



BALOO'S BUGLE



Volume 12, Number 7

March 2006 Cub Scout Roundtable

April 2006 Cub Scout Theme

OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS

Tiger Cub Activities

Webelos Sportsman and Family Member

FOCUS

Cub Scout Roundtable Leaders' Guide

Spring is just around the corner!! With spring comes all the wonders of nature's rebirth – flowers bloom, trees bud, birds are full of activity. In every tree, we can see *Our Feathered Friends* busily building nests and hear them sharing their songs with the world. Use this time of year to help your Cub Scouts discover everything the *Our Feathered Friends* have to share. Learn about the birds in your area, also discover species that live in other parts of the world. Go outdoors with your Cub Scouts and look around to observe all the glories of birds.

CORE VALUES

Cub Scout Roundtable Leaders' Guide

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

- ✓ **Spiritual Growth**, Boys will experience the wonders of nature.
- ✓ **Personal Achievement**, Boys will feel a sense of accomplishment as they learn about birds and complete badge requirements.
- ✓ **Fun and Adventure**, Learn about birds, their habitats and how they help our environment.

The core value highlighted this month is:

- ✓ **Compassion**, Cub Scouts learn to be considerate and concerned for the well-being of others by learning about birds and how they contribute to nature.

Can you think of others??? *Hint* – look in your **Cub Scout Program Helps**. It lists different ones!! All the items on both lists are applicable!! You could probably list all twelve if you thought about it!!

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

Springtime – Get them outside!! The time for indoor meetings is over. Start getting them out looking for birds. Looking for buds on trees and plants. (*Maybe not in Marquette, MI, yet where my former DE grew up but in most places*). Play Tag, Hide and Seek, do relay races in your yard. Look for nests and birds. Find a birding club to help you. The NJ Audubon Society has programs for all ages. Find your local Audubon Society on the web and ask them!! **Check out the websites in the back. The names tell you they have lots of outdoor activities for your Cubs!!**

Pow Wow Books – My collection of current Pow Wow CDs is growing rapidly. **Thank you all so much!!** If you sent

me one and have not received a Commissioner Dave CD in trade, please E-mail me. I received the new San Gabriel Valley – Long Beach Area-Verdugo Hills CD and it appears to be another masterpiece. Thank you Julie. **And a Big Heap How to Julie** as she is receiving the Silver Beaver!!

It is amazing as I go through the CDs. Some like SG-VH-LBA's, Baltimore's and Sam Houston's show so much work and careful editing. And others appear to be thrown together quickly. I received one last year with themes from a different year!! And one this year with articles and items OCR scanned but not proof read. Typos everywhere – I's that should be I's, misspellings with odd symbols in place of letters and repeated items (probably scanned two old Pow Wow Books and put them both into one without checking). Think about it. - After the Pow Wow is over the participants only have two things – their memories and the CD. If they like the CD and can use it easily, it will help sell that person on returning and that person will sell others on going. If it is messy and riddled with typos and such, what will the person think about the Pow Wow after the memories fade?

Walk Thru the Bible Seminar – I attended a **Walk Thru the Old Testament Seminar** as part of the LCMS, NJ District's drive to increase Bible Literacy. It was fantastic!! A highly energized leader had us all up singing and shouting and making the signs for the Old Testament Books. The seminar does no philosophy, does not preach a religion. It simply takes all the pieces of the Bible you have learned over the years and puts them in order for you. You learn when things (e.g. Joshua attacked Jericho) occurred and who was there and where they are in the Bible. If you get a chance – go and participate and bring your kids!! Check them out at www.walkthru.org. How many books in the Old Testament?? How many letters in Old? (3), Testament? (9). How many Books – 39!! *I knew that because my combination lock for Boy Scout camp had a 39 in the combo and my Mother used that as part of the memory trick she taught me to remember it.*



National makes a patch for every Cub Scout Monthly theme. This is the one for this theme. Check them out at www.scoutstuff.org

Months with similar themes to Our Feathered Friends

David D. in Illinois

Be Kind to Birds	January	1940
Cub Scout Bird Watchers	April	1956
Cub Scout Bird Watchers	May	1986
Cub Scout Bird Watchers	April	1988
Cub Scout Bird Watchers	June	1993
Cub Scout Bird Watchers	April	1997

Other months with Nature Themes that have helpful material

Nature	July	1942
Back Yard Month	July	1943
Nature	June	1945
Nature	August	1948
Nature	August	1951
Mother Nature's Backyard	May	1953
Cub Scout Beekeepers	October	1955
Cub Scout Naturalist	September	1956
Mother Nature's Back Yard	July	1959
Cub Scout Naturalists	April	1964
Mother Natures Backyard	April	1966
Mother Nature's Backyard	May	1970
Growing, Flying, Crawling	May	1971
Cub Scout Naturalists	April	1975
Bugs & Things	April	1984
Back to Nature	August	1987
Bugs and Things	May	1992
Bugs `n Things	June	1995
Bugs & Things	April	2000

THOUGHTFUL ITEMS FOR SCOUTERS

Thanks to Scouter Jim from Bountiful, Utah, who prepares this section of Baloo for us each month. You can reach him at bobwhitejonz@juno.com or through the link to write Baloo on www.ussscouts.org. CD

Roundtable Prayer

Cub Scout Roundtable Leaders' Guide

We give thanks for our families, our blessings, our Scouts, and all creations of nature. We hope to learn to esteem all created things, and encourage our Scouts to do the same. Amen.

In Honor of Birds

I have a Scouting friend who will not wear a feather when he dresses as Akela in Indian costume. Feathers have special meaning to the various nations of Native Americans. Birds are an important part of the creation story for the Pahute Indians. They built the dry land on which all other animals came to live. The spread the seeds over the earth that would be the grass, berries and trees that the other animals would need to live. In honor of their work, the birds were allowed to always be carriers of seeds, and the gods gave them bright plumage and songs so they could make the beautiful. As we

honor our feathered friends, let us remember those that came before us and walked softly on the earth.

Bird Quotes

I value my garden more for being full of blackbirds than of cherries, and very frankly give them fruit for their songs.

Joseph Addison

It is not only fine feathers that make fine birds.

Aesop

Pay the thunder no mind – listen to the birds.

Eubie Blake

Oh, the little birds sang east, and the little birds sang west.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning

Today I am sure no one needs to be told that the more birds a yard can support, the fewer insects there will be to trouble the gardener the following year.

Thalassa Cruso

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.

James Dent

I hope you love birds too. It is economical. It saves going to heaven.

Emily Dickinson

Hast thou named all the birds without a gun?

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Words are heavy like rocks, they weigh you down. If birds could talk they wouldn't be able to fly.

Rosalie Graber

The kiss of the sun for pardon,
The song of the birds for mirth,
One is nearer God's Heart in a garden
Than anywhere else on earth.

Dorothy Frances Gurney

Give a drink of water as alms to the birds which go forth at morning, and deem that they have a better right than men [to thy charity]. For their race brings not harm upon thee in any wise, when thou fearest it from thine own race.

Ma'Arri

The world has different owners at sunrise . . . Even your own garden does not belong to you. Rabbits and blackbirds have the lawns; a tortoise-shell cat who never appears in daytime patrols the brick walls, and a golden-tailed pheasant glints his way through the iris spears.

Anne Morrow Lindbergh

There is nothing in which the birds differ more from man than the way in which they can build and yet leave a landscape as it was before.

Robert Lynd

It's a warm wind, the west wind, full of birds' cries.

John Edward Masefield

hard to realize that every camp of men or beast has this glorious starry firmament for a roof! In such places standing alone on the mountain-top it is easy to realize that whatever special nests we make — leaves and moss like the marmots and birds, or tents or piled stone — we all dwell in a house of one room — the world with the firmament for its roof — and are sailing the celestial spaces without leaving any track.

John Muir

Every year back spring comes, with nasty little birds, yapping their fool heads off.

Dorothy Parker

To me, the garden is a doorway to other worlds; one of them, of course, is the world of birds. The garden is their dinner table, bursting with bugs and worms and succulent berries. Anne Raver

Garden: One of a vast number of free outdoor restaurants operated by charity-minded amateurs in an effort to provide healthful, balanced meals for insects, birds and animals.

Henry Beard & Roy McKie

The old people came literally to love the soil and they sat or reclined on the ground with a feeling of being close to a mothering power. It was good for the skin to touch the earth and the old people liked to remove their moccasins and walk with bare feet on the sacred earth. Their tipis were built upon the earth and their altars were made of earth. The birds that flew into the air came to rest upon the earth and it was the final abiding place of all things that lived and grew. The soil was soothing, strengthening, cleansing and healing.

Chief Luther Standing Bear

What is the singing of birds, or any natural sound, compared with the voice of one we love?

Henry David Thoreau

The birds I heard today, which, fortunately, did not come within the scope of my science, sang as freshly as if it had been the first morning of creation. Henry David Thoreau

There are 8,600 species of birds in the world today. They are found everywhere. Birds play a vital role in the balance of nature. They eat insects, pests and small animals. Fruit eating birds are best for scattering seeds for these plants. Seed eating birds digest seeds and in so doing keep millions of weeds from the earth. . . . Birds have between 1,000 and 25,000 feathers.

unknown

An estimated 63 million people are feeding birds in their yards. Research by Metz Farms Wildlife Feeding Specialists of Grand Rapids, Michigan, also shows that \$2.3 billion is spent on birdseed each year. unknown

Poor indeed is the garden in which birds find no homes.

Abram L. Urban

Use what talents you possess; the woods would be very silent if no birds sang except those that sang best.

Henry van Dyke

In this sequestered nook how sweet

To sit upon my orchard seat

And birds and flowers once more to greet. . . .

William Wordsworth

I May Never See Tomorrow

Heart of America Council

I may never see tomorrow
There's no written guarantee
And things that happened yesterday
Belong to history.

I cannot predict the future
I cannot change the past
I have just the present moment
I must treat it as my last.
I must use the moment wisely
For it will soon pass away

And be lost to me forever

As part of yesterday.

I must exercise compassion

Help the fallen to their feet

BE a friend unto the friendless

Make an empty life complete.

The unkind things I do today

May never be undone

Any friendships that I fail to win

May nevermore be won.

I may not have another chance

On bended knee to pray,

And I thank God with humble heart

For giving me this day.

Why the Birds Wear Bright Plumage

Pahute Indian Legend

Scouter Jim from Bountiful, Utah

Why the North Star Stands Still and Other Indian Legends, William R. Palmer, Published by the Zion Natural History Association, Zion National Park, Springdale Utah]

A Long time ago-long ago-so long ago that no Indian can remember, and no tree can remember, and no rock can remember; so long ago that there were no Indians and there were no trees, and the rocks had not been made, there were only Tobats and Shinob, the two gods. Tobats and Shinob were first. They made the trees and the rocks and the Indians.

In that time Tobats and Shinob were standing on a tiny speck of land no larger than their feet and everywhere else there was water. They had come to this little island in the water world to see what should be done.

Tobats said to Shinob, "Here is the world we are making, what shall we do next?" Shinob answered, "There is too much water. We must make more land. Tu-weap, the earth, must be on top of the water. It must stand up high above the water so the living things can find it." Tobats said, "Yes, the earth must stand above the water." Then he added, "Go now .and make more earth. Make it stand above the water. Call someone to help."

Shinob called loudly to wooten-tats, the hummingbird. "Why do you call wooten-tats?" Tobats asked. "He is so little," Shinob answered. "I called him because there is no place here for anyone to stand. Wooten-tats can stand in the air while he works."

In a few moments wooten-tats came. He came from somewhere. He came not on the water for his feathers were dry, and he came not on the land for there was no land. He came from somewhere. He stood in the air close before Tobats and Shinob.

Wooten-tats asked, "Why did you call me?" Shinob said, "We have come to make tu-weap, the earth, so the living things can have a place of their own to live. Can you build?" "No," answered wooten-tats, "I am not the builder bird. Call pa-sof-piech, the swallow. He builds with mud." Tobats said to Shinob, "Call pa-sof-piech, the swallow." Shinob said to wooten-tats, "Bring pa-sof-piech here. Go quick."

The little bird darted away and soon came back with the swallow. Wooten-tats stood still in the air but pa-sof-piech

flew around looking for a place to light. He saw only the foot of Tobats and there he came to rest. He looked around and saw leaves growing in the soil under Shinob's feet.

Shinob said to pa-sof-piech, the swallow, "Are you a builder? Can you build land out on that water?" Pa-sof-piech looked again at the leaves under Shinob's feet and answered, "I can make a place out on the water for the earth to rest. I can make a foundation." "All right," said the gods in chorus, "Do it now. Do it quick."

The swallow plucked a leaf and flying outward, dropped it on the water. He plucked another and laid it beside the first, then another and another and another. He stuck them together with mud from under the feet of the gods. Tobats and Shinob went away, but the swallow worked on for many days and the hummingbird helped him carry leaves which grew on the plants as fast as the birds could pluck them.

After a while the blanket of leaves was so large that pa-sof-piech and wooten-tats could walk over it for a long, long way without getting their feathers wet.

Shinob was watching their progress and one day he raised a strong wind. It bellied up into the sky like a great storm cloud and it traveled very fast. The two birds saw it coming and hurried away for they had never seen clouds like that one before. The wind was loaded with sand. The sand came from somewhere. It was not off the water for it was dry, and it was not off the land for there was no land. It came from somewhere. Tobats threw it out upon the shoulders of the wind.

When the wind reached the leaf blanket it said, "Now I can rest. I can lay my load down and rest." It dropped the sand down upon the blanket and had to go on without its load because it could not pick it up again for the sand had spread everywhere. Some of it ran over the edge and made a big solid bank that tied tu-weap, the earth, down so it could not float away. The swallow and the hummingbird saw the wind pass over and drop its load and they hurried back to see what had happened. They found the leaf blanket covered deep with sand which stood high above the water.

In great excitement the two birds flew back to the somewhere they came from. They met the robin and told him there was a place out over the water where he could take his family and live. They said to the eagle, "Go out over the water and find the place to build your nest." They went to the crow and to the magpie to the ducks and to all the birds and told them where to go. They went also to cooch, the buffalo, and tu-ee, the deer, and to the elk and the bear and the coyote and to all the animals and told them the earth had been made so they could have a place to go and make their homes. There was great excitement among the animals and among all the living things and many took their families and went out over the water to find the place that had been made for them.

Now all of this movement came about too fast and too soon, for there was no food growing yet upon the new earth. tu-weap was not ready yet for the living things to come. They soon grew hungry and they saw that they must perish unless the gods helped them. In distress they caned loudly to him.

Shinob heard the cries of the living things and hurried to tu-weap to see what was the matter. He said to the living things,

"What will You eat?" They answered, "There is nothing here to eat. We are hungry. We will soon have to die."

Shinob went away. When he came back he called the animals together and asked, "What do you eat?" They answered, "How can we eat? There is nothing here to eat." Shinob went away again and when he came back he asked that same question, "What will you eat?" This time the birds spoke up cheerfully and said, "We will think about it. We will talk about it. When you come again we will tell you."

The birds rose up like a cloud and began to swirl around in great flocks in the sky. They chattered and flapped so noisily that the animals could hear nothing else. The animals huddled together in their hunger and sulked. They felt uncomfortable and mean. Then the birds left tu-weap and flew far away. The animals saw them receding in the western sky like a thin streak of cloud. For a long time the birds were gone and the animals grew very lonesome for their twitterings and song.

One day the elk lifted his head and said, "I see something in the sky." The others looked, but they could see nothing. They laughed at the elk. After awhile he lifted his head again and said, "I see something in the sky. It is coming this way." The animals looked intently, but still they could see nothing. They laughed at the elk and called him foolish names. When the elk lifted his head again his antlers were raised very high and with great dignity he said, "I see something in the sky. It is much nearer now." The animals looked and this time they saw a dark streak in the west. The coyote whispered to the squirrel, "It is the birds coming home." The squirrel was overjoyed and he ran from animal to animal chattering, "It is the birds. It is the birds."

When at length the birds arrived they flew everywhere over the land. They came laden with seeds of grass, and seeds of berries and seeds of trees. They scattered them all over the face of the land. Then Shinob sent strong winds to roll the sands around until the seeds were well covered.

The animals now were very poor and hungry. They grumbled and growled at everything and pushed each other around. The birds flitted cheerfully about and sang their songs. They never grumbled. Soon the earth began to crack and little green shoots came thrusting upward from the soil. In a little while the earth was green and there were berries and fruits and grass and roots for the living things to eat. They grew fat and were once more happy together.

One day Tobats and Shinob, the two gods, came and called the animals together. Shinob said as if he had never asked the question before, "What will you eat?" The animals all sang out in joyful chorus, "We will eat the things that the birds brought for us. We will eat leaves and grass and fruits and berries." Shinob said, "It is well. If you will eat only the foods that grow out of the earth you will be happy. Do this and the living things will always be friends."

Old Tobats asked, "What will we do for the birds to pay them for the great thing they did?" Shinob answered, "Let them always be carriers of seeds to make the earth brighter. Let the winds be their helpers. Always they will be happy for their work is to plant seeds of beauty. Give them bright plumage and put songs in their throats so they can always make the earth beautiful and the living things happy."

TRAINING TIP

The District and Your Pack –
Bill Smith, the Roundtable Guy

Your district is led by a Key Three: a District Chairman, a District Commissioner and one or more District Professionals, who lead a team of volunteer Scouters.

The Local Council and your district are there to keep your Cub Pack healthy and capable of providing a quality Cub Scout program to boys and their families. If you think of it in medical terms they provide the services of a General Practitioner – a good family doctor – and an array of Specialists – experts in various Scouting fields.

The General Practitioner –
Unit Commissioner.

Your district should assign an experienced, knowledgeable Scouter as your Unit Commissioner (UC). His or her mission is to ensure that your Cub Pack is healthy and successful: that the pack leaders and the Chartered Organization are achieving their Scouting aims.

Your Commissioner should regularly check up on how things are going in your pack: observing pack meetings and outings, or a pack committee/leaders meeting, or a phone conversation or coffee-visit with the CM or CC. Every leader, committee member or CR should feel free to contact their Commissioner.

