**Cubmaster:** (*Insert scout’s name*), here also is a star for you to place in your bedroom. At night this star will shine, reminding you of your start on the Cub Scout trail.

**Cubmaster:** Pack XXX, would you please join with me in congratulating (*Insert scout’s name*) and welcome him to our Pack by giving him a “Cub Scout” cheer?



# Knighly Ceremony

A Bobcat Ceremony

**Cubmaster:** Tonight we will honor several boys in the pack. They have worked hard to earn the right to wear the bobcat badge.

Would the following boys and their parents please come forward and join me here on stage. Parents please stand down below the stage so we may honor these cubs.

Please join me in the scout promise:

I (*Insert name*) promise to do my best, to do my duty, to God & my country, and to obey the law of the Pack.

What is the Law of the Pack?

The Cub Scout follows Akela.  
The Cub Scout helps the Pack go  
The Pack helps the Cub Scout grow  
The Cub Scout gives Good will.

**Cubmaster:** Are you ready to receive your Bobcat?

**Cubs:** Yes, we are!!

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Bow down on one knee as I knight you. (*Go to 1<sup>st</sup> scout, take wooden sword and tap each shoulder of boy.*)

(*Insert name*) I Knight you, Bobcat Scout (*Insert name*).

(*Continue to second scout, etc.*)

(*Merlin places bobcat badge on ribbon around each boys' neck.*)

(*After all boys have received their badges*)

**Asst Cubmaster:** Arise Bobcat Scouts and go forth and make your Pack proud...Be a leader for younger scouts to follow. Merlin has advice for you as well, Merlin?

**Cubmaster:** There are many powers throughout the world, none are greater than those within yourselves. There is no greater magic for success than that of hard work and loyalty to your parents, teachers, and leaders. Go now, and continue to learn.

# Live from Studio 5

A Bobcat Ceremony

**Cubmaster:** We are here today to uncover the secret to a good life. I need a volunteer from the audience. Hmm, it should be somebody who is brave, strong, but not necessarily too bright. Let's see...I choose you. *(Point to a den chief.)*

**Den Chief:** Woo Hoo! I can't believe it, I won!!

**Cubmaster:** Won? This isn't a game show, this is a news show. We are here to uncover the secret to a good life.

**Den Chief:** I don't have a good life. My parents don't like me, my dog ran away, my goldfish died, and I don't remember the capital of Alberta, so I won't pass my geography quiz.

**Cubmaster:** Do not fear, little scout. For you see, I have a miracle in a bottle. *(Pause as the bottle of "scout spirit" is shown.)*

**Den Chief:** What does it taste like?

**Cubmaster:** I don't know. What I do know is that you don't drink it. *(Pull out a fake hypodermic needle)* Bend over, you may feel a little pinch!

**Den Chief:** Ouch, that hurts, but strange, I feel like putting on a show, I feel like laughter, I feel *(pause)* ALIVE!

**Cubmaster:** That is what scout spirit can do! I know that there are several boys tonight who want to receive this scout spirit! Would the following boys and their parents join me on stage.

*(Insert names)*

**Cubmaster:** A true test of scouting spirit is to know the Cub Scout Motto and what it means. What's a motto?

**Den Chief:** Nothing, what's a matter with you?

**Cubmaster:** Not a matter, a motto! I bet my cubs here can tell you what the cub scout motto is.

I see that you boys do not need a shot of cub scout spirit. You are ready to wear your Bobcat. I will present you your Bobcat, your sense of humor, and your showmanship. Congratulations!!

# A Test of Manhood

A Bobcat Ceremony

**Cubmaster:** (*Dressed as Akela*) When a young brave is near the age of 8 new moons, the tribe requires that they be brought before the council to be tested for the right to manhood.

**Asst. Cubmaster:** The test is easy for those boys who are prepared. For those who come unprepared, may the Great Spirit take them swiftly into the stars above.

**Cubmaster:** Would the following boys join us at our council ring:

**Asst. Cubmaster:** The reward for those who pass is the symbol of the Bobcat. The Bobcat is small but powerful. It follows truth and is loyal to its den. Do you seek to be a Bobcat? If so, say **I Do**.

**Cubmaster:** I hold before you a coup stick. This is a symbol of leadership. To prove your readiness, each of you must be able to hold the coup stick in this manner. Are you ready?

**Asst. Cubmaster:** I hold before you a dream catcher. A bobcat is not afraid to dream. The dream starts as the desire to be an “arrow of light”, but the greater dream is to be an eagle. If you are not afraid to dream, take my dream catcher and use your imagination to become like the eagle.

**Cubmaster:** The final test is to show your loyalty to the pack. First we need your parents. Will the parents of these braves come and join them around our council fire.

**Asst. Cubmaster:** I summon all former braves of this pack who have returned to be leaders to come forward. (*Pause as den chiefs enter.*) Please lead these braves in the Cub Scout Laws.

## **Den Chief:**

A Cub Scout follows Akela.

A Cub Scout helps the pack go.

The pack helps the Cub Scout grow.

The Cub Scout gives goodwill.

**Cubmaster:** Parents, as we present you with your son’s Bobcat, please put it on him, but do not let him wear it right side up until he has performed a good deed. For it is the Law of this council that he should “do a good turn daily”.

# Animal Spirit

## Wolf Ceremony

CUB SCOUT ADVANCEMENT, NATIVE AMERICAN THEME

People Required: Akela (Cubmaster), Baloo (Asst. Cubmaster), Den Leader

Props: Campfire Forest Scenery

*(The lights are turned off, the fire is lit and the drum starts. Akela and Baloo walk toward the front. When they reach the front, Akela gives the Cub Scout sign, and the drum falls silent.)*

**Den Leader:** The Indians believed in animal spirits. These spirits helped the Indians and gave them special powers. It was good to have the strength from many animal spirits. But, each Indian also had a main spirit. The Indian would not reveal who his guardian spirit was unless he was near death.

**Baloo:** One advantage to spending time alone in the wilderness, is that you might meet your spirit animal. And, to meet your spirit animal is to make your life more complete. An Indian might be canoeing alone across a lake, when he spies a wolf on the shore. And as the wolf looks into his eyes, he'll just know, that that's his spirit animal. Of course you can only meet your spirit animal when you're alone.

**Akela:** The wolf gives us two strengths: wisdom and bravery. The wolf is one of the smartest animals in the woods. This wisdom will serve our braves well. The wolf is also very loyal to the pack. Because of this, the pack is much stronger than the wolf by itself. Do we have any cubs who have earned the mark of the wolf?

**Baloo:** Yes, we have (*number*). They have learned how to handle tools and how to display the flag; they know how to be healthy and safe. They have learned to serve in the community and to conserve energy. They are physically active and like to read. They have fun with their families and have collected useful and beautiful things. They obey our country's laws and worship God.

**Akela:** Bring them and their parents forward so I may award them with the honor they have earned.

**Baloo:** Will (*insert names*) please come forward with their parents?  
(*Hand badge to parents.*)

**Akela:** Parents, would you please present your son his Wolf badge? As is the custom in our pack, please attach the badge to his uniform upside down, with the tape. Once he performs a good deed, it may be permanently attached right side up. The pin is worn by the parents as an indication that Cub Scouting is a family activity.

**Baloo:** These boys deserve a cheer for their hard work. What could be more appropriate than a wolf howl?

# Olympic Awards

## A Wolf Ceremony

There are many ways that tonight's award reminds us of the accomplishments and awards received by the athletes and philosophers of Ancient Greece.

Tonight we award (*Insert name*) with the rank of Wolf. Many of the requirements he has done are like the arts, skills, and crafts of Ancient Greece.

**Candle 1:** From the first requirement—Feats of Skill—we are reminded of the first athletes running, tumbling, and throwing their way to victory in the shadows of Mount Olympus, home of the first Olympiad games in 776B.C.

**Candle 2:** In learning the honor the flag, and the country for which it stands, our Wolf Olympian is like the many athletes who sought to honor their home states.

**Candle 3:** By learning about tools he begins the journey of an artisan, skilled in creating handsome and useful things.

**Candle 4:** To the last requirement—Choosing the Right Way—he has studied what is right and what is wrong to choose the right path, just as the philosophers of Athens.

So he has completed the twelve requirements that earn him the ribbon of honor we call "Wolf"—And as in ancient times, his achievement brings honor to his parents who have helped him. We ask his father/mother to please present him with his Wolf ribbon.

## **B. P's Skills**

A Wolf Ceremnoy

There once was a man by the name of Lord Baden Powell who, upon reviewing the men in his army unit, found them to be lacking in basic skills of the outdoors. Alarmed by this, he set forth to develop a program for youth that became known as the "boy scouts".

Years later the program traveled to America where it was received with open arms. Eventually, a need grew to reach younger boys than the ones being served by boy scouting, so the cub scouting program was formed.

It was a good program with several incentives built into the program. The structure was simple: provide levels of achievement for all boys of any age.

This brings us to tonight's high honor. We have a special pair of boys who have earned their wolf badge. Would (*Insert names*) please come forward with their parents.

It gives me great joy to see the boys diligently working each week to earn their awards. I can see the growth of responsibility and knowledge each has gained in their journey through scouting.

A wolf cub has to make decisions about which direction they will choose in life. One leads them towards the path to the arrow of light, and eventually on to their Eagle. The other is that way which one fails to accomplish one's dreams.

These two boys have made solid decisions by choosing to stay on the path of scouting. May you both continue to grow in your experiences and friendships with one another, as well as friendships with all within the pack.

# Painted Wolf Ceremony

## CHARACTERS:

- Akela—Cubmaster
- Baloo—Asst. Cubmaster
- Drummer—A Cub Scout assistant

## MATERIAL:

- Black paint
- Wolf badges and certificates
- Safety pins
- Parent's pins

*(Drummer begins slow, rhythmic beat.)*

**Akela:** When a boy joins our Cub Scout pack, he earns the badge of the Bobcat and starts on an upward trail. This trail will lead him through the footsteps of the wolf, the bear, and the webelos brave, and on his way to the highest honor of Cub Scouting, the Arrow of Light. Tonight, we honor those Scouts who have made a significant advancement along this journey. Would the following Scouts and their parents please come forward.

*(Baloo reads the names of the Wolf candidates. They assemble in a line with the Scout in front and parents behind.)*

**Akela:** Do you seek to wear the sign of the Wolf? If you do, please say “yes.”

**Cubs:** Yes.

**Akela:** Please recite with me, the Cub Scout Promise:

**Akela and Cubs:** I promise to do my best,  
To do my duty to God and my country,  
To help other people and to obey the Law of the Pack.

**Akela:** I can see by your knowledge of the Cub Scout Promise and the achievements that you have completed, that you have worked hard along with your parents. These achievements are very important as they have helped you gain a deeper appreciation of many things. You are now ready to wear the sign of the Wolf Cub.

The first toe of the wolf paw is for your growth through feats of skill and having fun with your family.

*(Baloo draws a wolf toe on each Scout's forehead while Akela is speaking.)*

**Akela:** The second toe of the wolf paw represents what you have learned about your home, community, and country as well as your religious beliefs.

*(Baloo draws a second wolf toe on each Scout's forehead while Akela is speaking.)*

**Akela:** The third toe of the wolf paw stands for the skills you have gained in handling tools, tying things, using books, and making collections.

*(Baloo draws a third wolf toe on each Scout's forehead while Akela is speaking.)*

**Akela:** The fourth toe of the wolf represents your new appreciation for conservation as well as safety in home and traffic.

*(Baloo draws a fourth wolf toe on each Scout's forehead while Akela is speaking.)*

**Akela:** The pad of the wolf paw represents your growth as a Cub Scout, and the increased responsibility you are now capable of handling.

*(Baloo draws the wolf pad on each Scout's forehead while Akela is speaking.)*

**Akela:** Wolf Cubs, remember the inscription of this paw. It shows you are ready to move along the upward trail of Scouting.

*(Baloo presents the Wolf Badges to the parents, who pin the badges onto the boys' uniforms; and presents the parent's pin to the Scouts who pin their parent.)*

**Akela:** Congratulations to you and your family on arriving on this part of the Cub Scout trail.

*(Akela and Baloo then shakes each Scout's and each parent's hand.)*



# The Power of Cubbing

A Bear Ceremony

**Asst. Cubmaster:** *(Insert name)*, what are you looking at? It looks like a dictionary.

**Cubmaster:** It is *(Insert name)*. All these words are in this book, yet it still doesn't make a person as smart as a bear.

