




PROJECT FAMILY



RATIONALE FOR ADVENTURE

There are many different kinds of families, related by birth, marriage, or adoption. Through the Project Family adventure, Webelos Scouts will experience new ways of taking part in family life and showing their family members that they love and care for them.

TAKEAWAYS FOR CUB SCOUTS

- Finding out more about their families
- Understanding and accepting responsibility
- A Scout is loyal. 

Webelos Handbook, page 500

ADVENTURE REQUIREMENTS

Do 1 through 5, then choose two of 6 through 8:

1. Interview a grandparent, another family elder, or a family friend about what life was like when he or she was growing up. Share his or her story with another family member.
2. Talk with members of your family about your family name, history, traditions, and culture. Create a family tree of three generations, or make a poster or Web page that shows the origins of your ancestors. Or choose a special celebration or holiday that your family participates in, and create either a poster, picture, or photo slideshow of it. Share this project with your den.
3. Show your understanding of your duty to family by creating a chart listing the jobs that you and other family members have at home. Choose three of the jobs you are responsible for, and chart them for two weeks.
4. Select ONE of the jobs below that belongs to another family member, and help that person complete it:
 - a. Create a grocery shopping list for the week.
 - b. Complete the laundry for your family one time.
 - c. Help prepare meals for your family for one day.
5. Create a list of community service or conservation projects that you and your family can do together, and present it to your family. Select one project, plan it, and complete it with your family.
6. With the help of an adult, inspect your home and its surroundings. Make a list of hazards or security problems you find. Correct one problem you found, and tell what you did.
7. Hold a family meeting to plan an exciting family activity. The activity could include:
 - a. A family reunion
 - b. A family night
 - c. A family outing
8. Have your family event. Afterward, tell your parent or guardian what you liked best about the event.

NOTES TO DEN LEADER

All or part of each requirement for this adventure will be completed by the Scouts at home with the participation of their families. Activities and discussions in the two den meetings will reinforce the relevant themes (A Scout is loyal) and prepare the boys for completing the requirements.

See the Appendix for optional den meeting activities, including openings, gatherings, and closings.

MEETING 1 PLAN

PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED

- U.S. and den flags
- Puzzles and scissors for Gathering
- Whiteboard or dry-erase board for Talk Time
- Materials for Pack Family Tree (Activity 1): posters, photos brought by the Scouts, scissors, cloth, pens or markers
- 3-foot sections of rope (one per Scout) for the Closing

GATHERING: PUZZLES

- Print one copy of the puzzle template (see Meeting 1 Resources) for each Webelos Scout. Have Scouts cut out the puzzles on the dotted lines and rearrange the pieces to create the new shapes shown.

OPENING

- Conduct a flag ceremony of your choosing that includes the Pledge of Allegiance and, as appropriate, the Scout Oath and Scout Law.
- Have the denner call roll. As each Scout's name is called, have him step forward and name one reason his family is special or means a lot to him.

TALK TIME

- Carry out business items for the den.
- Allow time for sharing among Webelos Scouts.
- Introduce the Project Family adventure to the den. Build interest by describing the goals of the adventure and some of the activities that are planned. This adventure will give each Webelos Scout the opportunity to learn about his family members as he works with them on fun projects.
- One of the adventure requirements is to interview a grandparent, other family member, or a family friend to record their memories of growing up in an earlier generation. Lead a discussion on what types of questions they should ask in their interviews (see the *Webelos Handbook* for suggestions).

ACTIVITIES

◆ Activity 1: Pack Family Tree

- This activity will introduce the Scouts to the concept of a family tree if they are not already familiar with it. As a den, create a pack family tree that shows the pack and all of the dens. Make sure to list the individual members of your den.
- When the tree is finished, spend some time reviewing what was done and how each Scout can use a similar structure to create a three-generation tree, or a similar type of tree as is appropriate, of his own family. Scouts will do this at home and bring the tree to the next meeting. Help establish an inclusive tone by reminding Scouts that all family trees will look different and that Scouts should make their trees fit their own special family situation. Scouts can reference the design of traditional family trees, but they should feel free to include all important family members.

◆ Activity 2: Planning At-Home Projects

- Have each Scout decide which two of requirements 6, 7, and 8 he wants to complete for the adventure.
- You may want to hold a “mock family meeting” to help den members see how a family meeting might lead to a successful family reunion, family night, or family outing. How can a Scout be sure that everyone in his family, from the youngest to the oldest, has an opportunity in the meeting to suggest ideas and express his or her opinion.
- What if a family decided to have a cleaning day at home? How could they plan the day so it would feel like a game but also get the work done quickly and efficiently? After all, a big part of being active in your family is to have FUN with your family! Ideas might include:
 - Use a timer to give each family member a limited number of minutes or hours to complete a task. Have a friendly race to see who finishes first!
 - Break down the chores on a chart, and have each person do only one chore at a time.
 - When a chore is finished, put a check mark, happy face, or star next to it on the chart. Then move on to the next chore!
- Tell Scouts that the ultimate goal of requirements 6, 7, and 8 is for them to HELP their families. One way to do this is by communicating well with their parents or other family members. Have Scouts write down the ideas they will bring home to share with their families.

