

October 2000 - - Our Gifts and Talents

Pre- Opening

Musical Mixers: Have sets of cards with song titles on them. As people arrive, distribute the cards with instructions for everyone to find others with the same song title.

when the singing groups are formed, they are to get acquainted and rehearse their songs. Call on each group to perform.

(From Group Meeting Sparklers, Boy Scouts of America, pg. 12)

Ceremonies

Closing Ceremony: Reach for the Stars

Col. Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin, the second man to walk on the moon, told a group of Eagle Scouts that man's exploration of space is as old as man himself. He has explored, conquered, and studied the secrets of the jungles, mountains and oceans. He urged them to obtain a well-rounded background in many fields of knowledge, then to select one field and strive for excellence in it. "Set your goals high and settle for nothing less than accomplishment," he said.

If you want to aim for the stars, you must remember that you are building your launching pad right now by your willingness and initiative in every task you tackle...at home, in church, in school, and in Cub Scouting.

(From The Cub Scout Ceremonies Book by Ellen DeVilbiss, Cub Scout Roundtable Comm, Arapaho, Arapaho District October 1995.)

Advancement Ceremony

Equipment: A 9-inch balloon for each boy getting an award.

A balloon filled with helium for each boy.

CUB MASTER/ADVANCEMENT CHAIRMAN: (HOLD UP A BALLOON WITH NO AIR IN IT. SAY:) Here is a balloon. It's not much - just this. I can't do much with it, it just sort of sits there. I could blow it up. (BLOW UP THE BALLOON). That looks a little better. You can see the color and it is bigger, but it's still not much use, is it? I guess I could tie it to a stick. (TIE IT TO A STICK.) OK'. That made a bit of a difference. It's standing up at least. But it still has to be held. It cannot stand on its own. (DROP TO DEMONSTRATE. BRING OUT THE HELIUM FILLED BALLOONS AND SAY:) There is a special kind of gas, that (if put into a balloon), causes the balloon to take off and fly high. It will continue to raise as long as there is any gas left in the balloon.

How do you compare this to Cub Scouting? Some of us get excited about Scouting (BLOW UP A BALLOON) and go like mad for a little while. (LET THE BALLOON GO AND FLY ALL AROUND THE ROOM) but then they just sort of sit there. Other boys can't seem to do much on their own. They expect their parents and leaders to do it all for them.

Then there are those boys who join Cub Scouting and have that special something that makes them want to soar high like the gas-filled balloon. (LET A HELIUM BALLOON GO AND WATCH IT AS IT GOES.) These boys are self-starters. They achieve, they learn. We have some of these boys in our den/pack tonight. (CALL BOYS UP ONE BY ONE WITH PARENTS AND GIVE EACH ONE AN EMPTY BALLOON AND A HELIUM-FILLED ONE AND ASK THEM TO CONTINUE TO BE LIKE THE BALLOON THAT SOARS HIGH.)



Songs

Cub Scout Orchestra (see Cub Scout Songbook, pg 75)

Tune: "London Bridge is Falling Down"

Oh, we have come to Pack meeting

Violins--

Pack meeting, Pack meeting,

Yeh, yeh, yeh, yeh, yeh, yeh, yeh,

We have come to Pack meeting,

Yeh, yeh, yeh,

To play in the Cub Scout orchestra.

Yeh, yeh, yeh.

Yeh, yeh, yeh, yeh, yeh, yeh, yeh,

Tubas--

Yeh, yeh, yeh, yeh.

Oompah, oompah, oompah pah,

Oompah pah,

Piano-

Oompah pah.

Plink, plink, plink, plink, plink

Oompah, oompah, oompah pah,

Plink, plink, plink,

Oompah, oompah.

Plink, plink, plink.

Plink, plink, plink, plink, plink,

Drum--

Plink, plink, plink plink.

Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom

Boom, boom, boom,

Boom, boom, boom.

Boom, boom, boom, boom, boom,

Boom, boom, boom boom.