**Asst. Cubmaster:** A bear? What else can you tell me about bears.

**Cubmaster:** Well, some advance very fast, in fact faster than a speeding bullet.

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Is that all there is to know about bears?

**Cubmaster:** No, I've only just begun to tell you about these special bears. Do you know that they are strong in their desire to learn the bear ways, that they can easily pick up this 400 pound dumbbell.

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Maybe you should call it a smart bell.

**Cubmaster:** Maybe we should just call for these two new bears to come up here with their parents.

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Good idea, *(Insert name)*. Will *(Insert scout's names)* please escort your parents up here on stage with us?

**Cubmaster:** You can claim to be ready to wear the rank of bear. I ask you now to step forward and lift the weight of cubbing high into the air to prove you are worthy.

*(Pause as the boys lift the barbell.)*

**Asst. Cubmaster:** It gives the pack great pleasure in presenting to your parents the rank of bear which you have earned. Parents, please award your sons their bear badge.

# Painted Bear Ceremony

## CHARACTERS:

- Akela—Cubmaster
- Baloo—Asst. Cubmaster
- Drummer—A Cub Scout assistant

## MATERIALS:

- Brown paint
- Bear badges and certificates,
- Safety pins
- Parent's pins

*(Drummer begins slow, rhythmic beat.)*

**Akela:** Tonight we are honoring some Cub Scouts who have reached a new rank. They have worked hard to take on the sign of the bear. Will the following Scouts and their parents please come forward.

*(Baloo reads the names of the Bear candidates. They assemble in a line with the Scout in front and parents behind.)*

**Akela:** You are all well onto the Cub Scout trail to reach the honor of the Arrow of Light in Cub Scouting, and eventually, start the Boy Scout trail to seek the sign of the Eagle.

To help you continue on your journey, we will now inscribe you with the sign of the bear.

*(While Akela recites the following, Baloo paints two round eyes on each Scout's forehead, above his eyes.)*

**Akela:** To help you see along this trail, I am giving you the eyes of the bear. When the achievements become hard, these eyes will guide you over the rough spots.

*(Baloo then paints a line down each Scout's nose.)*

**Akela:** The nose of the bear. Imagine for a minute with me. Let us walk in the forest. Smell the fresh air, the dirt, the trees. Smell the smoke from the campfire, dinner cooking outside. All of these new adventures are waiting for you in the final part of your Cub Scout trail and along the Boy Scout trail towards Eagle.

*(Baloo then paints rounded bear ears on the cheeks of each Scout.)*

**Akela:** The ears of the bear. Others may try to mislead you and cause you to stray from the trail. Do not hear them. Listen only to the call of the Eagle.

*(Baloo paints a curved mouth on each Scout's chin.)*

**Akela:** The mouth of the bear. Bears know good from bad and so do you by now. The Cub Scout Promise has taught you to do your duty to God, and to your country, and to others.

*(Baloo paints green triangles on both cheeks.)*

**Akela:** The trail is getting steeper and harder. Not everyone will finish. Follow this guideline so no harm will come to you along the trail.

*(Baloo presents the Bear badges to each Scout's parent and the parent pin to the Scout. The parent pins the Bear badge onto the Scout's uniform shirt, and the Scout, in turn, pins the parent pin onto his parent's shirt.)*

**Akela:** Congratulations to you and your family for your hard work.

*(Akela and Baloo then shakes each Scout's and each parent's hand.)*

# Spring is Sprung

A Bear Ceremony

**Cubmaster:** As many of you know, the ides of March are considered the beginning of spring. This may be true for those who follow a paper calendar, but for those of us who follow the ways of nature, we look for other signs.

Sometimes we look for the first blooms of the forsythia. For others it is the arrival of the robins and their pleasant songs. We, the ones who follow the ways of Akela, look for the awakening of the bear.

Let's listen to the story of the bear. The bear spends all of fall looking for food to store up fat for the winter. When the first snow starts to fall, he makes his way into his den to hibernate for the winter. While many people view a winter's sleep as lazy, we know differently. While the bear rests, the food that he worked so hard to eat begins to form into muscle and energy as he grows. This rest allows him to wake to new opportunities in the spring.

I wonder if our own Baloo is ready to come out of his sleep. Baloo, where are you?

**Asst. Cubmaster:** (*Yawning*) Hello Akela, why all this fuss?

**Cubmaster:** Welcome Baloo, we are here to celebrate the beginning of spring.

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Well, if it is spring, then there must be some boys who are ready to receive their Bear badge.

**Cubmaster:** You are correct Baloo. Would the following boys and their parents please come forward:

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Like the bear, you have spent the fall gathering and preparing for the winter. During the long winter days, you have grown in your knowledge of scouting. Now that spring is here, you are ready to wear the sign of the bear and are full of energy to earn Arrow Points.

**Cubmaster:** It now gives us great pleasure to present to you the parents, your son's bear award. May he wear it proudly.

## Webelos Awards

**Cubmaster: (SIGN'S UP)** HEAR NOW THE TALE OF THE TRIBE OF WEBELOS AND THEIR GREAT Chief, Akela.

**Asst. Cubmaster:** (Read dramatically and with feeling) (Many many moons ago, a small boy sat outside his teepee watching the stars in the sky, and listening to the rustle of the trees in the night. Somewhere in the distance, he could hear the call of the Bobcat, the Wolf, and the Bear. Close by was the sound of the ceremonial drum calling all braves of the tribe to the council ring. The boy listened and wished he **COULD ANSWER THAT CALL.**

Quick and as true as an arrow in flight, quiet as the hush of the night, to the beat of that ceremonial drum, before a great fire they gathered, awaiting Akela, their chief Here in the great council fire ring, on top of the mountain, they met. Here too, they sought the help of the Great Spirit, as they would strive to do their duty. Here they met Chief **AKELA, AND AWAITED** his **WORDS.**

**NOW WITH THE LAST "BOOM" OF THE GREAT DRUM, ALL WAS SILENT. THE NIGHT** was still. The great ceremonial fire was lit and it began to light up the night. As the fire grew and grew ever larger, the tom/tom started slowly and set the rhythm. Akela stepped into the ring as the tom/tom beat first low and slow and then like thunder. Akela danced and with his movement told of his life. He told of the strength of his father, the one they called the Arrow of Light. He told of how his father taught him the signs of the tribe; how to make a bow and let arrow fly true to its target. Akela obediently followed the Arrow of Light and gained great knowledge. Akela learned that the arrow for which his father was named was one that pointed upward, truly to the Eagle so **HIGH ABOVE.**

**AKELA'S DANCE SHOWED HOW HE, AS A YOUNG BRAVE, WAS TRUSTED TO SET OUT** into the forest. There he met the Wolf who taught him the ways of the wild life, of the ground, of the tracks, and ways to find food. He next faced the Bear and learned the meaning of courage and the **IMPORTANCE OF BEING BRAVE. AND WITH THIS AKELA STOPPED HIS DANCE!**

Akela, the wise, had closed his dance and presented the sign of the tribe and all of the tribe did likewise. No one spoke until Akela said: "Our tribe can only be strong when the boys of the tribe are strong. The future is hidden, but if we are courageous and brave; if we teach our boys truth and knowledge, to aim high like the eagle, to be fair, our great tribe will continue to be strong.

**Asst. Cubmaster:** In the fourth and fifth grade, the boy is brought into the tribe of Webelos. He enters a Webelos Den with a name like the Scorpions or the Sharks. The boy prepared himself for Boy Scouting. He works on 20 different activity badges from five skill groups: Physical, mental, outdoor, community, and technical skills. After three months in the Webelos Den and after earning three activity pins and learning about the Boy Scout ways, he earns his Webelos Badge. The boys are initiated into the tribe and are shown the sign of the scout and the secret handshake. Would the following boys come forward and give Akela the secret handshake and be admitted into the council fire?

**Cubmaster:** You have proven yourselves worthy of the tribe of Webelos. It gives me great pleasure to present you with your Webelos Badge. (present awards) Please sit Indian style by the council fire as we continue our ceremony.

**Asst. Cubmaster:** The final and highest rang of Cub Scouting is the Arrow of Light. To earn it a boy must be member of his Den for at least six months since turning 10 years old and have earned the Webelos Badge. He must have earned the Fitness, Readyman, and Citizen Activity Pins and give more for a total of eight. He must know the Boy Scout Oath and Scout Law from memory as well as the Boy Scout slogan, motto, sign and salute. He must have participated in a Webelos overnight campout or a Webelos day hike. He must have visited a Boy Scout troop with his parents and den and taken part in a Boy Scout outdoor activity. The Arrow of Light is the only Cub Scout Rank, which may be worn on the Boy Scout Uniform. As an Adult he can wear the special square knot badge to always recall his having earned the Arrow of Light.

**Cubmaster:** Tonight we have \_\_ Webelos Scouts who have earned Cub Scouting's highest award. Will the following boys please come forward? (*INSERT NAMES*)

Tonight is the last time that you will sit by the council fire of the Webelos scout. It is on this night that we shower upon you the honors in which you have earned. Each of you are receiving a bag of your most recent accomplishments. As you reflect on these awards, remember that it is only the rank of Arrow of Light that may continue on through your scouting careers. As the stream erodes the mountain, so shall time erode some of your memories from the pack. Let these awards ever remind you of what the pack has meant to you.

I, Akela, now have a question for each of you. Which point of the scout law is most important? Do not answer out loud, however, come close to Akela and whisper in my ear. If you are correct, I will award you your Arrow of Light.

All of you gave good answers, but none of you were completely correct. It was a trick question, for you see, all points of the scout law are equally important. Just as the twelve points need each other to make up the scout law, each of you need each other to make up the spirit of scouting.

Please accept your Arrow of Light award on behalf of the entire tribe.

## Arrow of Light and Graduation Ceremony

Note: Ideally, this ceremony should be performed in an outdoor campfire setting; for example, at a pack picnic. This allows for a more natural feel as well as for the use of torches, firepots, and other “special effects”. If an indoor setting is preferred by the pack, candles should be used in place of smudgepots. The tokens called for in the ceremony can be provided by either the team or the pack. The team should have something prepared in case the pack doesn’t (an arrow with a felt banner, leather thong bolo, etc.). The team needs to make sure (via the Webelos leader) that the Cubs participating in the ceremony know and can recite the Scout Oath and Law as they are called upon to say both in the ceremony. When performing the speaking parts, memorization is important, but also try to become familiar enough with the part so the words come out naturally.

Also, since this ceremony doesn’t tie in with any Order of the Arrow induction ceremony, sashes should NOT be worn.

### Arrow of Light Ceremony

*(The three principles--Chief, Medicine Man, Guide—enter from the rear and take their positions: Chief at the North, Medicine Man at the West and Guide at the East.)*

**Chief:** *(pausing for a moment to look out among the pack)* Cub Scouts, leaders, parents and guests, my brothers, Weuchsowagam, the Medicine Man, Witschindin, the Guide, and I, Takachsin, the Chieftan, bring you greetings and salutations. We have come before you tonight to fulfill a prophecy spoken in the legends of our tribe.

**Medicine Man:** The words of the prophecy say that in the springtime of each year, young braves will be found who have met the challenges of Akela and are ready to become warriors. My brothers and I have watched your pack and have found such braves among you. We have come to present them with the highest honor: the Arrow of Light. But before this can happen, they must take a journey through their memories.

**Guide:** Many moons ago, you entered the Cub Pack. The first challenges you encountered were from the Bobcat clan. As you met them, you learned what it means to be a Cub, the Law of the Pack, and the three words that would inspire you to meet all other challenges: Do Your Best. *(Light firepot or candle.)* Having started on the trail, you next sought to join the Wolf clan. Here you were met with twelve challenges, harder than the Bobcat tests, but with the cleverness of the wolf itself, you met them and continued on your journey. *(Light firepot or candle.)*

**Medicine Man:** Now the trail became darker and fainter as you came to the Bear clan. Again twelve challenges were presented before you. As you met them, your knowledge grew and your spirit strengthened. It was this strength of spirit, like the bear, that prompted you to move onward. *(Light firepot or candle.)*

**Chief:** As you neared the summit, you joined the Webelos clan. The time of your testing had begun. In the Webelos clan you began to learn about Scouting. Just as you learned the

ways of the brave as a Bobcat, the Wolf, and Bear, as a member of the Webelos clan you would learn the ways of the warrior. (*Light firepot or candle.*)

In time, you earned the Webelos badge, blazing the rest of the trail on your own. Now at last you have reached the summit and the end of this journey.

