**Bobcat Rank Activity Plans for Parents + Leaders**

Here are two Den Adventure Plans to use as “First Activities” for your Den when you start up a new Program Year (at a Den Meeting or fun event) …

… to learn and earn (or review) the Bobcat Rank
Share with attending parents … get their help!

*From the Den Leader Guides:*

**THE FIRST RANK FOR ALL — BOBCAT**

The Bobcat rank is the first badge awarded a new Cub Scout (2018: except Lions). As a new member, a scout may work on the Bobcat rank requirements while simultaneously working on the next rank as well. A scout cannot receive the Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, or Arrow of Light badge until the scout has completed Bobcat requirements and earned the Bobcat badge. **Scouts can normally earn their Bobcat badge well within the first month of becoming a new Cub Scout** (2018: except Lions).

Here’s how you can help! Practice the requirements with your scout and the other scouts at a den activity, and encourage them to work on the requirements with their families also. Requirement 7 is a home-based requirement. The requirements are found in each of the youth handbooks as well as listed below:

**Bobcat Requirements:**

1. Learn and say the Scout Oath, with help if needed.
2. Learn and say the Scout Law, with help if needed.
5. Say the Cub Scout motto. Tell what it means.
7. With your parent or guardian, complete the exercises in the pamphlet *How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide*. See [http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/100-014_WEB.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/100-014_WEB.pdf)

Den Leader Guides for Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos/Arrow of Light assume that Cub Scouts will earn the Bobcat Rank … but those Guides don’t give ideas about “how” to do it or how to have fun doing it. (Most of Bobcat is in the Lion Handbook and Leader Guide, but in 2018 it says not to award Bobcat until after Lion is earned.)

In the attached, we’re providing you with some ways to make earning the Bobcat Rank fun, so that (1) scouts can earn the Rank and (2) all parents attending help lead these Den activities. Every attending parent can take on a role and succeed with the Scouts by using these simple “first meeting” plans.

I have a Better Idea or a Correction … who can I contact?

- Bert Bender, a Trainer who can be contacted at cubleadertraining@southfultonscouting.com.
A First Den Adventure

Rationale for Adventure
The “Den” is a key method of Cub Scouting – a group of 6 to 8 Scouts of the same grade (age) who do things together, both pure fun and important Adventures from their Handbook. Setting a positive, forward looking tone in the first Den Adventure (meeting) helps set the stage for Cub Scouting fun. This Adventure has three key elements: (1) getting to know the Scouts, (2) getting the Scouts to bond as a Den, and (3) pure fun. And some introduction to (or review of) the Bobcat Rank.

Takeaways for Cub Scouts
• Get to know your fellow Den members and your Den Leaders and Parent Helpers
• Introduction to the Scout Oath and Scout Law (and review, for returning Scouts)
• Look forward to upcoming Den and Pack Adventures.
• Develop the Den’s rules … how we’ll all act when we’re together.
  o By helping decide their own rules, scouts will feel a sense of responsibility.
  o They will feel that the den is “theirs.”
• Every Parent Helps! Many parents are helping with this meeting, not just the Den Leader!
  o And every Scout who sees a Parent helping is proud of that Parent!
• A Scout is friendly, loyal, cheerful.

Preparation and Materials Needed
• Your Pack’s schedule of upcoming Fun Activities
  o If possible, flyers for those events, or photos or video of similar fun at past events
• U.S. flag (or picture of a flag)
• For balloon stomp battle royale: balloons, string
• For the Den History Book, scrapbook pages (attached), plus pencils, crayons and markers.
• Copies of this Meeting Plan for Parents
• Paper or poster to write the Den’s “Code of Conduct” (classroom whiteboard OK too)

YOUR FIRST DEN MEETING
• Be completely organized before the start of the meeting. Ask some others to arrive early to help.
  o If you are new to running meetings like this, it is easier to think of it as several short activities (see the parts of the den meeting section) rather than a single long event.
  o Share this plan with all parents about how the Adventure will go today, and find a role for each.
Fill in as many names in each activity segment as possible as parents arrive.

- A snack at den meetings is optional, but often welcome. If you do serve a snack, offer fruits or vegetables to set an example of healthy eating. Be aware of any food allergies of den members and communicate these to adult partners who may be assisting with the snacks.

- Plan a “Gathering” activity: something simple and fun for Scouts and Parents to do on arrival:
  - If you gather at a location with access to a playground or gym, this will be very easy.
  - If you gather in a more quiet location, this will need some planning.
  - See our Adventure Plans for Bobcat + Meeting Tips page and follow the links.

- If you have one, wear your adult uniform to all meetings.