Your Commissioner will on occasion, offer advice on how best to use the resources of the BSA or the council to achieve your goals. When I served as a Unit Commissioner, the first questions I asked a CM or CC was: What do you want to accomplish with your pack? Where would you like to see this gang be next year? Answers varied. Some wanted more boys or more leaders, some wanted more outdoors stuff, some more badges or better meetings. No matter what the answers were, I did my best to see they had the where-with-all to get it.

The most valuable service your UC can provide is at rechartering. Then he/she can really help to ensure the necessary records, finances and instructions are available to smoothly process and register every boy and leader in time and help you become a Quality Unit.

Cub Scout Leader Book p9-3

Occasionally a Unit Commissioner sees a need so serious that some specialist help is required -

The Specialists

Training – The District Training Team should be made up of experts on every Cub Scout leader position. In most cases, they were successful leaders of packs, committees and dens. They know how to make meetings and activities effective and fun and they have the abilities to demonstrate and spell it out for you.

They can make Fast Start training available for every leader as soon as they are recruited. They should regularly schedule New Leader Essentials and Cub Scout Leader Specific training so that no leaders of your pack are left to fend for themselves without this support. In an emergency, they should even be available for personal coaching to help a leader or committee member in difficulty.

Your district training team also takes an active role in supplemental training such as Pow Wow and University of Scouting and advanced training which is Wood Badge.

Roundtables – These are monthly meetings pack and den leaders of the whole district. They are led by a Roundtable Commissioner and a staff of several fun-loving, experienced Cub Scouters. Their specialties are to provide you with program ideas for the following month.

Pack Leaders should expect Roundtable meetings that provide program help for pack leaders, den leaders, Webelos leaders and pack committee members. Each Roundtable should provide at least an hour's worth of help specifically aimed for the den and pack programs in following month. It should feature games, ceremonies, projects and other fun activities.

Membership – This district team has experts on how to recruit boys and leaders. They know where the boys are and how best to reach them. They also have access to all sorts of recruiting materials and will make sure that you have lots of flyers, posters, applications, and yard signs.

They can also help you with your packs relations with your Chartering Organizations and especially in getting more parents to participate in your program.

Camping – These are the outdoors people. They provide B.A.L.O.O. and Webelos Leaders Outdoors Training so that your pack can safely and effectively put on its own camping program. They can provide you with the council list of approved campsites for pack camping and the best locations for Webelos overnights.

Most district camping teams actively participate in their council Cub Scout and Webelos Day Camp and Resident Camp programs. They should be a valuable resource for your pack to schedule and prepare for summer camping.

They are also a link to the Order of the Arrow who often are available for stunning Pack-to-Troop graduation ceremonies.

Activities – The district Activities Team can provide advice on spectacular ceremonies, pack activities such as sports days, outings and service projects. They can also be a great source for Where-To-Go lists and Go See It places for your Tiger dens.

Often districts provide activities where all packs are invited to participate. District award dinners and service projects like Scouting for Food or tree planting are common and provide better opportunities than most packs or Chartered Organizations could come up with on their own.

District sports days and even and even a pinewood derby can be fun to attend. I have seen dozens of these but I have never seen a single one that provides better Cub Scouting than I have experienced at those put on by the many Cub Packs I have visited.

Cub Scout Leader Book pp 7-3, 9-3

<http://www.wtsmith.com/rt/cncldist.html>

http://www.threefirescouncil.org/pro_staff/DistOps/DistrictOpsIndex.htm

The Future

I hope that your district is providing these and more such services to you and your fellow Cub Scouters. The quality of

our program depends on these volunteers continuing to work long after their own boys have long left Cub Scouting behind.

When your own stint as Akela to your Cub Scout is over, please consider joining your district team and extend this valuable tradition for the next generation of Cub Scout leaders. It's a rewarding experience.

Remember for your new leaders – Fast Start training and Youth Protection training is available on-line -
Fast Start training
<http://www.scouting.org/cubscouts/faststart/>
Youth Protection Online
<http://www.scouting.org/pubs/ypt/ypt.jsp>

PACK ADMIN HELPS

Den Chiefs

What Are They And How Do I Use Them?

Great Salt Lake Council

What is a den chief?

A den chief is a leader and friend to the Cub Scouts.

How does the den chief fit into Cub Scouting?

- ✓ He is EARNEST about his job and doesn't horseplay.
- ✓ He is kind and fair to all and does not show favoritism.
- ✓ He is an assistant, playing rough and tumble games with the Cub Scouts.
- ✓ He sets a good example, and teaches the younger boys to do things.
- ✓ He knows his stuff and is prepared for meetings. He is willing to learn more.
- ✓ He is ready to be of assistance to the den leader and help in planning meetings.
- ✓ He maintains an active relationship with the den and attends meetings regularly.
- ✓ He helps prepare the Cub Scouts for Scouting.
- ✓ He expects every Cub to "Do His Best" and encourages them by his knowledge and example. He, too, enjoys the feeling of being needed and admired by younger boys.

There are five elements which the den chief should provide in his relationship with his den:

1. Make the den meetings interesting, in advancement as well as games.
2. Help the Cub Scouts work on advancements and motivate them to complete the achievements and electives needed for advancement and/or Arrow Points.
3. Sees that there is **fun** in every meeting.
4. Lets the Cub Scouts show initiative and push ahead, while encouraging them to do their best.
5. Provides a light touch of inspiration to the meetings.

It should be remembered a den chief is still a boy and will not act like an adult. But, if you TREAT HIM AS A LEADER, HE WON'T ACT LIKE "ANOTHER BOY." You can run a meeting without him, but it is a lot easier when he is there.

IMPORTANT STEPS

There are four important steps that must be taken when choosing, and in the proper use of, a den chief for your den.

I. OBTAIN:

- ✓ The den chief is a Boy Scout (or Varsity, or Venturer Scout) selected by the Scoutmaster (or other Scouting Advisor) in cooperation with the Cubmaster, committee chair, and/or den leader.
- ✓ He may be of any rank, but it is suggested that he be at least a First Class Scout. Age is not a factor, although it is recommended that he is 3-4 years older than the boys he will be working with since his maturity and experience will be of great value. He can be of the greatest help when he has been a Cub Scout and knows how the Cub Scouting program works. The Scoutmaster will know which boys are qualified, dependable, and interested. The den chief will need to commit to attending a weekly den meeting and the monthly pack meeting along with a den leader/den chief planning meeting. The den chief position satisfies the leadership requirement for Boy Scout Advancement. Leaders should be aware that den chief service should not interfere with his troop membership.

- ✓ The den chief becomes a member of a leadership team which includes the den leader and assistant den leader. He encourages the boys to advance in their Cub Scout achievements, and to live up to the Cub Scouting ideals in their everyday life. Since the boys look up to the den chief, he is a natural leader and role model for the boys.

II. TRAIN:

- ✓ This Scout will only be as good as you make him. He needs to be trained. Check with your district training Chairman to find out if you have a Den Chief Training Conference. He will need his Den Chief Handbook. His den chief cord is presented at pack meeting, his patch is presented at troop meeting. There are requirements for him to complete for his Den Chief Service Award. If there is no district or council training, then the Cubmaster or den leader is responsible for providing temporary training. There are some things your den chief needs to know:

- **Relationships...**How to work with a den leader and other pack members.
- **Discipline...**How to help maintain discipline by leading and setting an example.
- **Patience...**Important when dealing with Cub Scouts.
- **Boy nature...**How the viewpoint of a Cub differs from older Scouts.
- **Skills...**How to lead songs, games, yells, skits, run-ons, other activities and advancements.

Unless you make it fun, your den chief may not be interested in spending time learning to be a den chief.

III. USE:

- ✓ Your den chief will be as effective and helpful as you will let him. Make him feel important to the den and value his input. He will probably lose interest unless you make it fun for him. Give him enough to do that he feels useful, but not more than he is capable of doing. Remember, he is a youth leader.
- ✓ Keep in mind that den chiefs are busy people, too. Each week he attends troop and patrol meetings and works on

- his Scouting advancements. He may also have school and sports activities.
- ✓ The den chief should meet with the den leader (they always love something to munch on during this time) in a monthly planning meeting to plan the activities which he will be responsible for preparing. Develop a good relationship with your den chief. You should never be too busy to listen to him or his ideas. A follow up call each week will probably be necessary to make sure that you are both on line together. He could be responsible for calling the boys to remind them of den or pack meeting (provide him with a list of the boys and their phone numbers). The den chief should be given specific assignments, but should not be responsible for the whole den meeting. The den chief can help with ceremonies, answer questions, show how to do a craft project, and encourage good behavior.
 - ✓ At den meetings, the den chief's responsibilities are:
 - Before -- Arrive 10 minutes early. Help set up the room. Check equipment and supplies. Prepare to greet the boys and show them where to put their things and where to gather.
 - Gathering -- Greeting the boys. Teach tricks, puzzles, songs, yells or cheers and games while the den leader is busy.
 - Opening -- Holding uniform inspection. Assist Denner with opening ceremony, i.e. Prayer, Flag Ceremony, Motto, Promise, etc..
 - Business -- Make announcements, or reminders. Provide extra ideas for theme projects, service projects, field trips, and so forth. Assist in planning den's participation in pack meeting.
 - Activities -- Have him be your activities assistant by helping with crafts, projects, games, and songs, or demonstrating physical activities for the Cubs.
 - Closing -- Helps to call the boys to order, and helps make announcements. Helps with closing ceremony and immediate recognition.
 - Afterwards -- Clean-up. Evaluate meeting, and go over next week's assignments.
 - ✓ At pack meetings, den chiefs can help with:
 - Setting up the room and/or displays.
 - Getting boys seated and organized.
 - Den yell, songs, skits, stunts, run-ons and activities.
 - Maintain good behavior through presence and attitude (be a good example).
 - Escorting adults & parents to accept awards.
 - Take down and general clean-up after the meeting.
- IV. PRAISE:**
- ✓ Everyone likes to be recognized for their good work. Den chiefs are no different. Never criticize him in front of others.
 - ✓ Recognize him at the first pack meeting after becoming a den chief.
 - ✓ Congratulate him before your den/pack meeting each time he receives a Scout advancement.
 - ✓ Recognize him on his birthday or other special occasion.
 - ✓ Give him an important job and let him do it.

- ✓ Be PATIENT with him. He is just a boy.
- ✓ Praise him during den meetings. Compliment him on a job well done.
- ✓ Build him up every way you can.
- ✓ Understand his limitations and abilities.
- ✓ Let him know that there are some things that he can do that you can't do.
- ✓ Let him feel successful.
- ✓ Do NOT leave discipline solely up to him.
- ✓ It isn't just an accident that we use Scouts as den chiefs. Because of his association with den members, he can encourage them to advance in Cub Scouting and live up to the ideals in everyday life. He is already what every Cub Scout wants to be—a Boy Scout. He is a person whom Cubs most like to follow. This makes him a natural leader to them. By directing this natural leader wisely, we influence all the Cubs under his leadership.
- ✓ Your den chief should wear his uniform to your den meetings. This will encourage the Cubs to wear theirs. The Webelos will be encouraged by the insignias and badges and thus create an interest in Scouting.
- ✓ Recognize the den chief at the end of his service for a job well done. Present him with the Den Chief Service Cord if he has served at least a year and completed the requirements listed in the Den Chief Handbook, but at the very least recognize his service and a job well done.

A LITTLE FELLOW FOLLOWS ME

Great Salt Lake Council

A careful den chief I want to be,
 A little fellow follows me;
 I do not dare to go astray,
 For fear he'll go the selfsame way.
 I cannot once escape his eyes,
 Whate'er he sees me do, he tries;
 Like me, says he's going to be,
 The little Cub Scout who follows me.
 I must remember as I go,
 Through summer's sun and winter's snow,
 I am building for years to be,
 That little Cub Scout who follows me.

TIGERS

Elective 25 Snack time

Edible Birds Nest Ingredients:

Chow mein noodles, chocolate chips or brick chocolate, Jelly beans, candy coated chocolate eggs, marshmallow chicks, peanut butter, wax paper, paper plates

Place wax paper onto to plates. Melt chocolate until it's just melted. Pour melted chocolate over chow mein noodles in a large bowl, mix together to coat the noodles with chocolate.

Place a handful of the mixture onto the plates (on top of waxed paper). Once the mixture cools a bit, form them into nests. Don't wait too long to form the nests or it will harden! Use peanut butter to "glue" down jelly beans and other candies inside the nest.

Elective 32 – Feed the birds

Elective 43 – Pet care (bird pet)

Pine Cone Bird Feeder

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Materials:

- Pine cone
- Paper plate
- Butter knife
- Peanut butter
- Birdseed
- Ribbon or yarn
- Scissors

Instructions:

1. Cut a long length of yarn or ribbon to hang the bird feeder.
2. Tie the ribbon in a knot around the pine cone near the top (about 3 sections down).
3. Tie a knot in the end of the ribbon.
4. Use the knife to get a large clump of peanut butter on the paper plate.
5. Use the knife to spread peanut butter inside the pine cone and around the edges.
6. Sprinkle the birdseed over the pine cone.
7. Roll the pine cone in the birdseed that is on the plate.
8. Hang the bird feeder on the tree.

Bag Owls

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Materials:

- Paper bags (Big grocery bags will make grandfather owl, small candy bags turn into baby owls, & all sizes between are the flock.)
- Newspaper
- Glue

Instructions:

1. Loosely stuff a bag full of crumbled newspaper.
2. Bring the top together and fold the two outer edges in toward the center and glue to form a point. Fold the point down.
3. Cut eyes and feet from construction paper and glue to the owl.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY

Leave No Trace Award



With the emphasis from National on every Pack making sure all new Cubs have an outdoor experience within their first few month, many Packs and Dens will be out in Camps and Woods and Parks exploring. BSA has published a Cub Scout Version of the Leave No Trace principles. It is available as a bin item, # 13-032. *(When requested, Bin items are provided free from BSA National to your local council.)* Go ask for your copy.

The brochure describes six **Front Country Guidelines** for Cub Scouts to follow while hiking, camping and enjoying the outdoors. *(This is cute play on words – the hiking area at Philmont is referred to as the backcountry. Now obviously you don't want to take Cubs out there – to the backcountry, so we must be taking them to the front country. CD)*

There is even a Cub Scout Leave No Trace award with a patch for Cub Scouts and leaders to earn.

Making sure our leaders and Cubs are familiar with these principles should enable our Cubs to be complimented wherever they go and help us recruit even more boys!!

Also, useful for your Pack's outdoor adventures is Cub Scout Outdoor Program Guidelines, BSA Bin Item # 13-631

Cub Scout Leave No Trace Pledge

I promise to practice the Leave No Trace Front Country guidelines wherever I go:

1. Plan ahead.
2. Stick to trails.
3. Manage your pet.
4. Leave what you find.
5. Respect other visitors.
6. Trash your trash

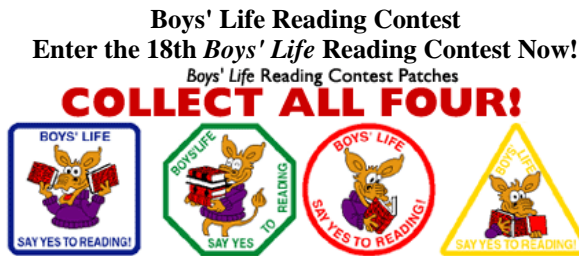
Cub Scout Requirements

1. Discuss with your leader or parent/guardian the importance of the Leave No Trace frontcountry guidelines.
2. By rank -
 - a. **Tigers** - Complete the activities for Achievement 5, Let's Go Outdoors.
 - b. **Wolf** - Complete Achievement 7, "Your Living World."
 - c. **Bear** - Complete Achievement 12, "Family Outdoor Adventures."
 - d. **Webelos** - Earn the Outdoorsman activity badge *Because of there are different requirements for each rank, I would think that a Cub could earn this several times. I could not find a statement by BSA on that issue – either yea or nay. However, the Outdoor Award has specific words saying you can earn it more than once and they have animal prints rather than another patch for second and third earnings. And the World Conservation Award, which has different requirements for each rank, specifically states you can earn it only once. Nothing like that exists for this award. If you have something definitive from BSA, please forward it to me. Thanks CD*
3. Participate in a Leave No Trace-related service project.
4. Promise to practice the Leave No Trace frontcountry guidelines by signing the Cub Scout Leave No Trace Pledge.
5. Draw a poster to illustrate the Leave No Trace frontcountry guidelines and display it at a pack meeting.

Cub Scout Leader Requirements

1. Discuss with your den's Cub Scouts or your pack's leaders the importance of the Leave No Trace frontcountry guidelines.
2. On three separate outings demonstrate and practice the frontcountry guidelines of Leave No Trace.
3. Participate in presenting a den, pack, district, or council awareness session on Leave No Trace frontcountry guidelines.
4. Participate in a Leave No Trace-related service project.
5. Commit yourself to the Leave No Trace frontcountry guidelines by signing the Cub Scout Leave No Trace Pledge.
6. Assist at least three boys in earning Cub Scouting's Leave No Trace Awareness Award.

More information, including the requirements for the Cub Scout and Leader Leave No Trace Awards is available at <http://www.scouting.org/cubscouts/resources/13-032/>



Write a one-page report titled "The Best Book I Read This Year" and enter it in the *Boys' Life* 2005 "Say Yes to Reading!" contest.

The book can be fiction or nonfiction. But the report has to be in your own words—500 words tops. Enter in one of these three age categories: 8 years old and younger, 9 and 10 years old, or 11 years and older.

First-place winners in each age category will receive a \$100 gift certificate good for any product in the Boy Scouts Official Retail Catalog. Second-place will receive a \$75 gift certificate, and third-place a \$50 certificate.

Everyone who enters will get a free patch like the green one above. (The patch is a temporary insignia, so it can be worn on the Boy Scout uniform shirt. Proudly display it there or anywhere!) In coming years, you'll have the opportunity to earn the other patches.

