

# The Bear Necessities

January 2009

Theme: American ABC's

Take a personalized tour of the USA by the letters: Austin, Baton Rouge and Cambridge to Xenia, York and Zion. Our country contains an endless variety of scenic and historic places. What is special about these places? This month we'll find out by visiting historic places, theme parks, museums, and zoos. Choose a city or an historical site to highlight. Invite a guest speaker who can share something special about the places your Cub Scouts have picked to discover. Use maps or collect tourist brochures to learn more about places to visit. Your local historical society or public library is a great place to get started. Celebrate your blue and gold banquet with local foods from your choices of the ABCs and decorate to highlight your choice. This would be a good month to work on the Citizenship belt loop or pin or the Geography belt loop or pin.

Resources:

Baloo's Bugle: <http://usscouts.org/usscouts/bbugle2007-2008.asp>

Program Helps: <http://www.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/2009-02.pdf>

KISMIF: <http://kismif.org/>

Belt Loop Worksheets:

[http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Cub Scout Worksheets](http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Cub_Scout_Worksheets)

Webelos Activity Badge Worksheets

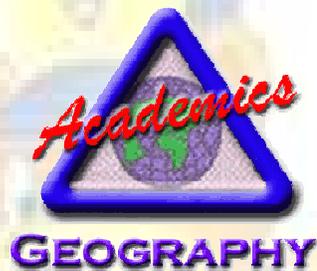
[http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Webelos Activity Badge Worksheets](http://meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Webelos_Activity_Badge_Worksheets)

Webelos Activity Badge Requirement Worksheets:

<http://www.usscouts.org/advance/cubscout/webbadges.asp>

# Of Cub Scouting

Belt Loops:



### **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GEOGRAPHY ACADEMICS BELT LOOP**

Complete these three requirements:

1. Draw a map of your neighborhood. Show natural and manmade features. Include a key or legend of map symbols.
2. Learn about the physical geography of your community. Identify the major landforms within 100 miles. Discuss with an adult what you learned.
3. Use a world globe or map to locate the continents, the oceans, the equator, and the northern and southern hemispheres. Learn how longitude and latitude lines are used to locate a site.



### **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ROLLER SKATING SPORTS BELT LOOP**

Complete these three requirements:

1. Explain ways to protect yourself while roller skating or inline skating, and the need for proper safety equipment.
2. Spend at least 30 minutes practicing the skills of roller skating or inline skating.
3. Go skating with a family member or den for at least three hours. Chart your time.

## **Cheers**

**ABC CHEER:** Divide the audience into three groups. They each say, “America,” “Beautiful,” and “Country.” CM points to different groups. Vary speed.

**USA-BSA CHEER:** Two groups. One group yells, “USA!” The other group yells, “BSA!” Repeat three times. Then both groups yell together, “That’s us!”

**LIBERTY BELL:** Ding, Ding, Ding, Dong! Let freedom ring!

**MOUNT RUSHMORE:** Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln, Roosevelt!

**STATUE OF LIBERTY:** Stand and raise imaginary torch and say, “Welcome to America!”

**MOUNT RUSHMORE:** Hurry, Hurry, Hurry!

**AMERICA:** A-M-E-R-I-C-A! Cub Scouts! Cub Scouts!  
U-S-A!

## **Opening: Learning our A B C's**

Setting – 6 Cub Scouts, Cubmaster, poster board with A-B-C-D-E-F on the front and the appropriate verse on the back.

Scene – Scouts walk across stage and as they approach the center or the Cubmaster, each holds up his letter and shouts his message.

Cub #1: A - Aims and Methods

Cub #2: B - Boys!

Cub #3: C - Character Connections and Citizenship

Cub #4: D - Developing Skills

Cub #5: E - Expeditions and Electives

Cub #6: F – Fitness

Cubmaster – This is only the beginning of the remarkable things Cub Scouts discover as part of our program. Let's take some time at our pack meeting this evening to see if we can find some other ABC's. But for now, I ask you to stand and please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Closing: Remembering our X Y Zs

At the start of our pack meeting this evening, we looked at the ABC's of Cub Scouting. You might say ABC's stands for All Boys Can and then you fill in the blank of what comes next. All Boys Can Succeed. All Boys Can Play. All Boys Can Achieve. These are wonderful aspirations for our Cub Scouts. There are other words, not so impressive, that we could have used to fill in those blanks. But that's not scouting! In Cub Scouts, we participate in character connections and we discover fitness and citizenship qualities, and have a welcoming spirit that engages all the young men. As we end tonight, we've traveled through our alphabet following a most unique path, as one would expect from Cub Scouts. At the end of our path, we've found XYZ. Let us remember the XYZ's of Cub Scouting, too – X-ceptional Young men with a Zest for adventure.

## Crafts: Uncle Sam Tie Slide

### Materials:

White craft foam  
Red and blue markers  
Scissors  
Hat templates to trace  
Black sharp tipped marker (fine "Sharpie")  
Wooden craft spoons (tiny ice cream spoons)

Googly Eyes  
Cotton balls  
Craft glue  
Hot glue  
Piece of milk jug handle (or your favorite slide material)  
Self adhesive pin backs

Trace and cut out a basic Uncle Sam-style hat (about 2 inches tall and 1 inch wide) from white craft foam. Use markers to color the brim blue and to draw red stripes on the top. Glue the hat to the handle of a wooden craft spoon (if necessary, first use scissors to trim the wooden handle so that it's shorter than the hat.) Leave enough of the spoon showing to become Uncle Sam's face and chin. Glue on googly eyes and a cotton ball beard, then draw on a small L-shaped nose. Attach a slice of 3/4" PVC pipe or milk jug handle piece to the back with hot glue. For siblings, attach a self adhesive pinback (sold at many craft and bead stores), and your Uncle Sam is ready to wear.

Some things you may want to do first:

Cut the craft foam into small pieces, just big enough for the project. This way it won't be wasted, and multiple individuals can work simultaneously, since they won't have to share a big sheet of foam. Be sure to make some extras - someone will make a mistake and need another "blank". You may also want to trace the pattern as well. This becomes especially important if you are dealing with a large group - it will speed up the project.

Pre-glue enough slide backs for the Cub Scouts/leaders you expect. This will avoid having hot glue at your event and be safer. Be sure to make some extras.

Make several samples, and print out instruction sheets. The Scouts/siblings have an easier time with the project if they can see an example. Older Scouts/parents can read the instructions for details. When we make slides as gathering activities, the parents sit with the kids and read the instructions, while the Scouts/siblings do the assembly it will get that family involvement thing going real nice.

## The ABCs of Leaders

Great Cub Scout Leaders –

- A - Attend** Roundtable
- B - Believe** in the program
- C - Call** to check up if you miss a den meeting
- D - Discover** new ways to involve the Scouts
- E - Explore** all the options
- F - Find** time
- G - Give** unconditionally
- H - Help** whenever asked
- I - Inspire**
- J - Juggle** lots of projects
- K - Know** their knots
- L - Listen**
- M - Make** extra project pieces for siblings
- N - Notice** the wonderful things about their Cub Scouts
- O - Offer** support
- P - Pray**
- Q - Quote** Lord Baden-Powell
- R - Reap** the rewards of Cub Scout smiles
- S - Sing!**
- T - Tell** their Scouts – “great job!”
- U - Understand** that life happens
- V - Value** the Aims of Scouting
- W - Wake** up in sleeping bags
- X - X-amine** all material for appropriateness
- Y - Yell** cheers during pack meetings
- Z - Have a Zany** disposition