**Gathering**

- Welcome new Scouts and parents. Today will have lots of “getting to know each other” time.
  - Talk with Parents: encourage them to stay and participate … it will mean a lot to their Scouts.
  - Hand out this meeting plan to each and assign each parent to a meeting role.

- Distribute a Family Talent Survey to the parents, asking them to complete it and return it to you today (but not later than the next event). Also ask each about interests, abilities, hobbies, jobs.

- Have a gathering activity (games, puzzles, coloring) that will keep Scouts interested and busy, and that others may join as they arrive. If the den desires, serve a healthy snack during this time.

- Collect dues, record attendance and any advancement completed at home (a good job for an assistant den leader or a parent helper).

**Opening (Den Leader Tip: Recruit a different Parent to Lead Each Part of the Opening)**

- Display the U.S. flag and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. (Parent leader(s): ____________)

- Recite the Scout Law. (Parent leader(s): ____________ + ____________)

  The Scout Law is “A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.”

  For a Den with new Scouts, a parent can say “we’re going to repeat the Scout Law, which has 12 points, and since this is our first meeting, I’ll say a word or phrase, and you guys repeat it back:

  (Leader goes first) (Scouts and Parents respond)
  A Scout is (# A Scout is)
  Trustworthy (# Trustworthy)
  Loyal (# Loyal)
  Helpful (# Helpful)
  Friendly (# Friendly)
  Courteous (# Courteous)
  Kind (# Kind)
  Obedient (# Obedient)
  Cheerful (# Cheerful)
  Thrifty (# Thrifty)
  Brave (# Brave)
  Clean (# Clean)
  and Reverent (# and Reverent)

  (If you want, feel free to add: “Now let’s say it all together: A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful,
friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent."

**Talk Time** *(Den Leader Tip: Recruit a Parent to take notes on names and interests, and recruit parents to lead parts of the discussion)*

- **(Parent leader: ________)** Have each Scout (and attending parent) introduce themselves and tell something about themselves. “Talk Time” is when we get to know each other.

- **(Parent leader: ________)** Discuss what a den is and how it fits in with a pack. Discuss a den name: "we may have a Den Number, but ... is that enough for our Den?" Let the Cubs pick a (not offensive) name they all agree on, by their rules, with your oversight. [You might finish next time.]
  - Tigers: ... Tiger Sharks, Sabertooth; Terrific, Talented, Transformer, Talkative, Tony, TV, Tent Dwelling, Totally, Tolerant, Tenacious, Tough, Transparent, Tricky, True, Trustworthy, Tumbling, Treasure Hunting, Tremendous.
  - Bears: ... Polar, Breakdancing, Grizzly, Unbearable, Bodacious, Beatnik, Backpacking, Barefoot, Barking, Baseball, Beach, Beastly, Biking, Blazing, Bongo, Boomerang, Bouncing, Brainiac, Brave, Brilliant, Bug Eating, Billy Bob.

- [Maybe highlight that in future Adventures we can also discuss a den yell, and other den identity elements (like a den flag, neckerchief slide, or our own den advancement totem or doodle).]

**Activity 1: Fun Things We’ll Do (and Code of Conduct)** *(Den Leader Tip: Recruit Parents to jump in and lead the “Code of Conduct” chat once kids start talking over each other … it will happen! Use the attached Code of Conduct as a reference)*

As a transition out of “talk time”, talk about upcoming fun Pack activities scheduled, or that might be scheduled if we get parents to help out, events like camping, hiking, biking, swimming (use events you know you have a chance to do), with highlights on ones that could come soon.

- Ask the Scouts what they would like about these.

- Like for camping, do they like campfires, or cooking marshmallows over a fire.
  - The Scouts will start “talking over each other” which will be … chaos.
  - Let it happen for a bit … but then …

- **(... Parent leader(s): ____________ + ____________)** interrupt and say “wait a second … if we’re going to be a Den together, and spend a lot of time together … don’t you think we need to have some rules about how we act when we’re together?”
  - Some Scouts will probably have immediate suggestions … like “one person talks at a time” or “if you want to talk, raise your hand”.
  - [Parent/Leaders: use the attached Code of Conduct for checkpoints, and to ask questions to lead them to other points]
  - List your rules on a poster or paper or classroom chalkboard/whiteboard.