The contest is open to all *Boys' Life* readers. Be sure to include your name, address, age and grade on the entry. Send your report, along with a business-size, self-addressed, stamped envelope, to:

Boys' Life Reading Contest, S306
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, TX 75015-2079

For more details go to www.boyslife.org

Entries must be postmarked by Dec. 31, 2005.

GATHERING ACTIVITIES

Note on Word Searches, Word Games, Mazes and such – In order to make these items fit in the two column format of Baloo's Bugle they are shrunk to a width of about 3 inches. Your Cubs probably need bigger pictures. You can get these by copying and pasting the picture from the Word version or clipping the picture in the Adobe (.pdf) version and then enlarging to page width. CD

Birds of a Feather

Sam Houston Area Council

Flocking together in this puzzle are 68 different kinds of birds. Pick up your bird watching binoculars and you may spot them reading up, down, forward, backward, or diagonally. Try your luck at bird watching!!

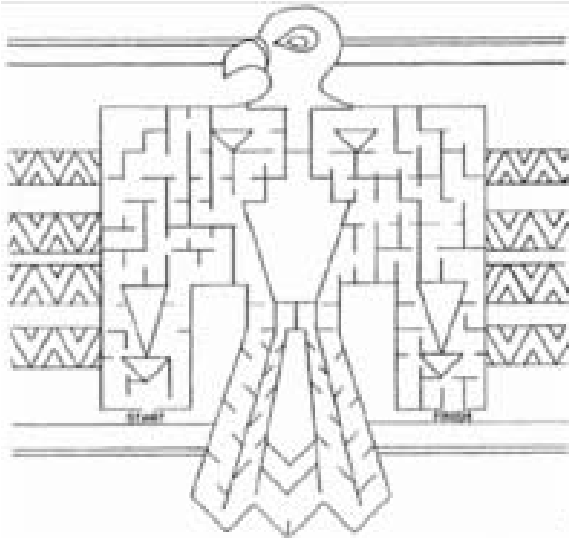


- | | | |
|------------|------------------|--------------|
| AUK | BALTIMORE ORIOLE | BLUE JAY |
| BOBOLINK | BROWN THRASHER | BUZZARD |
| CANARY | CARDINAL | CHICKADEE |
| CONDOR | CREEPER | CROW |
| CUCKOO | DOVE | EAGLE |
| EMU | FALCON | FLICKER |
| FLYCATCHER | GOLDFINCH | GRACKLE |
| GROSBEAK | GULL | HARPY |
| HAWK | HERON | HUMMINGBIRD |
| JUNCO | KEA | KINGFISHER |
| KITE | LINNET | MAGPIE |
| MEADOWLARK | MOA | MOCKINGBIRD |
| MYNAH | NIGHTINGALE | NUTHATCH |
| OSPREY | PHOEBE | PIGEON |
| PLOVER | PURPLE MARTIN | QUAIL |
| RAIL | RAVEN | RHEA |
| ROADRUNNER | ROBIN | SAPSUCKER |
| SPARROW | STARLING | SWALLOW |
| SWIFT | TANAGER | TERN |
| THRUSH | TITMOUSE | VEERY |
| VIREO | VULTURE | WARBLER |
| WAXWING | WHIPPOORWILL | WREN |
| WOODPECKER | | YELLOWTHROAT |

See the last page for another Bird Word Search from Heart of America Council CD

Thunderbird Maze*Sam Houston Area Council*

Almost all the Indian Tribes in the United States believed in the mythical Thunderbird. The Indians of the Great Plains thought it was a large bird that caused thunder by flapping its wings, and lightning by opening and closing its eyes. The Indians also thought it carried a large lake of water on its back, and caused floods as it flew through the air. The Thunderbird design was used to decorate drums, pottery, and walls, and was supposed to protect from evil spirits. Can you find your way through this Thunderbird maze??

**Falconer***Sam Houston Area Council*

Invite a raptor specialist, like a falconer, to bring a bird of prey for the boys to see.

Bird Identification Game:*Heart of America Council*

Look through old magazines and books for pictures of various birds. Cut them out and attach to a piece of construction paper and number each.

As Cubs arrive, *give* them a piece of paper and have them identify the birds in the pictures.

Person with the most right answers wins. For younger cubs you may want to post an alphabetical list of the birds you have used.

Bird Quiz*San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils*

Have print outs of the following quiz for the boys to try to figure out the answers.

1) What is the state bird of New Jersey?

- a. Eastern Goldfinch
- b. Dodo Bird
- c. Penguin

Please modify this question to be your state's bird

2) What is the National bird of the USA?

- a. Turkey
- b. Bald Eagle
- c. Chicken

3) Choose one raptor:

- a. Dinosaur

- b. Seal
- c. Eagle

4) Which bird is often eaten on Thanksgiving?

- a. Rooster
- b. Turkey
- c. Roadrunner

5) What bird can't fly, but can run a speed of about 40 miles an hour?

- a. Cheetah
- b. Eagle
- c. Ostrich

6) What bird can dive for another bird at 200 miles an hour?

- a. Eagle
- b. Peregrine Falcon
- c. Pelican

7) Which bird pokes holes in other bird's eggs to make sure there's enough food for them?

- a. Wren
- b. Falcon
- c. Knife

8) Which bird eats almost anything, including fruit?

- a. Vulture
- b. Crow
- c. Sparrow

9) What is one of the smallest birds?

- a. California Condor
- b. Vulture
- c. Hummingbird

10) Which bird is almost all red?

- a. Herring Gull
- b. Cardinal
- c. Owl

11) Which bird eats entirely on fish, and is nicknamed "fishhawk"?

- a. Peregrine Falcon
- b. Eagle
- c. Osprey

12) Which kind of bird doesn't build nests and just lays eggs on a cliff or in a cave?

- a. Flycatcher
- b. Blue Jay
- c. Vulture

13) What bird is gray and eats at a feeder and is real gentle?

- a. Sharp-shinned hawk
- b. Mourning Dove
- c. Cardinal

14) Pick the best bird that fits the following description: "Brown with a white head, is very large and steals fish from Osprey."

- a. Bald Eagle
- b. Osprey
- c. Rooster

15) What finch has a purple head but is not injured?

- a. House Finch
- b. Purple Finch
- c. Cardinal Finch

- 16) Which bird will warn you off with screams and if you don't go away, will strike?
 - a. Goshawk
 - b. Wren
 - c. Condor
- 17) What bird eats berries (listed here)?
 - a. Vulture
 - b. Goshawk
 - c. Catbird
- 18) What bird returns each year to San Juan Capistrano?
 - a. Swallow
 - b. Blue Jay
 - c. Vulture

Answers at the end of Baloo

OPENING CEREMONIES

"B" Is For Birds

Heart of America Council

Set Up: Four Cubs with placards featuring pictures of birds. The First Cubs placard, also, has a letter B. The parts are on the back in LARGE letters

Ceremony:

Narrator: The Great Master who made us all, gave humans other creatures to be here on earth with us.

Besides the creatures in the seas and the animals walking the land, we have creatures with wings.

Cub # 1: (with large sign with a "B" and several pictures of beautiful birds.) B Stands for beauty. Some birds live near man

Look around and see them if you can In your yard or on the street, listen and you can hear them so sweet.

Cub # 2: The peacock, the pheasant, some others too, Are birds of beauty for us to view. Displaying a magnificent rainbow, As they put on a beautiful strutting show.

Cub # 3: The farmer raises birds for us to eat The chickens, ducks, turkeys are a treat. ' Besides, how could we have scrambled eggs and more

If these birds didn't do their laying chore? '

Cub # 4: There are many different kinds of birds in our land If you wish to see them, look to the sky not to the sand. Over the mountains, cities, farms, valleys, and lakes, To see them, just keep your eyes open, that's all it takes.

Narrator: Now as we begin our pack meeting, with our pledge to the flag, remember one of our symbols of America IS the eagle. Will everyone please stand and join with me in the pledge.

Birds I

Heart of America Council

Set Up: Cub Scouts wear costumes to represent the birds listed below

Ceremony:

Narrator: Tonight we would like to take you on a visit to an

aviary Where we can meet some of our fine feathered friends. *(Introduces each bird as it walks by.)*

Woodpecker: (Makes noise like Woody Woodpecker) If you sit in my tree I can shake you up. (Nods head like pecking).

Crow: (Bright trinket in beak) I'm a bit of a rascal, you know. Just a scavenger at heart. Hummingbird: (Darts back and forth, humming) I'm always coming and going , coming and going . Must hurry to find that sweet nectar.

Owl: (Comes out slowly, blinking eyes slowly and looking straight ahead.) The less I speak the more I hear. The more I hear, the more I know.

Nondescript Bird: (Has alarm clock around neck and large dangling worm; flaps a few times as he walks by.) I'm the early bird, and I've got the worm!

Narrator: It looks like well start our pack meeting **egg**-actly on time. We may not get the worm, but we have lots of awards for many of our fine-feathered Cub Scouts.

Birds II

Heart of America Council

Set Up: Five Cubs with placards each with the appropriate letter, pictures of birds, and the parts on back in LARGE letters

Ceremony:

Cub # 1: B is for Birds, if you let them, can be a delight.

Cub # 2: I is for Impossible to keep them out of sight.

Cub # 3: R is for Ready to sing at dawns early light.

Cub # 4: D is for Definitely delightful to watch in flight.

Cub # 5: S is for So lets talk about them if it's all right.

All: It's Cub Scout Bird Watchers tonight!

Eagle Puzzle Opening Ceremony

Heart of America Council

Participants: Narrator and 6 Cub Scouts

Props: Microphone, Flashlight, Spotlight, Puzzle pieces, Backing and Frame for Puzzle, U .S . Flag

Setup:

Place back and frame of puzzle in center of stage with the spotlight shining on it.

Narrator is off stage with the flashlight to shine on script.

Cub Scouts are in uniform with their puzzle pieces and lined up on side stage.

Cubs cross to center stage with their puzzle pieces and place them on the backing and say their parts. (Or alternatively, have the Narrator read the parts)

Room is darkened and the U.S. Flag is also on stage.



Ceremony:

- Cub # 1:** (first puzzle piece) My wings extend from the sun kissed shores of the Pacific Golden Gate to the rock bound coast of the Atlantic.
- Cub # 2:** (second puzzle piece) My head and beak kiss the northern shores of the Great Lakes ;: and the Canadian border.
- Cub # 3:** (third puzzle piece) I sharpen my beak on the Rocky Mountains and trim my talons in the snow of Alaska
- Cub # 4:** (fourth puzzle piece) My shadow falls on the Gulf of Mexico while flying high above the land and sea and my keen eyes survey all below.
- Cub # 5:** (fifth puzzle piece) I have spread my wings around the world as I defended our shores against our common enemies. I am victorious, both on the earth and in the sky. I am the symbol of America.
- Cub # 6:** (sixth puzzle piece) I stand for Peace and Democracy and for Human Rights and the freedom of all men. I sit atop many of your countries standards and appear on the I Seal of the United States. I AM THE AMERICAN BALD EAGLE.

Spotlight shines on US. Flag as lights come up and Narrator leads everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A Tree is a Good Scout

By Lord Baden Powell

Sam Houston Area Council

A different Cub reads each line. You could have each Cub make a placard with a picture of a tree on it. Perhaps have them put birds in the trees, too.

- Cub # 1:** Did you ever pause to think about how helpful a tree is?
- Cub # 2:** It provides a nesting place for birds, shade from the sun, and protection from the rain.
- Cub # 3:** It discards its dead branches, providing wood for building fires and cooking food.
- Cub # 4:** A tree adds beauty to the countryside and to camping areas. We much admit that a tree gives a lot more than it receives.
- Cub # 5:** We can learn a lesson from the tree—by doing our best to always be helpful to others and by putting our fellow Scouts first and ourselves second.
- Cub # 6:** Remember the lesson we learn from the tree—to give others more than we receive.

Eagle Opening

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Den carries the flags to the front of the room.

Before posting the colors one or more boys present either or both of the following with the Pack:

- ✓ The bald eagle was chosen as our National Emblem on June 20, 1782 as the emblem of the United States of America, because of its long life, great strength and majestic looks, and also because it was then believed to exist only on this continent.
- ✓ **“The Eagle”**

He clasps the crag with crooked hands;
Close to the sun in lonely lands,
Ring'd with the azure world, he stands.
The wrinkled sea beneath him crawls;
He watches from his mountain walls,
And like a thunderbolt he falls.

---Alfred Tennyson

You might want to have the Cubs make up placards with pictures of Eagles on the front and their parts on the back.

PACK AND DEN ACTIVITIES

Sam Houston Area Council

Wolf Electives

Elective 13 – Birds

Elective 14 – Pets (bird pet)

Bear Achievements and Electives

Achievement 5 – Sharing your World with Wildlife

Achievement 9a – Make oatmeal cookies for the den

Elective 10 – papier-mâché bird masks

Elective 11b – photography of birds

Elective 12h – build a bird caller

Elective 13 – make a bird appear/disappear

Wildlife Conservation Belt Loop

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

One of the requirements to earn the Wildlife Conservation Belt Loop is to make a report to the den about an endangered species including how the species came to be endangered and what is being done to save it. A presentation or summary of presentations could be made during the Pack meeting as well.

The following ideas are from California, but I am sure there are similar places near where you live to accomplish this requirement. CD

- ✓ The Bolsa Chica Wetlands in Huntington Beach is home for four Endangered species of birds including the Clapper Rail, Belding's Savannah Sparrow, California Least Tern, and the Western Snowy Plover. Information can be researched at the Wetlands Website at info@bolsachica.org
- ✓ Another local bird to research is the California Condor at www.sandiegozoo.org
- ✓ Lake Cachuma in Santa Barbara County is home to dozens of wintering bald eagles that can be seen perching on trees by the water, flying overhead, diving for fish, or stealing fish from osprey. There are two hour bird watching cruises available November through February Friday and Saturday also. For reservations contact (805) 686-5050.

Other Activities –

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

The Great Backyard Bird Count. Although this annual event sponsored in part by the Audubon Society is held in February for people all over the country record bird sightings and report on-line to scientists at www.birdsource.org . The website has other birding activity suggestions for year round.

Project Feeder Watch. Set up a bird feeder and observe and count the birds that come to eat in your own yard. Check out the website for more details:

www.birds.cornell.edu

And maybe you want to help at the World Series of Birding. You can put a team together and compete or you could help out a competing team with their logistics for the day.

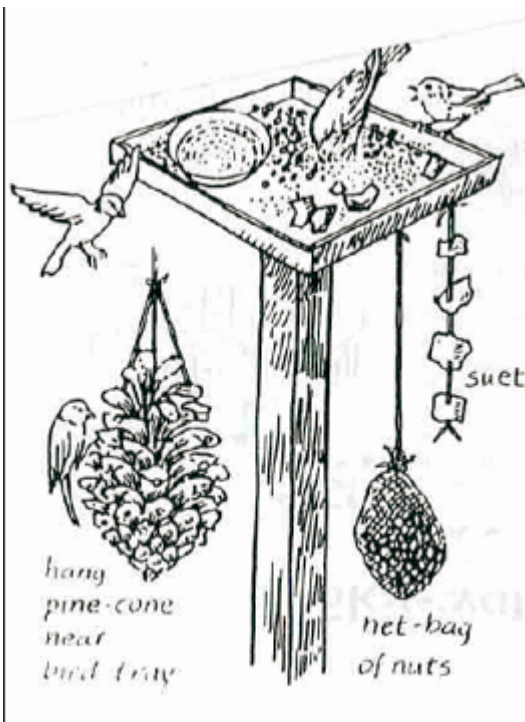
<http://www.njaudubon.org/WSB/>

Attracting Garden Birds

Sam Houston Area Council

When you make a special effort to identify the types of birds that inhabit your neighborhood, you will begin to recognize individual birds as old friends, and you will find yourself noticing interesting details about their behavior. You can start by taking a little trouble to attract birds to your garden even if you live in a town and the garden in only a small yard.

Build a bird table by nailing a large tray on top of a tall and unpainted wooden post that is standing up firmly in the ground—and out of reach of the local cats. Birds appreciate drinking facilities, and a place to bathe, so use (or make) a tray that is big and strong enough to support a shallow dish of water, which you must not allow to get too dirty.



Start to feed the birds in early autumn, and keep putting out fresh food throughout the winter. Provide more variety than bread crumbs. Avoid salty things. Various species of birds will eat boiled potato, melon and sunflower seeds, crushed dog-biscuit, chopped apple and oatmeal.

Smear a paste of bird seed and peanut butter onto a pine cone suspended from a string. Other things to hang up are crusts of bread and the hard animal fat—perhaps from a butcher’s shop—known as suet. You can also buy a net bag of nuts to hang under the tray.



Do not put your feeding station where birds will be continually disturbed by people. You might be able to convert a nearby window into a viewing “hole” by fixing up a sheet of cardboard with a slot to look through.

Questions and observations

Sam Houston Area Council

Get to know the names of the types of birds that visit your bird table. Use a good book with colored pictures. Visitors may include the robin, sparrow, finch, cardinal, blackbird and blue jay. Other visitors will depend on where you live and the time of the year. Activity will be brisk during a severe weather—you can consider designing a bird table with a roof. (image 3)

Notice how the different species approach your feeding stations. Do they fly up from the ground, from shrubbery nearby, or do they fly directly down? Do they come alone, or in groups? Which types of birds are “bullies”? How well do the birds get along with each other? Does a bird have special way of eating its food? Is there a connection between birds’ beaks and the food they choose?

FIELD TRIPS

Heart of America Council

- Visit an aviary at the zoo.
- Visit a wild life sanctuary
- Visit an Audubon Society site

SERVICE PROJECTS

Heart of America Council

- Collect food for animal shelter.
- Clean up a park.

HIKES

Heart of America Council

Bird Watching Hike: Describe the birds seen; size, coloring, beak type,, and where they are. Take a bird identification book or someone who knows birds.