(*To other principles*) Let the Arrow of Light be conferred upon them.

**Guide:** (*to Chief*) Wait Brother Takachsin! Before receiving this most high honor, they must hear its legend so they may understand and appreciate what they are to receive.

**Chief:** (*to Medicine Man*) Brother Weuchsowagam, let the legend of the Arrow of Light be known to all present.

**Medicine Man:** (*moves forward*) In the ages past, when the Nations of the red man spread across the land, there was a young member of one tribe called Akela. Akela wished to be a warrior as the older men of his tribe were, but no one would consider him so. "Little Akela, he is too young to join the hunt," they would say. "Too slow to run with the Bobcat clan. Not clever enough to hunt with the Wolf clan. Such a young one is not strong enough to join the Bear clan." No matter how hard Akela worked, all ways were barred to him. But the Aged Chieftain of the tribe saw Akela differently than the rest. "The spirit of this young one burns brighter than the largest fire. Akela has served his brethren well for one of his age. The time will come when the tribe will need only that which Akela can give."

One night in the fall during the harvest, a party of warriors was canoeing back to their village after a hunt. On this night, the fog rolled thick across the river. The fog was so heavy, the river path back to the village was hidden from view. A nearby river path to the right led to a roaring chasm. The warriors did not know the safe path to take and were trapped.

Akela had been practicing his hunting skills in the hills above the river and had seen the danger to the canoe. He wrapped an arrow in a skin, set it aflame, and shot it into the sky toward the safe river path. The warriors in the canoe saw the flaming arrow through the fog and followed it toward the safe river path and the village.

The warriors went to the Chieftain saying, "We were trapped on the river and the Highfather sent an Arrow of Light through the sky to guide us." The Chieftain smiled and said, "The sign which led you to safety came not from the heavens but from one who you thought was too young to do anything." He brought Akela forward to the surprise of the warriors.

"Akela has proved himself worthy to wear the name of warrior. He has aided his brothers in their time of greatest need. Hereafter, all young members of our tribe shall become warriors only after meeting the challenges of the Arrow of Light. Let them each be filled with the spirit of Akela and follow his example of unselfish service to our brethren." And it was made so and carried through to the present day as you Webelos before us now, ready to receive the Arrow of Light.



**Guide:** Will the following Webelos and their parents please stand before us as your names are called. *(As Guide recites or reads names, the Medicine Man should direct Webelos to make a line across the southern end of the circle. Parents should stand behind their son(s).)*

**Chief:** Before this honor is conferred upon you, I must see your devotion to the high ideals of Scouting. Therefore, I ask you all now to raise your right hand to the Scout sign and repeat with me, the Scout Oath and Law.

*(Raises hand in the sign of the Boy Scout (followed by other principles and Webelos) and recites Scout Oath and Law with other principles (Medicine Man and Guide) and the Webelos who will be awarded the Arrow of Light.)*

**Guide:** Having met all of its challenges, it is our duty and privilege to award you with the highest Cub Scout honor, the Arrow of Light.

*(To parents) Because of the support and guidance you have given these braves, I give the Arrow of Light to you to present to them. (Moves to the front and gives the Arrow of Light card and/or patch to the parents who then present it to their son(s).)*

**Medicine Man:** My brothers and I also present you with this token from your pack *(or say our tribe if your team supplied the tokens)*. Keep this in remembrance of this occasion. *(Moves forward and presents each Webelos with a token. As he presents the tokens, the Chief and Guide congratulate each Webelos with the Scout Handshake.)*

*(If you are going to induct the Webelos into your troop at this time, continue, if not jump to the closing (see below).)*

## Graduation Ceremony

**Guide:** *(After all principles have returned to their places)* Parents, you may be seated.

**Chief:** As we have said before, this ceremony marks an end of a journey. But even as this journey ends, another is just beginning. Here at the summit of Cub Scouting you have found the start of a new trail. This trail is a pathway that leads to the realm of our brothers in the sky, the Eagles.

**Medicine Man:** But the trail will also be long and difficult. As you journey, you must keep the spirit of Akela strong within each of you. It will give you strength and guidance as you move onward.

**Guide:** *(Medicine Man moves between the members of the Scout troop and the Webelos)* The time has come for you to begin on the new trail. To join the clan of the warriors: The Scout Troop. Each of you shall now cross the bridge and be welcomed by the Troop members.

**Medicine Man:** As the night is a bridge between each day, let this be a bridge for each of you to the fellowship of Scouting. *(Medicine Man moves aside to let the Cub Scouts pass and cross the bridge. Webelos cross and are welcomed by a Troop member, after all have crossed and are greeted, Guide continues)*

## **Closing Ceremony**

**Guide:** *(To all still standing)* You may now be seated.

**Chief:** Once again, I congratulate you on your achievements. Having finished the work for which we were called to, we now depart this gathering of your pack. Before we go, I would remind you to keep Akela's spirit alive. Let it ignite a spark within each of you that will fan into a fire as you grow.

*(Pause)*

We challenge all the younger braves present to continue on your trails and strive to reach the summit and the Arrow of Light. May the great master of all Scouts be with you until we meet again. *(Principles silently depart.)*

# CALL OF THE WILD

A Multi Award Ceremony

**Cubmaster: (Sign's Up)** HEAR NOW THE TALE OF THE TRIBE OF WEBELOS AND THEIR GREAT CHIEFTAIN, AKELA.

**Asst. Cubmaster:** (Read dramatically and with feeling) Many moons ago, a small boy sat outside his teepee watching the stars in the sky, and listening to the rustle of the trees in the night. Somewhere in the distance he could hear the call of the Bobcat, the Wolf, and the Bear. Close by was the sound of the ceremonial drum calling all braves of the tribe to the council ring. The boy listened and wished he **COULD ANSWER THAT CALL.**

Quick and true as an arrow in flight, quiet as the hush of the night, to the beat of that ceremonial drum, before a great fire they gathered, awaiting Akela, their chief. Here in the great council fire ring, on top of the mountain, they met. Here too, they sought the help of the Great Spirit, as they would strive to do their duty. Here they met **CHIEF AKELA, AND AWAITED HIS WORDS.**

**NOW WITH THE LAST "BOOM" OF THE GREAT DRUM, ALL WAS SILENT. THE NIGHT** was still. The great ceremonial fire was lit and it began to light up the night. As the fire grew and grew ever larger, the tom/tom started slowly and set the rhythm. Akela stepped into the ring as the tom/tom beat first low and slow and then like thunder. Akela danced and with his movement told of his life. He told of the strength of his father, the one they called the Arrow of Light. He told of how his father taught him the signs of the tribe; how to make a bow and let arrow fly true to its target. Akela obediently followed the Arrow of Light and gained great knowledge. Akela learned that the arrow for which his father was named was one that pointed upward, truly to the Eagle so **HIGH ABOVE.**

**AKELA'S DANCE SHOWED HOW HE, AS A YOUNG BRAVE, WAS TRUSTED TO SET OUT** into the forest. There he met the Wolf who taught him the ways of the wild life, of the ground, of the tracks, and ways to find food. He next faced the Bear and learned the meaning of courage and the **IMPORTANCE OF BEING BRAVE. AND WITH THIS AKELA STOPPED HIS DANCE!**

Akela, the wise, had closed his dance and presented the sign of the tribe and all of the tribe did likewise. No one spoke until Akela said: "Our tribe can only be strong when the boys of the tribe are strong. The future is hidden, but if we are courageous and brave, if we teach our boys truth and knowledge, to aim high like the eagle, to be fair, our great tribe will continue to be strong.

**Cubmaster:** My friends, you are like that small Indian boy wishing that you can answer the call of the great ceremonial drum and be members of the tribe. Every boy who joins Cub Scouting, whatever his age, he first earns the **BOBCAT** badge by learning the Cub Scout Promise, Sign, Salute, Handshake, The meaning of Webelos, The Law of the Pack, and the Cub Scout Motto "Do Your Best".

Would *(INSERT NAME)* and his parents please come forward? *(INSERT NAME)*, do you see the stars in the sky. That is the constellation Big Dipper and the big star is the North Star. For many years man has used these stars as a guide to show them the way as they traveled. As you join Cub Scouts you are starting a trip. You will experience adventures and excitement, meet new friends and learn new skills. However, as you begin this trip you need a “North Star” to guide you.

The “North Star” is Akela...Akela can be your parents, your den leader, even I your Cubmaster. It is our responsibility to help you along the way.

*(INSERT PARENTS' NAME)*, I ask of you, will you accept the responsibility to be *(INSERT NAME)* ‘Akela’, to help guide him along the Cub Scouting trail. If so answer, “I will.”

*(INSERT NAME)*, here is a star for you to place in your bedroom. At night this star will shine reminding you of your start on the Cub Scout trail.

Pack XXX, would you please join me in congratulating *(INSERT NAME)* and welcome him to our Pack by giving him a ‘cub Scout’ cheer (*3 times*).

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Just as when Akela first went into the forest and learned from the WOLF, a Cub Scout in the second grade begins working on the requirements for the Wolf badge. Cub Scouts learn about Akela and the story of Mowgli and his survival in the Jungle. When a boy has completed 12 Achievements on the Wolf Trail, in such areas as physical fitness, exploring the world around him, fixing, building, collecting, safety, our flag, our family and our Duty to God, he receives his WOLF badge.

**Cubmaster:** Would the following boys and their parents please come forward?

*(INSERT NAME)* You’ve completed all the requirements for your Wolf badge and have moved along the Cub Scout trail. Receive now the mark of the Wolf, a Red mark, symbolizing strength and valor. *[Mark each boy with RED face paint]*

It is my pleasure to award your Wolf badge to your parents, who have been your Akela in completing these requirements. Parents please award this badge to your son and congratulate him on a ‘Job Well Done’.

We also have some boys who have earned their Wolf Gold & Silver Arrow points. Would the following boys please come forward to receive them?

*(INSERT NAME)* Pack XXX, would you please join with me in congratulating these boys by giving them a ‘Grand Wolf Howl’ cheer.

**Asst Cubmaster:** When the scout reaches third grade he begins working from the big bear book. Just as Akela met the BEAR with courage, the scout walks the BIG BEAR TRAIL. On that trail he fins and conquers 12 challenging achievements in the categories of God, Country, Family and Self. He then receives his bear badge.

**Cubmaster:** Would the following boys please come forward?

*(INSERT NAME)* You've continued on the 'Big Bear Trail' earning your Bear Gold arrow points. It is my pleasure to award you these arrow points and congratulate you on a 'Job Well Done'. Here is a bear claw to remind you of how much progress you have made. Be strong like the bear and help to protect other members of the pack as you strive to do your best.

Pack XXX, would you please join with me in congratulating these Bears by giving them a 'Grizzly Bear Growl' cheer.

**Asst. Cubmaster:** In fourth and fifth grade, the boy is brought into the tribe of Webelos. He enters a Webelos Den with a name like the Scorpions or the Sharks. The boy prepares himself for Boy Scouting. He works on 20 different activity badges from five skill groups: Physical, mental, outdoor, community, and technical skills. After three months in the Webelos Den and after earning three activity pins and learning about the Boy Scout ways, he earns his Webelos Badge.

The final and highest rank of Cub Scouting is the Arrow of Light. To earn it a boy must be a member of his Den for at least six months since turning 10 years old and have earned the Webelos Badge. He must have earned the Fitness, Readyman, and Citizen Activity Pins and five more for a total of eight. He must know the Boy Scout Oath and Scout Law from memory as well as the Boy Scout slogan, motto, sign and salute. He must have participated in a Webelos overnight campout or a Webelos day hike. He must have visited a Boy Scout troop with his parents and den and taken part in a Boy Scout outdoor activity.

The Arrow of Light is the only Cub Scout Rank, which may be worn on the Boy Scout Uniform. As an Adult he can wear the special knot badge to always recall his having earned the Arrow of Light.

Tonight we have \_\_\_ Webelos Scouts who have earned Cub Scouting's highest award. Will the following boys please come forward with their parents/

*(INSERT NAME)* Guide walks over and positions himself behind the Webelos. Guard walks to the side of the Arrow of Light board to read the meaning of the seven virtues. The drum stops. Guard: The seven candles represent the rays in the Arrow of Light. As they are lighted, you will hear how they stand for the seven great virtues of life.