- Then, after the Code of Conduct is done … Den Leader or another parent can step back in:
  - Congratulations on a great set of Rules … You guys did a great job!
  - Now … let’s follow our Den Rules and keep sharing about the fun Pack activities scheduled.
  - If you have them, share flyers for those events, or photos or video of similar fun at past events
## Activity 2: Introduction to Bobcat Rank

*Den Leader Tip: Recruit Parents to Lead – maybe set up “stations” for Scouts to rotate to for each Requirement*

### Review the Bobcat Requirements:
We want to introduce the first Rank Badge you can earn.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Learn and say the Scout Oath, with help if needed.                      | **On my honor I will do my best**  
To do my duty to God and my country  
and to obey the Scout Law;  
To help other people at all times;  
To keep myself physically strong,  
mentally awake, and morally straight.  |
| **Parent leader(s):**                                                      | +           |
| 2. Learn and say the Scout Law, with help if needed.                       | **A Scout is:**  
trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient,  
cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.  |
| **Parent leader(s):**                                                      | +           |
| 3. Show the Cub Scout sign. Tell what it means.                            | **Make the sign with your right hand. Hold your arm straight up.**  
The two raised fingers stand for the Scout Oath and the Scout Law.  
The fingers look like the sharp ears of the wolf ready to listen to Akela!  
Remember that Akela means “good leader” to a Cub Scout. Your mother or father or guardian is Akela. So is your Cubmaster or your den leader.  |
| **Parent leader(s):**                                                      | +           |
| 4. Show the Cub Scout handshake. Tell what it means.                        | **When you shake hands with another Cub Scout, do this:** Hold out your right hand just as you always do to shake hands.  
But then put your first two fingers along the inside of the other scout’s wrist.  
This means you help each other to remember and obey the Scout Oath and Scout Law.  |
| **Parent leader(s):**                                                      | +           |
| 5. Say the Cub Scout motto. Tell what it means.                            | The Cub Scout motto is “Do Your Best.”  
A motto is a guiding principle and a rule for living. Do Your Best means trying your hardest, not just a little bit. Do your best all the time… in school and at home… when you play a game and help your team. Do your best as you work on your rank adventures!  |
| **Parent leader(s):**                                                      | +           |
| 6. Show the Cub Scout salute. Tell what it means.                          | **Salute with your right hand.**  
Hold your first two fingers close together.  
Touch your fingertips to your cap. If you aren’t wearing a cap, touch your right eyebrow.  
You salute the flag to show respect to our country. Always use the Cub Scout salute when you are in your Cub Scout uniform, both indoors and outdoors.  |
| **Parent leader(s):**                                                      | +           |

[To be Done by Parent or Guardian, probably at home]

7. With your parent or guardian, complete the exercises in the pamphlet *How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse: A Parent’s Guide*. See [http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/100-014_WEB.pdf](http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/100-014_WEB.pdf)
Activity 3: [OPTION: Den History Book

(Parent leader(s): ____________ + ____________) To start the Den History Book, start with who is in the Den … so let each Scout start a “history page”.

- Distribute scrapbook pages, plus pencils, crayons and markers. Encourage pictures too.
- This helps you get to know the Scouts and their families.
- Collect all and return to this if you go forward with a Den History.

Activity 4: [OPTION: Balloon Stomp Battle Royale!!

(Parent leader(s): ___________ + ___________): As a fun game, let’s play “Balloon Stomp Battle Royale”. Let us describe how we’ll play this:

BALLOON BATTLE ROYAL

Activity Level: High

Needed: Any number of players, balloons, string

Arrange Cub Scouts in a large circle, each with an inflated balloon tied to his ankle. On a signal, players try to break all other balloons by stamping on them, while not letting their balloon get broken. When a balloon is broken, that player leaves the game. The game continues until only one player is left.

Closing: perhaps a den leader’s minute, maybe recite the Scout Oath or Scout Law.

- Thank every Parent who helped out.
- [OPTION: to help learn the Cub Scout motto (Do Your Best), end with the Do Your Best Cheer: As a cheer, the den leader asks: “What’s our motto?” and Tiger Cubs and adult partners respond: “Do Your Best!” three times, getting louder each time.

What’s our Motto? ➞ Do Your Best!

What’s our Motto? ➞ Do Your Best!!

What’s our Motto? ➞ Do Your Best!!

After the Meeting

- Thank the Parents again, one on one.
- Get to meet Parents who are picking up their Scouts.
- Clean up as needed.
CODE OF CONDUCT

A code of conduct is a list of behavioral expectations and consequences if the code is broken. Scouts, with the den leader’s guidance, usually create it themselves.

- Three or four points will be sufficient, and they should be positive; the words no or don’t have no place in a code of conduct. Include a final rule such as “Have fun!”
- Also consider including the 3 R’s: Respect for others, Responsibility for yourself and your things, and Reasonable behavior.
- Scouts should sign the code of conduct, and it should be displayed at every den meeting.
- Using the 12 points of the Scout Law can serve as a strong foundation for a code of conduct, and also reinforce the values of Scouting.

IDEAS you might use for a Den “Code of Conduct” (How we’ll treat each other in our Den)

Don’t hand these Ideas out – but use them as a discussion guide to help the scouts come up with their rules. Rules work better if the Scouts agree and believe they had the idea!