Rules for Bird watching:

Heart of America Council

1. Look at the bird, not the field guide. The book will still be there in a few minutes, but the bird will move.
2. Avoid brightly colored clothes. Many birds have poor color vision but they'll see high contrast clothing.
3. Be quiet.
4. Avoid sudden movements - move slowly and smoothly.
5. Get the sun at your back.
6. Wait for the flicker of motion, then look there.
7. Work the flocks - a bunch of white-crowned sparrows may have something else among them.

8. Follow your ears. One calling bird can lead you to a whole group.
9. Look all around you - overhead and on the ground, as well as in the trees and bushes.
10. Try "spishing". Small birds are attracted to small squeaky noises. Make noises by kissing the back of your hand or making a low whistled noise through your closed teeth. Or clench your teeth, open your lips, and whisper the word "spish". A more sophisticated variant on this technique is to play a tape recording of an owl and wait for birds to come investigate this potential danger.

Mother's Nature's Housing Developments: How many animal homes can be found on the hike. Look for bird nests, cliff or barn swallows nests, squirrel nests, cocoons, insect galls, spider webs paper wasps nests, mud douber wasps' nests, woodchuck burrow. It's fair to count evidence of homes such as little mud casts made by earthworms and a long raised mound across a lawn made by a burrowing mole. A hollow tree might be the home of several animals - woodpeckers, owls, bats, or white footed mice. In a pond is near by, look for mud chimneys of crayfish built near shore. Award a prize to the boy who finds the most animal homes. Caution the boys not to remove or destroy these homes.

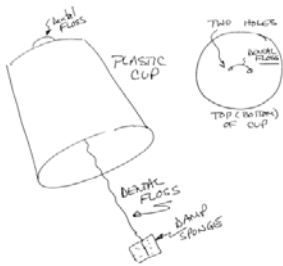
Pringles Can Feeder:

Sam Houston Area Council

- ✓ Randomly cut 6 or so 1/2" holes in the sides of the Pringles can at various heights from bottom.
- ✓ Punch a couple of small holes near the top of the can and insert an appropriate length of coat hanger to serve as the feeder hanger.
- ✓ Wrap the can with heavy aluminum foil (temporary).
- ✓ Heat 1/2 lb suet with 1 cup wild bird seed in a double boiler.
- ✓ Pour into Pringles can and let cool.
- ✓ After cooling, remove the foil and hang.
- ✓ Watch the birds as they come for this treat

How To Make A Chicken(Turkey) Call:

Baloo's Archives



Material:

- 1 - 12 or 16 ounce plastic cup
- 1 - two to three foot long piece of dental floss
- 1 - 1 inch (approx) square piece of sponge

Directions:

- ✓ Poke two small holes in the top of the plastic cup
- ✓ Thread the dental floss up through the hole from inside the cup.

- ✓ Then push end of dental floss back into cup through other hole.
- ✓ Tie off dental floss inside cup. One end should be very short, the other very long

Alternate -*From the top of the cup, push one end of the dental floss into the cup and then back out the top (cup bottom). Tie the dental floss together on top of the cup and then push the long end back through one of the holes into the cup*

- ✓ When cup is held with opening down, thread should be hanging down a foot or so more beyond the cup.
- ✓ Tie the sponge to the floss (optional - but keeps Cubs from losing it)
- ✓ Decorate cup if you wish
- ✓ Dampen the sponge
- ✓ Hold the cup in your non-dominant hand, using your dominant hand grab the dental floss with the folded sponge near the bottom of the cup and slide it down. You will get a turkey sound.
- ✓ **Use this for Bok, Bok, Bok when singing "Ghost Chickens"** (See Songs)

How To Make A Bird Call:

Sam Houston Area Council



Material:

- 1 - 2 inch piece of close-grained hardwood, a dowel rod from the hardware store will do fine.
- 1 - "Chunky" eye-screw.

Directions:

- ✓ Drill a hole slightly smaller in diameter than the screw threads in the end of the block. Do not drill all the way through the block.
- ✓ Insert and turn the screw eye into it until it is tight.
- ✓ Unscrew the eye, put some powdered rosin into the hole (perhaps purchase a pitchers' rosin bag at the sports store).
- ✓ Reinsert the screw eye
- ✓ As you twist the screw eye back and forth in the hole, very slowly, you will make a chirp-chirp or trill in loud, clear notes.
- ✓ If you wish, paint or decorate the bird call with marking pen designs or your own initials.

With practice, this simple device will produce an astounding variety of bird noises.

Plastic Straw Duck Call:

Sam Houston Area Council



- ✓ Flatten a large plastic straw.
- ✓ Then trim one end of the straw as in the picture.
- ✓ This trimmed end is like a double-reed instrument mouthpiece.
- ✓ Hold the trimmed end firmly between your lips and blow very hard to make the plastic vibrate together.
- ✓ This will make a quacking noise like a duck.

Variations:

Plastic Straw Slide Whistle: To turn the duck call above into a slide whistle, cut off a third of the length of the straw at the untrimmed end. Now slice this small piece of straw along its entire length. Insert this straw into the open end of the duck call and you can now slide it in and out to make different notes.

Plastic Straw Flute: Modify the Duck Call above with several fingering holes along the straw, to make a flute. The easiest way to make the holes is to pinch the straw and use a paper punch to make a half-circle punch, which forms round holes.

Wood Duck House:
 Thanks to *Ducks Unlimited, Inc.*
 Sam Houston Area Council

Wood Ducks are an endangered species that can be found almost everywhere in the lower 48 states. They build nests near wetlands. Their nesting areas have special needs, and the houses are built with a door that rangers can use to clean the boxes each year after the nesting season is over.



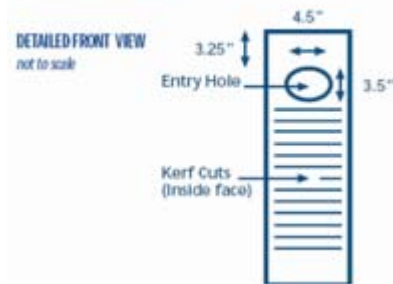
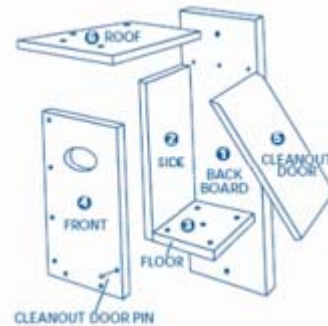
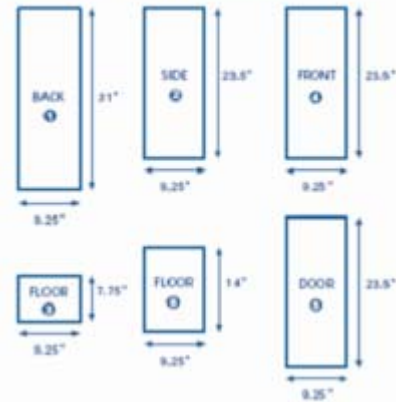
Materials:

10½ feet of 1x10 lumber (cedar is best).
 Hand drill and assemble with wood screws.

Instructions:

- ✓ Drill five ½” drain holes in the floor, and cover with 4-6 inches of wood shavings (not sawdust!).
- ✓ Drill the entry hole as a 3½”x 4½” oval.
- ✓ Make horizontal cuts on the inside of the front piece (kerf cuts) so that ducklings can climb out.
- ✓ Install on a steel pole in or near water, with a clear flight path.
- ✓ Be sure to add a predator guard to the pole.
- ✓ Don’t leave any sharp edges or exposed screws on the inside of the box.

MATERIAL MEASUREMENTS - not to scale



Nest Makings

Heart of America Council

Birds spend a lot of time in the spring and early summer looking for nesting material. You can help them out

Materials –

Net bag for each Cub. The kind onions come in are perfect. An alternative is to buy a piece of netting, cut a circle out of it for each boy, and have them run a piece of yarn around the outside of the circle.

Directions:

Fill the net bag with

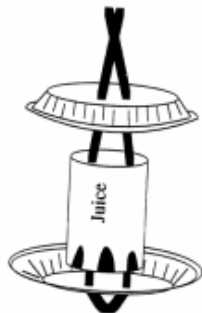
- ✓ Pieces of yarn,
- ✓ String or twine of any kind,
- ✓ Shiny plastic "icicles" that are sold for Christmas trees
- ✓ Feathers,
- ✓ Or any other suitable material you think of

Once the nest materials are in the netting,

- ✓ Pull the yarn up tight and fasten, creating a small bag.
- ✓ Hang the bag from a tree branch in the spring
- ✓ Watch the birds make use of your offering.

Bird Feeder*Heart of America Council***Materials:**

- 2 foil pie tins
- 1 juice can (or other tin can) with top removed
- Twine or nylon cord
- Tools: Hammer Large nail
- Can/bottle opener



1. Turn the can so it is top down.
2. Center the pie tin on the can.
3. Using a large nail and a hammer, punch two holes through the pie tin and the can bottom.
4. Use a can opener to make openings along the bottom of the juice can. Fold these as flat as possible (or cut off).
5. Punch two holes through the other pie tin, about two inches apart.
6. Thread the cord through the first pie tin and the bottom of the juice can, then pull it through the second pie tin.
7. Tie a knot, leaving about a foot of hanging space.
8. To fill the feeder, pull aside the top pie tin and fill the can with birdseed.
9. Replace the pie tin and hang the feeder.

Bird's Miracle Meal*Heart of America Council*

Place in a large mixing bowl:

- 1 C. flour
- 3 C. yellow cornmeal Add:
- 2 C. melted suet (or lard, but not shortening or fat)
- 1 C. melted peanut butter
- Optional - chopped raisins or nuts.

Mix well.

Chill the mixture until it is thick enough to handle.

Use one of the following options for putting it out for the birds to enjoy:

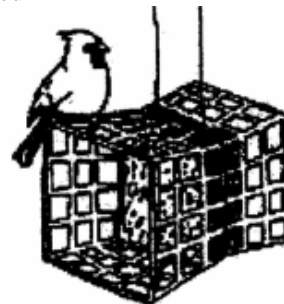
1. Spread the mixture into pans until it is about 1" thick. Chill until hard, then cut into pieces. Place a piece inside a net bag such as oranges or onions come in, tie it closed and mount it against a tree trunk.
2. Cut a 6 to 12" piece from a small log. Drill some shallow holes in the log and set a screw eye in the top. Press the soft mixture into the holes and hang the log from a tree branch.
3. Force the soft mixture into existing holes or forks on a tree.

Leftover mixture will keep well in the freezer until you are ready to use it. This mixture will attract all the suet-eating birds - woodpeckers, chickadees, titmice.

Hang it up high enough, because the smell of the peanut butter will be attractive to your dog as well!

Berry Basket Bird Feeder*Heart of America Council***Materials:**

- 2 plastic berry basket
- 2 slices of bread
- Peanut butter mixed with shortening;
- String
- Birdseed

**Directions:**

Tie the baskets together, bottom to bottom.

Spread the peanut butter and shortening mixture on both sides of the bread.

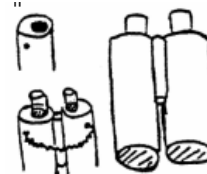
Dip in birdseed.

Put a slice of bread into the bottom of each of the berry baskets.

Hang the baskets with the string.

Binocular Tie Slide**Materials:**

- 1/2" dowel, 2 pieces 1" long
- 1/4" dowel, 2 pieces 3/8" long
- 1/8" dowel, 1 piece 5/8" long
- Black pipe cleaner, 2 1/2" long
- Paint (black, white or blue)
- Wood glue, coping saw, sandpaper
- Drill - 1/4" and 1/8" bits .

**Directions**

Cut dowels to length .

Drill 1/4" hole in one end of each 1/2" dowel, slightly off center, about 1/8" deep.

Drill a 1/8" hole (for pipe cleaner) on underside at the same end as 1/4" hole.

Glue 1/4" dowel in the end holes of the 1/2" dowel.

Lay the two 1/2" dowels side by side about 1/16" apart with the two end holes to center.

Glue 1/8" dowel in place, one end even with the top of the 1/2" dowels.

Sand and paint black with lens; end white or blue.

Glue pipe cleaner ends in the two small holes to form slide.

I think I would glue a piece of PVC pipe on the back for the slide loop. CD

Bird's Nest Neckerchief Slide

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Materials:

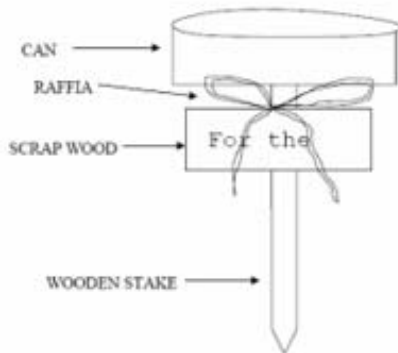
- Brown Yarn
- 1 inch PVP pipe sliced at about 1/2 inch length or keychain ring
- Tacky glue or low temp glue gun and glue stick
- Poster board – dark brown or black
- Crayola modeling clay - white
- Scissors

Instructions:

1. Cut poster board into circles about the size of a quarter.
2. Cut yarn into 1/4 inch pieces. For each bird nest you will need about 1 heaping tablespoon of cut up yarn.
3. Mix in about 1/2 teaspoon of Tacky Glue with the yarn pieces. Roll yarn and glue mixture together to form a ball. Add more glue if necessary. Flatten the ball a little. Press thumb into the middle to make the nest shape. Set on top of a circle of poster board.
4. Roll small pieces of Crayola modeling dough to make 3 small oval shaped eggs.
5. Use glue gun to attach the eggs to the nests.
6. Use hot glue gun to attach the back of the poster board to the pipe or ring.

Bird Feeder

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils



Materials:

- Empty, clean tuna or cat food can
- Wooden stake – 24” – 36” tall
- Piece of scrap wood – rectangle shape about 3 by 10 inches
- Raffia
- Paint
- Paint brush

Instructions:

1. Nail the middle of the can to the top of the stake (the easiest way is to use a nail gun or staple gun)
2. Use whittling knife to make a point on the other end of the stake.
3. Paint the rectangle shape wood for a sign and paint the words “For the Birds” on the sign. For a longer more complicated project have the boys sand the wood before painting it.
4. Nail or staple the sign to the stake
5. Tie raffia around the stake above the sign

Cheerios Bird Feeder

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Materials:

- Big pipe cleaners
- Cheerios

Instructions:

1. Hook one end of pipe cleaner and add Cheerios until 1 inch from top.
2. Bend pipe cleaner over Cheerios so they will stay on.
3. Make the pipe cleaner with Cheerios look like a J.
4. Hook over tree limb for birds to enjoy.

Plastic Jug Bird Feeder

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Materials:

- Large plastic jug such as a gallon milk container
- Scissors
- Twig
- Bird seed or dry cereal
- String

Instructions:

1. Cut out a large section of the front of the jug with scissors
2. Poke a hole on each side of the hole near the bottom of the jug
3. Push a sturdy twig through the holes on each side for the birds to use as a perch
4. Fill the bottom of the jug with bird seed or dry cereal.
5. Tie a string to the neck of the jug and hang it in a tree

Easy Birdhouse to Make

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Materials:

- Empty paper half-gallon mild carton
- Masking tape
- Brown Shoe Polish
- Stapler , Scissors, Sharp pencil
- Wire coat hanger

Instructions:

1. Get an empty 1/2 gallon paper carton. Open up the top of the carton and wash and rinse it thoroughly. Let it dry.
2. Re-close the milk carton and staple it shut.
3. Get a roll of masking tape. Tear off 1-2” pieces of the tape and cover the entire milk carton. Overlap the pieces so that none of the carton shows.
4. Get brown shoe polish and a paper towel or rag. Rub the polish over all of the tape to make it look like brown bark. Let dry thoroughly.
5. Decide what type of bird you want to use the birdhouse. Look at the birdhouse specs page, and determine how large a hole to cut as well as how far from the floor the hole should be. Cut the entrance hole in the birdhouse.
6. Using a pencil, make several holes in the bottom of the carton for any rain to drain out. Also make several hole in the top of the carton to let heat and condensation escape.
7. Make a hole through the top of the house near the staples. Put a short piece of wire (perhaps from a clothes hanger?) through the hole to make a loop. Hang the birdhouse on a shepherd's hook (like what you use for birdfeeders) or on a tree branch.

Fruity Bird Feeder

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Materials:

- Grapefruit
- Sharp knife
- Metal spoon
- Metal skewer
- Yardstick
- String
- ½ cup peanut butter
- 1 cup cornmeal
- 4 tablespoons raw sunflower seeds
- 4 tablespoons birdseed
- Large bowl

Instructions:

1. Carefully slice the grapefruit in half with a sharp knife, and scoop out the inside of one half with a metal spoon.
2. Punch 3 evenly spaced holes with metal skewer around circumference of grapefruit shell, about ½ inch away from the cut edge
3. Measure and cut three 20 inch pieces of string. Knot them together at one end.
4. Put the knot under the grapefruit, and push one string through each hole working from the outside in. Tie ends of the string together in a knot at the top.
5. Stir together the peanut butter, cornmeal, and seeds in a bowl. Fill the grapefruit shell with the mixture.
6. Hang the bird feeder from a tree branch.

Fruit on a Stick

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Materials:

- Stick about 10 inches long
- Apples or pears cut in half
- String

Instructions:

1. Cut the apple of pear in half
2. Push the fruit half through the stick to the middle
3. Tie string to each end of the stick
4. Loop the string over a tree branch so the birds can perch on the stick while nibbling at the fruit.

North American Bird Feeding Chart

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Use this chart to decide what to put in the bird feeders you make.