*(PAUSE AS VIRTUES ARE READ BY ANOTHER PERSON OFFSTAGE)*

**WEBELOS DL:** Long ago the Indian braves would collect eagle feathers. Regardless of how an Indian brave accumulated feathers, he was not allowed, according to tribal law, to wear them until he won them by a brave deed. He had to appear before the tribal council and tell or re-enact his deed. If the council thought the brave was worthy, the brave was allowed to wear the feather or feathers in his hair or war bonnet. These honors were called "counting coop." The Indian displayed their honors on their clothing, on a banner, or on a stick.

**Cubmaster:** The Webelos counts coop by wearing the many rank awards and activity pins on his uniform, but they will soon be boy scouts and not allowed to wear them any more. I want to present these Webelos with a banner displaying their own scouting honors.

*[Cubmaster presents banners to boys]*

You've completed all the requirements for your Arrow of Light badge and have completed the Cub Scout trail. It is my pleasure to award you this certificate of accomplishment and award your Arrow of Light. Remember to wear it with pride as you go forward into your scouting career. It is the only award that carries over into Boy Scouts. Congratulations!

# A Measure of Courage

A Multi Award Ceremony

**Narrator:** Many years ago, when the nation was still young, Native Americans lived among the hills and valleys of the Susquehanna River. The chief of each local tribe would determine what were the requirements to advance in the tribe. The goal of each young brave, was the time in which he would be awarded an eagle feather to wear in his hair. This took many steps to achieve, and many moons would rise and fall until all the requirements were met.

We in scouting, have similar goals for our young men. It is not by coincidence that we also set goals for our boys with the goal of one day, after many moons have risen into the night sky, they earn their eagle.

Listen now as you hear the story of both the brave and the Cub Scout.

**Cubmaster:** Would (*INSERT NAME*) and his parents please come forward. (pause as they come on stage) When a young brave was ready for his first test, he was usually given the challenge of bagging a Pennsylvania Bobcat. He would set out into the hills of Pennsylvania with his trusty bow, searching the trees. He had to learn many basic things that would aid him on his journey towards his eagle feather. (*INSERT NAME*), you have worked hard these last several months. I have watched as you began your journey. You are a proud addition to Den XX and have earned the right to wear your first badge. You have bagged a Bobcat. Before you can wear it right side up, you must first do a good turn. To you mom and dad, I give the challenge of keeping (*INSERT NAME*) on the trail. Here is his bobcat badge, for you have helped him achieve this honor and therefore should present it to him.

**Narrator:** The bobcat was the first step that a young brave would take. His next challenge would be to capture the elusive and cunning wolf. There was a little twist to this task. He could not simply use his bow and arrow, but instead would have to use his wits to capture and train the wolf to be his companion. This would sometimes take as much as a year to do. Listen as the Cubmaster tells us more about scouting.

**Cubmaster:** Would the following boys and their parents please come forward. (Pause as they come on stage) Like the young brave in our story, you are continuing to grow in your knowledge of scouting. You are also learning the value of friendship. You know that a Wolf cub can not survive without the strength of the den, and that the den can not survive without the strength of the boy. I ask this question of you. Are you prepared to walk in the ways of great chief Akela? If so, the answer is I do. I now ask you parents, will you continue to nurture your son, to keep him on the right trail, to protect him from the dangers of traveling the wrong path? If so, the answer is I do. I will now present to you parents, your son's Wolf badge. Be proud of your boy and present it to him with all your love and affection.

**Narrator:** The trail becomes steeper now for our young brave. His assignment now puts fear in his heart as he is told he must go deep into the mountains of Pennsylvania and confront the Black bear. The bear is the most powerful creature in the woods of

Pennsylvania. The young brave had to bring back the claws of the bear. His bow and arrow were of little use, as the arrows would not harm the fatty tissue of the bear any more than a honeybee's sting. It would take strength, cunning and patience to earn his paw. He would have to work hard to dig a bear pit and then lead a bear into it. A challenge worthy of the bravest of braves.

**Cubmaster:** Would the following boys and their parents please come forward. (Pause as they come on stage) Welcome! The journey is becoming a challenge. It took longer to gain this level of scouting. You are learning to become a better citizen while you become a stronger scout. To you parents, I commend you on keeping your son on the trail to this point. Soon his journey will rely less on you, but he will not forget the lessons you have taught him. You have a few short years left to mold him on the scouting path. This is a critical stage in your son's scouting path. He will soon be learning the ways of the Boy Scout and skills necessary to survive in the wild. Until that point continue to teach your scout all that you can, encourage him to become a leader to other scouts. You will be rewarded by his loyalty to you and to his pack. Please present your son with this Bear badge.

**Narrator:** The brave, after completing the three assigned tasks, was given permission to set at the tribal council fire and tell his tales of trailing the eagle. Here he was joined by the older members of the tribe and other young braves that had past the same tests as he. He was taught to be loyal to his tribe and was initiated into the rites of manhood with the branding of the tribal emblem on his hand to let all who met him know that he was a proud member of his tribe. He was still trailing the eagle, and his path was becoming more focused.

**Cubmaster:** Would the following boys and their parents please come forward. (Pause as they come on stage) Welcome! You are now learning the ways of the boy scouts. You all stand here now ready to receive your Webelos badge. Like the brave, you are a loyal scout. You will wear your Webelos badge with pride, letting all who see you, know that you are a proud member of your patrol. Before you receive your badge, you must first join me in reciting the Boy Scout oath. Would all Webelos, Boy Scouts, their leaders and any other former Boy Scout please rise and join in the saying of the Boy Scout oath. "On my honor, I will do my best, to do my duty, to God and my Country, to obey the scout law, to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight." Here is your Webelos badge, wear it with pride.

**Narrator:** There was one step left before the brave was released from chief Akela and given the chance to earn his feather. He would have to prove his skills by shooting an arrow through the trunk of the wild locust tree. The only way that this could be accomplished was by much practice and many feats of skill and strength.

**Cubmaster:** Would the following boys and their parents please come forward. (Pause as they come on stage) Welcome! The journey as a cub is almost complete. Here before you is the ceremonial arrow. It has seven candles representing the seven virtues of life. We light these candles and as their flames unite to a brilliant light, remember how far you have come. The arrow light is the only award that can be worn on your Boy Scout uniform. It



gives me great pleasure to present to you your arrow of light. Wear it with pride wherever your journey leads.

**Narrator:** The brave would now be turned over the tribal council. Here they would set new tasks for the young Indian. These were known to chief Akela, but his job was to train the young boys. Now it was time for the young brave to say good bye to the chief, as he would begin several years of stronger learning. He would return again one day to join the chief and be welcomed into manhood with his eagle feather securely in his hair.

**Cubmaster:** Would all the second year Webelos and their parents join me to my left. Would all the Boy Scouts and their leaders join me to my right? (Pause as the boys and parents come forward) Before you are the final steps of your journey. All you need do is cross this chasm here before you. The only challenge is that you must not touch the gold until you have crossed to the other side. You must build a bridge with the help of your brother scouts on the other side. Each of you has been given a piece of the bridge. If you work together, the bridge can be built. We must start with a firm foundation. As you know, the foundation of the Boy Scouts is the oath. We are instructed to follow first, our Duty to God. (Pause) Second, our Duty to Country. (Pause) Finally, our Duty to Others. (Pause) We have now built a foundation, but need the pathway to get across. All scouts know the path in the twelve points of the scout law. As they are read, please place them on the bridge to scouting. Trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

Our bridge is now built. Please remove your neckerchief and give it to your parents. This next step is for you to do by yourself. You must decide if you want to continue on the path or leave because the journey now gets tough. Few boys make it to Eagle. I know that those of you who choose to cross will make it. I have seen your determination and drive and am proud to have been your cub master. Remember always the good times you had here at Pack XXX. We will miss you and know that you are always welcome here. Our tribal council is your home. Come back to us when you are ready, to help lead other on the trail of the Eagle. On the day that you finally earn your eagle, I will be there with you. I am Akela and you are the brave. What was true 200 years ago remains true today. We all need each other if we are to succeed. If you are ready, please cross over the bridge where you will be welcomed by your new scoutmaster. The scouts crossing into Troop XX will go first. (Pause as the boys for XX cross) Scoutmaster (*INSERT NAME*), do you have anything you would like to say?

The boys crossing into Troop XX may now cross the bridge. (Pause as the boys cross the bridge) Scoutmaster (*INSERT NAME*), do you have anything you would like to say?

Would all parents, scouts and friends, stand and join in a round of applause for our new Boy Scouts?

# The Baking of a Cub Scout

Bobcat and Wolf Advancement

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Let's see. (*Looking at a cake box*) Two parts laughter. One part curiosity. A heaping helping of good will. A pinch of mischievous behavior.

**Cubmaster:** Hi (*Insert name*), what are you making?

**Asst. Cubmaster:** It is a recipe for instant Bobcat. I hear that tonight was a Feller's bake and I thought I'd bake us a Bobcat. Would (*Insert scout's name*) and his parents please come forward.

You have worked hard to earn your Bobcat and we at the pack are very proud. Parents, please award your son his Bobcat but do not let him wear it right side up until he has performed a good deed.

**Cubmaster:** That's right (*Insert name*). You know, with any good cake you need something extra. FROSTING!!

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Well (*Insert name*), I just happen to have some Wildberry Wolf icing here in my recipe book. Is there someone who is ready to be smothered in scouting spirit?

**Cubmaster:** Why yes there is (*Insert name*). It is none other than (*Insert scout's name*) our newest Bobcat.

**Asst. Cubmaster:** I can see that just like in cake and icing, Bobcats and Wolves are meant to go together.

**Cubmaster:** Congratulations on your accomplishments. Please accept your Wolf badge and wear it with pride.

# An Anti-Drug Advancement Ceremony

A Multi Award Ceremony

People required:

- Akela, the leader of the wolf pack (Cubmaster)
- Mr. Drug Abuse (non-Scout associate)
- Police Officer (a real one)

Props:

- A candle log (with enough holes for each boy)
- Candles for the candle log (one per boy)
- Hand-rolled tobacco cigarettes, with the ends twisted to resemble marijuana cigarettes. Use fewer cigarettes than candles.
- A log drilled to hold the fake marijuana cigarettes like candles
- A camp-stove lighter (one that makes a flame, not just a spark)
- An ugly monster costume with a mask for Mr. Drug Abuse
- Handcuffs (just make sure the police officer brings his set)
- Sheet to cover candle and cigarette logs.

Hints:

- For the monster costume, the uglier, the better. I used a monster mask that had stubby red horns that contained flashing lights.
- Ugly monster costumes are easy to obtain around Halloween. However, there are so many “monsters” around during the Halloween season, it is better to conduct this ceremony during some other time of the year. So plan ahead and pick up the costume during October.
- Don’t use a monster that the Cubs would already know, such as Dracula or Frankenstein. Otherwise you will have trouble establishing the monster as the personification of drug abuse.
- Just a mask will do for the ugly monster costume, but the costume must include a mask! The mask is important so that the Cubs will not know the real identity of Mr. Drug Abuse. We do not want the Cubs to confuse Mr. Drug Abuse with the person playing that character. Make sure that the person playing the monster is not wearing any part of the adult leader uniform. Mr. Drug Abuse is such a heavy character that he should be played by someone from outside the pack if at all possible. Although a parent from within the pack is OK, Mr. Drug Abuse definitely should not be played by anyone from the current adult leadership.
- If you are using this ceremony for the first time, practice the wolf howl and wolf growl by using them as a spirit cheer at the beginning of the pack meeting.
- Dim the lighting at the beginning of the ceremony for better atmosphere and so that the candles will show up better.
- The camp stove lighter called for is basically just a butane cigarette lighter that has been fitted with a trigger mechanism and a long extender tube so that the flame is about 4 inches from the hand. These lighters may sometimes be found with the Barbeque grills in some stores. Tigers and the younger Cubs are usually more comfortable with this than matches or trying to use a larger candle to light the small ones.