Throw It Out the Window (See Cub Scout Song Book pg. 35)

Games

Candy Bar Scamper

Equipment needed: old hat; necktie; one very large pair of gloves; butter knife; fork; assorted candy bars individually wrapped and one pair of dice,

Everyone sits on the floor in a circle. One boy dress up in the old things named above. The boy to his left has the dice. Upon the "GO" signal the "dressed up boy" tries

to quickly open a gin-wrapped candy bar with the butter knife and fork, while the boy to his left begins to roll the dice.

Each boy gets three tries to roll doubles. If the boy is unsuccessful, he quickly passes the dice to the boy on his left. As soon as someone has rolled doubles, the clothes, knife and fork are quickly passed to the boy who has successfully rolled the doubles. That boy then puts on the clothes and has a chance to extract the candy from it's wrapping, while the others are attempting to roll doubles. Play continues until all the candy bars are successfully removed from their wrapping.

Whistling Contest

Fairs were held each year in Colonial times. One of the attractions was a whistling contest. Contestants were given tunes to whistle. If they laughed or lost the tunes they were out of the contest. Try it with your boys, using tunes the boys know. To add a little excitement, have the boys put saltines in their mouth. Then after the den has practiced, do it at a Pack Meeting.

Pumpkin Relay

Here's a game that will keep boys "in line" for a few minutes. Line up each den, as a team Give each boy a paper drinking straw, Give each team a 4-inch pumpkin print in which a 1-inch hole has been cut. The idea is to pass the pumpkin from straw to straw (no hands, please) to the end of the line and back.



Crafts

Make Musical Instruments: (See Cub Scout Leader How-To Book Pp. 3-48)

Sand Blocks
Cymbals
Coconut Clappers
Soda Straw Pipe Organ
Paddle Rattle
Soup Can Maracas

Make Musical Instruments: (See Bear Cub Scout Book Pp. 188-191)

Sticks, Bones, and Blocks
Rattles
Triangles
Drums
Bottle Flute

Make Puppets To Go With A Puppet Show Prepared For Pack Meeting

(See pp 5-10 to 5-25, Cub Scout Leader How-to Book)

Animal Finger Puppets - You will need paper, pencils, scissors, felt pieces, craft glue or glue gun. small plastic eyes, small black beads, and small pom-poms.

Make patterns of any animals in your story, trace them onto the felt, and cut out. Be sure to cut out two body pieces for each puppet (front to be glued to back, so it will fit on finger). Glue body together around outside edges, but leaving bottom open. If you have such things as bunny ears, chicken comb, bear ears, etc. be sure to place these between larger body parts before gluing closed.

Stick puppets - Make the characters you have in your play out of heavy poster board - draw and color them - then tape them on craft sticks (either the tongue depressor-type or the Popsicle stick type work)

Have An Art Show Of Pictures The Boys Have Made In A Den Meeting

Lollipop Ghosts

Hard, round lollipops
White tissues
White yarn

Cover wrapped lollipops with I tissue, tie yam around the tissue, tie a knot so it stays tight. Add 2 dots for the ghosts eyes.

Skits & Run- On's

Run- on's

First person: "I want to interrupt the program for a news flash."

(Turn on flash light, then off again.)

(You could plan this to coincide with next item on program in progress.)

First person: "The person in the car up ahead must be my teacher."

Second person: "How do you know?"

First person: "Because the driver won't let me pass."

First person: "Why do little witches get A's in school?"

Second person: "I don't know. Why?"

First person: "Because they're good at spelling."



Skits

CLIMBING THE MOUNTAIN

(Adapted from a story by Ernest Thompson Seton)

This can be done well as a puppet show, with the Den leader narrating the story and the Cubs handling the puppets.

Far away in our dry southwestern country is an Indian village, and in the distance is a high mountain, towering up out of the desert. It is considered so great a feat to climb this mountain, that all the boys of the village were to eager to attempt it. One day, the

Chief said: "Now, boys, you may all go today and try to climb the mountain Start right after breakfast, and go, each of you, as far as you can. Then when you are tired, come back; but let each boy bring me a twig from the place where he turned back."

