

February 2011

Many Waters District

Cub Scout Roundtable



Den Leader Hand Out

“Scouting is a school of citizenship through woodcraft.”
Lord Baden-Powell

“The first requisite of a good citizen in this republic of ours is that he shall be able and willing to pull his own weight.”
Theodore Roosevelt

February 3, 2011

Agenda:

- Letterboxing
- Citizenship

In this handout:

- Letterboxing Basics
- Citizenship in Scouting
- Crafts / Gathering Activities
 - * Beaded Key Ring
 - * Which State
 - * Liberty Bell Word Find
 - * Flag Quiz
 - * Rights and Duties of Citizens
 - * Citizenship Word Find

- Game ideas
 - * Citizenship Football Game
 - * Citizen game (Separate File)
 - * Voting game
- Song idea
 - * Anything patriotic
 - * Good Bless the U.S.A
 - * Trusty Tommy
- Skit ideas
 - * What do we have in this box?
 - * USA
 - * A Question
 - * America the Beautiful
 - * Citizens
 - * This is my Country

This handout can be found online at:

<http://manywaters.nbsa.org/Roundtable/CubScoutRoundtableReferences.aspx>

Letterboxing

Letterboxing is an intriguing “treasure hunt” style outdoor activity. Letterboxers hide small, weatherproof boxes in publicly-accessible places (like parks) and post clues to finding the box online on one of several Web sites. However, clues to finding some of the most highly-sought boxes are passed around by word of mouth. There are about 20,000 letterboxes hidden in North America alone. Individual letterboxes usually contain a log book and rubber stamp (often hand-carved). Finders make an imprint of the letterbox's stamp on their personal log book, and leave an imprint of their personal stamp on the letterbox's logbook.

Letterboxing is said to have started in England in 1854 when a Dartmoor National Park guide, James Perrott of Chagford, left a bottle by Cranmere Pool with his calling card in it and an invitation to those who found the bottle to add theirs. Eventually, visitors began leaving a self-addressed post card or note in the jar, hoping for them to be returned by mail by the next visitor (thus the origin of the term “letterboxing;” “letterbox” is a British term for a mailbox). This practice ended in time, however, and the current custom of using rubber stamps and visitor’s log books came into use. It caught on in the US in 1998 after an article in *Smithsonian* magazine.

To get started

“trail name”

rubber “signature” stamp (store bought or hand-carved)

pencil or pen

small sketch book

black dye ink or markers (Crayola-type work fine)

a simple compass

clues

Letterboxing’s Big 4:

Stealth

Re-hide well

Respect for the environment and for the letterbox

Personal safety and fun!

www.letterboxing.org

www.atlasquest.com

Differences between Letterboxing and Geocaching:

1. Low-tech letterboxing vs. High-tech geocaching (GPS device needed)
2. No central governing body for letterboxing. Geocaching.org issues permits for all caches.
3. Treasure: Impression of the stamp in letterboxer’s personal logbook or Take something/leave something from a geocache.
4. Letterboxes usually have their exact hiding spot defined in their clues. The Geocache coordinates usually give a 10 to 20-foot search diameter.
5. Traveling treasure (letterboxing has hitchhikers, geocaching has travel bugs)

Cub Scouting activities that could be done while letterboxing:

Tiger 5G - *Go See It Activity*

Take a hike with your den.

Tiger Elective:

Clean-up Treasure Hunt (#33)

Wolf Elective:

Help plan and lay out a treasure hunt (#18c)

Bear Rank Req. 12 Outdoor Family Adventure (b, d, e)

Go on a hike with your family, Attend an outdoor event with your family,

Plan your outdoor family day.

Bear Elective (#25b) Let's Go Camping

Go on a short hike with your den,

Webelos

Traveler

Outdoorsman

Belt Loops/Pins

Map & Compass

Hiking

Outdoor Activity Award

Minnesota Scout-themed Letterboxes (as of 2/1/2011):

Base Camp

Teamwork

On My Honor

Owlet

BSA 2010: a short drama (*unavailable until the spring thaw*)

The Voyageurs: a short drama

Be Prepared: a short drama

SCOUTING IS A GAME

Yes, to a boy, **Scouting is a game**—a wonderful game, full of play and full of laughter, keeping him busy, keeping him happy. Scouting is "learning by doing" enjoyable and exciting things!

