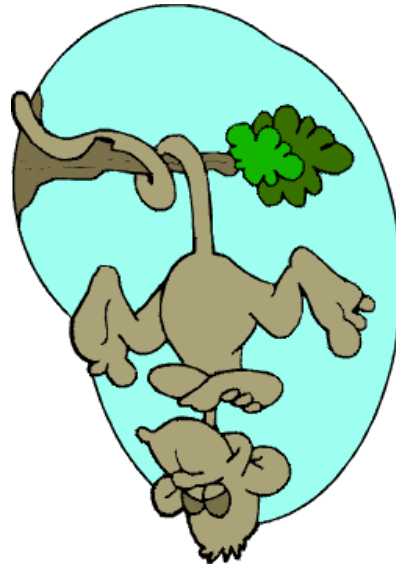
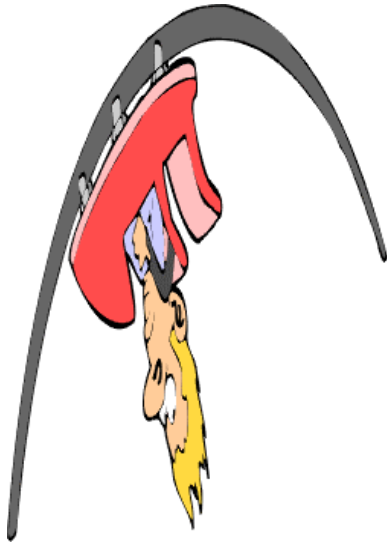


# Inside, Out & Backwards



July 2002

America Mixup

Setup: Each boy holds a large letter that corresponds to his verse. He holds the letter upside down, and the boys are all mixed up so their letters do not spell anything.

M is for MAJORITY  
Decision by the most;  
That's the rule we follow  
From coast to rugged coast.

E is for EDUCATION  
Available to all;  
So every last American  
Stands up straight and tall.

C is for CITIZENSHIP  
Of which we can be proud;  
So let's proclaim it daily  
And do it long and loud.

A is for ADVANTAGES  
We have so many more;  
Because we are Americans  
Let us give thanks therefore.

A is for ASSEMBLY  
To gather as we might  
That's another privilege  
Another precious right.

I is for INDEPENDENCE  
That our fathers once declared;  
Our nation rose to greatness  
Because these great men dared.

R is for RELIGION  
We worship as we will;  
A right we'll always cherish  
And let no evil kill.

Now you may think we're silly  
And we don't know how to spell,  
But when we get it straight  
*(Boys turn their cards right-side up &  
arrange themselves in the correct order  
to spell AMERICA)*  
Our patriotism will tell.

Please stand and join us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reverse Friendship Circle Closing

Form a circle (or circles, if you have a large group), all facing the same direction, one hand on the shoulder of the person before you. Walking backwards, repeat the Law of the Pack, Cub Scout Promise Motto—in reverse.

"Best you do!"

Spirit of Scouting – Backwards – Closing

Have everyone face the back of the room, and repeat after you:

Until our paths cross again  
Be with you and with me  
May the great spirit of Scouting

Meeting Ideas

1. Run the whole pack/den meeting backwards. Greet the families/boys with refreshments. Have a closing ceremony, then an activity, and continue on to finish with an opening ceremony.
2. Try walking backwards throughout the whole pack/den meeting. This is a good time to wear your clothes backwards—or even inside out!
3. During the meeting, videotape the activities. Then, at the end of the meeting, show the video in reverse. Or, get a short cartoon and show that in reverse. The kids will get a kick out of it—especially if they're in the video.
4. If you decorate, hang posters upside down. You may even want to invert your refreshment table.

HAVE FUN WITH THIS!

Mirror Advancement Ceremony

Cubmaster: When you look in a mirror, what you see is not really the way things are. Right is left and left is right. Everything is backwards. (Hold up mirror and let the audience look into it.) Tonight, we are honoring some boys who have done everything straight forward. They have worked hard and are not backwards at all. But tonight, their names and awards are backwards!

(Cubmaster calls each boy up by saying his name backwards. For example, Jeff is Ffej, Brad is Drab, Tom is Mot, etc. Pronounce the award name backwards, too. Bobcat is Tacbob, Wolf is Flow, Bear is Raeb, Webelos is Solebew, and Arrow Point is Tniop Worra. Write all these names and awards on a card and practice pronouncing them before the ceremony. When the parents give the boy the award, they pin it on his back, which should be the front of the shirt if he is wearing it backwards. Confused yet?)