Respect others in the Den — fellow Scouts, Leaders, Parents and Guests.
- Help others, be helpful, friendly, courteous and kind!

Stay in Control of Yourself:
- Use good, appropriate, and positive manners.
- Listen when someone else is speaking. Do not interrupt.
- Raise your hand when you want to say something. Wait to be recognized before you speak.
- Respect the space of others. That includes no touching or bothering!

The Cub Scout sign means: Everyone be quiet now.
- When you see the sign go up, just be quiet and put the Cub Scout sign up.

Stay in the meeting space, unless you have permission from the Den leader to go elsewhere.
- Walk –don’t run – in the building (unless we are doing an activity letting you run).

Keep the Meeting Space Clean!
- Keep the room clean during the meeting and after the meeting.
- Everyone helps leave the meeting room better than we found it.

Everyone Has Fun! Parents and Family Too!

The Code of Conduct may be written on a poster to display where you meet.

But: do not post your consequences, because posting the penalties puts a focus on bad behavior (you might announce consequences as First Time: Verbal Warning; Second Time: 5 Minutes “Time Out” from Meeting Activity; Third Time: Parents Notified and may need to leave the meeting too).
Den Scrapbook Page

My Name: ____________________________
(Drawings/Pictures)

My Family (Parents, Brothers, Sisters, etc.):
_____________________________________
_____________________________________
_____________________________________
_____________________________________

My Pets: _____________________________
_____________________________________
_____________________________________

My Favorite Places: ____________________
_____________________________________
_____________________________________
_____________________________________

My Favorite Things to Eat: ______________
_____________________________________
_____________________________________
_____________________________________

Things I Like to Do With My Family and Friends:
_____________________________________
_____________________________________
_____________________________________

Rationale for Adventure
Build on building the “Den” of 6 to 8 Scouts of the same age (grade) who do things together. Here you’ll get to know more about the Scouts, and review (and perhaps complete) the Bobcat Rank!

Takeaways for Cub Scouts
- Help bond the den with a name and yell
- Review of the Scout Oath and Scout Law, and of Bobcat Requirements
- Confirm the Den’s rules … how we’ll all act when we’re together.
- Every Parent Helps! Many parents are helping with this meeting, not just the Den Leader!
  - And every Scout who sees a Parent helping is proud of that Parent!
- Look forward to upcoming Den and Pack Adventures.
- A Scout is helpful, friendly, loyal, kind.

Preparation and Materials Needed
- Your Pack’s schedule of upcoming Fun Activities
- U.S. flag (or picture of a flag)
- Copies of this Meeting Plan for Parents
- Copy of the Den’s “Code of Conduct”
- Dice for Bobcat Game (if you do the dice version) -- For balloon volleyball, balloons, string.
- Bobcat “Stickers” from the Scout Shop

Gathering
- Welcome new Scouts and parents. This is still “getting to know each other” time.
  - Talk with Parents and encourage them to stay and participate … it will mean a lot to their Scouts.
  - Hand out this meeting plan to each and assign each parents to a meeting role.
- Distribute a Family Talent Survey to the parents, asking them to complete it and return it to you today (but not later than the next event). Also ask each about interests, abilities, hobbies, jobs.
- Have a gathering activity (games, puzzles, coloring) that will keep Scouts interested and busy, and that others may join as they arrive. If the den desires, serve a healthy snack during this time.
- Collect dues, record attendance and any advancement completed at home (a good job for an
assistant den leader or a parent helper).

**Opening** *(Den Leader Tip: Recruit a different Parent or Scout to Lead Each Part)*

- Display the U.S. flag and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. *(Parent leader(s): __________________)*
- Recite the Scout Oath. *(Parent leader(s): __________________ + __________________)*

If they don’t know it yet, leader can say “we’re going to repeat the Scout Oath and since you’re still learning it, I’ll say a phrase, and you guys repeat it back”:

*(Parent leader(s) goes first) (Scouts and Parents respond)*

- *On my honor I will do my best* (…On my honor I will do my best)
- *To do my duty to God and my country* (…To do my duty to God and my country)
- *and to obey the Scout Law;* (…and to obey the Scout Law;)
- *To help other people at all times;* (…To help other people at all times;)
- *To keep myself physically strong,* (…To keep myself physically strong,)
- *mentally awake, and morally straight.* (…mentally awake, and morally straight.)

- If desired, sing a song (like “My Country tis of Thee”, or something else the Scouts know).