<u>WILD BIRD SPECIES</u>	<u>PREFERRED FOOD</u>	<u>READILY EATEN</u>
Quail, Pheasants	Cracked Corn	Millet, Berries
Pigeons, Doves	Millet	Sunflower, Milo, Bread, Nuts, Cracked Corn, Thistle
Roadrunners	Meat Scraps	Suet
Hummingbirds	Plant Nectar, Small Insects	Sugar Water, commercial instant nectars
Wood-	Suet, Meat	Fruit, Nuts,

peckers	Scraps, Insects	Sunflower Seed, Sugar Water
Jays	Whole Peanuts, Peanut Kernels	Sunflower Seed, Suet, Bread Products, Cracked Corn
Crows, Magpies	Meat Scraps, Suet	Peanuts, Bread Products
Titmice, Chickadees	Peanut Kernels, Sunflower	Sunflower, Suet, Bread Products
Creepers, Nuthatches	Suet	Sunflower, Nuts, Cracked Corn, Bread
Wrens	Suet	Peanut Butter, Bread Products, Apples
Mockingbirds, Thrashers	Halved Apples, Fruit	Bread Products, Suet, Sunflower Seeds, Nuts
Robins, Bluebirds, Thrushes	Suet, Mealworms, Berries, Water	Bread Products, Raisins, Currants, Nut Meal
Purple Martins	Mosquitoes, beetles, flies, moths	Insects, man-made shelter and a water source is important
Flycatchers Phoebes	Bees, wasps & Ants	Meal Worms
Kinglets	Suet	Bread Products
Warblers	Suet, Suet Mix, Water	Fruit, Breads, Sugar Water Nut Pieces
Tanagers	Suet, Fruit	Sugar Water, Mealworms, Bread Products
Cardinals, Grosbeaks, Buntings	Sunflower Seed, Safflower	Safflower, Apples, Fruits, Suet, Millet, Breads, Peanut Kernels
Towhees, Juncos	Millet, Sunflower Seed	Cracked Corn, Peanuts, Bread, Nut Meats
Sparrows	Millet, Peanut Kernels, Suet	Bread Crumbs, Canary Seed, Sunflower Seed
Blackbirds Starlings	Cracked Corn, Milo, Bread, Suet	Millet, Suet, Breads, Cracked Corn, Nut Meats
Orioles	Sugar Water, Fruit Pieces	Jelly, Suet, Soft Raisins, Orange Halves
Goldfinches, Finches	Thistle/Niger Seed, Sunflower	Hulled Sunflower, Millet, Fruits, Suet, Peanuts
Owls, Raptors	Small mammals, small lizards, snakes, birds	Water

Cereal Loop Bird Feeder*San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils***Materials:**

- O shaped cereal
- Yarn or string

Instructions:

1. String O shaped cereal on lengths of yarn or string.
2. Tie them like a necklace from a branch on a tree.

Trash Can Lid Bird Bath*San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils***Materials:**

- Old trash can lid
- Section of old sewer pipe
- Brick or rock
- Rope

Instructions:

1. Fasten the brick to the lid of the trash can using the rope
2. Place the lid upside down on the pipe with the brick inside. The brick should be hanging inside the pipe without touching the ground so it can provide weight to hold the lid down
3. Add water

A birdbath can also be made by placing the trash can lid on the top of a tree stump.

Bird Bath:*San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils***Materials:**

- Wooden post – 48 inches long
- 2 by 2 piece of wood – 20 inches long for a cross bar
- 2 aluminum pie plates
- 2 screws
- 2 washers
- paint
- paint brushes

Instructions:

1. Paint the aluminum plates so they are not shiny
2. Screw the pie plates to either end of the 2 by 2 crossbar
3. Nail the cross bar to the post so that plates are 24 to 36 inches above ground
4. Fill one plate with water and one plate with bird seed

Nesting Supply Box for Birds*San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils***Materials:**

- Milk carton
- String
- Scissors
- Dryer lint
- Pet and people hair
- Bits of yarn and string

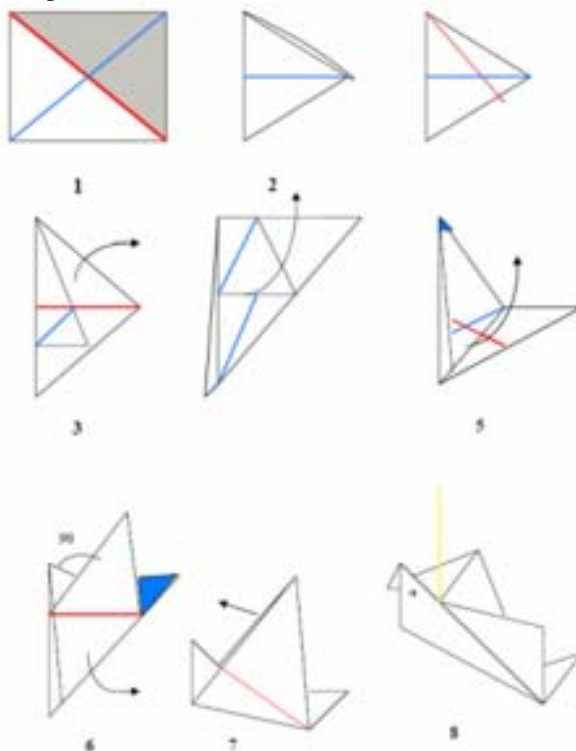
Instructions:

1. Cut a flap on opposite sides of the carton about halfway down
2. wash the inside of the milk carton and allow to dry
3. Fold the flaps of the milk carton down to create a perch for the birds to land on
4. Thread a long piece of string through the openings. Tie the two pieces of string together with strong knots.
5. Fill the box with the items collected (dryer lint, hair, string, yarn, etc.) that birds can use to make a nest.

6. Hang the box outside in a tree.

Origami Mobile*San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils***Materials:**

- Square paper in several colors (10 cm origami paper is best)
- Floral wire or wire coat hanger
- Wire cutter
- Pliers
- Thin string or thread
- Tape

**Picture Key**

Blue line = crease

Red line = fold

Gray line is to make contrast so fold can be seen.

Instructions:

1. Crease along the blue line; fold in half from corner to corner along the red line.
2. Fold just top layer along red line.
3. Fold entire project in half along red line
4. Open top flap to make a point
5. Fold up first wing to form 90 degree angle between head and wing
6. Fold other wing to back in same way
7. Fold both wings down along red line to make bird to look as if it is flying. Fold front point in to form bird's head.
8. Hang each bird from string attached at crease between wings
9. Make a cross out of floral wire and hang a bird from each end and one in the center from the intersections of the wires hang the birds from a wire coat hanger.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATIONS

Cub Scout Bird Watchers

Greater St. Louis Area Council

Two groups are needed for this one.

Birds : Stand up, flap wings (arms) and say "Tweet tweet"

Cub Scouts: Stand at attention and say "We'll do our best?"

Let's go watch some **Birds**

The den leader said one day,

Hooray, said all the **Cub Scouts**

Let's be on our way.

So all the **Cub Scouts** hurried,

To see all the **Birds** they could,

Hoping to identify many,

To be able to they should.

The first **Bird** that they saw,

The **Cub Scouts** knew on sight,

For it was none other

Then a pretty Bob White.

Then a woodpecker they heard

As he tapped upon a tree,

And then they looked way up there

Where his tapping they could see;

A robin came close by

Where the **Cub Scouts** watched in awe.

For they could not believe

So many **Birds** that they saw,

And as they looked overhead

And saw all those **Birds** in the sky,

The **Cub Scouts** were thankful for them,

But more thankful that cows don't fly.

The Bird of Many Songs

A Navajo Legend

Greater St. Louis Area Council

Divide the group into six smaller groups and assign each group one of the words listed below.

Practice as you assign the parts

Read the story.

After each of the words is read pause for the group to make the appropriate response.

Dove	"Coo, Coo"
Eagle	"Screech, Screech"
Crow	"Caw, Caw"
Owl	"Who, Who"
Roadrunner	"Beep, Beep"
Grey Bird	"Tweet, Tweet"
Mockingbird	All the birds together.

Long ago, when the world was new, all the birds, the **DOVE**, the **EAGLE**, the **CROW**, the **OWL**, and the **ROADRUNNER**, had brightly colored feathers. When they spread their wings against the cloudless sky, they were like rainbows. When they made their nests on the ground, they were like a carpet of flowers.

One bird, however, the **GREY BIRD**, was not so beautiful. He had been asleep, hidden in the branches of the trees, when the colorful feathers were given to the other birds. The

GREY BIRD woke up to find that he alone had a coat of dull, drab grey. It made him very sad.

The wind spirit was sorry to see that the **GREY BIRD** had been missed. To make up for this mistake, the Wind Spirit gave him a magic necklace to wear.

Each bead of the necklace was for a different song. The **GREY BIRD** tried the beads, one after the other, and was pleased to hear the music that filled the air.

Soon the **DOVE** and the **EAGLE** stopped admiring their reflections in the rivers and streams and hurried to listen. The **CROW**, the **OWL** and the **ROADRUNNER** tried to sing too, but the only sound that came from their throats was an ugly, rasping noise. The creatures of the woods covered their ears and ran far from the noise as they could.

"Share your song beads with us," the **EAGLE** and the **CROW** begged. "You have more than you will ever use."

The plain **GREY BIRD** did not want to be selfish. He wanted the others to think well of him. So he gave a bead to the **DOVE**, the **ROADRUNNER**, and the **CROW** when they each asked for one. Before he realized what he had done, the **GREY BIRD** had given away every bead on his necklace.

Now he had no songs and no bright feathers either. Once again, he was sad. The **GREY BIRD** hid his head under his wing. The other birds noticed his silence and stopped their singing. "What can we do to help him?" the **CROW** asked the **OWL**.

"We must give him back his beads," said the **ROADRUNNER**.

"Oh, no!" protested the **DOVE**, who was especially proud of her own sweet melody. The rest of the birds agreed with her.

"Well, if you are not willing to be that, then each of us should share a small part of our beads with him," the **EAGLE** insisted.

So that is what they did. The **GREY BIRD** put together all the pieces they gave him and made another necklace for himself. Now he could sing a little bit of the **DOVE**'s, the **EAGLE**'s, the **CROW**'s, the **ROADRUNNER**'s, and the **OWL**'s songs. And that is why he is called the **MOCKINGBIRD**.

Or you might want to choose a nature related Audience Participation stunt from "group Meeting Sparklers" or the "How To Book." CD

ADVANCEMENT CEREMONIES

Boys are Like Birds

Heart of America Council

Cubmaster: Birds are warm-blooded animals, with internal skeletons, and bodies partly or wholly covered with feathers. Their young are hatched from eggs. Most birds are capable of flight. Birds come in all shapes and sizes, just like Cub Scouts. Birds and boys can be fascinating to watch. Tonight we have some boys who need watching. They have worked hard to advance in rank.

(Call forward Tiger Cubs and parents.)

Tonight we are here to congratulate our new Tiger Cubs on their rank accomplishments. They are new to our Cub

Scout program, as the egg is new to the world of birds. Both the egg and The Tiger Cub are emerging into a new and different world.

(Call forward Wolves and parents.)

Next we have several boys who have earned their Wolf rank. They can be compared to baby birds in the next which are still dependent on their parents for nourishment and protection.

(Call forward Bears and parents.)

Now we have some boys who have earned their Bear rank. These boys are like the birds still next. They have become bigger and stronger, but are still dependent on their parents. They are exercising their wings to become independent.

(Call forward Webelos and parents.)

Our Webelos Scouts have worked hard for their rank. They are our adolescent birds that are just waiting to leave the nest. They are ready to conquer and explore the world, which is theirs to live in. Our Webelos will be prepared for exploring only through the guidance received from parents and leaders in the stages of his development. Congratulations. Go forward and explore.

Cub Scout Bird Watchers

Heart of America Council

Props:

- Cardboard or wood young bird,
- Feeding station,
- Bird bath,
- Birdhouse,
- Trees,
- Nests,
- Birds

Ceremony:

If you don't have awards for a particular rank, go over the symbol as in the ceremony and move on to the next part.

Tonight our boys have shared their knowledge about Birds – our feathered friends. Some of these boys have earned awards to be presented. Behind me is a mural of this month's theme.

The young birds are like our Tiger Cubs. They search, discover and share their new world. Will the following boys and their parents please step forward? (Call boys and parents up, present award.)

Our Bobcats remind me of this feeding station. They are stable, and still need to be fed more of Cub Scouting. Will the following boys and their parents please step forward? (Call boys and parents up, present award.)

This birdbath reminds me of the Wolf. They are still thirsty for fun and growth in Cub Scouting. Will the following boys and their parents please step forward? (Call boys and parents up, present award.)

Now, I point to the birdhouse. Notice how strong and well structured it is. The Bear Cub Scouts come to mind. The Scouting ideals are well structured and they, too, are now very strong. Will the following boys and their parents please step forward? (Call boys and parents up, present award.)

The trees hold many different types of birds. They remind me of the arrow points the boys have earned under the Wolf and Bear badges. Will the following boys please step

forward? (Call boys up, present Arrow Points)

Now in these trees are nests neatly constructed to tend the young. As a pong in their lives, they have grown and can leave their nest for more adventure. The Webelos Scouts come to mind for now it is time for these boys to venture into the Webelos den. Our new Webelos Scouts are (Call boys and parents forward, present scarves and book.)

The wings of birds are strong and carry them to many high adventures. This reminds me of the activity badges that the Webelos scouts have earned. Will the following boys please step forward? (Call boys up, present Activity Awards)

Congratulations to all. *Lead a cheer as each group receives its awards*

Feathered Friends

Heart of America Council

Props:

- A tree – made out of cardboard or a limb from a real tree.
- A low, white picket fence made from cardboard around the tree enclosing a flower bed. Flowers may be real or artificial. Arrange the tree so that a part of it is behind a cardboard cloud or a screen of some sort.
- A wire should run from behind the cloud or screen to the podium.
- Fake birds with hooks attached to the wire.

Ceremony

- ✓ As each boy is called for his award, he is asked to imitate a bird call.
- ✓ In answer, a bird flies down the wire with the award in his beak.
- ✓ Comments during this ceremony could include information about the kinds of birds and their habitat.

The Tree

Sam Houston Area Council

Set up:

- ✓ CM and assistant are dressed in a birder's outfits with binoculars.
- ✓ A large tree, cut from cardboard is set firmly in a stand.
- ✓ A large green construction paper leaf for each boy who will receive an award. (Names can be written on the leaves, but are not required.)
- ✓ As each boy receives his award, he tapes his leaf on the tree.

Ceremony:

Assistant Cubmaster:

What do we plant when we plant a tree?
 A thousand things that we daily see!
 The paper for books from which we learn,
 Tools to help us do a good turn,
 The wood for a Pinewood Derby car,
 For model planes that we can fly far,
 We plant the staff for the flag of the free,
 We make homes for birds when we plant a tree.

Cubmaster:

But what do we plant when we plant a lad?
 With the help of his mother and his dad,
 We plant a Cub who'll become a Scout,
 We plant ideas that will round him out,
 The fun, the games, the joy to be had,
 Scouts plant a fine man when we plant a lad.

- *Cubmaster calls boys and parents forward to receive awards.*
- *Awards are presented to parents to present to sons*
- *As awards are presented, each boy tapes his leaf on the tree.*

You have all helped make this tree more beautiful, and it is a part of you. Just as God's trees endure for many years, you have learned many things from your achievements, electives, and activity badges that will last you a lifetime. May you always stand straight and tall like a mighty tree, and be a worthwhile resource for our country.

Assistant Cubmaster:

What do we do when we plant a lad?

We plant a Scout when we plant a lad.

Congratulations to all of you,

I believe we've got our answer.

Lead Cheer

GAMES

Birds on a Telephone Line

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

- ✓ Divide the group into two relay teams.
- ✓ String a clothesline from one side to the other at shoulder height of the average person.
- ✓ Clip 20 or more round topped clothespins onto the clothesline. (The pins are the birds and the clothesline is the telephone line)
- ✓ On signal, the first person in each team runs to the line, removes a pin with his teeth (no hands!),
- ✓ Brings it back to his team and drops it into a sack.
- ✓ First team to collect all their birds (clothespins) wins.

American Birds Fly

Heart of America Council

Played like "Simon Says," this game tests the Cub Scouts to see how alert they are. A leader may say "Birds Fly" and flap his arms. If the thing the leader names is a flying creature, the Cub Scouts also must make the flapping motion with their arms. The leader may name birds, flying insects, or even say airplanes or clouds fly. (Examples of calls: "Robins fly!" "Pigs fly!" "Ducks fly!" "Squirrels fly!") (Flying squirrels do a flying glide, so count them as fliers.) Anytime the leader names something that does not fly he also flaps his arms and tries to trick the Cub Scouts into doing the same. The game continues as long as one person has not been fooled.

Bird Hunt

Heart of America Council

Give each player a pencil and paper and have them stand in a circle facing inward. Pin a slip of paper with the name of a bird on each player's back. On signal, all players try to write down the bird names of all other players while trying not to let others see their own bird name. After two or three minutes, end the game. The winner is the player with the most bird names on his or her paper.

Turkey Feather Relay:

Heart of America Council

Divide group into teams; relay style. First player in each team holds along feather. At signal, he throws feather, javelin style, toward finish line. As soon as it comes to earth,

he picks it up and throws it again. When it finally crosses the finish line, he picks it up, runs back and gives it to the next player. First team to finish flaps arms and gobbles like a turkey.

Bird Beak Relay:

Heart of America Council

- ✓ Divide boys into teams.
- ✓ Give each boy a new snapper clothespin.
- ✓ At the signal to start, the first boy puts the wide end of the clothespin in his mouth and using his teeth opens the clip to pick up a paper plate ring (or other ring shaped object(e.g. sections of PVC pipe)) from a table.
- ✓ He carefully carries the ring to his team's post and drops the ring onto it.
- ✓ He removes the clothespin from his mouth and runs back to tag off the next player who repeats the action.
- ✓ No hands are allowed.
- ✓ First team to finish wins.

Bird and Bug:

Heart of America Council

This is a fast moving game.

Have each Cub make a bug by tying a thread spool to a three foot length of string. Or use something else for weight.

Choose one Cub (your Denner?) to be the first Bird

The Bird must catch a Bug

Draw a 3-4 ft circle on the ground.

The Bird must stand in this circle

Draw another circle around this one, about 2 ft wider than the first.

The Bird stands in the inner circle holding a can.

The other boys stand outside the larger circle and roll their

Bugs into the inner circle.

The Bird tries to catch them with his can before the boys

pull their Bugs back. *The Bird cannot step outside his circle.*

A Bug who is caught becomes the next Bird.