- You can use a candle log that is made for standard size candles. However, if you are going to have a large number of Cubs in the ceremony, you may want to consider using birthday candles in the log.
- Instead of hand-rolled cigarettes, the fake marijuana cigarettes can be made from commercial cigarettes. Break off the filter, pull a little tobacco from each end, then twist the paper shut.
- The first time I tried this ceremony was during a Blue and Gold Banquet in a school lunch room that did not have a stage. Within five minutes after the arrival of Mr. Drug Abuse, all the Cubs who were not in the ceremony had left their seats and were kneeling in a semi-circle around the front of the candle logs. They were all actively involved in cheering for the Cubs in the ceremony and heckling Mr. Drug Abuse. This was great! So try to use a physical arrangement that will allow the Cubs in the audience to participate in this manner. Avoid an elevated stage that would cut them off.
- Don't try to maintain military discipline over the Cubs during this ceremony. Allow them to shout and jeer at Mr. Drug Abuse. Even if it is just symbolic, you will probably never again see them so actively and enthusiastically reject drugs while among their peers.
- Because the Cubs will be making a lot of noise during this ceremony, microphones for Akela and Mr. Drug Abuse are extremely helpful. Wireless mikes are even better as they allow Mr. Drug Abuse to interact better by being able to actually approach the Cubs. If you only have one wireless mike, give it to Mr. Drug Abuse.
- Don't feel that you have to stick closely to this script. Ad lib as needed and respond to remarks made by the Cubs. However, to also make this ceremony an effective tool for recruiting adult leaders, Mr. Drug Abuse should be sure to deliver the "wait till next year" challenge at the end of the ceremony. However, if he doesn't have a microphone, he may have trouble making himself heard at this point in the ceremony.
- Having a real police officer arrest Mr. Drug Abuse at the end of the ceremony works very well. However, police officers may be called away without warning. If the police officer is unavailable, just have the pack growl at Mr. Drug Abuse to get him to leave.

**Akela:** The moon is full, just as it was long ago on that night in the jungle when Mowgli first joined the Seeonee wolf pack. It has been many years since Mowgli returned from living with the wolves. After he returned, he taught us many of the lessons he learned while in the jungle. The most important was that the strength of the wolf is the pack, and the strength of the pack is the wolf. That is why we are here tonight in this council ring. Tonight we have many young boys who have earned new rank badges. As these boys have grown, the strength of the pack has grown. So let us begin. Parents, bring forward these man cubs.

*(Akela calls out the names of the Cubs who have earned the new rank badges. Parents and Cubs come forward and face the rest of the pack.)*

**Akela:** First, to earn your rank badges, you boys have learned the Cub Scout promise. Are you boys ready to make that promise again in front of your parents, these other Cubs, and the rest of the pack?

*(Akela shakes head in yes motion. Boys should also shake their heads yes.)*

**Akela:** Then please make the Scout Sign and say the Cub Scout Promise along with me.

I promise to do my best,  
To do my duty to God and my Country,  
To help other people,  
Ant to obey the Law of the Pack.

*(Mr. Drug Abuse now makes his entrance.)*

**Mr. Drug Abuse:** Cub Scout Promise! Do your best! What a bunch of sugar-sweet garbage! Akela, you goody two-shoes, why don't you just give up? These boys are going to be mine sooner or later.

**Akela:** Oh, no! It's Mr. Drug Abuse! What's a scum bag like you doing here tonight? Go crawl back under a rock.

**Mr. Drug Abuse:** I just came by to let you know you're wasting your time. Do your duty! Obey the law of the Pack! HA! These boys don't really care about all that. Why, I'll bet that at least a couple of them are ready to come and follow me right now!

**Akela:** Oh, you think so, do you? I guess I'll just have to prove to you that these boys have the flame of the Cub Scout promise burning within their hearts and would never be stupid enough to follow you. Let me show you.

*(Remove the sheet that covers the candle and cigarette logs.)*

**Akela:** I have here two logs. On this log are candles. The flame of these candles stands for the fire of the Cub Scout Promise. But on this log are some of your nasty marijuana cigarettes. Now I am going to give each one of these boys a choice. I'm going to call them forward one at a time. If they believe in the Cub Scout Promise and want to remain in this pack, then they can light one of these candles. But if they want to leave the pack and stand in your evil shadow, then they can light one of the marijuana cigarettes. What do you say to that?

*(Mr. Drug Abuse counts the marijuana cigarettes and then counts the Cubs.)*

**Mr. Drug Abuse:** I think you don't have enough of my marijuana cigarettes on my log. That's what I think.

**Akela:** Well, we'll just see about that. Let us begin.

*(Call each boy forward one at a time and ask the following...)*

**Akela:** *(Insert scout's name)*, I have here the *(rank)* badge that you have earned! If you want to accept this badge, and remain with the pack, then light one of these candles. But, if

you want to leave us and follow the wicked ways of that (*insulting name*), then light one of these marijuana cigarettes. Choose!

*(Akela should try to use a different insulting name for Mr. Drug Abuse each time he uses the above lines. Some good ones are maggot face, fungus face, toad face, worm face, sleaze bag, slime ball, sewer rat, garbage head, scum snake, and rotten meat.)*

*(Hand the Cub the camp stove lighter. While the boy has the lighter, Mr. Drug Abuse may ad lib and try to get him to light one of the cigarettes. For example, Mr. Drug Abuse could say...)*

**Mr. Drug Abuse:** Come on kid. Light one of my cigarettes. It will make you feel ten feet tall.

OR ... Hey kid, don't be a nerd! All your friends are doing it. Be cool like them.

*(OR Mr. Drug Abuse can ad lib other similar lines.)*

*(After the cub has lit a candle, Mr. Drug Abuse may ham it up and make a big show of his disappointment and anger. Or he can act as if the lighting of the candle actually inflicted pain on him. Take back the camp stove lighter.)*

**Akela:** You have chosen well young man-cub, and the Pack is proud! *(Hand the badge to the boy's left hand and give him a Cub Scout handshake with your right hand.)*

OR:

Well done young Cub! You have chosen wisely! Here is your (*rank*) badge that you have earned!

*(If you have a lot of boys, make up minor variations on the above lines to keep the exchange interesting.)*

*(During this part of the ceremony, there will always be at least one smart aleck in the audience who starts cheering for Mr. Drug Abuse. This can be squelched by having Mr. Drug Abuse suggest that his "friend" should become a drug pusher for him. Akela can then ask the other Cubs how they feel about drug pushers. Akela can also lead the pack in growling at this boy. You just may have a boy who decides to light one of the marijuana cigarettes. If he does, tell him he is a disgrace to the pack. If he is wearing a scarf, remove it, then hand him over to Mr. Drug Abuse. If he later seems penitent, you may give him a second chance with the lighter. If he does not, you may consider asking him and his parents to leave with Mr. Drug Abuse.)*

*(After all the Cubs have received their badges...)*

**Akela:** So Mr. Drug Abuse, each boy has chosen, and their choice has been guided by the fire and wisdom of the Cub Scout Promise. None will follow you tonight. Officer (*officer's last name*), will you please take care of this maggot for us?

*(Police officer makes entrance.)*

**Police officer:** Mr. Drug Abuse, in the name of the Cub Scouts of America and the State of *(your state)*, I hereby place you under arrest.

*(Police officer handcuffs Mr. Drug Abuse and begins to lead him out of the room. But before they exit, Mr. Drug Abuse turns and shouts...)*

**Mr. Drug Abuse:** You may have won tonight Akela! But I'll be back! And I know your weakness. The year is almost over, and you will need new adult leaders for next year. Without any adult leaders there won't be any pack, or any Cub Scout Promise. And all of these parents have good excuses not to volunteer: "Too busy! Shift work! Working mothers! Just don't want to! Can't be bothered!" But I have plenty of time. I'll be back for these boys next year!

**Akela:** Silence and be gone evil one! These boys know better than to follow you. Cub Scouts and parents of Pack XXX! Let's show Mr. Drug Abuse what happens when he makes a pack of wolves really mad.

*(Akela leads pack in growling at Mr. Drug Abuse. Policeman leads Mr. Drug Abuse away.)*

**Akela:** Look well, oh parents of Pack XXX! Look well, and know what a strong pack can do. Your young cubs have chosen wisely tonight. Look well and be proud. But soon you too will have to make a choice. You parents will have to choose whether or not the pack continues. Heed Mr. Drug Abuse's warning, parents of Pack XXX! May you choose as wisely as your own children. But for now, let us celebrate the wisdom and the accomplishments of these Cubs with a good wolf howl!

*(Akela leads pack in a wolf howl.)*

# Akela's Life Story—Advancement Ceremony

A Multi Award Ceremony

Equipment:

- Ceremony board or log with three small candles and one large candle
- tom-tom
- artificial council fire

*(Tom-tom beats. Akela enters and walks behind the fire. Akela gives Cub Scout sign and tom-tom beating stops.)*

**Narrator:** Akela was the big Chief of the Webelos tribe; tall, stalwart, straight as an arrow, swift as an antelope, brave as a lion—he was fierce to an enemy but kind to a brother. Many trophies hung in his teepee.

His father was the son of the great yellow sun in the sky. He was called the “Arrow of Light”. His mother, from whom he learned those wondrous things that mothers know, was called “Kind Eyes”.

His father helped him make a little bow and arrow and once, when an enemy would have tomahawked his mother, he, Akela, from his papoose basket shot the pursuing enemy in the eye, and his mother escaped.

A little later, he began to understand the signs and calls of the Webelos tribe. Then he was taken on little trips into the forest among the great trees and streams. Here, from the wolf, he learned the language of the ground, the tracks and the ways to food.

*(At this point, Akela lights the large candle representing the “Spirit of Akela” and using that, lights the small Wolf candle.)*

**Akela:** With this candle, representing the “Spirit of Akela”, we light the trail of the Wolf. From the signs along the Wolf trail I see that the following braves are ready for advancement in the Wolf Clan of Akela’s tribe. *(Akela calls names of boys receiving Wolf badge and arrow points. They come forward and stand before council fire. Akela presents their awards.)*

**Narrator:** Then from the big, kindly bears, he learned the secret names of the trees, the calls of birds, the language of the air.

**Akela:** *(Lighting Bear candle)* With the “Spirit of Akela” we light the Bear trail. From the signs along the Bear trail, I see that the following braves are ready for advancement in the “Bear Clan” of Akela’s tribe. *(He calls forward boys who are receiving Bear badges and arrow points.)*

**Narrator:** But before he could become a Scouting “brave” on his own, he had to prove himself by trying out new skills, performing certain tasks and passing tests of accomplishment.



**Akela:** (*Lighting Webelos candle*) With the “Spirit of Akela” we light the trail of the Webelos. From the signs along the Webelos trail, I see that the following braves have shown their skill in (*he calls names of boys receiving activity badges, and indicates which badges they earned.*)

**Narrator:** Then, Akela was required to pass the highest test of all. He must prove himself qualified to wear his father’s name “Arrow of Light”.

**Akela:** From the signs further down the Webelos trail, I see that the following braves have proved themselves worthy to bear the “Arrow of Light”, the highest award in Akela’s tribe. (*He calls forward boys who have earned the Arrow of Light Award. Upon presenting these awards, the tom-tom begins to beat again at a rapid pace. Drums stop.*)

**Akela:** From the four winds, Akela hears that you braves are doing well along the trails that will lead you into Boy Scouting. Now will all Cub Scouts stand and repeat with me the Cub Scout Promise.

# The Story of Los Banditos

A Multi Award Ceremony

Cast of Characters:

- Juan Pedro—a humble Mexican man
- Akela—the Indian guide
- Tigers
- Bobcats
- Wolves
- Bears
- Webelos

**Narrator:** Many years ago in a small Mexican village, lives a humble man named Juan Pedro. Juan was a humble man and strived to live a good yet simple life. Unfortunately, Juan’s village was faced with a serious problem known as “Los Banditos”.

There were no heroes at this time and the legendary Zorro had long since past away. Juan’s heart was heavy with sadness due to “Los Banditos” and set out in search of a hero to save his poor, little village. He decided to go out into the countryside and vowed to only return once he had found a way to rid the village of its problem.

As Juan traveled into the countryside, the heat of the sun high in the sky beat down upon his brow. Juan decided it was time to take a siesta and searched for a shady spot to lay down. He found a perfect spot in a cave on a cliff.

He had barely fallen asleep when he was awakened by the sound of approaching footsteps. He looked up to see a magnificent Indian standing over him. The Indian spoke.

**Akela:** I am Akela and was sent by the great spirit to guide you.

**Narrator:** Akela told Juan that he could speak to nature and would teach Juan the ways of the wild. However, he would need to pass several tests. The first test was to gather all of the tigers in the area and get them to join his group. But how?

Juan had an idea. He took all of the things that tigers liked and placed them in a piñata. This included searching for fun, discovering new things, and sharing them with the rest of the group. He hung the piñata on the end of a stick and waited in anticipation. Would the tigers come? *(Pause as the tigers come forward.)*

The plan had worked! The tigers came and Juan spoke to the group.