**Talk Time:** *(Den Leader Tip: Recruit a Parent to supervise the Signing of the Code) *(Parent leader(s): __________________ + __________________)*

- Have each Scout (and attending parent) (re-)introduce themselves and tell something about themselves – or what they’ve done since the last time we met.
- Confirm the “Code of Conduct” discussed at the last meeting, and see if everyone still agrees.
  - Then, like the U.S. Constitution, have each Den Member sign the “Den Code”.
  - Take a picture of all of the Scouts with the signed “Den Code”.
- Confirm your den name, or pick a den name (see ideas in Bobcat Meeting One).
- If you like, discuss other items like a den yell (some ideas in our *Yells, Cheers and Jokes* page), and that we can start to put together our Den History Book today.
- Discuss that today’s goal is to review and earn the Bobcat Rank, and that those who have already earned it will be asked to help teach it to the new Scouts.

**Activities** *(Alternate Bobcat Games are attached to these plans)*

**Activity 1: Bobcat Relay Race** *(Den Leader Tip: Recruit Parents to be at each end, to start the Scouts, and to be the “Bobcat Questioners”)*

*(Parent leader(s): __________________ + __________________)* Divide den in two lines on one end of room or hall or field for a “relay race”, with Leaders and/or experienced Scouts on the other end, to test on the six key elements of the Bobcat Rank (Scout Oath, Law, Motto, Sign, Handshake, Salute).

- On signal from the Den Leader, the two groups start, one at a time, and run (or skip, crawl, roll) to the Bobcat Questioner, answers a “Bobcat” question (not the one asked before), and returns to “tag” the next Scout.
- If a Scout can’t answer, the scout “goes back to get help”, and comes back and answer the question.
- Set a goal like … repeat through the 6 requirements 4 times (keep it fun, but don’t wear them out).
[If you like … see if the Parents can beat the Scouts in a Scouts vs. Parents relay race.]

**Activity 2: Scout Law TV Remote**

(Privilege leader(s): ____________ + ____________) Divide the den by the number of parents with phones who can record video. Have each Scout recite the Scout Law while being recorded.

- Play back for the scouts in the group and take turns.
- Then do the Scout Oath.
- Parents should feel free to pick and point and discuss: what does that mean to you?
- [Be sure to show or send the videos to the Scout’s parents.]

**Activity 3: Roll of the Dice Review**

(Privilege leader(s): ____________ + ____________) This requires one dice (a big one if you have it).

Each scout rolls the dice and performs one of the parts of the Bobcat trail that comes up.

Score points for each scout who does the task correctly. Here are the tasks for each number:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Task Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Learn and say the Scout Oath, with help if needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Learn and say the Scout Law, with help if needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Show the Cub Scout sign. Tell what it means.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Show the Cub Scout handshake. Tell what it means.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Say the Cub Scout motto. Tell what it means.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Show the Cub Scout salute. Tell what it means.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Activity 4: [OPTION: Scout Law Balloon Volleyball Contest**

(Privilege leader(s): ____________ + ____________) To help us remember the Scout Law, let’s play “Scout Law Balloon Volleyball”.

We’ll use this balloon, and we’ll divide the Scouts into two teams that will bat the balloon back and forth over this string with their hands (tie it between two tied between two chairs or have two adults hold it). It’s OK to hit it to a teammate up to three times before hitting it over …

We have a twist to this volleyball game: every time you hit the Balloon, you have to yell out one of the 12 Scout Laws.

- And after you get some practice, we’ll have you yell out the Scout Laws … in order!

**Closing:** perhaps a den leader’s minute, maybe recite the Scout Oath or Scout Law.

- Thank every Parent who helped out.
- Recognize each Scout who earned the Bobcat Rank.
  - If you have “Stickers”, award those.
  - Announce when they will be awarded the Rank Badge and have a public ceremony.
  - (An example of a Bobcat recognition ceremony with parent involvement is attached.)
- Recite the Scout Law. (Parent leader: ____________ + ____________)

  The Scout Law is “A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.”

**After the Meeting**

- Thank the Parents again, one on one.
• Get to meet Parents who are picking up their Scouts.
• Clean up as needed.
More Bobcat Games -- Activities to Help Cub Scouts and Parents Learn Bobcat Requirements:

Traditionally, Bobcat Requirements were taught by Repetition: write the Scout Oath or Promise (and the Scout Law) on a poster board and display it at every den meeting (or imagine Bart Simpson writing it on the board!). Sure, showing it and reciting it is key, and asking if your Scouts can recite it from memory is a good and necessary activity – but face it, by itself, this is boring . . . so . . . here are some other ways to learn this:

#1: Line up the Lines -- Take the Scout Oath or Promise (or the Scout Law) and write it out on strips of paper in large letters. If you want, you can cut the lines up into chunks or half-lines. Then have a team challenge for the whole group. Mix up the strips on the floor or in a box. One by one, a Cub hops to the box, grabs a strip, and brings it back to the group. The next Cub hops up and gets another strip and brings it back to the group. Hopping is done to give the group time to arrange the strips in order. The group has to agree on how to arrange the strips. When done, they recite the Scout Oath or Promise together.