Away the boys went, full of hope; each feeling that he surely could reach the top. But soon the first boy came slowly back, and in his hand he held out to the chief a leaf of cactus. The chief smiled and said, "My boy, you did not even reach the foot of the mountain. You did not even get across the desert. Later, a second boy returned. He carried a twig of sagebrush. "Well," said the chief, "you got as far as the mountain's foot, but you did not climb upward. The next boy had a cottonwood spray "Good," said the chief "you got up as far as the mountain springs". Another came later with some buckthorn The chief smiled when he saws it and spoke thus: "You were climbing; you were up to the first slide rock." Later in the afternoon, one boy arrived with a cedar spray, and the old chief said. "Well done. You went halfway up". An hour afterward, a boy came with a switch of pine. To him the chief said, "Good, you went to the third belt; you made three quarters of the climb."

The sun was low when the last boy returned, He was a tall splendid boy of noble character. His hand was empty as he approached the chief but his countenance was radiant, and said, "My father, there were no trees where I got to; I saw no twigs, but I saw the shining sea." Now the old chiefs face glowed, too, as he said aloud and almost sang:

"I knew it When I looked into your face, I knew it You have been to the top. You need no twigs for token it is written in your eyes and it rings in your voice My boy, you have felt the uplift, you have seen the glory of the mountain."

Oh, ye Scouters, keep this in mind, then: The badges that we offer for attainment are not "prizes." They are merely tokens of what you have done, or where you have been They are mere twigs from the trail to show how far you got in climbing the mountain. The real rewards are the changes within you brought about by Scouting.



WHEN THERE WAS NO NIGHTby **Emily Spindler**

(Here, again, is a little poem that can be used as a skit with puppet characters)

When Tommy Greene was very small,
He didn't like the dark at all.
And every night he'd plead and pout
When Mother turned his room light out.
So Mother kept the hall light lit
And opened Tommy's door a bit.
Then Tommy slept and had a dream,
But not of candy or ice cream.

He dreamed that he was crowned a king
And told he could have anything.
"Well," said the king, "then I must say
From now on there will be just day!"
Each day the king strolled in his cape,
Thinking his kingdom was ship-shape..
But soon he noticed all around
His subjects moped and dragged and frowned.
There was no bouncing in their step
And no one laughed--they had no pep!
The same was true with squirrels and bees
And all the songbirds in the trees
And in the gardens one by one
The flowers wilted in the sun.

No king is willing to sit still
And watch his kingdom go downhill,
So Tommy called the listless throng
And asked exactly what was wrong.

"Please, sir," they all said, quite distressed,
"It's just that we don't get our rest.
As long as there is only day,
We work and work and work away
As for the little creatures too,
They welcome night when day is through.
And even plants, though they love light,
Must also have the cool of night.
We miss the dark and soft moonlight,
The beauty of the stars at night!"
"I see," the king agreed. "I see.
I acted much too hastily.
I now decree that we shall keep
The quiet peaceful night for sleep."
The throng began to cheer and sing--
Their noise woke up the little king,
And Tommy sat straight up in bed
To clear the cobwebs from his head
He touched his window, pushed it wide,
And let the night wind slip inside.
Then Tommy knew night is the way
Of helping those who work all day.

Cubs In The Kitchen**Mini- Muffin Pizza**

4 English muffins, split
1 can (8 ounces) pizza sauce
1 cup mozzarella cheese, shredded
assorted pizza topping, as desired

Lightly toast muffins. Spread one generous tablespoon of pizza sauce on each muffin half. Sprinkle with cheese; top with your favorite pizza toppings. Bake muffin pizza in a 400 degree oven until cheese melts, about 6 minutes,

Ultimate Milkshake

3 cups vanilla ice cream (or chocolate)
2 cups milk
1/4 cup chocolate syrup
1/4 cup of chocolate malt Ovaltine

Mix all in blender for 30 seconds. Serve immediately for best results.