CLOSING

- Give each Scout a 3-foot section of rope. Have them tie their ropes together with square knots to form a complete circle. Then they lean back carefully to form a taut circle. Explain that this represents the connection between family members as they help each other and work as a team.



Do-at-Home Project Reminder:

During the next week, Scouts will hold their family meetings to decide on and plan a family activity (requirement 7). If they do the activity before Meeting 2, they can give a report on how it went.

Each Scout will also need to conduct an interview with a family elder or family friend (requirement 1), and use information about his family history to create a family tree or one of the other projects listed in requirement 2. They can make their family tree using old photos, drawings, and perhaps even add multimedia elements with recorded voices or videos of family members. They can play the role of the family historian and investigate their family! Remind them to cover three generations in the family tree or create an alternative tree structure that will represent their own special family situations. Every tree will be different, and all Scouts should be encouraged to celebrate the important family members in their lives.

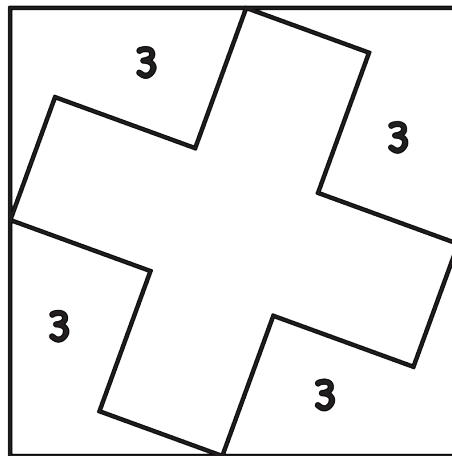
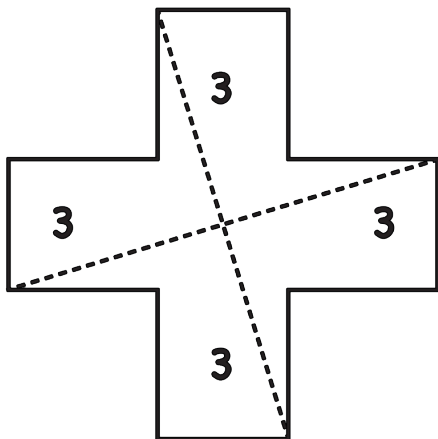
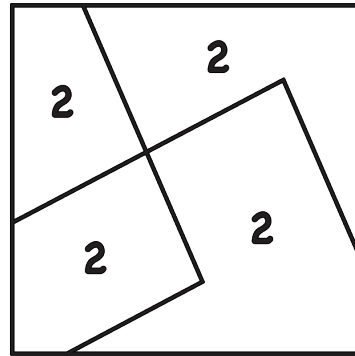
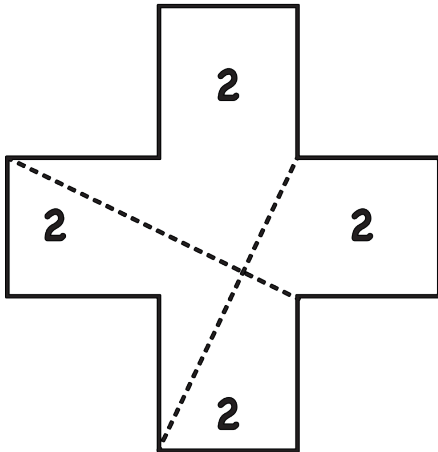
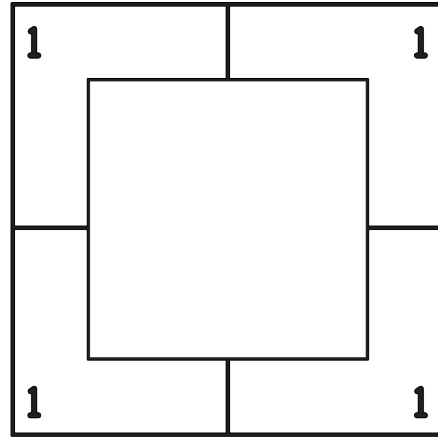
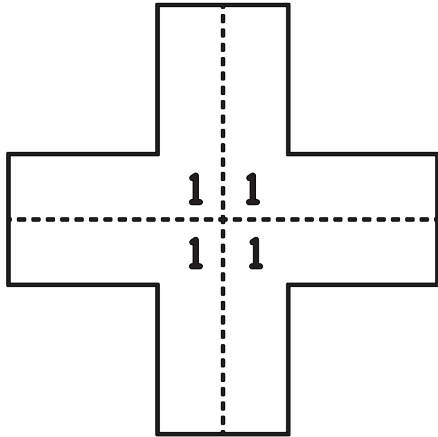
At the next den meeting, Scouts will share their projects and tell what they learned from their interviews.