#2: Line up the Lines Relay -- Divide the team in half or thirds (2-4 per team), putting stronger Cubs with weaker Cubs to even things out. Each group has their own set of strips. Repeat as in "Line up the Lines." <Note: everything goes better with a stopwatch, since Scouts like to compete to see “how fast” they do it!!>

#3: Line up the Lines Contest -- Set up strips for each individual Cub. Now they play "Line up the Lines" by themselves and try to finish correctly first.

#4: Sort and Assemble Challenge -- Once they are really good, challenge them. Put all the paper lines (or segments) of both the Scout Oath or Promise and the Scout Law together. Play this game as a group, in relay or as individuals. This game can keep the faster learners occupied while the less adept practice more.

#5: Pick-up Sticks Game -- Write the Scout Oath or Promise (or Scout Law) on craft sticks or paint stir sticks. Divide the Cubs into teams, with each team having a set of sticks. One by one, the Cubs go to the table, pick-up then drop the sticks on the table and reassemble them. Have an adult tally the score for each team (award 1 point each time the Scout Oath or Promise or Law is assembled correctly).

#6: Interlock Puzzle -- Glue a blank paper to the back of an assembled child's puzzle (20-25 pieces). Write out the Scout Oath or Promise (or the Scout Law) on this page and then carefully cut through the sheet and around the pieces with an Exacto knife. Let the Cubs practice putting the puzzle together as a gathering activity. You may want to use different colored sheets for each puzzle you make.

#7: Picture Craft -- Each scout writes the Scout Oath or Promise (or the Scout Law) on craft sticks. Have them use pens and try to write one full line on each stick. Cut out a piece of poster board slightly taller than the assembled sticks. Glue the sticks to cardboard in order. Punch holes in the top of the cardboard and bend a pipe cleaner through these so it can be hung on the wall.

#9: Roll the Dice Game -- This requires one dice (a big one if you have it). Each scout rolls the dice and depending on what number comes up, the scout performs one of the parts of the Bobcat trail. Score points for each scout who does the task correctly. Add some flavor - let a roll of 4 yield an extra roll. Here are the tasks for each number:

1 = Learn and say the Scout Oath, with help if needed.
2 = Learn and say the Scout Law, with help if needed.
3 = Show the Cub Scout sign. Tell what it means.
4 = Show the Cub Scout handshake. Tell what it means.
5 = Say the Cub Scout motto. Tell what it means.
6 = Show the Cub Scout salute. Tell what it means.

#8: Be a Reporter Game -- The 2006 version of this said “This requires a tape recorder and microphone” … how quaint! People … pull out your smartphone and take video. Record each scout saying both the Scout
Oath or Promise and the Scout Law on the smartphone. Then play it back. This repetition works really great, while the scouts get a blast watching and listening. Extra Bonus: for parents who “dropped their kid off”, pull them aside and let them see too with their kid watching!!

#10: Mystery Bag -- Let the Cubs earn a chance to grab a prize from the "mystery bag". This is a bag filled with trinkets and small stuff like pencils, stickers, coins, etc. At the beginning of the meeting, announce the "secret phrase" (i.e. one line from the Scout Oath or Promise). Let the Cubs repeat it a few times right then. At the end of the meeting, each Cub must whisper it to the leader and get it correct for a chance to reach into the mystery bag. Each time this method is used, make the secret phrase longer and longer until it's the whole Scout Oath or Promise.

#11 Hangman. Use phrases from the Scout Oath or Promise, Law, Motto and play "hangman" on the board or a big sheet of paper!

#12 Bobcat Relay Race. Group divides (in two, or by Den), lining up for “relay race” on one end of room or field, and with Leaders and/or experienced Scouts on the other end, to test on Scout Oath or Promise, Law, Motto, Sign, Handshake, Salute. Groups start, one at a time runs (or skips, crawls, rolls) to the Leader, answers a “Bobcat” question, and returns to “tag” the next Scout – if a Scout can't answer, the scout “goes back to get help”, and comes back and answer the question. (Early on, give new Scouts easy questions!)

#13 Scout Law Puzzle (can do with the Scout Oath or Promise as well): Write one word of the Scout Law on an index card; place the cards in a paper sack. Prepare a second sack of index cards. Divide the den into two teams. On a signal, teams remove the cards from the sacks and put the words in the correct order. The first team correctly completing the sequence of words wins.

#14 Balloon Badminton Memory Game. (can do this as “volleyball” without the racquet) Each scout makes a racquet by taping and gluing a flat stick between two paper plates. The “birdie” is a partially inflated balloon. Scouts bat the birdie back and forth with a partner. Each time the birdie is batted, the scouts take a turn saying the next word of the Scout Oath or Promise. Try to keep the balloon aloft through the entire recitation. Change partners and practice saying the Scout Law.