Chocolate Spiders

1 cup (6 oz. pkg.) semi-sweet chocolate chips
16 large marshmallows
1/3 cup butter or margarine
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
2 cups oatmeal
1 cup flaked coconut
uncooked romaine noodles (or something else that would work the same way)
cinnamon red hots or red Mom's

Heat chocolate chips, butter, and marshmallows in a 3 quart pan, over low heat, stirring constantly until smooth. Remove from heat. Drop by teaspoons full, onto waxed paper or onto lightly greased cookie sheet, Shape clusters with your bands, to look like spider bodies. Break off noodles to look like legs Put 8 on each spider. Refrigerate until firm (about 30 minutes). Put the eyes on after refrigerating. If you put the eyes on before refrigerating, the candy will get soft and the color smear, making the spiders look sick, or yuck (as my kids would say). This is a great Halloween party treat that the kids can make or help make

Knot- Aid punch

2 packages orange Kool-Aid
1 two-liter bottle 7-Up
Dry ice (optional) [Note: Dry ice is very dangerous and should only be handled by an adult]

Mix Kool-Aid as directed on package, put into punch bowl. If dry ice is used, add it just before serving. Add 7-Up and stir to mix, The dry ice isn't necessary, but it adds a nice fog effect for Halloween.

Spooky Cookies

1 table knife
1 20-ounce roll refrigerated chocolate chip or sugar cookie dough
2 baking sheets
1 metal spatula
wire cooling rack
1 16-ounce can vanilla frosting
Assorted candy.
Cookie Make-up (see below)

With adult help, preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Using the table knife, cut the roll of cookie dough crosswise into 6 equal pieces. Place 1 piece of dough on a baking sheet. Pat the dough into a 4-to 5-inch circle. Repeat with the remaining 5 pieces of dough, spacing each circle about 3 inches apart Bake the cookies for 10 to 12 minutes or till the cookies are golden brown. Cool for 2 minutes on the baking sheet. Use the metal spatula to transfer the cookies to the wire cooling rack. Cook the cookies completely. Use the table knife to spread the frosting on the cooked cookies. Then, decorate each cookie any way you like with Cookie Makeup.

Cookie Make- up

For the eyes, nose, and mouth, use hard candies, shoestring licorice, candy-coated fruit-flavored pieces, or chocolate pieces. Or, draw a face with decorating gel that comes in a tube. To brighten the faces of your cookies, stir food coloring into the vanilla frosting before spreading it.



Applauses

Applaud and Cheer:

When you raise your right hand, everyone applauds. When you raise your left hand everyone cheers. When you raise both hands, they both applaud and cheer.

Balloon Applause.

Put hands to mouth and blow. As you blow, expand hands, and then fling them out with a big "Bang!"

Rhythmic Exercises: (See Group Meeting Sparklers BSA, pg. 14)

Ask the group to follow your instructions:

Everyone stand.

Now, hands on your hips, hands on your knees,

Put them behind you, if you please.

Touch your shoulders, touch your nose,

Touch your ears, touch your toes.

Raise your hands high in the air,

At your sides, on your hair.

Above your head, as before,

While you clap, one-two, three-four.

Now, hands upon the empty space (head),

on your shoulders, on your face

Then you raise them up so high,

And make your fingers quickly fly.

Then you sketch them out toward me,

And briskly clap them, one, two, three.

Field Trips

There are a number of small art galleries you could visit in our area. Some of those are:

San Jose Museum of Art, 110 S. Market, 408-294-2787

Deco Art Gallery, Great Mall Thomas Kinkade Gallery, Valley Fair Mall

(Find other art galleries in the phone book yellow pages, or a wonderful book called San Jose With Kids in bookstores, by Diedre W Honnold, Kathleen Reimer, Deborah McKim, and Brian Bates.)

Center for Beethoven Studies is an institution at San Jose State University with information of all kinds on Ludwig van Beethoven, and a small museum. It is at One Washington Square, on the 6th floor of the Wahlquist Library North

Villa Montalvo has an art gallery, gardens, an arboretum, and nature trails. It is in Saratoga.