That's the strength of Scouting! A boy becomes a Scout for the sheer joy there is in it.

Scouting is a game to you and me, too—but it is more than a game of fun. To us, it is **a game with a purpose**—the purpose of helping boys become men, training them for citizenship.

Training for citizenship—that's the aim of Scouting.

CITIZENSHIP—well, what is citizenship? Instead of seeking a definition in the cold words of a dictionary, perhaps you'd better do some defining yourself. Close your eyes a moment and think of the people you know whom you consider "good citizens." What makes them that, in your estimation? Isn't it a matter of character, of ability, of the way they go about helping other people?

Now think of the boys in the troop—think of them as Bob and John and Joe. Then consider citizenship in terms of things to do that will help Bob and John and Joe become the kind of men you would want sons of yours to be.

Then see to it that the boys get those values by giving them Scouting. See to it that each boy, through the give-and-take of group living and doing things that appeal to him, has the chance to develop himself into a **MAN—strong in character, healthy in body, skillful with his hands, and keen of mind, ready to be of help to other people.**

To reach your aim of training boys for citizenship, boys must stay in Scouting long enough for Scout ideals to become a part of their everyday thinking and living. And the way to make them stay is to give them what they want.

So, in everything you do with those boys of yours, keep in mind that they come into Scouting for fun and fellowship. They expect to have a grand time with a lot of good friends.

Make Scouting the happy game it is! Keep it simple—keep it enjoyable.

SCOUTING IS A GAME WITH A PURPOSE



Character



Health and Strength



Handcraft and Skill



Service to Others

Citizenship Loop and Pin

Webelos Scouts that earn the Citizenship Belt Loop while a Webelos Scout also satisfy part of requirement 8 for the Citizen Activity Badge, which is required for the Webelos Badge.

Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, and Webelos Scouts may complete requirements in a family, den, pack, school, or community environment. Tiger Cubs must work with their parents or adult partners. Parents and partners do not earn loops or pins.

Citizenship Belt Loop



Complete these three requirements:

1. Develop a list of jobs you can do around the home. Chart your progress for one week.
2. Make a poster showing things that you can do to be a good citizen.
3. Participate in a family, den, or school service project.

Citizenship Academics Pin



Earn the Citizenship belt loop, and Complete five of the following requirements:

1. Interview someone who has become a naturalized citizen. Give a report of your interview to your den or family.
2. Write a letter to your newspaper about an issue that concerns you. Send your letter by mail or e-mail.
3. Create a collage about America.
4. Make a list of items to check for a home safety or energy audit and then inspect your home. Talk with your parent or adult partner about correcting any problems you find.
5. Visit your local site of government. Interview someone who is involved with the governmental process.
6. Visit a courtroom and talk with someone who works there.
7. Go to the polls with your parents when they vote. Talk to them about their choices.
8. Take part in a parade with your den or pack.
9. List ways you can recycle various materials and conserve and protect the environment.
10. Attend a community event or visit a landmark in your community.

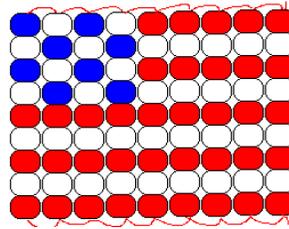
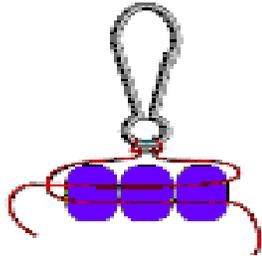
For worksheets to help with earning these awards got to
<http://usscouts.org/advance/cubscout/academics/citizenship.asp>

Beaded Key Ring

Stars & Stripes Forever

Materials:

- 2 yards cord of choice
- 1 lanyard hook or key ring
- 37 red pony beads
- 36 white pony beads
- 8 blue pony beads



Basic Instructions: Fold your lanyard cord in half to find the center. Use a half hitch (see detail above) to secure it to lanyard hook or key ring. Lace beads using pattern at right as a guide. Finish by tying off with a double knot. Add beads on both ends. Tie off and trim.