Hot Box (or Pickle):

Sam Houston Area Council

Materials: Two baseball gloves, One baseball, two 1' square bases that are 20' apart. *You could also play this with a softer ball like an old tennis ball or Nerf ball and then gloves would not be needed. Also, it would be safer for the runner if there was an errant throw that hit him. Bases could be drawn on the driveway or sidewalk with chalk. They need not be square, paper plates usually work great and are easily replaced if they rip.*

How to Play:

For those baseball-loving Cubs, here's an old-time game to wear them out. Three can play at a time, for each set of bags. Two boys get baseball gloves and play the bases like they are infielders. One boy is the base stealer. *Or liven it up with two base runners and rule that they can't be on the same base.* Another Cub could keep score and umpire.

The infielders toss the ball back and forth. The base stealer gets a point for every base that he successfully steals. There are no force outs and sliding may be allowed depending on the surface (grass), if the bags are secured and you (the leader) think it is safe. If the runner gets tagged with the ball when he's off of a base, then he's out and becomes an infielder.

SONGS

Ghost Chickens in the Sky

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils
Tune - Ghost Riders in the Sky

The last time I did this song at a roundtable we made the Chicken (Turkey) Calls for the Bok, Bok, Boks. See Pack and Den activities for instructions CD

A Chicken farmer went out one dark and dreary day.
He rested by the coop as he went along his way.
When all at once a rotten egg hit him in the eye.
It was the sight he dreaded: Ghost Chickens in the Sky!

Chorus:

Bok, Bok, Bok, Bok.
Bok, Bok, Bok, Bok.
Ghost Chickens in the Sky!

The Farmer had raised chickens since he was 24,
Workin' for the Colonel for 30 years or more,
Killing all those chickens and sending them to fry.
Now they want revenge....Ghost Chickens in the sky

Chorus

Their feet were black and shiny. Their eyes were burning red.
They had no meat or feathers. These chickens all were dead.
They picked the farmer up and he died by the claw.
They cooked him extra crispy, and ate him with cole slaw.

Chorus

Let's All Sing Like the Birdies Sing

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils
This song was suggested by *San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils* in their Pow Wow Book. It was written by Robert Hargreaves, Stanley J. Damerell and Tolchard Evans and © 1932.

It is familiar to anyone who has visited the Enchanted Tiki Room at Disneyland or Disney World.

The words and a midi file are available at the National Institutes of Health Kids Pages.

<http://www.niehs.nih.gov/kids/lyrics/birdies.htm>

The site is part of the Department of Health & Human Services website.

I did not print the song here because I could not verify it was in the Public Domain.

Into The Air Junior Bird Men

Sam Houston Area Council

Into the air junior bird men.
Into the air upside down.
Into the air junior bird men
With your noses to the ground.
And when you hear the grand announcement
That your wings are made of tin,
You will know the junior bird men
Have turned their box tops in.
For it takes five box tops, Four bottle bottoms,
Three wrappers, Two labels,
And one thin dime. Ah ah ah ah ah ah ah

Make sure you have the Cubs make the Junior Birdman masks with their hands. CD

I Love the Mountains

Sam Houston Area Council

5 -part round

I love the mountains, I love the rolling hills
I love the flowers, I love the daffodils
I love the fireside,
When all the lights are low
Boom de adda, boom de adda
Boom de adda, boom de adda
Boom de adda, boom de adda
Boom de adda, boom de adda
(repeat)

Bird Watcher

Heart of America Council

Tune: Popcorn Popping

I looked out my window and what did I see?
A woodpecker pecking on my elm tree.
I turned my head and, right before my eyes,
A blue jay and a robin went flying by .
I could go anywhere and look around
Birds fly'n everywhere or hop 'n on the ground
I guess it's really true and it will always be
Birds flying everyday for you to see!

Cub Scout Bird Watchers

Heart of America Council

Tune: Hey, Look 'em Over

Cub Scouts are watching, Birds flying high,
Swooping and diving like Arrows in the sky.
Just watch them sail now, Soon they'll be gone,
Flying over mountains and lakes, and fields and ponds,
And in ever widening circles, Games in the air,
Wishing we Were with them, Their glory that we'd share.
Then we'd be friends with the Eagles,
And pals with swallows, too ,
Watch me swoop along Into the blue.

The Woodpecker

Heart of America Council

Tune: Turkey in the Straw

The woodpecker pecked out a little round hole,
And made a house in the telephone pole.
One day when I watched, he poked out his head.
And he had on a hood and collar of red.
When the streams of rain pour out of the sky,
And the sparklers of lightening go flashing by,
And the big, big wheels of thunder roll,
He can snuggle back in the telephone pole.

Be Kind To Your Web Footed Friends

Heart of America Council

Be kind to your web footed friends,
For a duck may be somebody's mother,
Be kind to your friends in the swamp .
Where the weather is always damp ,
You may think that this is the end. Well, it is!
And how many of you remember Mitch Miller leading this every week at the end of his television show, "Sing Along with Mitch?" CD

The Flying Birds*Heart of America Council*

Tune: The Flying Trapeze

They fly through the air with the greatest of ease.
Those flocks of pigeons and gulls from the seas.
No dog on the ground or big snakes in the trees,
Can fly high like the ducks and the geese.

I once had a duck, and that duck's name was Phil
One morning he woke with a terrible chill.
The dew was too heavy, he drowned on the hill
Yes, he died from an over-dew bill.

Once just for a joke me and Tim, my big brother,
Caught fifteen wild geese who were drowned by the
weather.

We poured on some glue and found out birds of a feather,
In fact really do stick together.

Oh cows have no feathers, and zebras can't fly.
And aardvarks and beavers can't zoom through the sky.
And I can't take off although I always try,
I guess I'll be an earth-bound guy.

Bird Watching Is So Grand*Heart of America Council*

Tune: A Hunting We Will Go

Binoculars in our hands
Spying out the land,
In the air and in the trees
Bird watching is so grand.
All colors and shapes they come
Yellows, reds, and blues
Robins, bluebirds, chickadees
And eagles flying, too.
Stop , look and listen ,
Hoot owls and quacking ducks
Hummingbirds and tweety birds
You'll hear with any luck.
Binoculars in our hands
Spying out the land,
In the air and in the trees
Bird watching is so grand.

Two Little Ducks*Sam Houston Area Council*

Two little ducks that I once knew
Fat one skinny one, two by two,
But the one little duck
With a feather on his back
Rule the others with a
Quack, Quack, Quack.
Down by the river, they would go
wiggle, waggle, wiggle, waggle to and fro.
And the one little duck
With a feather on his back
He ruled the others with a
Quack, Quack, Quack.

There Was An Old Woman*Sam Houston Area Council*

There was an old woman
Who swallowed a fly.
I don't know why

she swallowed that fly.

Perhaps she'll die.

There was an old woman
Who swallowed a spider,
Who wriggled and jiggled and tickled inside her.
She swallowed the spider
to catch the fly.

I don't know why
She swallowed that fly.
Perhaps she'll die.

There was an old woman
Who swallowed a bird.
How absurd! to swallow a bird.

She swallowed the bird
To catch the spider
Who wriggled and jiggled and tickled
Inside her. She swallowed the spider
To catch the fly. I don't know why
She swallowed that fly. Perhaps she'll die.

There was an old woman who swallowed a cat.
Imagine that! to swallow a cat
She swallowed the cat to catch the bird.
She swallowed the bird to catch the spider
Who wriggled and jiggled and tickled inside her.
She swallowed the spider to catch the fly.
I don't know why she swallowed that fly.
Perhaps she'll die.

5. dog...What a hog!

6. goat...Just opened her throat

7. cow...I don't know how

8. horse...She's dead of course
(that ends the song)

CUB GRUB**Recipe for a Happy Day***Heart of America Council***Ingredients**

1 Cup of Friendly words
1 Headful of Understanding
4 Heaping teaspoons of kindness
1 Cup of courteous manners
A Dash of laughter

Directions

Mix well.
Cook but keep temperature low, do not boil.
Serve to everyone you meet.

Tasty Bird Nests*Heart of America Council***Ingredients:****Nests**

2 large shredded wheat biscuits
1/4 cup coconut
1 Tbsp brown sugar
1/4 cup margarine, melted

Fruity Bird Eggs-

red or green grapes, blueberries, strawberries,
melon balls, drained canned fruit

Yogurt (optional)

Muffin tin

Directions:

1. In a mixing bowl, crumble shredded wheat biscuits with your fingers.
2. Stir in coconut and sugar.
3. Pour in the melted margarine;
4. Stir everything together.
5. Line 6 muffin cups with foil pieces.
6. Press the shredded wheat mixture onto the bottom and up the sides of the foil-lined cups.
7. Bake in a 350 degree oven about 10 minutes or till crisp
8. Cool the nests in the cups.
9. Remove the nests from cups by lifting up on the foil.
10. Carefully peel the foil off nests.
11. Fill the nests with Fruity Bird Eggs.
12. If desired, top fruit with a spoonful of yogurt

Makes 6 bird nests.

Munch A Bunch of Bird's Nests

Heart of America Council

Ingredients:

- 1 - 12-oz bag butterscotch bits
- 1 5-oz. can chow mein noodles
- 1 Cup chopped salted peanuts (**Allergy Alert!!**)
- 1 bag small jelly beans

Directions:

1. Melt the butterscotch bits in a pan over low heat.
2. Add noodles and peanuts to the melted bits and stir,
3. Drop large spoonfuls of mixture onto 2 cookie sheets lined with wax paper.
4. Shape each nest with your fingers.
5. Put 4 or 5 jelly bean "eggs" into each nest.
6. Chill in the refrigerator.

You should be able to make about 15 nests.

Hiker's Bird Seed

Heart of America Council

Mix any combination of three or more of the following ingredients together and divide into small plastic Ziplocs for easy carrying on hikes:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Semi-sweet chocolate bits | Unsalted nuts |
| Raisins | M&M's or Reese's Pieces |
| Dried fruit bits | Sugared breakfast cereal |

Each hiker carries his own personal energy boost survival bag for a long hike. Enjoy!

Bird Poop

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Ingredients:

- 5 cups of your favorite crunchy cereal
- 2 cups of skinny pretzels (if long, break them in half)
- 3 cups of rice crisp cereal
- 1 bag of white chocolate chips
- 2½ cups of mini marshmallows

Directions:

1. Mix all the dry ingredients in a large bowl.
2. Melt the white chocolate in the microwave for about 1 minute.
3. Pour the melted chocolate over the dry ingredients and spread on wax paper to cool.
4. When your masterpiece is cool, break into chunks that look like icky bird poop.

Shredded Wheat Nests II

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Materials:

- Large shredded wheat biscuits
- Marshmallow cream
- Candy eggs
- Paper bowls and plates

Instructions:

1. Crumble one large shredded wheat biscuit into a bowl.
2. Add 1/4 cup marshmallow cream.
3. Pile the mixture on top of a paper plate.
4. Shape into a nest and add a few candy eggs.

Bird Nests

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Materials:

- Pretzel sticks
- Chocolate chips
- Jelly beans
- Waxed paper

Instructions:

1. Give each boy a piece of waxed paper and a few pretzel sticks.
2. Have the boys arrange their sticks into a nest.
3. In the meantime, melt chocolate chips.
4. Drizzle melted chocolate over pretzel stick nests.
5. When chocolate cools, place jelly beans on nests.

Fruity Nest to Nibble

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Ingredients:

- Mixing bowl
- 2 large shredded wheat biscuits
- Measuring cups and spoons
- 1/4 cup coconut
- 1 Tbsp. brown sugar
- 1/4 cup margarine or butter (melted)
- Muffin tin
- Foil
- Fruit or jelly beans

Instructions:

1. In a mixing bowl crumble shredded wheat biscuits with your fingers.
2. Use a spoon to stir in coconut and sugar. With adult help, pour in the melted margarine. Stir everything together.
3. Line each of the 6 muffin cups with a piece of foil. Press the shredded wheat mixture onto the bottoms and up the sides of the foil-lined cups.
4. With adult help, bake in 350 oven about 10 minutes or till crisp.
5. Cool the nests in the cups.
6. Remove the nests from cups by lifting up on the foil. Carefully peel the foil off nests. Fill the nest with fruity bird eggs. If desired, top the fruit with a spoonful of yogurt.

STUNTS AND APPLAUSES

APPLAUSES & CHEERS

Heart of America Council

- Cock of the Walk:** Make the sound of a rooster (cock-a-doodle-doo) while strutting in place like a chicken.
- Rooster:** Placing your thumbs in your armpits, wave the arms up and down while crowing.
- Clean Air:** Take a big whiff of air and exhale and go AHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH.
- Road Runner:** Beep-Beep-Zoom.
- Canary (2000 lb):** Put hands on opposite shoulders, while opening and closing elbows, say, "Here, kitty , kitty ."
- Eagle:** Lock thumbs together and flutter fingers like wings and go " Cree, Cree."

Sam Houston Area Council

- Mighty Duck Cheer** - flap arms and quack
 - Flamingo Cheer** - Stand on one leg ... then clap hands with stiff arms
- Don't confuse this with the following -*
- Flamenco Cheer** - Stand on one leg...one arm up, and the other down...snap fingers and yell ole!

RUN-ONS

Sam Houston Area Council

- Customer:** I'd like to buy some bird seed.
- Clerk:** How many birds do you have?
- Customer:** None! I want to grow some!

Heart of America Council

Bird Dog

- Two guy walk on stage talking . One has his "DOG" (another boy) on a leash.
- Dog Owner** - "Yes, sir. This is the best bird dog I've ever owned": Quail, pheasant; wood ducks, grouse - he'll point to anything that flies,"
 - Other man** - Agrees, Oh, really?
 - Dog Owner:** Really, you probably won't believe this, but last November he even marked the shopping bag with our Thanksgiving turkey.
 - Other man** - Oh, you don't mean it!
- Third guy walks on from opposite side of stage with grocery bag and is virtually knocked off his feet by the dog.*
- Both men apologize to third man
- Dog Owner** - What's in the bag? Any birds?
 - Third Man** - No birds of any kind.
 - Dog Owner** - The dog must be slipping. Sorry again, Mr. I am sorry, what is your name?
 - Third Man** - White, Bob White is the name

Talent Show

- Cub #1:** And how about you Jim? What are you doing in the Pack Talent show?
- Cub #2:** Bird imitations.
- Cub #1** Are you going to sing or warble?
- Cub #2:** No, eat worms.

Pet Show

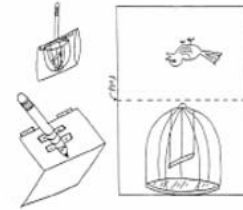
- Cub #1:** I'm going to bring my bird to the pet show.
- Cub #2:** What kind of bird is it?
- Cub #1:** A keet.
- Cub #2:** Don't you mean parakeet.
- Cub #1:** No, I only have one.

STUNTS, JOKES & RIDDLES

Bird In A Cage

Heart of America Council

- Material:**
- 1 - 4 by 6 card
- 1 - pencil



Directions:

- ✓ Fold the 4 x 6 inch index card in half lengthwise.
- ✓ On one half draw a picture of a bird. cage
- ✓ On the other half draw a picture of a bird (as shown)
- ✓ Then fold the card over a pencil and tape it in place:
- ✓ To get the bird into the cage take the pencil between your palms and roll it quickly back and forth.

Betcha Can't:

Sam Houston Area Council

Tell the boys to place their right hand where their left hand can't touch it. (Someplace like their left elbow would work)

Heart of America Council

How do you know when a bird is a criminal?

When it's a robin.

What remains down, even when it flies up in the air?

A feather.

Bird Jokes

Sam Houston Area Council

- Q:** Why did the chicken cross the road?
A: To get to the other side!
- Q:** Why did the dog cross the road?
A: To chase the chicken!
- Q:** Why did the dinosaur cross the road?
A: It was the chicken's day off!
- Q:** What do you get if you cross a chicken with a cement mixer?
A: A brick layer!
- Q:** If a rooster lays an egg on the middle of a slanted roof, on which side will it fall?
A: Neither side. Roosters don't lay eggs!
- Q:** What did the sick chicken say?
A: "I have the people-pox!"
- Q:** Who tells the best chicken jokes?
A: Comedi-HENS!
- Q:** What figure is like a lost parrot?
A: A polygon!
- Q:** What do you get when you cross a parrot and a shark?
A: A bird that talks your ear off!
- Q:** Why was the chicken afraid of the chicken?
A: Because he was chicken!

- Q:** Why do hummingbirds hum?
A: Because they forgot the words!
- Q:** What do you get if you cross a canary and a 50-foot long snake?
A: A sing-a-long!
- Q:** Where does a 500-pound canary sit?
A: Anywhere it wants!
- Q:** How do you get down off of an elephant?
A: You don't, you get down off a goose!
- Q:** How does a chicken mail a letter to her friend?
A: In a HEN-velope!
- Q:** What does a duck like to eat with soup?
A: Quackers!
- Q:** Why did the owl say, "Tweet, tweet."
A: Because he didn't give a hoot!
- Q:** What books did the owl like?
A: Hoot-dunits!
- Q:** What is a chick after it's 6 days old?
A: Seven days old!
- Q:** Why does a flamingo stand on one leg?
A: Because if he lifted that leg off the ground he would fall down!
- Q:** Where does a peacock go when it loses its tail?
A: A re-tail store!
- Q:** What's yellow, weighs 1,000 pounds, and sings?
A: Two 500 pound canaries!
- Q:** Which side of a parrot has the prettiest feathers?
A: The outside!
- Q:** What do you give a sick bird?
A: You give it medical tweetment!
- Q:** Why do birds fly south for the winter?
A: Because it's too far to walk!
- Q:** Why do seagulls live near the sea?
A: Because if they lived near the bay, they would be called bagels (bay gulls)!
- Q:** What did the duck say after he went shopping?
A: "Put it on my bill!"
- Q:** Which animal grows down?
A: A goose!
- Q:** Did you hear the story about the peacock?
A: No, but I heard it's a beautiful tale (tail)!
- Q:** What kind of bird can carry the most weight?
A: A crane!
- Q:** What's noisier than a whooping crane?
A: A trumpeter swan!
- Q:** Why do hens lay eggs?
A: If they dropped them, they'd break!
- Q:** What bird is with you at every meal?
A: A swallow!
- Q:** What's smarter than a talking parrot?
A: A spelling bee!
- Q:** How do chickens bake a cake?
A: From scratch!