For those of you who are Webelos leaders, remember that your scouts may be more jaded so you’ll need to gauge what is “fun”.

Den Adventure Resources Other Bobcat Games
**Painted Bobcat Ceremony:**

**Leader One:** Today we would like to recognize some Scouts who have worked hard since joining Cub Scouts. Will the following Scouts and their parents and Den Leaders please come forward to take on the colors and spirit of Scouting as Bobcat Scouts. Parents, stand behind your Scouts.

(Leader Two reads the names; they line up with the Scout in front and parents behind).

**Leader One:** Our first color of Bobcat Scouts is Blue, and we ask each Parent to mark a blue paw on your Scout’s forehead -- ____ can show you how.

**Leader Two** shares paint for each Parent to mark a blue paw on each Scout’s forehead)

**Leader One** recites: “Blue is from the sky. The paw print of the Bobcat on your forehead is the spirit of the Bobcat that roams the Mountains of our Country. This spirit, and this paw print, remind you to “Do Your Best” on the Cub Scout trail.”

**Leader One:** Our next color is Yellow, and we ask each Parent to mark yellow strips on your Scout’s cheeks, under the scout’s eyes.

**Leader Two** shares paint for each Parent.

**Leader One** recites: “Yellow is from the sun. These marks under your eyes will help you see the light of the Cub Scout trail. They also symbolize the bright spirit, imagination and fun of Cub Scouting.”

**Leader One:** Our next color is White, and we ask each Parent to mark a white line down your Scout’s nose.

**Leader Two** shares paint for each Parent.

**Leader One** recites: “White is for purity. The white line on your nose is to help you know right from wrong as you go along the Cub Scout trail, and to remind you to stay on the right side of that line, and be Kind like a Cub Scout should.”

**Leader One:** Our next color is Red, and we ask each Parent to mark red stripes on your Scout’s chin.

**Leader Two** shares paint for each Parent.

**Leader One** recites: “Red is for courage. These marks on your chin remind you to always have the courage to speak kindly and to speak the truth – to be true to yourself, your family, your friends, and all fellow Scouts. We must have be Brave to stand for what is right and fair, even if it is not popular, or others tempt us to do otherwise.”

**Leader One:** Our next color is Green, and we ask each Parent to mark green circles on your Scout’s cheeks.

**Leader Two** shares paint for each Parent.

**Leader One** recites: “Green stands for the spirit of nature. The marks on each cheek will guide you to live in harmony with the great outdoors and all living things.”

After all the painting is done:

**Leader One** “Remember your markings of this day, new Bobcat Cub Scouts: the Blue Bobcat Paw that represents the Spirit of Scouting, the Yellow Sun that lights your way, the White Line to guide you between right and wrong, the Red Mark of Courage, and the Green Symbol of the natural world we live in. All of these together remind you to have fun and “Do your Best” along the Cub Scout trail with your Family and our fellow Scouts.”

**Leader One:** I now ask our Leaders to assist these new Bobcat Scouts, because our Scouts need help from their Parents on their journey down the Cub Scout Trail. WHITE is also for Love and guidance. Parents, you will need to provide love and guidance to your Scouts, and we will ask your Scouts to paint a white stripe to remind you that your Scouts are asking you for this Love and Guidance. Scouts, your parents are always with you in your heart and in your spirit. They will always do the right thing and will help you achieve all your Scout goals and keep you on the track of life until you are a man and can soar with the Eagles.
(Leaders help the Scouts paint their parents nose with a white stripe. The scouts love this part.)

Leader Two: Parents, please repeat the Parent’s Pledge after me to remind you of your responsibility to your scout as your scout finds the way along the Cub Scout trail.

Leader Two and PARENTS:
“I promise to do my best,
to help my child be a good Cub Scout,
to encourage my scout to fulfill the Scout Oath
and obey the Scout Law.
I promise to assist my scout in Cub Scout Adventures,
and to help the Den Leaders and Pack,
by my active participation in the Cub Scout program.” (Ad Lib as Desired)

Leader One: ”Now, to recognize that your Scouts are doing the right thing, and beginning their achievement of Scouting goals, we present to you, their Parents, these Badges that show that your Scouts have achieved the Bobcat Rank, and are moving ahead on the Trail of Scouting.”

(Leaders present the Bobcat Badges to the parents, to pin the badges on the Scout’s uniforms on their left pockets).

(Leaders then shake each Scout’s and each parent’s hand).

Leader One: Scouts, I want your help with a Cheer. There are three words of advice we can give these Parents and Scouts – Do Your Best.