"Which State"

Materials: Have a handout for each boy as follows.

You may reproduce or provide a U.S. map for easy reference; or ask boys to fill in the blanks, and then provide maps when they have answered as many as they know.

1. Name a state that begins with A. _____
2. What is the state at the top on the right?(northeast)_____
3. Name a state next to a lake. _____
4. Name a state that is almost square. _____
5. What is a state with a river in it? _____
6. Name a state that has a North and a South. _____
7. Name a state that begins with C. _____
8. Name a state that begins with New. _____
9. Find a state that begins with W. _____

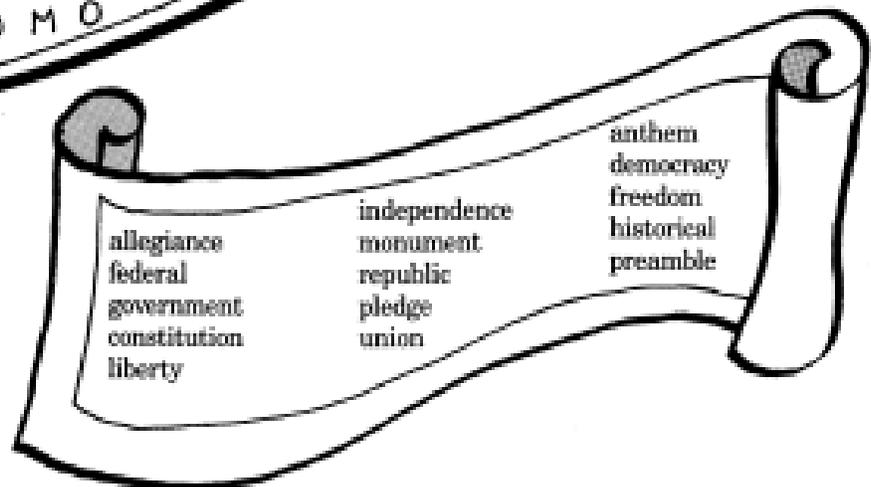
Possible answers:

1. Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas
2. Maine
3. Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York
4. Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, etc.
5. All states have rivers.
6. North and South Carolina, North and South Dakota
7. California, Colorado, Connecticut
8. New Mexico, New Jersey, New York, New Hampshire
9. Washington, Wyoming, Wisconsin, West Virginia

Liberty Bell Word Find



Look for each of these words in the word search. The words can be found either across or down.



Flag Quiz

1. Betsy Ross made the first Stars and Stripes at the request of George Washington. True or False
2. The biggest free-flying flag flies over the Capitol Building in Washington D.C. True or False
3. The flag may not be flown upside down. True or False
4. When a flag is used to cover a casket in a military funeral, the flag is buried with the casket. True or False
5. The flag may be half staffed only by Presidential proclamation. True or False
6. The flag should be hoisted slowly and lowered quickly. True or False
7. The flag should be flown every day, regardless of the weather. True or False
8. The Stars and Stripes was designed by Francis Hopkinson, an artist and signer of the Declaration of Independence. True or False
9. It is a Federal crime to knowingly cast contempt on the flag by publicly mutilating, defacing, burning or trampling upon the American Flag. True or False
10. The American colonies used British flags for 150 years. True or False

True or False Flag Quiz Answers:

1. Unknown. The Betsy Ross story is charming, but unproved.
2. False. The largest free-flying U.S. Flag hangs (on holidays and special occasions) from the New Jersey Towers of the George Washington Bridge that spans the Hudson River and connects New York and New Jersey. The flag measures 60' x 90'.
3. False. The flag may be flown upside down as a signal of dire distress.
4. False. The flag should not be lowered into the grave or allowed to touch the ground. It is folded and usually presented to the next of kin.
5. False. But then the flag is half-staffed to honor persons for whom the nation officially mourns. On Memorial Day the flag is half-staffed until noon and at full staff from noon until sunset (at noon it is raised full-staff to show that the nation lives.)
6. False. It is the other way around. The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered slowly.
7. False. The flag should not be flown in inclement weather.
8. True.
9. True.
10. True.