- Q:** What do you call a crate of ducks?
A: A box of quackers!
- Q:** What key won't open any door?
A: A turkey!
- Q:** What do you get if you cross a chicken with a cow?
A: Roost beef!
- Q:** What bird is always sad?
A: A blue jay!
- Q:** When your pet bird sees you sitting there reading the newspaper, do think that he's wondering why you're staring at carpeting?
- Q:** Did you know that there is only one bird that can fly backwards? The Hummingbird.

SKITS

Flock Of Seagulls Skit

Sam Houston Area Council

Using Red Skelton's Gertrude and Heathcliff jokes, each Cub can tell their own joke.

Everyone in the skit has their thumbs in their armpits to make wings, and flap their elbows.

Add more jokes from the list in "Stunts and Applauses"

Cub 1: Hey, tell me (cub 2's name) what's a polygon?

Cub 2: That's easy. A polygon is a dead parrot.

Cub 2: (cub 3 name), did you hear about Willie the Duck?

Cub 3: No, what happened to Willie the Duck.

Cub 2: He flew upside down and quacked up.

All of the seagulls act like a jet just went by and blew them sideways

Cub 3: What was that?

Cub 1: That was a jet.

Cub 3: How can he fly so fast?

Cub 1: You'd fly fast too, if your tail was on fire.

A Visit To An Aviary

Heart of America Council

Each Cub should develop a prop or costume for his assigned (chosen) part. You can use all of these and more if you want. Or skip some if you don't have that many in your den.

NARRATOR Tonight we would like to take you on a visit to an aviary to meet some of our fine feathered friends. (introduces each bird by name as it enters).

WOODPECKER (Makes noise like Woody Woodpecker) If you sit in my tree, I can shake you up! (Nods head like he's pecking and exits.)

CROW (Comes with bright trinket in beak) I'm a bit of a rascal you know, Just a scavenger at heart.

OWL (Comes out very calmly and slowly, blinking wide eyes slowly and looking straight ahead with expressionless face) The less I speak, the more I hear. The more I hear, the more I know.

PEACOCK (Struts in slowly, head high, speaks in proud manner) My family is in show business, you know. Have you seen us on TV lately? NBC is the channel (Struts off in same proud manner)

CARRIER PIGEON (Has message strapped to leg and speaks as though out of breath from hurrying) I'm just resting in flight. (Pulls compass out from under wing and looks at it) Have to look at my compass every hour

or so. Must be on my way to get the message through.

PARROT (To narrator) I've never been owned by a sailor, so don't worry about my language. (To audience) I wish someone would offer me something besides crackers!

CUCKOO (Comes out with branch of tree in: front of him) (Makes cuckoo sound) I am heard more than I am seen.

I have to be careful or I may wind up in a clock.

NARRATOR (As a non-descript bird walks on) What kind of bird have we here?

NONDESCRIPT BIRD (Walks on with large alarm clock around his neck) I'm the early bird and I've got a worm!

Bird Watchers Ball

Heart of America Council

Characters: Den Leader, 7 Cub Scouts talking

Leader: Boys, at the next pack meeting we are going to have a party called the bird watchers ball. Let's decide what type of bird each of you want to be so we can begin planning your costumes. ,

Cub # 1: I want to be a duck. I like to practice with my dad's duck caller. I am getting to be a good quacker.

Cub # 2: I am going to be a penguin. I like the way they walk. They even have a comic book about Batman and Robin and a guy called the Penguin.

Cub # 3: I am going to be an Eagle. That's our national bird. He is even on all US quarters.

Cub # 4: I want to be a roadrunner, "beep, beep", so I can win all the races.

Cub # 5: I want to be a peacock. My grandma has one and that bird really struts his stuff.

Cub # 6: I am going to be a rooster. He is the king of the farm. He gets everything started every morning.

Cub # 7: I'm going to be me. My mom says I drive her Cuckoo anyway. (all exit)

WHAT ARE CUB SCOUTS MADE OF?

Sam Houston Area Council

This may be used as a skit or have your leaders pantomime the parts. To use as a skit have a narrator who pauses to let the Cubs pantomime their parts.

NARRATOR: Cub Scouts are made of 8, 9, and 10 year old boys. (*Enter 3 Cubs, one saying "I'm 8," one saying "I'm 9," and one saying "I'm 10."*)

NARRATOR: Some are solemn and wide-eyed. (*Enter 2 Cubs, one saying "I'm Solemn," one saying "I'm wide-eyed."*)

NARRATOR: Some are wiggly and giggly (*Enter 2 Cubs, one saying, "I'm wiggly," and one saying "I'm giggly."*)

NARRATOR: They come in two varieties, Cubs and Webelos. (*Enter 2 Cubs enter saying, "I'm a Cub," one saying "I'm a Webelos."*)

You may vary the number of Cubs by having more than one come in and say the line together.

Skit continues with Narrator saying phrases and Cubs doing appropriate actions for the phrase

Narrator: _____ **Cub Action:**

Cub Scouts love...

Making noise: (Do Grand Howl)

Competition: (Pair up, arm or leg wrestle)

Getting Awards: (Point proudly to badges on uniforms)

Singing silly songs: (Sing a verse of favorite song)

Games: (Do a crab race)

Making things: (Pantomime hammering and sawing)

And just getting together: (Huddle around each other)

Cub Scouts dislike...

People who forget refreshments: (Make a crying face)

Being still: (All wiggle)

Lining up: (Attempt to line up but mainly mill around)

And being called sweet: (All make faces)

Cub Scouts are fastest at...

Voting for field trips: (Raise hands and Shout "yea, yea")

Eating refreshments:

(All pantomime stuffing refreshments into mouth)

And getting to the head of the line:

(All try to be the first in line)

Scouts are quietest at...

A flag ceremony: (All salute and repeat pledge)

And waiting for the Cubby announcement.(Expectant looks)

Cub Scouts are most important...

While doing good deeds: (Show Scouting-for-Food bags)

And doing community service: (Show a poster)

NARRATOR:

Cub Scouts are the basic ingredients for two special things.

✓ They are what justifies the time a volunteer

leader gives...

And Cub Scouts are what Boy Scouts are made of

"Did You See That?"

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

Stanley: (*in a strong European accent*) "Hello there, I am

Arthur Stanley Livingstone, the world famous

ornithoptitologist! (That means I watch birds, you

know.) And this is my nephew and assistant, Todd.

Say hello Todd."

Todd: (*not really paying attention*) "H'lo"

Stanley: We are here today on location in the midst of the

African rain forest, and we should see some very rare

birds indeed! I can hardly contain myself. Right

Todd?

Todd: "Oh. Uh, yeah."

Stanley slowly, carefully stalks along, looking around,

listening for the slightest peep. Todd shuffles after him.

Stanley: (*Turns around, stares with wide open eyes for a*

second, then jumps up and down) Did you see that!!

Did you see that!!

Todd: "Er, what"

Stanley: "You mean you missed it?"

Todd: (*Pauses a second, then admits it*) Uh, yeah

Stanley: Well! My word. Todd, that was a very rare bird,

the Oohweeoo-plit-plit-plit-awaah. And you missed

it. It's named after it's call, you know."

Todd: Mmm, what's it sound like?

Stanley: (After a suspenseful pause) Peep!

Stanley continues his slow stalking and looking around,

Todd follows after him.

Stanley: (*Stops and looks up wide-eyed. Todd walks into him*) Did you see that!! Did you see that!!!

Todd: Er, um, well

Stanley: (*Somewhat cross*) Well?

Todd: No.

Stanley: (*Makes a long sigh*) Now that, my dear boy, was an Ooh-aah bird. Have you heard of the ooh-aah bird?

Todd: No

Stanley: The Ooh-ahh bird, Todd, is a three-pound bird that lays a four-pound egg." Pantomiming the egg-laying process "Ooooooooooooooh .. ahhhhhhhhhh!!!"

Stanley and Todd continue their pacing about the stage

Stanley: (*Turns around and yells at Todd*) Did you see that!! Did you see that!!!

Todd: (*Deciding to be clever*) Er, um, ah, yes! Yes, I did see that!

Stanley: Then why in the blazes did you step in it?

CLOSING CEREMONIES

Closing

Sam Houston Area Council

Preparation: Have a Tiger Cub or Cub Scout walk on and read the statement for his rank. Each Cub should have a poster of the bird to which he is comparing himself. Words could be put on the back of the poster in LARGE print.

Personnel: Tiger Cub, Bobcat, Wolf, Bear, two Webelos Scouts, and a narrator.

Tiger Cub: I am a Tiger Cub. Like a hummingbird, I search, discover, and share.

Bobcat: I am a Bobcat. Like a sparrow, I work hard to learn about Cub Scouting.

Wolf: I am a Wolf. Like a swallow, I swoop and learn many new skills.

Bear: I am a Bear. Like a robin, I have colors on my chest to show my accomplishments.

Webelos: I am a Webelos Scout. I learn much along the Scouting trail that makes me strong and independent like the hawk.

Arrow of Light: I am working toward the Arrow of Light, which is the highest award in Cub Scouting. As the eagle is a proud bird, I am also proud of my accomplishments.

Narrator: Just as we watch the many birds that are around us, we also watch our Scouts grow as they walk the Scouting trail.

Birds

Heart of America Council

Set Up: Five Cubs with placards having the letters BIRDS and pictures of birds on front. And the Cub's part on back in LARGE print.

Cub # 1: **B** as in **Before** you leave, we have a last thought about something else that you should be taught.

Cub # 2: **I** recalls **It's** that birds can use some things you can give To help them in the way that they live.

Cub # 3: **R**-is so you **Remember** to put out some bread crumbs, crackers, suet Bird seed or water in a

birdbaths see to it!

Cub # 4: **D** is because **Doubtlessly**, you'll see birds flutter in and around. They rely on you, those on the ground.

Cub # 5: **S** is **So** don't forget our fine feathered friends After our Cub Scout Bird Watchers ends.

Birds

Heart of America Council

Cub # 1: From the tops of the Mesas ancient cliff dwellers could see many birds.

Cub # 2: Each year these birds returned to the warmer climates during the winter months.

Cub # 3: The ancients noticed the birds always flew in a "V" formation.

Cub # 4: This flight pattern helped the birds stay aloft.

Cub # 5: They could fly twice as far, because the lead bird changed often.

Cub # 6: As the birds return this year, let's watch the "V" formations.

Cub # 7: And remember in our life, like the birds' flight, we will have many leaders: parents, leaders, and teachers helping us make the journey.

Behavior Of Birds

Heart of America Council

Narrator: We can learn great lessons from watching the behavior of birds.

Cub # 1: Do what is necessary before it is necessary. Birds build their nest before they lay their eggs.

Cub # 2: Eat the goodness of the land. Try to eat healthy foods.

Cub # 3: Birds know that winter will be cold, providing little food. They migrate south. We should protect ourselves from danger, too.

Cub # 4: Gather our loved ones around us as a mother bird does with her young chicks in the nest.

Cub # 5: Fly free like a bird. Freedom allows us to attain our best.

Birds A Part Of Nature

Birds are a very important part of nature, without them we would be over run with insects, and we would surely miss watching them in flight and listening to them sing. To remind us of how important birds and nature are lets all repeat the outdoor code together, (have code written on poster board).

Outdoor Code

As an American, I will do my best to
be clean in my outdoor manners,
be careful with fire,
be considerate in the outdoors and
be conservation minded.

I Am The American Bald Eagle

Set Up: Seven Cubs with placards having either pictures of Bald Eagles or pictures representing that Cubs part on front. And the Cub's part on back in LARGE print.

Cub # 1: My wings extend from the sun kissed shores of the Pacific Golden Gate to the rock bound coast of the Atlantic.

Cub # 2: I sharpen my beak on the Rocky Mountains, and trim my talons on the snows of Alaska. My

shadow falls on the Gulf of Mexico.

- Cub # 3:** I am the symbol of America. I stand for peace and democracy and for Human Rights and the freedom of all men.
- Cub # 4:** I sit atop many of our countries standards and appear on the Seal of the United States.
- Cub # 5:** I am the American Bald Eagle. My head and beak kiss the northern shores of the Great Lakes and the Canadian border.
- Cub # 6:** I have spread my wings around the world as I defended our shores against our common enemies.
- Cub # 7:** I am victorious, both on earth and in the sky. In one talon I carry arrows, symbolizing my strength in battle, in the other, the olive branch of peace.

Bird Watchers

Set Up: Line up all the Cubs who have pictures of birds, facing the audience.

Tonight our theme was "Bird Watchers". It is our duty as Cubs, as parents, as Americans, to appreciate the beauty in birds. Let us conduct ourselves so that we may pass on the beauty of birds to our children and our children's children. The greatest enemy of most birds is pollution and we all know that we must prevent pollution. Do your part to keep our America beautiful.

Treasure This King

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils
From <http://www.baldeagleinfo.com/eagle/poems.html>

Divide this poem up into parts and have Den members take turns saying the lines:

He's as graceful as they come
A descendent from above
There is no fear nor is there shame
The mountains his nest
The skies his domain
He doesn't borrow, nor does he steal
fighting the forces of nature
to find his next meal
But he's in serious danger
with all the power that he obtains
His life may soon end
because of senseless human gains
Please treasure this king
respect as you may
He's the almighty eagle
of the U.S.A.

© Jerry R. Bowen

Cubmaster's Minutes

Learning from Geese

Sam Houston Area Council

Perhaps this month you have noticed large flocks of geese flying back north after spending their winter and nesting on the warm Texas gulf coast. As you watch the V's of birds flying, you will notice that almost every bird takes a turn leading the flock. Why? Because that bird works the hardest to fly against the wind and everyone behind him is able to rest a little bit before taking their next turn. One

goose alone would find it very difficult to migrate the hundreds and thousands of miles that these flock travel. Each of you boys will have your opportunities to be leaders. When it's your turn, do your best to lead the way for the others in your Dens. When it's not your turn to lead, it is your turn to follow and be an active part of the Den. Only when the Den (and the flock) works together, can you travel as far as you want to go.

Birds

Heart of America Council

Nature uses birds in unique ways. When birds eat food and then migrate, they spread seeds to other areas. Yellowstone National Park has some delicious wild strawberries. It's great for a bird to spread these seeds. However, farmers would not spread Canadian Thistle. Some of their impact is for good, while others impacts are questionable. In the same way, we impact those around us. Our actions affect our family and friends. Let's try to always do our best and make all our impacts positive..

Feather of Peace

Heart of America Council

The "Feather of Peace" is a white eagle feather with a small bell tied to the end of it. This is great for use as a closing ceremony in your den or perhaps even when it is your Den's turn to do a closing ceremony. Dim the lights (preferably),

Narrator - This is the Feather of Peace. Will everyone please remain quiet as we pass the feather around the room in silence from person to person. As you think of what peace means to you, ring the bell, then pass it on.

Narrator concludes with: "Peace to all."

Cubmaster Thought - Birds:

Heart of America Council

CM begins, "The following article appeared in the 1972 Boy's Life."

Cub Scout Timmy Timmerman of Den 1, Pack 74, in Sarasota, Florida, was the subject of one of the headline stories in his local newspaper for lending a helping hand to a baby bird.

He found the feathery infant in his yard with no sign of a nest near by. He took the baby bird to the veterinarian, who suggested a special diet. Timmy nurtured the little bird, and the nestling thrived.

Timmy started giving the growing bird flying lessons and eventually had the little one ready for a take-off. Timmy felt very proud of himself as he let the beautiful bird flyaway into the sky to soar where it belonged."

Birds form one of the 5 groups of "Higher Animals." They are so important, so useful, and so interesting that thousands of people watch and study birds as a fascinating hobby. One thing sets birds apart from all other animals. Birds are the only living creatures with feathers. Birds molt or shed their feathers evenly on both sides, as they must be perfectly balanced to be able to fly. If a boy has good leaders and parents that give him support, the Cub Scout program will help balance our boys and prepare them for a take-off, like Timmy did with his baby bird.

Thanks for your support and good night.

Soar With The Eagles

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

There's an old fable that talks about a man who found an eagle's egg and put it in a nest of a barnyard hen. The eagle hatched with the brood of chicks and grew up with them. All his life, the eagle did what the barnyard chicks did, thinking he was a barnyard chicken.

He scratched the earth for worms and insects. He clucked and cackled. And he would thrash his wings and fly a few feet in the air.

Years passed and the eagle grew very old. One day he saw a magnificent bird above him in the cloudless sky. It glided in graceful majesty among powerful wind currents, with scarcely a beat of its strong golden wings. The old eagle looked up in awe. "Who's that?" he asked. "That's the eagle, the king of the birds," said his neighbor. "He belongs to the sky. We belong to the earth-- we're chickens."

So the eagle lived and died a chicken, for that's what he thought he was.

How sad when we who are children of the King live as chickens when we could fly with the eagles. *Anonymous*

Chief Seattle

Sam Houston Area Council

Chief Seattle said, "What is man without the beasts? If all the beasts are gone, man would die from great loneliness of spirit. For whatever happens to the beasts soon happens to man. All things are connected."

WEBELOS**Webelos Graduation Feathers**

Heart of America Council

Props: one blue, yellow, and red feather for each boy

Through your Webelos activities you have had many opportunities to experience the outdoors, including activities such as Day Camp, camping with your Webelos den and with Boy Scouts. You now know the OUTING is the essences of Scouting.

Now as you complete the transition from Cub Scouting into Boy Scouting you will experience more of the outdoors. As you cross over into Boy Scouts you will begin as a Scout and then earn the right to be known as a Tenderfoot. You must learn to walk before you learn to fly. And fly you will as you expand your horizons and build your endurance to someday become an Eagle. An eagle of nature is a creature of God that has learned to be one with the Outdoors and is not satisfied with just watching the world pass by. You are developing to be such a creature of God.