*(Juan will ad lib a tiger ceremony.)*

Pleased by his ability to gather tigers, Akela challenged Juan to seek out a fierce yet smaller creature. This was the Bobcat. Bobcats could only be summoned by first pounding on the ground with a coup stick and then calling out the individual names of the Bobcats. Here as the tricky part. How would Juan know the names? Akela presented a list to Juan.

Juan took the coup stick and list from Akela and pounded on the ground and called the names of the Bobcats.

*(Juan will ad lib a Bobcat ceremony.)*

Juan had tigers and bobcats, but needed a cunning way to catch “los banditos”. Akela challenged Juan to go and call in the smartest animal in the forest. This was the wolf. Akela taught Juan the secret call of the Wolf. *(Pause as Akela howls.)* Now it was up to Juan Pedro. He left out a howl and waited for an answer. Would the wolves howl back? Would the wolves come forward and answer the call?

*(Juan will ad lib a wolf ceremony.)*

The group was growing and Akela was pleased. He told Juan that he should learn from the wolves and call his group a pack. For you see, a pack is like a family where everyone looks out for each other. They became the pack of Juan Pedro.

So Juan had the eagerness of the tigers, the fierceness of the Bobcats, the cunning of the wolves, but lacked strength to overcome “los banditos”. Akela called for the Bears, the most powerful animal in all of the land. Akela told Juan that Bears always sensed when there was trouble and would stand up for what is right. The bears seemed to know when to come. Would the bears sense Juan’s dilemma and come forward? Juan waited for the bears to come forward.

*(Juan will ad lib a bear ceremony.)*

Juan felt he was now ready to take on “los banditos”. He had found eagerness, fierceness, cunning, and strength. However, Akela stopped him and explained that Juan still needed young braves to lead the group. Akela promised that his band of braves would come to Juan’s aid but Juan must go out into the forest and wait for the sign. Akela did not say what the sign was but only told Juan that he would know it when he saw it. All of Akela’s loyal scouts knew the sign.

Akela told Juan that his loyal scouts would stand beside Juan once he had gone into the night forest. Once Juan sees the sign, he should return from the forest where he would be joined by all of the loyal scouts of Akela. Their chant of “we’ll be loyal scouts” would ring through the air. They were known as Webelos. *(Akela opens the curtain on the stage and prepares for the arrow.)*

Juan traveled into the forest as the sky grew darker and darker. There were few stars in the night sky and it was difficult to see his way through the heavy pine trees. He decided to climb to the top of the trees to see if he could spot where he was. He had no sooner reached the top of the tree and he saw the sign. *(Pause as the arrow flies across the sky.)* He quickly climbed out of the tree and headed towards the now burning fire. He noticed Webelos starting to rise from the forest and walk towards the fire. Akela welcomed all to the council ring and waited for Juan to speak.

*(Juan will lead a Webelos badge and Arrow of Light ceremony.)*

Finally Juan was ready. The eagerness of the tigers, the fierceness of the Bobcats, the cunning of the wolves, the strength of the bears, and the leadership of the Webelos. A mighty band of eighty in all. They rid the town of “los banditos” and became heroes. The legend of the group grew as they traveled from town to town ridding the landside of banditos. The very mention of their name created fear in the hearts of those who would do wrong. The Pack of Juan eighty would be a mighty force for years to come. In fact, Pack 180 still leads to this day in the fight for what is right.

# Crossover Ceremony

Chief Akela enters the ceremony area, positions himself (NORTH) behind the council fire and faces the audience with head bowed.

Medicine Man enters the ceremony area carrying a blanket. He places the blanket in front of the council fire and positions himself with his back to the blanket (EAST), facing the audience with his head bowed. Guide enters the ceremony area and lights the Spirit of Scouting Candle by the Arrow of Light Board. He positions himself on the west side of the ceremony area (WEST), facing the audience with his head bowed. Guard enters the ceremony area and positions himself on the other side of the ceremony area (SOUTH), facing the audience with his head bowed. When all are in position with their heads bowed the drum will continue to beat for a short time. When the drum stops, all will raise their heads. The chief will start the four winds. The drum stops.

**Chief Akela:** (raises the coup stick) I am the North Wind. People say I am cold, but to you I will always bring the warmest of winds because you have been true-blue Cub Scout and Webelos Scouts, and have always lived up the Law of the Pack.

**Guard:** (raises the dream catcher) I am the South Wind. I wish you good Scouting. Over hill and dale I have carried stories of you and your experiences. As Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts, you have been happy, game, fair and a credit to your Den and Pack.

**Medicine Man:** (raises the bow and arrow) I am the East Wind. I wish you well. I have spread the story of your fun and happiness in Cub Scouting and how you lived up to the Cub Scout Promise and were fair and helpful.

**Guide:** (raises the tomahawk) I am the West Wind. I would like everyone present to know that these Webelos Scouts did not walk the Cub Scout Trail alone. Each had the wonderful help of his parents. Parents, continue to help your boys to go and grow.

**Guard:** Chief Akela, there are some among us worthy of the highest honor in Cub Scouting, Crossing the bridge into Boy Scouting and joining you at the great tribal fire.

**Chief Akela:** (tilts the coup stick towards Guard) My brother, seek them out that are worthy of this honor and bring them before our council fire.

**Guard:** It shall be done Chief Akela.

*(The three Winds go and gather the Webelos ready to cross)*

**Guard:** Now that you have completed Cub Scouts, you are at the base of a great mountain, and you see before you just the beginning of the path up the Scouting trail. Soon you will cross this bridge into the wider world of Boy Scouting. With you will go your hopes and dreams, and as always your parents.

**Chief Akela:** I wish you well as you begin this journey. Look for us along the path that you will take. For we also, seek for the Eagle. You have worked to this point where you are about to become Boy Scouts. But, listen now to the wisdom of the winds.

**Medicine Man:** I am the spirit of the East Wind. I represent the common law, your duty to God and your country. Trustworthy, loyal, and helpful are the qualities which a man must possess who lives by the laws and the rules of the land. See that we do not lose this great blessing of a lawful land.

**Guide:** I am the spirit of the West Wind. I represent the law of equity, your duty to country and to others; friendly, courteous, and kind are the laws that breathe of conscience. They create the atmosphere that comes from within your heart. The desire for you always to be a friend to those of all ages. Courteous to those who pass along your trail. Don't live with the harmful spirit of unfriendliness and selfishness.

**Guard:** I am the spirit of the South Wind. I represent the civil law, your duty to others and to self. Obedient, cheerful, and thrifty are the characteristics of civility. A life of cheerful obedience is necessary for the development of a true citizen. Obedience is something everyone has to learn—to take orders and carry them out cheerfully. Real thrift means earning, spending wisely, and saving, and to share with those less fortunate.

**Chief Akela:** I am the spirit of the North Wind, the most powerful of all. I represent the divine law. Brave, clean, reverent. To be brave is to be unselfish. To be clean in body and soul is to be pure at heart. Cast from your being any evil spirit that tries to weaken or destroy the divine law, live a life of reverence. Be brave and clean.

Remove your neckerchiefs and slides and hand them to your parents. It is now time to leave our council fire of the Cub Scouts and cross the bridge into Boy Scouting. Cross as I, Akela, tap your shoulder with my coup stick.

# Wolf to Bear

## Bridging Ceremony

**Cubmaster:** Would all of the Wolves and their parents come forward and join me here on stage.

**Cubmaster:** Thank you for coming up. In a few moments, we will be visited by a special guest. He represents your next level in cub scouting. There is only one problem. In order to appear, he needs to hear that you are ready to cross over. On the count of three, I want all of you to join together and shout the cub scout motto. 1, 2, 3.

*(Baloo enters at the back and walks up to the stage.)*

**Asst. Cubmaster:** All that noise, you woke me from my hibernation. Is it spring already? It looks like you boys are ready to cross into bears. Are you ready? If so answer, “Yes Baloo, we are ready.” *(Wait for boys to respond.)*

**Asst Cubmaster:** Remove your neckerchiefs and hand them to your parents. Remember to take your slide with you.

**Cubmaster:** It sounds and looks like they are ready, Baloo. But who will greet them on the other side?

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Send me their leaders so that I may prepare them. *(Wolf den leaders go to the other side and wait for them.)*

**Asst. Cubmaster:** As you cross over the coals of knowledge, pause and gaze into the pond of reflection, and think about what you have learned so far. Then, come and join me over here.

# Cub Wars: Episode 1

A Multi Bridging Ceremony

*(Theme to Star Wars begins, Narrator begins after 30 seconds as music dime)*

**Narrator:** Long, long ago, in a galaxy not so very far away, was a struggle between good and evil. The evil force, commonly known as the Imperial Forces, was led by the wicked yet handsome, Varth Dader. The good force, known as the Courageous Under Battle Situations, or CUBS for short were led by the committee known as Parental Achievement Concerning Kids, or PACK for short. The struggle had ensued for many generations with the “force” serving as the guiding beacon for the PACK Committee and the CUBS. Varth Dader was a former CUB Master whom switched to the dark side for the easier way of doing things. Let’s join in by watching the story that we are about the unfold.

*(Music volume is raised as the curtain opens, once fully open, music is ended.)*

**Varth Dader:** So we meet again OB2 Better Than You, or should I just call you OB2?

**OB2:** Yes, *(pause)* OB2 will be fine. I see that once again you, Varth Dader have come to try to persuade my CUBS from completing their training to become true followers of the “force”.

**Varth:** I am here to watch your CUBS fail, just as you yourself will do when it comes to following the path of the force or “eagle” as you CUBS like to call it.

**OB2:** Varth, to trail the eagle should be the dream of all of the CUBS, and to prove to you that this is true, I have one CUB that has been tested in many ways of the JEDI, and has proved himself worthy of the special powers that go with it. Would *(Insert name)* please come and join forces with his parents and me here on stage.

**Varth:** I don’t believe that he has the courage to come and battle with me...

**OB2:** See Varth here he comes...*(Insert name)*, here is the emblem of the Bobcat. It ties you to all the other CUBS that have come before you and to all the CUBS who will follow in your path. Wear it with pride as you remember that this stands for those who would “Do Their Best”!

**Varth:** You bring a Bobcat to battle me? HAH! A mere Bobcat is no match for the evil side. Come young Bobcat and battle. A question for you, “who wants to be a millionaire”? *(Wait for the scout to respond.)*

**Varth:** Curses you are correct.

**OB2:** The reason he is correct is because he also has studied the ways of the Bear and is now ready to receive his Bear badge. *(Present the badge now.)* Congratulations on your accomplishments. Please return to your Double Energized Nebula or DEN as we like to call it.



**Varth:** That is the best you can do, OB2? One Cub does not scare me no matter how much he has advanced.

**OB2:** Varth, why must you always underestimate the power of the force. Look out upon the crowd and what do you see?

**Varth:** A bunch of ‘fraidy cats, if you asked me.

**OB2:** You leave me no choice but to show you the power of the force.

**Varth:** *(pulling out his light saber)* So it’s a fight you want? You can’t handle my power OB2.

*(A staged fight ensues on a darkened stage with flashlight.)*

**Varth:** Your powers have grown OB2, you must now be a CUB Master. *(Light up stage.)*

**OB2:** I am a CUB Master but my power comes not from this but from the PACK Committee and the CUBS. In order to defeat you I need the strength of my PACK Committee. Would all of my leaders come and join me?

*(OB2 hands a feather to each leader.)*

**Varth:** What are giving them, OB2?

**OB2:** A feather, to symbolize the power of the force to remain focused and to always “trail the Eagle”.

**Varth:** HAH!!! Leaders alone won’t defeat me. You’d better do better than that. It takes more than a CUB Master and a PACK committee to defeat Varth Dader.

**OB2:** You are right, Varth. Would all the Tigers and their partners come forward? *(Pause as the Tigers assemble.)* Please cross over this bridge as a commitment to the CUBS and receive the honor of Wolf Den. *(Place neckerchief on boy and present Wolf book.)*

**Varth:** No, don’t cross over, come join me!

*(Varth makes gurgling sounds as boys cross bridge.)*

**Varth:** Well as long as that is all you have, I will continue to destroy you, OB2.

**OB2:** Wait Varth, there is yet another, *(pause)* would all of my old Wolf dens please come forward. *(Pause as the Wolves assemble.)* Please continue to help to defeat the dark side by crossing the bridge to Bear. *(Present Bear neckerchief and book.)*

*(Varth makes gurgling sounds as boys cross bridge.)*

**Varth:** No, don’t cross over, come join me!

**Varth:** Well as long as that is all you have, I will continue to destroy you, OB2.

**OB2:** Wait Varth, there is yet another, *(pause)* would all of my old Bear dens please come forward. *(Pause as the Bears assemble.)* Please continue to help to defeat the dark side by crossing the bridge to Webelos. *(Present Webelos book and Neckerchief.)*

**Varth:** No don't cross over come join me!

**Varth:** Well as long as that is all you have, I will continue to destroy you, OB2.

**OB2:** Still not convinced that we can defeat you Varth?

**Varth:** Never will you as little Dens destroy the Dark side.

**OB2:** Varth, we are not a group of little dens, we are a team that works together, and we are a Pack. Would all the boys stand and join me in reciting the Law of the Pack.

