

# April Roundtable

## CUB SCOUT INTEREST TOPIC AND MONTHLY PACK ACTIVITY IDEAS FOR MAY 2016

Point of Scout Law: Kind

Theme: My Animal Friends

### CUB SCOUT INTEREST TOPIC

#### Recognizing Leaders

Introduce the subject and explain that den leaders are the heart of the Cub Scouting program. They provide the fun and excitement for the boys. They give of their time and their hearts for the boys in their care. The BSA provides one major way to recognize this—recognition awards. Review the awards available before the roundtable meeting and lead a discussion on a few of the awards, such as the Den Leader Training Award and the Scouter's Training Award.

The **Den Leader Training Award** is designed to recognize den leaders who have completed training, tenure, and performance requirements. They are available for den leaders at all levels of Cub Scouting. For more information, review the requirements at [www.scouting.org/Awards\\_Central/CSLeader.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/Awards_Central/CSLeader.aspx).

The **Scouter's Training Award** is earned by roundtable commissioner staff and leaders in all areas of Scouting. Print out the information and share requirements that are found at [www.scouting.org/Awards\\_Central/ScoutersTraining.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/Awards_Central/ScoutersTraining.aspx).

To review more awards that can be earned in Scouting, go to [www.scouting.org/Media/InsigniaGuide.aspx](http://www.scouting.org/Media/InsigniaGuide.aspx).

Encourage Cub Scout leaders to apply for and receive awards for their tenure and accomplishments. Boys enjoy seeing their leaders get recognition for a job well done. Boys know how important awards are and how they feel when there is a new award added to their uniform shirts. They get the same sense of satisfaction when their leader is recognized.

Present the awards in an impressive ceremony at the pack meeting so that all Cub Scouts, leaders, and families can see the accomplishments being recognized. Such a ceremony also serves as motivation for other leaders currently serving the program and for enticing parents to join in the leadership when they see that the pack values their contributions.

For this presentation, select an appropriate ceremony from *Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs* and involve participants at the roundtable. Should one of the participants be eligible and receiving a Scouter's Training Award, be sure a ceremony is used to present their knot, making it a memorable experience for all.

Many additional ways exist to thank leaders for their service. The possibilities are limited only by your imagination. Here are some ideas.

#### Fun Awards

- **Toy car or boat**—for helping to steer our camp
- **Ball**—for being “on the ball”
- **Light bulb**—for contributing bright ideas
- **Stars and glitter**—for a sparkling personality
- **Kite**—for “flying high” with Cub Scouts
- **Nuts and bolts**—“Nuts about Scouting” or “We’re nuts about you!”
- **Candle**—“Lighting up” our roundtable or pack, or “Letting your light shine”
- **Toy bear**—for “bearing with us” or for being “bearry” helpful
- **Banana**—for being “top banana” or a leader with great “appeal”
- **Toy top**—You are “tops” with us.
- **Heart shapes**—You’ve got a big heart!
- **Ruler**—for really measuring up to a challenge; for setting a good standard
- **Pear**—for a great pair (a couple or team)
- **Box of raisins**—For the person who deserves a “raise in pay”
- **Jewel**—You are a real gem.
- **Rubber glove filled with flour**—for giving us a hand
- **Toy telephone**—for someone who made lots of phone calls

#### Ribbons—to be hung around the neck

- **Plastic banana**—to add to the ribbon for “top banana” of the pack
- **Bandage(s)**—added to a ribbon to recognize effective first aid
- **Large pencil**—glued to a ribbon for recognizing the secretary/treasurer of the pack

## Personalized “Thank You”

- Send a “thank you” card, telling the volunteer why she or he is appreciated. Send it in the mail, or hand it to them at a pack meeting or other event.
- Add a note of appreciation to a piece of candy. The note may say something as simple as “You’re sweet to share of yourself.”

**Handshake**—Walk up to the individual and simply say, “Thank you for \_\_\_\_\_. It made a difference in the pack, and you are appreciated.”

**Pack newsletter**—Write a “thank you” note to run in the newsletter or in a district news briefing.

Conclude by encouraging all pack leaders to review the requirements for BSA leader awards and to urge others in the pack to do so as well.

## Pack Activity

### ANIMAL FAIR

Hold an animal fair to highlight the animal friends the boys have been learning about this month. Be sure the information is shared well in advance so that pack families can make arrangements to bring their son’s favorite animal. Care will be taken that animals of like nature are kept separate from others, especially those that might not be friendly. Even large

animals may be included by setting up a special area for them—perhaps in the parking lot or a nearby park.

- Boys are encouraged to bring their pets (e.g., dogs on leashes, and perhaps lizards, iguanas, or ferrets enclosed in secure cages).
- Favorite wild animals may be represented on posters to display at the meeting (e.g., elephants, giraffes, lions, tigers).
- Even historical creatures like dinosaurs and mammoths can be shared in displays. Many boys have collections of dinosaur models that others would enjoy seeing.
- Check with a zoo or nature preserve to see if professional staff are willing to come talk about their program, or encourage packs to plan an outing to the facilities. Perhaps invite someone who operates a traveling exhibit (reptiles are popular), and don’t forget farm animals that some of the pack families may own or have access to.

Ask leaders to share ideas for presenting this theme, and any local contacts they can suggest. Conclude by emphasizing that the animals must be kept secure and that adequate hand-washing facilities must be available for all who come in contact with them.

# MAY 2016 BREAKOUT RESOURCE SHEET

## POINT OF SCOUT LAW: KIND

## THEME: MY ANIMAL FRIENDS

### EXPLAIN – DEMONSTRATE GUIDE – ENABLE

Depending on attendance and the size of your roundtable team, you may run all these breakouts individually, or you may combine them in a manner that works for your district (e.g., put Tiger, Wolf, and Bear breakouts together).

## For All Den Leaders

### DISCUSSION TOPIC: National Den Award

The National Den Award recognizes dens that conduct a quality, year-round program. Service projects, outings, character development, and Cub Scout camping are emphasized. Dens earn the award as a team, not as individual den members. The recognition is a ribbon for the den flag or den doodle.

For a den to earn the National Den Award, at least 50 percent of boys in the den must attend two den meetings and one pack meeting or activity each month of the year. In addition, they must complete any six of these requirements:

- Use the denner system within the den.
- In a Tiger den, use shared leadership and rotate the boy/adult host team.
- Have 50 percent of the den go on three field trips per year. A field trip may be used in place of a den meeting.
- As a den, attend a Cub Scout day camp, Cub Scout or Webelos Scout resident camp, or a council family camping event with at least 50 percent of the den membership.
- Conduct three den projects or activities leading to a discussion of the Scout Law.
- Have 50 percent of the den earn at least three elective adventure loops or adventure pins.
- Have 50 percent of the den participate in a patriotic ceremony or parade.
- Have 50 percent of the den participate in a den conservation/resource project.
- Have 50 percent of the den participate in at least one den service project.