AFTER THE MEETING

- Serve refreshments, if desired.
- Work together to clean up the meeting place.

MEETING 1 RESOURCES

GATHERING: PUZZLES



MEETING 2 PLAN

PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED

- U.S. and den flags
- Items for Gathering: pens; 15 index cards (one set for each Scout), each card labeled with one of these family jobs:
 - Take out the garbage
 - Set the table
 - Clear the table
 - Put groceries away
 - Wash clothes
 - Feed the pet(s)
 - Dust the living room
 - Clean the bathroom
 - Wash the dishes
 - Put toys away
 - Clean your room
 - Recycle the newspapers
 - Shop for groceries
 - Mow the grass
 - Pick up clothes
- A room set up with different potential hazards for Scouts to identify and fix (Activity 1). Choose the situations you want to set up from the Safety Checklist in Meeting 2 Resources, and print a copy for each Scout.

GATHERING

- Give each Scout a pen and his set of 15 index cards when he arrives. Have him write one of these two category labels at the top of each card:
 - “Personal” (tasks that are usually his responsibility at home)
 - “Family” (tasks that rotate among family members or that are usually done by someone other than him)

OPENING

- The den forms a tight circle with the den flag in the center. Each Scout grasps the flagstaff with his left hand and makes the Scout sign with his right. Recite the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

TALK TIME (REQUIREMENTS 1, 2, 5, AND 7)

- Carry out business items for the den.
- Allow time for sharing among Webelos Scouts. How did the planning meetings go with their families (requirement 7)?
- Have Scouts share the family trees or other projects they completed for requirement 2.
- Discuss the interviews they conducted for requirement 1. What stories were told in the interviews? Did each boy come away with a better understanding of his family’s history and traditions?
- Lead a discussion about energy saving, recycling, and different types of conservation or community projects the boys might do with their families to complete requirement 5.
- Explain that at this meeting Scouts will focus on how to be safe in their homes. The den will practice doing home safety checks.

ACTIVITIES

◆ Activity 1: Helping at Home (Requirements 3 and 4)

- Have Scouts compare the ways they labeled the family job cards in the Gathering. Each Scout will pick three chores that he will be responsible for at home during the next two weeks; he should keep a record of this in the “My Chores” chart in his *Webelos Handbook* (requirement 3). Ask: *What points of the Scout Law relate to doing your chores at home?* (A Scout is trustworthy, helpful.)
- Each Scout will also pick one of these three tasks that are normally done by someone else in the family, and help that person complete the task (requirement 4):
 - Create a grocery shopping list for the week.
 - Complete the laundry for your family one time.
 - Help prepare meals for your family for one day.

◆ Activity 2: Home Safety Checks

- Tell Scouts they are now members of a safety inspection team. Their mission: to walk through a room where you have set up at least four or five potential hazards, check off the problems that need to be addressed on the Safety Checklist (see Meeting 2 Resources), and make sure the hazard is eliminated. **Note:** This gives them some practice if they will be completing requirement 6 at home.
- If possible, have one situation that the Scouts can fix with a screwdriver or other tool. Give each boy a pen and a copy of the Safety Checklist to fill out as he goes through the room.
- Be sure the boys understand that these jobs are meant to be helpful to their families. A Scout is helpful!

CLOSING

- Gather the den in a circle and have each Scout say one part of the Scout Oath. He will then explain what the phrase means to him (e.g., “On my honor I will do my best,” “my duty to God and my country,” “mentally awake,” “morally straight”).



Do-at-Home Project Reminder:

Scouts will complete requirements 3, 4, 5, and 6 or 8 at home during the next two weeks and share their experiences at a later den meeting.

AFTER THE MEETING

- Serve refreshments, if desired.
- Work together to clean up the meeting place.
- Record completion of requirements 1, 2, and 7.
- Completion of requirements 3, 4, 5, and 6 or 8 will be recorded later. Check on the Scouts’ progress at the next meeting.

MEETING 2 RESOURCES

ACTIVITIES

Activity 2: Home Safety Checks

Safety Checklist

- No toys scattered on the floor or other items that might cause someone to trip.
- Poisons and any potentially hazardous substances are stored in their original containers and out of reach of children.
- Matches are kept where children cannot get them.
- Knives are stored in a safe location.
- Pot holders can be easily reached from the stove or oven.
- No furniture is blocking emergency exits.
- Smoke detectors are installed and working.
- No flammable materials are stored near stoves, furnaces, or heaters.
- Tools are stored neatly and securely, out of the reach of young children.
- Electrical sockets are equipped with safety plugs if there are young children in the house.
- Flashlights are kept where they can be found if electricity goes out.

Upon completion of the Project Family adventure, your Webelos Scouts will have earned the adventure pin shown here. Make sure they are recognized for their completion by presenting the adventure pins, to be worn on their uniforms, as soon as possible according to your pack's tradition.



NOTES