A CUB SCOUT FOLLOWS AKELA.  
A CUB SCOUT HELPS THE PACK GO.  
THE PACK HELPS THE CUB SCOUT GROW.  
THE CUB SCOUT GIVES GOODWILL.

**Varth:** *(removing mask)* Very well OB2, you have convinced me to give up the ways of the dark side and to return once again the role of CUB Master.

*(End with Star Wars theme playing.)*

## Bear Cross Over

**Cubmaster:** Would all of the Bear scouts and their parents please come and join me on this side of the coals of knowledge.

**Asst. Cubmaster:** *(Standing on the other side, with all the Webelos)* Over here, on this side is the future. This represents your challenge to grow into a leader among the boys in the pack. Listen now as these boys who have already entered into this new realm tell you some of the things that will be required of you.

**Webelos:** A scout is trustworthy.

**Cubmaster:** What does this mean to these Bears?

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Let's see what the Webelos book has to say about that.

**Webelos:** A scout is loyal.

**Cubmaster:** Loyal, and what does that mean?

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Loyal simply means....

*(Etc. until all twelve points have been reviewed.)*

**Cubmaster:** I present to you these bears who are ready to cross into the future. Will you greet them and make them feel welcome?

**Asst. Cubmaster:** We welcome these new members with the left hand of scouting. This is our sign of unity and strength.

*(Cubmaster will remove the bear neckerchief and hand it to the parents, send the boy across where Asst. Cubmaster and other Webelos will help put on the new neckerchief and slide and give him the Scout handshake.)*

## Wolf to Bear Crossover

**Cubmaster:** Would all the Wolves and their parents come forward and join me on stage.

**Cubmaster:** Thank you for coming up. In a few moments we will be visited by a special guest. He represents your next level in cub scouting. There is only one problem. In order to appear, he needs to hear that you are ready to cross over. On the count of three, I want all of you to join together and shout the cub scout motto. 1, 2, 3.

*(Baloo enters at the back and walks up to the stage.)*

**Asst. Cubmaster:** All that noise, you woke me from my hibernation. Is it spring already? It looks like you boys are ready to cross into bears. Are you ready? If so answer, "Yes Baloo, we are ready." *(Wait for boys to respond.)*

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Remove your neckerchiefs and hand them to your parents. Remember to take your slide with you.

**Cubmaster:** It sounds and looks like they are ready, Baloo. But who will greet them on the other side?

**Asst. Cubmaster:** Send me their leaders so that I may prepare them. *(Wolf den leaders go to the other side and wait for them.)*

**Asst. Cubmaster:** As you cross over the coals of knowledge, pause and gaze into the pond of reflection, and think about what you have learned so far. Then, come and join me over here.

# A Noise From Afar

A Multi Level Crossover Ceremony

Many years ago, in a remote region of the Appalachian Mountains, was a small tribe of Native Americans. They existed peacefully with nature and were always thankful to the Great Creator for all that He had provided. The village was located in a hollow surrounded by a raging river and a deep ravine. The only way in or out of the village was a small bridge over the deep gorge. Because of the dangers of the mountains, the villagers seldom left unless it would be to hunt for food or other necessities. Very often, the only people allowed to leave were those braves that had proven themselves as courageous and loyal to the tribe.

One day Akela went out into the wild. He was seeking to add to his tribe. He had heard that there were young braves ready to make the commitment to follow the ways of the wild. They sought the sign of the Tiger. Akela searched the forest. He called out tenderly to the young braves. Come, follow me, and I will teach you many new and fun things.

*(Akela and the new Tigers reach the bridge, the Cubmaster is waiting on the other side ready to welcome the new members of the Pack. The Cubmaster performs a welcoming ceremony for the boys and their parents.)*

One day the tribe was gathered around the chieftain Akela's fire. They heard a strange noise coming from across the bridge. It was a booming sound followed by a low rumble. What could it be? The chieftain summoned several young braves to his aid. He called upon those who would dress in orange and understand the call of "Search, Discover, Share". Would all of the Tigers who have answered the call of Akela this past year please come forward with their Tiger Partners?

*(Akela crosses the Tigers)*

The Tigers crossed into the wild searching for an answer. They began to learn many ways of the pack and were now ready to be called a Wolf den. Several of the braves had quickly learned the rules of the pack and were ready to receive the rank of Bobcat.

*(Cubmaster awards Bobcats)*

The newly formed Wolf dens went in search of the noise heard in the wild. They were unable to find it and called back to the village for help. Akela summoned those who wore the Wolf upon their chest. Would all of the wolves come forward?

Akela has called you to his council fire. Your brothers, the tigers, have gone before you and now are trailing the wolf. They need your help. Remove your neckerchiefs as you are to be advanced in your skill and will now be charged with trailing the Bear.

*(Akela crosses the Wolves)*

The new bears could not wait to go and assist their brothers. They too searched for the mysterious sound and could not find it. They cried out to Akela for more help. Akela was

becoming troubled. Whom should he send? He needed to send those that had learned the ways of the Bobcat, Wolf and Bear, for these scouts would be loyal. They would know of the tough journey that lay ahead. He would need the Bears. Would all of the Bears please come forward at this time?

*(Cubmaster and Akela prepare and cross the Bears)*

The newly formed band of Webelos went out in search of the strange noise. It grew fainter and fainter as they went deeper and deeper into the forest. They grew weary and did not see any of their brothers. Finally, the Wolves, Bears and Webelos all came back to the council fire. They told Akela that they could not find the noise. Akela hung his head. Could no one find the mysterious sound? He would have to send forth two braves to forever go forth and search for what is mysterious and grow in their knowledge of the wild. Akela sent all the others away and summoned for the oldest two braves within his tribe. Would *(insert name)* and *(insert name)* please come forward with their parents?

Akela went across the bridge and went in search of a new guide for the two knowledgeable braves. He returned with a guide who would show them the trail to new discoveries and not to fear the unknown but how to learn and grow.

*(Cubmaster crosses the two Webelos into Boy Scouts)*

# Big Dipper Closing Ceremony

A Closing Ceremony

Personnel: Akela and eight Cub Scouts

Equipment: Small campfire, blue paper or cardboard 3 feet square, with cutouts for stars in Big Dipper and the North Star, eight small or pen-type flashlights (one for each Cub Scout)

Arrangement: Akela and eight Cub Scouts stand near the campfire with the figure of the Big Dipper and the North Star at one side of the fire. Cub Scouts stand behind the figure of stars with lights, which they flash behind their star in the Big Dipper as they speak.

**Akela:** For thousands of years, people have grouped the stars together as figures in constellations. This was probably done by the early shepherds as they lay on the grass looking at the sky while tending their sheep. There they would see pictures of heroes, kings, queens, men, maidens, and monsters in the stars. The constellation we know best is the Big Dipper.

Taking the stars that form the outer edge of the Big Dipper's bowl, sight upward, the bright star you see is the North Star, which for centuries has been the guiding star for travelers. *(One Cub Scout flashes his light in the cutout for the North Star.)* It remains in the same place all the time. Let the North Star be our guiding star, representing our God. Keep your eyes on the North Star. Each star in the Big Dipper can help you keep your eyes on the North Star—to become your guide for living. Then let your light so shine that you can help others find the way.

Now our Cub Scouts will tell what each star in the Big Dipper represents to him in his quest to find the guiding star.

*(As they speak, they flash their light behind their star.)*

**1<sup>st</sup> Cub:** The Holy Bible

**2<sup>nd</sup> Cub:** My minister (pastor, rabbi, or priest)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Cub:** My mother and father

**4<sup>th</sup> Cub:** The Cub Scout Promise and Law of the Pack

**5<sup>th</sup> Cub:** My Den Leader

**6<sup>th</sup> Cub:** My Cubmaster

**7<sup>th</sup> Cub:** My Den Chief

**Akela:** All of these are excellent guides to follow on our Cub Scout trail. Let each one help you as you travel onward. Good Night.

# Spirit of Scouting – Closing

A Closing Ceremony

Personnel: Cubmaster or other leader

Equipment: Candle, candlestick matches

Arrangement: This ceremony may be used alone or used with an opening ceremony using the lighted candle

**Cubmaster:** *(If the candle was lighted during an opening ceremony, he might say, "Throughout our meeting this evening this candle, which represents the Spirit of Scouting, has burned..." )* I light this candle, which represents the Spirit of Scouting. Look steadily at the flame for a moment. *(Pause.)* Now close your eyes. The image remains with you. Open your eyes. Now we blow out the light. As the image of the light remained in our ceremony, so will the Spirit of Cub Scouting stay with us. This evening of fun and good Cub Scout fellowship will not soon be forgotten.



# A Special Kiss

All Purpose Ethics in Action

There was a Cub Scout that lived in the city and walked a few short blocks to school every day. One day while walking through the park that was on his way to school, he saw a lady sitting on a bench who was crying. This lady was what is called a street person. She was dirty, not very attractive, wearing rags, and the kind that goes through garbage cans just to survive.

The scout noticed her and wondered why she was crying. He went up to her and asked her what was wrong. At first she just looked at him. Then she answered, "I am tired, dirty, homeless and hungry. This world hated me and I am absolutely miserable." This took the scout by surprise. He felt bad for her. He thought of what he could do to help. "I know it is not much, but here," said the boy. He reached into his lunch box and gave the lady his bag of Hershey kisses that his mom packed for his lunch. She looked at the scout, and because he insisted, she took it. She thanked him. Then the scout went on his way to school.

All day long, the scout couldn't stop thinking about that lady. The next morning, he went looking for the woman in the park. She was there. Once again she accepted the Hershey kisses and thanked him. This routine went on for several weeks. The scout would meet her every morning and give her Hershey kisses and then they would talk for several minutes. The scout always had a smile on his face and never complained.

The scout got great joy from bringing happiness to this lady. He loved to see the joy in her face when she got the food. He actually cared about her. Little did the scout know, she greatly cared about him too. A fellow street man asked the woman where she went every morning because when she came back she looks so happy. She said to him, "I know that you won't believe it, but I have been spending time with God!" The man laughed at her, but she didn't care.

The next morning, the man wanted to find out what she really did every morning. He followed behind her without her knowing it. He followed her to the park and hid behind a tree. He saw the Cub Scout come and talk with her for several minutes and then give her the Hershey kisses. When the scout left, so did the man.

Later that night, the man asked the woman, "What did you do today?" She told him that she had been spending time with God. Once again he laughed. He said, "No, you spent time with a mere little boy." But then she said, "No, that is where you are wrong. If you could only see the love in this boy's eyes. If you could only hear the love in the boy's voice. He is so caring and devoted. He has brought me friendship for several weeks now. That is not human, that is Godly. God is in him". The man just looked at her and then smiled, "I understand."

**THE POINT:** Even though the boy was not in uniform and would earn no award from his leader, he continued to live by the motto of the BSA by "doing a good turn daily". The challenge to all of you is, can you live your life so that others can see Jesus in you?

Here is a Hershey kiss for each of you so that you can remember the little Cub Scout who let the light of Jesus shine through him.

## Explanation of the Pledge Ceremony

An Opening/Closing Ceremony

We often recite the Pledge of Allegiance without really listening to or understanding the meaning of the words we are saying. You can have each boy recite a portion, then the explanation. You can also have the boys put the meaning into their own words.

**I**—Me, an individual, committee of one

**Pledge**—Dedicate all of my worldly possessions to give without self pity

**Allegiance**—My love and devotion

**To the Flag**—Our standard—Old Glory—a symbol of freedom. Wherever she waves there is respect because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts “Freedom is everybody’s job!”

**Of the United**—United—that means we have all come together

**States of America**—States—individual communities that have united into fifty great states—fifty individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose, all divided with imaginary boundaries, yet united in a common purpose—love for country.