Rights and Duties of Citizens



Complete each statement by inserting the word "Duty" or "Right" in the blank.

1. The _____ to obey all laws.
2. The _____ to equal protection of laws and equal justice in the courts.
3. The _____ to respect the rights of others.
4. The _____ to inform yourself on issues of government.
5. The _____ to be free of arbitrary search and seizure.
6. The _____ to equal education and economic opportunity.
7. The _____ to serve on a jury if called.
8. The _____ to vote.
9. The _____ to own property.
10. The _____ to vote in elections.
11. The _____ to serve and defend your country.
12. The _____ to free speech, press, and assembly.
13. The _____ to assist agencies of law enforcement.
14. The _____ to a lawyer of your choice and a prompt trial if accused of a crime.
15. The _____ to practice and teach the principle of good citizenship in your home.

Answers

1. Duty 2. Right 3. Duty 4. Duty 5. Right 6. Right 7. Duty
8. Right 9. Right 10. Duty 11. Duty 12. Right 13. Duty 14. Right
15. Duty

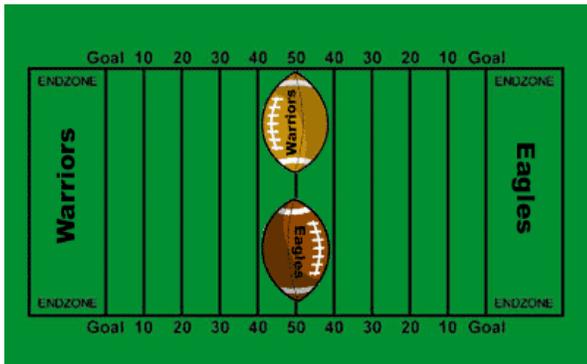
Citizenship



Words to find:

citizen, community, council, discussion, election, government, injustice, intolerance, knowledge, law, media, opinions, parliament, participation, racism, respect, responsibility, rights, skills, understanding, views, vote.

Citizenship Football Game



Pack 152 has a neat idea of combining football with completing many of the Citizen Badge requirements. Printable templates, as well as questions may be found at

<http://pack152.net/Webelos/WebelosActivityBadges/Citizen/CitizenBowl.htm>.

Note some of the answers to current event questions (such as who is the President of the United States) need updating.

Voting Game

We will have an election between candy bars Twix and Kit Kat. I'd like two of you to volunteer to be campaign managers, one for each bar. (wearing twix and kit kat t-shirts)

You will each lobby the boys to vote for your candidate and answer questions.

I will prepare you with talking points.

We will have several votes and the boys will also have to vote in the den for representatives.

We will have:

A sampling poll

A weighted vote by den population (house of rep)

An even vote by dens (senate)

A popular vote by secret ballot.

Each boy will get a Halloween size bar of the winning candidate.

GOD BLESS THE U.S.A.

(by Lee Greenwood)

If tomorrow all the things were gone
I'd worked for all my life,
And I had to start again
with just my children and my wife,
I'd thank my lucky stars
to be living here today,
'Cause the flag still stands for freedom
and they can't take that away.

I'm proud to be an American
where at least I know I'm free,
And I won't forget the men who died
who gave that right to me,
And I gladly stand up next to you
and defend her still today,
'Cause there ain't no doubt I love this land
God Bless the U.S.A.

From the lakes of Minnesota
to the hills of Tennessee,
Across the plains of Texas
from sea to shining sea.
From Detroit down to Houston
and New York to L.A.,
There's pride in every American heart
and it's time we stand and say:

I'm proud to be an American
where at least I know I'm free,
And I won't forget the men who died
who gave that right to me,
And I gladly stand up next to you
and defend her still today,
'Cause there ain't no doubt I love this land
God Bless the U.S.A.

Trusty Tommy

Tune - Yankee Doodle

TRUSTY Tommy was a Scout,
LOYAL to his mother,
HELPFUL to the folks about,
and FRIENDLY to his brother,
COURTEOUS to a girl he knew,
KIND to his rabbit,
OBEDIENT to his father,
and CHEERFUL in his habits,
THRIFTY saving for a need,
BRAVE and not a faker,
CLEAN in thought and word and deed,
and REVERENT to his maker.