So, I’ll ask you “What’s Our Motto?”, three times, and each time answer back “Do Your Best”:

What’s our Motto? ➔ Do Your Best!
What’s our Motto? ➔ Do Your Best!!
What’s our Motto? ➔ Do Your Best!!!
FAMILY TALENT SURVEY SHEET
Each parent or adult family member should fill out a separate sheet and turn it in at this meeting.

Name: _____________________________________________________
Home Phone: _____________ Cell Phone: _____________ Work Phone: _____________
E-mail address _____________________________________________________
Street address _____________________________________________________
City ________________________________________ State _________________ ZIP _____________________

Welcome to the Cub Scout family of our pack. **Cub Scouting is a Family Program … for kids, parents and siblings.** To have a successful program, we rely on families willing to help and lead, according to their abilities. We invite you to add your talents and interests so that the best possible program can be developed for your scouts and their friends.

To have a Den, we need Den Leaders, and Den Leaders will need assistants and helpers. Although your help may not be on a full-time basis, whatever you can do will be appreciated – and having everyone help is essential.

Please answer the following as completely as possible:

1. My hobbies are: _____________________, _____________________, _____________________.
2. I can play and/or teach these sports: _____________________, _____________________, _____________________.
3. My job, business, or profession would be of interest to Cub Scouts: _____________________.
4. I am willing to help my scout and the pack as: ☐ Den Leader, ☐ Assistant Den Leader, ☐ Cubmaster, ☐ Assistant Cubmaster, ☐ Pack Committee Member (Administrative Support), ☐ Pack trainer.
6. I can help in these areas (please check applicable boxes for all ranks):

   General Activities
   - ☐ Carpentry
   - ☐ Swimming/watercraft safety
   - ☐ Games
   - ☐ Nature
   - ☐ Sports
   - ☐ Outdoor activities
   - ☐ Crafts
   - ☐ Music/songs
   - ☐ Citizenship/flag etiquette
   - ☐ Bookkeeping

   Special Program Assistance
   - ☐ Computer skills
   - ☐ Drawing/art
   - ☐ Radio/electricity
   - ☐ Dramatics/skits
   - ☐ Cooking/banquets
   - ☐ Sewing
   - ☐ Transportation
   - ☐ Hiking

   Tiger Activity Areas
   - ☐ Nutrition/health
   - ☐ Magic
   - ☐ Biking
   - ☐ Astronomy
   - ☐ First aid

   Wolf Activity Areas
   - ☐ Knots
   - ☐ Sign language
   - ☐ Coin collecting
   - ☐ Physics
   - ☐ Math/codes

   Bear Activity Areas
   - ☐ Pocketknives/wood carving
   - ☐ Camping
   - ☐ Carnival games
   - ☐ Citizenship/flag etiquette
   - ☐ Fishing

   Webelos Activity Areas
   - ☐ Outdoor cooking
   - ☐ First aid
   - ☐ Camping
   - ☐ General science

Den Resources
CUB SCOUTING AND YOUR FAMILY

The Cub Scout program helps to meet your scout’s growth needs. As a youth develops, the youth has specific developmental needs such as:

1. To learn new physical skills. Scouts can do this through games, sports, and crafts. As the youth develops coordination, the youth gains a sense of worthiness and acceptance by peers.

2. To learn to get along with youth of the same age. Youth need to form friendships with other youth. Youth need to learn how to balance giving and receiving affection if the youth is to relate well to peers. Youth need to belong to a group of youth of the same age. Being a part of a Cub Scout den helps fulfill these needs.

3. To develop mental processes. Youth can develop mental processes by reading, writing, and calculating. Youth need opportunities to use language to express ideas and to influence others. Youth must move from a preoccupation with self to understanding how and what others think. Opportunities for observation and experimentation will help learn self-reliance. Den activities and meetings, along with the advancement program, help develop mentally.

4. To develop a value system. Youth develop a sense of what is right and wrong and what is fair and unfair. Youth will do this by cooperating with other youth, by being taught, by examples of adults, and from positive reinforcement. Youth begin to develop democratic social attitudes.

5. To develop personal independence. Becoming less dependent on adults. Same-age friends become important. In a den, and in the pack, a scout exercises independence while learning to get along with others.

Your scout also needs to belong to a “group” of scouts of the same age. This group is a key component of the Cub Scout program. A den is like a neighborhood group of six or eight scouts in which a scout will achieve status and recognition.

As you learn more about how Cub Scouting works and what goes on in a den and a pack, you will see that the program helps your scout in these five important developmental needs. The uniqueness of Cub Scouting is that you, as a family, join the program with your scout. You will help your scout all along the way.

To find out how you can support your scout by becoming a Cub Scout family, please complete the Family Talent Survey Sheet. Your cooperation and help are appreciated.