**And to the Republic**—Republic, a state in which power is given to representatives chosen by the people to govern, and the government is the people; and it’s from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

**For Which it Stands**—This is what our Flag stands for—Our United States

**One Nation Under God**—Meaning so blessed by God

**Indivisible**—Incapable of being divided

**With Liberty**—Which is freedom—the right to live one’s own life without threats or fear of retaliation

**And Justice**—The principle or qualities of dealing fairly with others

**For All**—For all—which means, boys and girls, ladies and gentlemen, it’s as much your country as it is mine.

## **Patriotic Ceremony**

### **An Opening/Closing Ceremony**

**A**—is for Advantages, we have so many more;  
Because we are Americans, let's give thanks therefore.

**M**—is for Majority, decision by the most;  
That's the rule we follow from coast to rugged coast.

**E**—is for Education available to all;  
So every last American stands up straight and tall.

**R**—is for Religion—we worship as we will;  
A right we'll always cherish and let no evil kill.

**I**—is for Independence that our fathers once declared;  
Our nation rose to greatness because these brave men dared.

**C**—is for our Citizenship of which we can be proud;  
So let's proclaim it daily, and do it long and loud.

**A**—is for Assembly, to gather as we might;  
That's another privilege, another precious right.

**N**—is for the News, a press that's always free;  
A sentinel on watch to guard our precious liberty.

**I**—is for Impartial—equal justice for us all;  
Law—the same for everyone; the great, the poor, the small.

**S**—is for Speech—though other disagree;  
You may still express yourself because our speech is free.

**M**—is for our Motto, and that is why we say:  
“In God We Trust,” to live the American way.

## An Adult Recruiting Ceremony

*Try this relatively simple closing ceremony:*

Props:

- One 18” log cut in half with five evenly spaced holes drilled about an inch deep.
- Two blue candles (battery Christmas candles painted can be substituted)
- Two yellow/gold candles
- One Red candle (any other different color than blue and gold will do as well)
- Candles are placed in holes in the log—blue-yellow-red-yellow-blue

*(Give the Scout Sign until the group is silent. Have 5 denners off-stage walk silently forward with a lit taper and light the five candles starting with blue, yellow and then red. They extinguish their candles and stand on either side of you behind the now glowing log—all in silence.)*

**Cubmaster:** These five candles burning brightly represent the light that adult leaders—Akela—give to our Cub Scouts to help them grow in citizenship, character, and fitness. This is fitting because without these leaders these Scouts would be left to fend for themselves in darkness.

Without Council and District leaders (*use wetted fingers to extinguish a blue candle*) there would be less light, but still enough.

Without the Pack Committee (*extinguish other blue candle*) there would be even less light, but still enough.

Without the Cubmaster and other Pack leaders (*extinguish a yellow*) there would be much less light.

Without the Den Leaders and Den Chiefs (*extinguish other yellow*) there would be much, much less light.

Finally, we see only a small light left and the most important light of all. This is the light of parents who help these Scouts. And without the help of parents (*extinguish red candle*) who will cast a guiding light for these Scouts to lead them from darkness?

*(Have a staged parent in the back of the room come forward lighting a candle or using a battery lantern. Parent asks each person in turn to put hand on shoulder of person in front of them and follow him/her out of the meeting room.*

Now if this doesn't get the attention of parents, I'm not sure they can be moved. Must be stones.

# I Am Your Flag

An Opening/Closing Ceremony

*This is from a 1914 Flag Day address “makers of the Flag” by Franklin Knight Lane, Secretary of the Interior, in which he imagined that the flag was speaking. The flag should be spotlighted in a darkened room with the narrator offstage.*

## **Narrator:**

I am not the flag; not at all. I am but its shadow. I am whatever you make me, nothing more. I am your belief in yourself, your dream of what people may become. I live a changing life; a life of moods and passions, of heartbreaks and tired muscles.

Sometimes I am strong with pride, when men do an honest work. Sometimes I droop, for then purpose has gone from me. Sometimes I am loud, garish and full of that ego that blasts judgement. But always, I am that you hope to be, and have courage to try for.

I am song and fear, struggle and panic and ennobling hope. I am the day's work of the weakest man, and the largest dream of the most daring. I am the clutch of an idea, and the reason and purpose of resolution. I am no more than what you believe me to be, and I am all that you believe I can be. I am what you make me, nothing more.

I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of color, a symbol of yourself. My stars and my stripes are your dream and your labors. They are bright with cheer, brilliant with courage, firm with faith, because you have made them so out of your hearts. For you are the makers of the flag and it is well that you glory in the making.

# A Piece of Clay

Ethics in Action

I took a piece of plastic clay, and idly fashioned it one day,  
And as my fingers pressed it still, it moved and yielded to my will.

I came again when days were passed, the bit of clay was hard at last.  
The form I gave it still it bore, but I could change it nevermore.

I took a piece of living clay and gently formed it day by day,  
And molded it with power and art: a young child's soft and yielding heart.

I came again when years were gone. It was a man I looked upon  
He still the early impress wore, and I could change him nevermore.

## A Patriotic Opening Ceremony

Arrangement:

Flags are advanced in usual manner. Audience repeats Pledge of Allegiance. Flags are posted. Patriotic background music is played while Narrator reads the following:

“Not gold, but only men can make  
A nation great and strong,  
Men who for truth and honor’s sake,  
Stand fast and suffer long.  
Brave men who work while others sleep,  
Who dare while others shy.  
They build a nation’s pillars deep,  
And lift them to the sky.”  
--Ralph Waldo Emerson

# The Cub Scout Trail

## An Opening Ceremony

The only prop needed for this opening ceremony is a poster showing a mountain on which there has been drawn a distinct trail. Have the boys in your den draw this prop as one of their projects. As each Cub says his part, he places the proper Cub Scout sticker (available at Scout Service Center) in place along trail. If you are able, make a paper mache mountain and use the cloth badges.

As each Cub comes on stage and says his part, he places the sticker or badge in a specific place along the Cub Scout trail.

**Cub #1:** I am a Bobcat—a beginner on the Cub Scout trail. Once I pass my Bobcat requirements, I'll be on my way.

**Cub #2:** I am now a Wolf Cub along the Cub Scout trail. I've earned my badge and arrow points and am ready to go another step of the way.

**Cub #3:** A Bear Cub Scout I have become. I'm in my second year. Up, up the Cub Scout trail I go—soon to be a Webelos.

**Cub #4:** Webelos is the name for me. I spend my time earning Activity Badges; but there's still one more step for me (*places Webelos colors higher on the trail*).

**Cub #5:** I, too, am a Webelos, but I have reached the top. I've earned the Arrow of Light Award (*place badge on the TOP of the mountain*), but I have one more stop. By earning my Arrow of Light, I've studied quite a bit about Scouts. Now I can't wait to become one. (*He puts on a Boy Scout hat.*)

# Chief Seattle

Ethics in Action

**Narrator:** Chief Seattle was one of the last spokesmen of the Paleolithic moral order. In about 1852, the United States Government inquired about buying the tribal lands for the arriving people of the United States, and Chief Seattle wrote a marvelous letter in reply. His letter expresses the moral, really, of our whole discussion.

“The President in Washington sends word that he wishes to buy our land. But how can you buy or sell the sky? The land? The idea is strange to us. If we do not own the freshness of the air and the sparkle of the water, how can you buy them?

Every part of this earth is sacred to my people. Every shining pine needle, every sandy shore, every mist in the dark woods, every meadow, every humming insect. All are holy in the memory and experience of my people.

We know the sap which courses through the trees as we know the blood that courses through our veins. We are part of the earth and it is part of us. The perfumed flowers are our sisters. The bear, the deer, the great eagle, these are our brothers. The rocky crests, the juices in the meadow, the body heat of the pony, and man, all belong to the same family.

The shining water that moves in the streams and rivers is not just water, but the blood of our ancestors. If we sell you our land, you must remember that it is sacred. Each ghostly reflection in the clear waters of the lakes tells of events and memories in the life of my people. The water’s murmur is the voice of my father’s father.

The rivers are our brothers. They quench our thirst. They carry our canoes and feed our children. So you must give to the rivers the kindness you would give any brother.

If we sell you our land, remember that the air is precious to us, that the air shares its spirit with all the life it supports. The wind that gave our grandfather his first breath also receives his last sigh. The wind also gives our children the spirit of life. So if we sell you our land, you must keep it apart and sacred, as a place where man can go to taste the wind that is sweetened by the meadow flowers.

Will you teach your children what we have taught our children? That the earth is our mother? What befalls the earth befalls all the sons of the earth.

This we know: the earth does not belong to man, man belongs to the earth. All things are connected like the blood that unites us all. Man did not weave the web of life, he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself.

One thing we know: our god is also your god. The earth is precious to him and to harm the earth is to heap contempt on its creator.

Your destiny is a mystery to us. What will happen when the buffalo are all slaughtered? The wild horses tamed? What will happen when the secret corners of the forest are heavy with the scent of many men and the view of the ripe hills is blotted with talking wires?



Where will the thicket be? Gone! Where will the eagle be? Gone! And what is to say good-bye to the swift pony and the hunt? The end of living and the beginning of survival.

When the last Red Man has vanished with his wilderness and his memory is only the shadow of a cloud moving across the prairie, will these shores and forest still be here? Will there be any spirit of my people left?

We love this earth as a newborn loves its mother's heartbeat. So, if we sell you our land, love it as we have loved it. Care for it as we have cared for it. Hold in your mind the memory of the land as it is when you receive it. Preserve the land for all children and love it, as God loves us all.

As we are part of the land, you too are part of the land. This earth is precious to us. It is also precious to you. One thing we know: there is only one God. No man, be he Red Man or White Man, can be apart. We are brothers after all."

# Lessons From the Geese

Ethics in Action

As each bird flaps its wings, by flying in a V formation, the whole flock adds 71 percent flying range than if each bird flew alone.

**LESSON:** People who share a common direction and a sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the trust of each other.

Whenever a goose falls out of formation it quickly gets back into the formation to take advantage of the “lifting power” of the birds immediately in front.

**LESSON:** If we have as much sense as a goose, we will step in formation with those who are headed where we want to go.

When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position.

**Lesson:** It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks, and sharing leadership, interdependent with each other.

The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

**Lesson:** We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging...not something less helpful.

When a goose gets sick, wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follows to help and protect. They stay until the goose is either able to fly again or dies.

**Lesson:** If we have as much sense as the geese, we will stand by each other and give our love and support to those in need.

# Cub Scout Safari

## FLAG CEREMONY

*(The stage is set with a large kettle and campfire. Inside the kettle and against one side is a folded flag out of sight of the audience.)*

**1<sup>st</sup> boy:** Tonight we're going to fix for you a treat that's grand and make for you a recipe—the Grandest in the Land.

**2<sup>nd</sup> boy:** In first we'll put a heaping cup of red for courage true. *(Pours in container of red paper cut in small pieces.)*

**3<sup>rd</sup> boy:** And then we'll add for loyalty a dash of heavenly blue. *(Pours in container of blue paper cut in small pieces.)*

**4<sup>th</sup> boy:** For purity we'll now sift in a layer of snowy white. *(Pours in container of white paper cut in small pieces.)*

**5<sup>th</sup> boy:** We'll sprinkle a pinch of stars to make it come out right. *(Pours in a small container of silver stars.)*

**6<sup>th</sup> boy:** We'll stir and stir and you will see that what we've made is Old Glory. *(Pulls out flag and holds it up.)*

**7<sup>th</sup> boy:** Our flag is the most beautiful flag in the world. Let's always be loyal to it. Will everyone please stand and give the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag?

# Flag and Candle Ceremony

An Opening Ceremony

Props:

- 1 small American flag
- 1 white candle
- 1 blue candle
- 1 red candle
- 4 people

**1<sup>st</sup> person:** Practically from the beginning of time, man has used symbols to express hope, ideals, and love of his own nation. Our flag represents the ideals and science, commerce and agriculture. It symbolizes the sacrifices made by men and women for the future of America. It stands for your home and everything and everyone you hold dear.

I light the red candle which is the symbol of the red in our flag, and stands for hardiness and valor and symbolizes the lifeblood of brave men and women.

**2<sup>nd</sup> person:** I light the white, which is the symbol of purity and innocence and symbolizes the white of our flag.

**3<sup>rd</sup> person:** I light the blue candle which is the symbol of perseverance and justice, and symbolizes the eternal blue of the heavens.

**4<sup>th</sup> person:** The stars in our flag represents states. They indicate that the heights of achievement for our nation are limitless as the heavens above us.

**Together:** Won't you join us in the Pledge of Allegiance?