

Tiger Den Meeting 1

Bobcat and Making My Family Special

Bobcat (partial). Achievement 1: Making My Family Special (1F partial, 1D). Character Connection for Honesty.

Preparation and Materials Needed

- With pack leaders, confirm who is in your den and reach out to parents.
  - Have on hand the Family Talent Survey Sheet found in the resource section of this Guide).
  - If you are not a scrapbook enthusiast or generally good with arts and crafts, see if another parent in the den has those skills and could help make this a special meeting.
- Materials checklist (add to your den box of U.S. and den flags, paper and pencils, other supplies):
  - Index cards with the Cub Scout Promise printed on one side and Law of the Pack on the other side (enough for each boy and adult attending the meeting). Add the Pledge of Allegiance if needed.
  - One three-ring binder for each boy with three-hole–punched copy or construction paper, stickers, markers
  - Large paper or poster board and markers to write den's code of conduct
  - Tiger Cub Immediate Recognition Emblems and Beads
- Ask Tiger Cubs to bring a family photo to show the group and put in their scrapbook.

Before the Meeting

- Make final preparations with assistance from any assistant den leader or host team (Tiger Cub and adult partner) or other parent helper or den chief. Organize the space (seating, flags, advancement charts, activity materials, handouts, etc.). If you're snacking, organize space for that and the cleanup.

Gathering

- Welcome new Scouts and parents. Today will have lots of "getting to know each other" time.
- Have a gathering activity (games, puzzles, coloring, puppets) that will keep Tiger Cubs 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). Assign parents to meeting roles and hand out a meeting plan to each.
- Distribute the Family Talent Survey Sheet to the parents, asking them to complete it and return it to you at the next meeting. Also ask each parent about interests, abilities, hobbies, occupations, etc.

Opening

- Learn the Cub Scout motto: *Do Your Best.* Perhaps 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).

Business Items

- Have each Scout (and attending parent) introduce themselves. Note that you'll want to know more about each other, and part of that could go in the scrapbook you create.
- Discuss what a den is and how it fits in with a pack. Discuss your goals for the year and highlight/promote the upcoming activities. Discuss a den name, den yell, and other den identity elements (these could include a den flag, neckerchief slide, or your own den advancement totem or doodle).
- Use this time to discuss participation in coming pack meetings or events, as needed.
- Discuss behavioral expectations at den meetings. This is a chance to create a code of conduct for how the den should govern itself during meetings. Prompt your Tiger Cubs to come up with a good code.

Activities

- Teach and review the Bobcat badge requirements (see the *Tiger Cub Handbook*):
  - Learn and say the Cub Scout Promise.
  - Say the Law of the Pack and discuss what it means.
  - Tell what Webelos means (We'll Be Loyal Scouts).
  - Learn the Cub Scout sign and tell what it means. (The sign represents and looks like Wolf ears. It signifies "I'm ready to listen" and the two parts of the Promise: "help other people" and "obey the Law of the Pack.")

- Show the Cub Scout handshake and tell what it means. (Like the sign, two parts of the Promise.)
- Say the Cub Scout motto. (Do Your Best.)

Suggestion: Use a fun method to help the Scouts learn. Thought starters:

- A tape recorder, flash cards, or the game of "hangman" with phrases from the Law, Promise, and motto
- A "random balloon drawing": put a different Bobcat requirement on a small sheet of paper, and put each part in separate balloons. Tiger Cubs get to pick a balloon, pop it (maybe make them do it in different ways), and after popping, the boys have to do the requirement listed on the paper.
- Maybe a "Line Up the Lines" game for Promise and Law (Write the Promise (or the Law) on strips of paper or cardboard, cut into chunks or half-lines. Mix them up, and see if the boys can line them up.)

- With adult partners, discuss one chore your Tiger Cubs can do and complete the Character Connection for Honesty. This can be done in the den meeting, and reinforced with the family.
  - **Know:** Discuss these questions with your family. What is a promise? What does it mean to "keep your word"? What does honesty mean? What does it mean to "do your best"?
  - **Commit:** Discuss these questions with your family. Why is a promise important? Why is it important for people to trust you when you give your word? When might it be difficult to keep your word? List examples.
  - **Practice:** Discuss with family members why it is important to be trustworthy and honest, and how can you do your best to be honest when you are doing the activities in Cub Scouting.

- **Achievement 1D:** With adult partner, assemble and decorate your family scrapbook.
  - Distribute binders, scrapbook pages, plus blank three-hole–punched copy paper or construction paper, stickers, and markers.
  - Have them start the work, and use the opportunity to have them describe (at least) parents and siblings.
  - This helps you get to know the Scouts and their families.

Tiger Cubs who have learned the Cub Scout sign, salute, and motto have earned the Tiger Cub Immediate Recognition Emblem, to be presented TODAY (with the Scouts recognized for it at the next pack meeting).

Tiger Cubs participating in Den Meeting 1 and completing **Achievement 1D** have earned their first orange bead for the Tiger Cub Immediate Recognition Emblem. Beads should be presented at the meeting at which they are earned.

Closing

- Award (or recognize) any advancement completed at this meeting; thank hosts, guests, and helpers.

- **Home Assignment: Achievement 1F:** Ask Cub Scouts to think of one chore they can do with their adult partner. Instruct Cub Scouts and adult partners to complete the chore together at home before the next meeting.

- Remind all that the next meeting is a Go See It (unless the sequence is changed).
- Hand out or send family information letter.
- Closing ceremony: perhaps a den leader's minute, Law of the Pack, den yell, and/or Living Circle.
- If you've changed the sequence of den meetings (not recommended but may be necessary to fit your den's unique situation), double-check this to line up with the right meeting.

After the Meeting

- If you've changed the sequence of den meetings, double-check to make sure you will still advance your boys appropriately and check with the Cubmaster to make sure you stay coordinated with the pack.
- Refreshments: If appropriate
- Cleanup: Recruit enough help to do a good job. Scouts always leave an area as clean, or cleaner, than they found it.