What Do We Have in This Box?

Personnel: Cubmaster, two Cub Scouts

Equipment: Box, folded U.S. flag

CUBMASTER (*holds box so everyone can see it; opens lid and looks inside*): What do we have in this box? (*Passes box to Cub Scout 1*)

CUB SCOUT 1: We have HISTORY in this box. We have the search for a new home. We have expeditions in the wilderness. We have a voyage to the moon. (*Passes box to Cub Scout 2*)

CUB SCOUT 2: We have PEOPLE in this box. We have George Washington. We have Abraham Lincoln. We have you and me. (*Passes box back to Cubmaster*)

CUBMASTER: In this box, we have ... (*removes flag from box*) the flag of the United States of America. Please stand. Let's all give a Cub Scout salute to our flag. Please join me and repeat the Pledge of Allegiance.

USA

Equipment: Cards (made of poster board) with large letters U, S, and A on the fronts; corresponding phrases (see below) on the backs

Setup: Post the U.S. flag at the front of the room before the meeting. Three boys holding the cards are seated in a line at the front of the room with the cards on their laps.

NARRATOR: Our country's name expresses the principles that we hold sacred as citizens of the United States of America.

CUB SCOUT 1 (stands and holds up card): "U" is for united. We are a country of citizens united under one government and dedicated to the cause of freedom and peace.

CUB SCOUT 2 (stands and holds up card): "S" is for states. Our country is a union of 50 states. We are proud of our individual histories, but we come together to defend what is right.

CUB SCOUT 3 (stands and holds up card): "A" is for America—a land of Promise, filled with opportunity and beauty. America is a patchwork quilt of cultures and a stronghold of religious liberty.

NARRATOR: Would the audience please stand and join us as we recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

A Question

CUBMASTER: I asked myself a question. "What does it mean to be an American?" Being an American means I have a multitude of freedoms:

CUB SCOUT 1: Freedom to think and to say what I think.

CUB SCOUT 2: Freedom to worship as I please.

CUB SCOUT 3: Freedom to move ahead.

CUB SCOUT 4: Freedom to try, and freedom to fail.

CUB SCOUT 5: Freedom to stand up straight and look the world in the eye.

CUB SCOUT 6: Freedom from want and freedom from fear.

CUBMASTER: These freedoms are not my doing. They were here long before I was born. Our forebears fought to win them. We have four guarantees that they will remain: the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, our fellow Americans, and me. No one could ask for more.

America the Beautiful

Prepare signs with pictures or letters (or both), as follows:

A and/or Photo of a field of grain waving in the wind

M and/or Photo of a mountain

E and/or A newspaper

R and/or Photo of plains

I and/or Photo of George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, or John F. Kennedy

C and/or Photo of people in a city

A and/or Photo of a pretty scene that is clearly American

On the back of each sign, put the words that the boys read aloud:

A is for Amber waves of grain.

M is for Mountains majestic.

E is for Everyone's freedom.

R is for Rich, fertile plains.

I is for "I love my country."

C is for the Country of the free.

A is for America the beautiful.

Ask the audience to join in singing "America, the Beautiful."

CITIZENS

Personnel: 8 Cubs, Leader

Equipment: Individual cards containing each of the eight letters.

Arrangement: As each Cub recites his line, he holds his card chest high.

Cub #1: **C** - is for country.

Cub #2: **I** - is for being involved.

Cub #3: **T** - is for treasuring the great traditions of our land.

Cub #4: **I** - is for ideals of freedom.

Cub #5: **Z** - is for the zeal we put into life.

Cub #6: **E** - is for example we set.

Cub #7: **N** - is for needs of our nation.

Cub #8: **S** - is for sharing of ourselves.

Leader: It takes more than letters and words to make good citizens. What do you think would happen if each and everyone of us would put just one of these thoughts into practice?

THIS IS MY COUNTRY

Boy 1: This is my country. I will use my eyes to see the beauty of this land.

Boy 2: I will use my ears to hear its sounds.

Boy 3 : I will use my mind to think what I can do to make it more beautiful.

Boy 4: I will use my hands to care for it.

Boy 5: I will use my feet to serve it.

Boy 6: With my heart, I will honor it.