Are you willing to make the commitment to work hard to build your strength and work with your fellow scouts to develop your wings to soar as an eagle? (Scouts says yes)

To encourage you on the trail, here are your first Eagle feathers. The blue feather represents your progress through Cub Scouts and into Webelos. The yellow Eagle feather is for earning the Arrow of Light. Not all Webelos scouts earn the Arrow of Light. The yellow feather represents your first flight over the first steps of Boy Scouting toward the Tenderfoot rank. You are indeed at least two steps ahead of

those boys who enter Boy Scouts without progressing through the Webelos program. (Give blue and Yellow feathers to the boy)

As you cross the bridge to Boy Scouting, your Scoutmaster will present you with a red Eagle feather, representing your first step as a Boy Scout toward becoming an Eagle Scout.

Remember these first Eagle feathers as you progress through the hardest years for a young Eagle, the teenage years. You will be pulled in many directions and often lose sight of your objectives. Remember that an Eagle flies above those things they confront him in order to gain a better perspective. He does not always fly past his problems but does see more clearly the obstacles that confront him. Only in the Outdoors can the Eagle truly arise above his troubles and not lose sight of this objectives.

Go now and join your fellow Scouts who will teach you to walk with tender feet as you develop your strong wings to fly. Go my son, get your education!

**SPORTSMAN
PHYSICAL SKILLS GROUP**

Sam Houston Area Council

Sports are high on the list of favorites of Webelos-age boys. Most members of your patrol will show real interest in the Sportsman badge. Chances are the boys spend much of their leisure time in organized sports and loosely organized neighborhood games. Some of them probably already know enough about rules, scoring, and techniques of play for several sports and can pass those requirements immediately. But that's not really enough. One of the prime purposes of the Scouting program is to encourage good sportsmanship and pride in growing strong mind and body. If the boys learn all the skills and rules involved in every sport this month, but don't get an inkling of what good sportsmanship means, then everyone has wasted their time, including the den leader. Sportsmanship is important whether you win or lose.

Suggested Patrol Activities

1. Invite a referee or official to your patrol meeting to teach signals and talk about teamwork, fair play and sportsmanship.
2. Hold a parent/son sports tournament, such as bowling, tennis, volleyball, archery, etc.
3. Have a patrol board game marathon. Provide treats and boys bring their favorite board games to play. Allow time for rotation to different games.
4. Have Webelos figure out a football, soccer or basketball play and diagram it. Local high school or little league coaches are sources of assistance.
5. Go roller-skating or ice-skating.
6. Visit an archery range and receive instructions on safety and procedures.
7. Play some backyard games such as horseshoes, croquet, volleyball or badminton.
8. Visit a sports shop and talk with the owner about selecting equipment.
9. Have a patrol outing to a sports event.
10. Hike around a golf course. Explain rules of etiquette and play to boys first so as not to disturb players.

11. Watch a pro or college game on TV and have the boys practice the officials' signals.
12. Earn Sports belt loops for 2 sports that are new to the boys.

BALLOON VOLLEYBALL

You will need

- 1 - large inflated balloon and
- 1 - long piece of string.
- ✓ Divide boys into two teams
- ✓ Seat them on the ground in volleyball positions.
- ✓ The net is the string fastened between two trees, poles or attached to the walls for indoor use.
- ✓ The balloon is put into play by a serve
- ✓ Normal volleyball rules apply, except that the players cannot move from their seated positions on the floor or ground.

BALL OVER

You will need

- 1 - You will need a ball about volleyball size.

Draw a line.

One team on each side of the line.

Players cannot cross the line.

The leader with a whistle is blindfolded or stands so he cannot see players.

When he blows the whistle, the ball is put into play.

Object of the game

To keep the ball in the opposing team's territory.

When the leader blows the whistle again, a point is counted against the team on the side where the ball was when the whistle blew.

THE PENALTY BOX

Match the Officials' Signal Calls to the correct sport.

FOOTBALL BASKETBALL BASEBALL
SOCCER HOCKEY

In which of the above listed sports would an official call -

- Pass interference _____
- Illegal Dribble _____
- Technical Foul _____
- Holding the Face Mask _____
- Kneeing _____
- Time-in _____
- Slashing _____
- Time-out _____
- Charging _____
- Fair Ball _____
- Offside _____
- Substitution _____
- Ball _____
- Hooking _____
- Corner Kick _____
- Incomplete Pass _____
- Strike _____
- Touchdown _____
- Penalty Kick _____
- Out _____

- Delay of Game _____
- Holding _____
- Clipping _____
- Foul Ball _____
- Safe _____
- Unsportsmanlike Conduct _____
- Traveling _____
- Tripping _____
- Illegal Motion _____
- Foul _____

INDOOR BASEBALL GAME

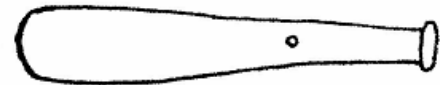
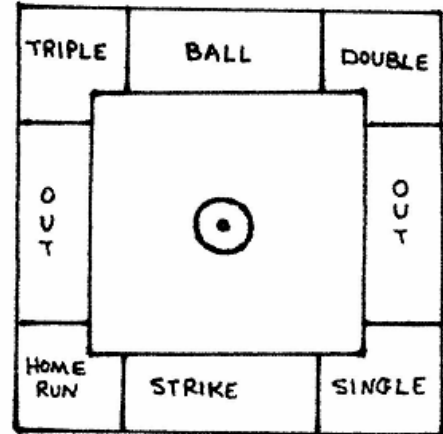
You will need

- 1 - large sheet of cardboard (can be any size so long as it is square).
- Marking pens,

Using the pens, draw a baseball diamond like one shown.

Mark home plate and the three bases.

Outside of the baselines write as shown: home run, strike, single, out, double, ball, triple and out.



Draw pitcher's mound in the center.

Cut a bat shape spinner from cardboard.

Punch small hole in bat and center of pitcher's mound.

Attach bat with a paper brad to pitchers mound.

Be sure that the hole is not too small or too large, needs to be large enough for the bat to spin freely.

Follow regular baseball rules when playing. Keep score.

Each player keeps his turn until he has three outs.

TOUGH SPORT

Want to give your Webelos Scouts the idea of "Good Sportsmanship?" Pick any really easy game to play like Red Light, Green Light. Leader is the light. Make it so tough that nobody wins. Usually after a short time they will start to complain about being too hard, not fair, no one can win. That's a great opening for a sportsman-like conduct, good loser vs. bad loser discussion. It's not just winning but playing and how you play. Then continue to play the same game in the same way. They should laugh a little longer this time.

FAMILY MEMBER COMMUNITY GROUP

Sam Houston Area Council

Families are important. Every member is important. In some families there are only three people. Other families may have 12 people. It doesn't matter much who is in the family or where they live—being a member of family is what the Webelos will earn from the Family Member Activity Badge.

Suggested Patrol Activities

1. Have the boys bring family favorite recipes from home and have a recipe exchange meeting. It might be fun to have the boys make a recipe book with their favorite recipes from home or a campout recipe book for patrol campouts. Have a cooking contest.
2. Tour an energy conservation home.
3. Invite a homebuilder to come to your meeting to tell you what measures he uses in house building to save energy.
4. Invite a home economics teacher or dietitian to your patrol meeting.
5. Tour a power facility and get an employee to explain ways to save energy
6. Tour a local water facility and ask about water conservation.
7. Ask the boys to list things their families spend money for each month. This can be done individually, or in teams. Compare lists, and award a small prize to the boy or team with the most items not mentioned by the others.
8. Hold a family game night for the patrol. Have the families play and share their favorite games, or play charades. Include popcorn and juice for refreshments.
9. Have the boys fix a meal and invite the parents to your meeting for the feast. The boys must plan the meal, shop for the food, and cook it.
10. Have the boys make a family tree, which covers their family back to their grandparents. Let each boy show his tree after completion.

Find The Wasted Electricity

Have a lot of lights and appliances on in your house?? Go outside your house to the electric meter and have the boys observe how fast the meter is spinning. Then have them go inside and turn off as many things using electricity as possible. Observe the results. Have them look at an electricity bill to see how big a difference they can make. Have them find and list the things using electricity in the house:

- Lights on
- Washing machine
- Refrigerator
- Air conditioner
- TV

They may find other things using power, based on your meeting place's facilities.

Family Key Board

Materials:

- 1 - One foot long 2½" x 1" pine board
- 2 - picture hangers
- 5 - small brass cup holders
- Spray paint or stain and polyurethane

Directions:

- ✓ Spray paint or stain and poly the board a color that will work in each Scout's home (white is usually safe)
- ✓ When dry, screw picture hangers on back of the board.
- ✓ Then screw the cup holders to the front of the board, evenly spaced, and 7/8th's inch from the bottom.
- ✓ Above each cup holder have each boy cut out and glue, or draw, a picture
- ✓ The pictures may be of members of the family or pictures of the car and house. Let them be creative.

Household Chore Charts

Materials:

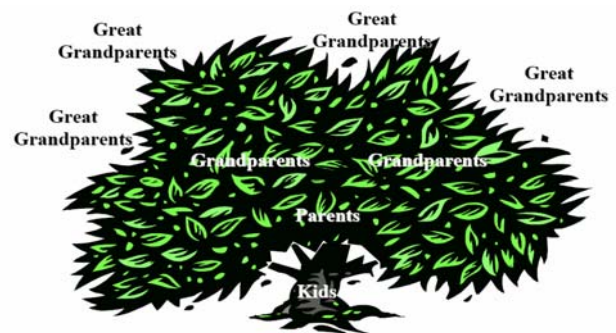
- Poster board,
- stickers,
- straight edge,
- sharpie markers

Directions:

- ✓ At your Patrol meeting have the boys create their own family chore tracking chart.
- ✓ Cut the poster board into 11"x 17" charts for each boy.
- ✓ Having light lines on the poster board makes cutting and drawing easier.
- ✓ Decorate with pictures of their family members and types of chores.
- ✓ They need to be able to track two months of chores.

Family Trees

Materials: White and light green construction paper



Directions:

Have the boys cut trees out of the green construction paper and paste them onto the white paper. Have them write their name and their siblings' names, birthdates and birthplaces on the trunk of the tree. Above this near the bottom of the leafy part of the tree write their parents' names, birthdates and birthplaces. Above each parent write the grandparents' information. Above the tree add Great-Grandparents, if possible. Connect lineages with lines.



Home Inspection Check List Additions

There is a good home inspection checklist in the Webelos handbook, but there are other important inspections to do. Here are a few that Webelos can do at their homes and at their grandparents' homes:



1. Check to see that there are smoke detectors on every floor of the house, near all bedrooms and in hallways that connect sleeping areas to living areas of the house.
2. Test the batteries of all of the smoke alarms.
3. Use a "polarity tester" on every outlet inside and outside the house. Outlets are often wired with the black and white wires backwards or without a good ground wire. Inexpensive testers are available.
4. Are any power plugs hot or extra warm to the touch?
5. Check to see that appliance, telephone and lamp cords are not in places where people typically walk, so that they are unlikely to trip on them.
6. Check to be sure that power cords are not under any furniture legs, rugs or carpeting.
7. Are all power cords in good shape; not frayed or cracked?
8. Are several cords going into an extension cord that is not rated for the load?
9. Are any of the area rugs able to slip or slide?
10. Is there a list of emergency numbers near every telephone, including poison control, local police (911 and non-emergency), and fire?
11. Check the wattage of every light bulb versus the rating of the sockets.
12. Make an emergency exit plan so that the whole family knows how to get out of the home from any room. Everyone needs to know what the emergency gathering spot will be. Are there any safe alternative ways out of upstairs windows? Do a practice emergency escape from the home to see how long it takes.
13. Does the stove vent out smoke properly?
14. Are any appliances plugged in too near the sink in the kitchen or bathroom?
15. At night, is kitchen lighting bright enough to see adequately and be safe?
16. Does the fireplace have something to keep sparks from entering the room?
17. Are there any rugs or flammable objects near the fireplace?
18. Are hallways well-lit and free of clutter?
19. Do bathtubs and showers have non-skid surfaces to stand on?
20. Are poisons and household chemicals out of reach of small children?
21. Are there light switches at both the top and bottom of all staircases?

WEB SITES

Audubon Society

<http://www.audubon.org/>

This national site has links to all the state organizations

Information on the American Bald Eagle

<http://www.baldeagleinfo.com/>

Bald Eagle Poems and Stories

<http://www.baldeagleinfo.com/eagle/poems.html>

Great Salt Lake Council

www.birds.cornell.edu/programs/allaboutbirds

www.wildbirds.com/kids_teaching.html

www.ehow.com/how_6650_throw=party-kids.html

www.dltk-kids.com/animals/mbirdhouse.html

www.birdfeeding.org/buildfeeder.html

www.tracyaviary.org

www.fifthdaycreations.com/article/recipes.asp

www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/bird-day/short-stories/index.html

www.crafts4kids.com/projects/bird_bath.htm

www.crafts4kids.com/projects/milk_birdhouse.htm

www.birdwatching.com/tips/kids_birding.html

POW WOW EXTRAVAGANZAS

Let me know as soon as your date is set. I will post whatever I receive. I am hoping to retire in 2007 and visit lots of Pow Wows!!! CD

Black Swamp Area Council

2006 University of Scouting

"Growth in Sharing"

Saturday, March 25, 2006

Apollo Career Center, 3325 Shawnee Rd., Lima, OH

For more info and registration forms go to

<http://www.cubroundtable.com/university-of-scouting.htm>

Southern NJ Council

Aloha, Cub Scouts

Pow Wow in Paradise

November 4, 2006

TBD, NJ

We lost our home and the committee decided to reschedule. Call Southern NJ Council, 856-327-1700, extension 24, or visit the website, www.snjscouting.org or write the chair at pen25guin@comcast.net for the latest info

**Central NJ Council
Cubstruction**

March 25, 2006

North Hunterdon Regional High School
Annandale, NJ

Call Central NJ Council, 609-419-1600, or visit the website,
www.cnjbsa.org or write the chair at
1hoursouter@comcast.net for the latest info

**Great Smoky Mountain Council - BSA
University of Scouting**

March 4, 2006

Pellissippi State Community College
Knoxville, Tennessee

Great Smoky Mountain Council's service center phone
number is (865) 588-6514

ONE LAST THING

The Butterfly

by Rev. Bruce J. Bartel

We have what is called "Butterfly Gardens" here in Victoria, B.C. It is most gorgeous and breath taking to see the butterflies in their developmental stages and then fly around in the enclosed treed area.

With this in mind, let the following story illustrate and be of encouragement in our life's struggles that we all face ... sometimes on a daily bases!

A man found a cocoon of a butterfly. One day a small opening appeared. He sat and watched the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through the little hole. Then it seemed to stop making any progress.

It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could, and it could go no further. So to help the butterfly he took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon. The butterfly then emerged easily. However it had a swollen body and small, shriveled wings.

The man continued to watch the butterfly as he expected at any moment, the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to support the body and fly away. Neither happened! In fact, the butterfly spent the rest of its short life, crawling around with a swollen body and shriveled wings. It never was able to fly.

What the man, in his kindness and haste, did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening, was God's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.

Sometimes struggles are exactly what we need in our lives. If God allowed us to go through our lives without any obstacles, it would cripple us. We would not be as strong as what we could have been. We could never fly!

Perhaps you have read something similar in the following statements. Read it again - slowly, in light of this illustration.

I asked for Strength.....

And God gave me Difficulties to make me strong.

I asked for Wisdom.....

And God gave me Problems to solve.

I asked for Prosperity.....

And God gave me Brain and Brawn to work.

I asked for Courage.....

And God gave me Danger to overcome.

I asked for Love.....

And God gave me Troubled people to help.

I asked for Favors.....

And God gave me Opportunities.

I received nothing I wanted ...

I received everything I needed!

"And we know that ALL things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose." Rom. 8:28

The idea is to keep loving God in and for all things.

Remember, what happens to a man is less significant then what happens within him.

My friend, the heart of the matter is our hearts. Let it be full of love, peace and contentment in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus. **And be thou strong and of good courage.**

Bird Quiz Answers

San Gabriel Valley, Long Beach, Verdugo Hills Councils

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1-A | 2-B | 3-C | 4-B | 5-C |
| 6-B | 7-A | 8-B | 9-C | 10-B |
| 11-C | 12-C | 13-B | 14-A | 15-B |
| 16-A | 17-C | 18-A | | |

And CD's favorite bird –



Birdsearch
Heart of America Council

BIRDSEARCH

BIRD WORDS

BARN SWALLOW
BLUEBIRD
BLUE JAY
BOBWHITE
CARDINAL
COWBIRD
CROW
HORNED LARK
KILLDEER
KINGBIRD
KINGFISHER
MEADOWLARK

MOCKINGBIRD
MOURNING DOVE
NIGHTHAWK
PURPLE MARTIN
REDSTART
REDWING
ROBIN
SPARROW
STARLING
WREN

A S H
T R B O M
H C I L R R O B I N
E R X U N N Q
M S R D E E K
U N O G L P R B D S
Q C T I P X E A I L I
X M O A J G D S K R A F T
T R P W Q O S H R V D R W Z
X A D I B V T F A T S Z K O S
B U E R Q I A M L U T H X V T W
N Q W S E R T W S A D T A P U
O V O Y C T D O U R N X B Z W R
M L M P H B D W L M K W K C R K
O L A U G N A Z I I R J Q R F T
A G R W N E E N Y R N A K X E E
W H P U B M D G C I V I G Y L T N
S K L M O U R N I N G D O V E I O
N E E M C A R D I N A L I A O H J
R Z M L I E R W J K O D N E N W P N
A M A L I Q J K N A E L O V A B U N
B S R D R I B G N I K C O M D O M E
G Y T E R E H S I F G N I K P B V
I A I B S K P Z T E I
M J N Q J I L L S Z L
V E T X Z N L E I W L
L U W V U G O L R O D
H L X Z R B W Y K R E
M B Y T W I I V A C E
A U E R T R S K X R Q
R D G S X
E Z R
I