



WEBELOS

HANDYMAN



DEN ACTIVITY IDEAS

- Lawn Tip Booklet: Have each boy interview parents and neighbors for lawn care tips. Combine the tips into a booklet, print them up and hand out at pack meeting.
- Have the boys (with adult supervision) help someone by mowing their lawn. This could be an elderly couple, widow or widower, single parent, etc.

BE A TIRE DETECTIVE

You can be a tire detective and analyze the tread on your family car – or any car. The tire tread offers many clues about a car's condition and the way it is being driven. Most tires have built in tread wear indicators, which appear as hard rubber bars across the tread when it has worn down to 1/16 of an inch above the tire's surface. When tread wear indicators appear in two or three places, the tire is considered too worn for safe driving.

Look at the pattern of wear on each tire. Is it over inflated? If the tread is worn in the middle and not on the sides, there is too much air in the tire. Is it under-inflated? If the tread is worn on the sides and not down the middle, it does not have enough air. Check the sidewalls of the tire or the car owner's manual for the correct inflation pressure. It will be listed in pounds per square inch (PSI). Then, check the pressure with a tire gauge and, if needed, have more air added at a service station. Because the air in tires heats up and expands with a lot of driving, check the tire pressure in the morning, before the car is used.

CAR NECKERCHIEF SLIDE

Materials needed:

Matchbox or other inexpensive miniature toy car
hot glue gun 1/2" PVC pipe, short length

Glue the toy car to PVC pipe, which will become the neckerchief slide back.



CAR HANDYMAN IDEAS

- Have a couple of the den parents bring their cars to the den meeting. Do the requirements listed in the Webelos handbook, then serve refreshments.
- Visit an auto shop or neighborhood mechanic. Have an expert demonstrate tips on how to change car light bulbs, tires, etc.
- Go to an auto show.
- With plenty of adult supervision, take the boys to a local motor speedway.



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CAR WASH EXPERTS

Have the boys stock a bucket with items needed for washing cars. Make a copy of the Car Washing Tips card, laminate it, and attach it to the bucket. Turn on the water and let them wash your car.

CAR WASHING TIPS

SPONGE

Start from top of car and work toward the bottom so the dirt doesn't move onto the cleaned area.

SCRUB BRUSH, SCOURING POWDER

Use on the sides of the tires to brighten the white walls. Brush can also be used on door jams, wheel wells, and floor mats. **DO NOT** use abrasive brush or scouring powder on chrome or painted body of the car - it may scratch.

VACUUM, NOZZLE

Use long, pointed nozzle to clean in crevices on backs of seats and between seats.

SOFT CLOTH, VINYL POLISH

Use on the dashboard only. Do not use on any clear plastic glass covering speedometer, or other gauges - it will dull and fog plastic.

WINDOW CLEANER, PAPER

Clean all windows inside and out and the rear view mirror. Make sure you wipe until it is completely dry - streaks will form on any glass area left wet.

PRESSURE GAUGE CLOTH

Check for tire pressure shown in car manual
With adult supervision, check the oil level

WINDSHIELD WASHING FLUID

Refill fluid for wipers



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BICYCLE HANDYMAN IDEAS

- Have the boys bring their bikes to den meeting at a local park. Do requirements 5, 6, and 7 from the handbook, then go for a bike ride to help earn the Bicycling Belt Loop and the Bicycle Helmet Safety patch.
- Have the boys help plan a mini bike rodeo for a pack meeting where all the Cubs are invited to bring their own bikes. Webelos can set up a “safety station”, where they check the condition of safety equipment on the bikes and go over safety tips with the younger Cubs. Contact the police department to see if someone can come to register bikes in case of theft. In some areas, the police department will run a bike rodeo and safety program for you if the entire pack is involved.
- Ride to the neighborhood park and have a picnic.
- Go to a bike shop and have an expert demonstrate different types of bikes and show how to take care of a bike.



BICYCLE HINTS

Secure copies of bicycle maintenance manuals for each boy in your den. The American Automobile Association (AAA) offers many pamphlets and checklists free. Local bike dealers or repair shops may also be able to provide information.

FRAME

Watch for cracking of paint, which usually indicates a break in the metal frame. If a crack is apparent, have it brazed, welded, or repaired immediately. Care for your bicycle as thoroughly as an adult does a car - wash, wipe, wax, and polish often.

CHAIN

Keep it clean by washing it occasionally and removing grit and dirt. Oil and adjust properly to prevent it from coming off the sprockets. Light oil is best for lubricating.

WHEEL BEARINGS

To clean, loosen the cones and wash carefully with cleaning solvent, rolling them in the liquid until clean. Dry thoroughly, re-adjust the cones, and re-pack with bearing grease.

HANDLE GRIPS

Could cause you to take a “nose-dive” if not fastened tightly. If necessary, glue them on to avoid slipping.

HEADLIGHTS AND REFLECTORS

Keep these clean and, if you must ride at night, lighted. Motorists depend on you to have and use this equipment.



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RECYCLER'S CAN CRUSHER

Materials needed:

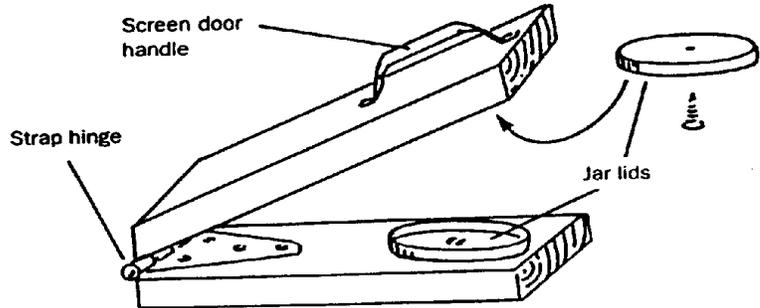
2 pieces of 2" x 4", 16" long

1 sturdy strap hinge and screws

2 low-profile jar lids and screws

1 heavy duty screen door handle

In the recycling of aluminum can, the cans take up less space if crushed flat. As a crushing device, you'll be hard-pressed to beat a strong leg and an old army boot. However, if you're tired of stomping, consider making the can crusher show here. Follow the diagram to put the crusher together. The jar lids will prevent the can from slipping out. Cans will crush more easily if you bend the sides in slightly with a squeeze.



SCREWDRIVER HOLDER

Materials needed:

1" x 4" x 12" piece of wood

pencil

11 eyelets

paint or stain

Lay the piece of wood flat and measure approximately 1/2" up from the bottom. Draw a faint line across the wood it. On the drawn line, measure in 1" inch increments and mark with a dot. Screw in an eyelet on each dot marked and erase line drawn across top of block. These eyelets will hold the shanks of the screwdrivers. Attach 2 eyelets on the top of your piece of wood to hang on the wall. Paint or stain as desired.