Mixed Up Fairy Tales

Take a fairy tale and divide it into sentences. Cut the sentences out and pass the strips out to the audience in no particular order. In fact, the more mixed up the better. Start reading the strips row by row. The story will be inside out and backwards.

Or, number the strips from the end of the tale to the beginning and read the story backwards. Of course, you would start with, “And they lived happily ever after.”

To get your audience out of their chairs and their blood flowing, ask each person to stand up and read (maybe even act out) the line they are reading.

Upside Down Stew

(On stage is a huge pot, made from a large cardboard box. The pot could be painted on the side of the box. Boys climb into the box, piling on top of each other, face down. Boy wearing chef's hat is stirring with a broomstick.)

Chef: Hmmmm, now let me see. (Reads from oversized card marked "Recipe.") It says right here, I need Cub Scouts that do their best.

Cub #1: (Enters wearing a sign, "Humor") You need a sense of humor. (He climbs into pot.)

Cub #2: (Enters wearing a sign, "I want to please") How about a pinch of wanting to please? (He climbs into pot.)

Cub #3: (Enters wearing a sign, "Mischievous") Just a dash of mischief. (He climbs into pot.)

Cub #4: (Enters wearing a sign, "Obedience") Sprinkle in obedience. (He climbs into pot.)

Cub #5: (Enters wearing a sign, "Sunshine") You need a bundle of sunshine. (He climbs into pot.)

Cub #6: (Enters wearing a sign, "Energy") Add a ton of energy. (He climbs into pot.)

Chef: Stir well and you have Cub Scout Upside Down Stew! (Pretends to taste.)  
Yummm! Tastes mighty good!

Den Leader: (Enters as Chef is tasting stew) What tastes mighty good?

Chef: This Cub Scout Upside Down Stew. Here, take a taste.

Den Leader: (Pretends to taste) Hmmmm....

Chef: Well?

Den Leader: It tastes like a well-round den to me!

(Variation: Try this skit backwards. Have the boys climb out of the soup pot and say their lines.)

***APPLAUSE***

Good Job Applause – Say “Boj doog!”

Way to Go Applause – Yell “Go to way!”

Wonderful Applause – Yel “Luf-red-now!”

Backward Clapping – Silently place hands together (as when 2 hands meet to clap), then quickly pull them apart. Repeat several times.

***RUN-ONS***

Why did the silly kid lose his job at the M&M factory?  
He kept throwing out the W’s.

Cub #1: Bet I can sing “The Star Spangled Banner” backwards.

Cub #2: Bet you can’t.

Cub #1: (Turns his back to the audience and begins singing.)

Did you hear about the wooden car with wooden wheels and a wooden engine?  
It wooden go.

What kind of snack do little monkeys have with their milk?  
Chocolate chimp cookies.

Boat Your Row*Tune: Row, Row, Row Your Boat*

Boat your row, row, row  
Stream the down gently  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily  
Dear a but is life.

Going Crazy*Tune: Reuben, Reuben*

I am slowly going crazy  
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, switch  
Crazy going slowly am I  
6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, switch.

Mighty Fine Song*Tune: Sweet Betsy from Pike*

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10  
10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1  
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10  
It's a mighty fine song so let's sing it again.

(Sing as many times as you would like ,increasing and decreasing volume, standing up as the count goes up and sitting down as the count goes down, etc. When you (or the audience) are tired of singing, sing the last line as:

It's a might fine song, but let's NOT sing it again!")



### Backward Writing

Have boys write a message on paper with crayons. Heat iron to medium heat. Cover ironing board with protective cover (an old sheet or plain newsprint—do not use printed newspaper, as the ink will transfer). Place another sheet over the written message, then iron slowly and carefully. The crayon will melt and transfer the message to the plain sheet—backwards! (It can easily be read in a mirror.)

### Funny Putty

Materials needed for each boy: 1 tablespoon liquid starch, food coloring, 2 tablespoons white glue, a plastic egg or small zip-lock bag.

Mix white glue and food coloring together in a small bowl. Pour liquid starch into a second bowl, then slowly pour the glue mixture on top of the starch. Allow the concoction to stand for 5 minutes or until the glue absorbs the starch. Remove putty from bowl and knead. (At first, the mixture may look as if it's a mistake, but it isn't. The more you knead the putty, the better the consistency will be.) Store Funny Putty in egg or zip-lock bag.

Press Funny Putty down on newspaper comics or pictures printed on inkjet paper. Slowly pull the Funny Putty off of the paper. The picture will transfer BACKWARDS onto the putty. (You can also roll your funny putty into a ball and bounce it.)

### Tebahpla

Players sit in a circle. The object of the game is to recite the entire alphabet backwards while going around the circle. Choose a person to start. He says, “Z,” then the person to his right says, “Y,” and so on around the circle. If a person misses, he is out and the game starts again at “Z” with the next player.

### Back to Back Race

Pairs stand back to back with their backs touching and must run together to a goal and back with one running forward and the other running backward. If they separate, they must start over.

### Backward Trio Race

This race is run in teams of three. The central player faces forward. The other two, with arms linked, face backwards. The first team to race to a designated point and remain intact is the winner.

### Green Light, Red Light

This is the backwards version of Red Light, Green Light. The leader turns his back to the rest of the players, who are lined up 30 to 50 feet away. The object is for the players to walk or run toward the leader while his back is turned as he counts from ten to one. At one, the leader turns and yells, “Green light!” and the group must STOP (instead of moving forward, as is usually done). Any boy caught moving when the leader turns must go back to the start. When the leader says, “Red Light,” everyone is free to move forward, instead of coming to a stop (in the typical way of play). The first to get to the leader and touch him wins the game, and becomes the new leader. If you really want to make this crazy, let the boys run backwards, and they must keep moving after the leader turns around. Anyone who stops moving gets sent back.

### Back to Back Easels

Have the boys stand in a circle, all facing the same direction. Pin a paper on each boy’s back, and give each of them a dark colored crayon. Explain that when the signal is given, everyone must begin drawing on the “easel” in front of them. Each boy should put his initials at the top of only this first drawing. Give them 5 seconds, then have every other boy step backward to a different easel. Each artist must try to figure out what the last artist has drawn and try to complete the picture. After 5 seconds, switch again. No one is to draw on the same picture twice. After awhile, remove the pictures and ask the original artists (identified by their initials) whether the pictures turned out to be what they intended.

Musical Madness

This is a backwards version of Musical Chairs. Begin by having everyone sit in a large circle. Two players begin the game by standing together in the center of the circle, a chair placed between them. These two players begin walking backwards, counter-clockwise, in a circle around the chair. At this time, no music is played. When the music does start, both players must try to sit down on the chair. Whoever is left standing chooses a new player, another chair is brought in, and the players walk silently backwards around the two chairs. When the music starts, all players try to sit down in a chair. Continue on until all are playing the game.

Guts on a Bun

Sound gross? Sure, but boys love it. Turn your stomach inside out (not really) to create this snack.

Hot dogs (one per boy)  
Hamburger buns (one per boy)  
Ketchup

Cut the hot dogs lengthwise into thin slices, and score the edges (about 3 cuts per slice). Boil or microwave until the slices curl like wiggly worms. Serve with 3-4 wiggles to a bun, adding a few squiggles of ketchup for the extra-icky touch.

(The boys may add mustard or pickles for added flavor.)

Pineapple Upside Down Cake

*(Feel free to use your favorite (or a conventional oven) recipe for this microwave version)*

2 tablespoons butter  
½ cup brown sugar  
1 (8-oz) can sliced or crushed pineapple, undrained  
5 maraschino cherries  
1 (9-oz) pkg yellow cake mix (one layer) + ingredients to make it

In 8-inch round glass dish, melt butter on high for 30 seconds. Blend with brown sugar. Pack in bottom of dish. Drain pineapple juice into a cup to use for liquid in cake. Arrange pineapple over sugar mixture; place cherries randomly over pineapple.

Prepare mix following package directions, substituting pineapple juice for water. Pour batter over pineapple. Microwave (high) 5-7 minutes, rotating dish a ¼ turn half way through cooking. Rest 5-10 minutes, until cake pulls away from sides. Invert onto serving dish. Serves 6-8.