




FELLOWSHIP AND DUTY TO GOD



RATIONALE FOR ADVENTURE

To practice their duty to God, Bear Scouts will have opportunities in this adventure to be good neighbors, reaching out in fellowship to people in their communities. They will experience the universal principle, common to many religions, that we should treat others the way we want to be treated.

TAKEAWAYS FOR CUB SCOUTS

- Showing our duty to God by participating in service projects designed to help a neighbor or community organization
- Learning about individuals who have demonstrated fellowship, and creating plans to help us develop characteristics that will benefit our community
- Worshipping together to strengthen our faith in God
- A Scout is reverent. 

ADVENTURE REQUIREMENTS

Bear Handbook, page 74

Complete the following requirements.

1. Discuss with your parent, guardian, den leader, or other caring adult what it means to do your duty to God. Tell how you do your duty to God in your daily life.
2. Complete at least one of the following:
 - A. Identify a person whose faith you admire, and discuss this person with your family.
 - B. With a family member, provide service to a place of worship or a spiritual community, school, or community organization that puts into practice your ideals of duty to God and strengthens your fellowship with others.
3. Complete at least one of the following:
 - A. Earn the religious emblem of your faith that is appropriate for your age, if you have not already done so.
 - B. Make a list of things you can do to practice your duty to God as you are taught in your home or place of worship or spiritual community. Select two of the items and practice them for two weeks.

NOTES TO DEN LEADER

This is primarily a family- and home-based adventure. If all or some of the Scouts choose requirement 2 and you would like to reserve part of it for den meetings, the following plans will help you do so.

Den Meeting 1 requires a Do-at-Home Project prior to the meeting. Remind each Cub Scout and family that if the Scout selects requirement 2A as an option, the Scout can share with the den about someone they admire as a person of faith. See the Meeting 1 Resources for details. Youth involved in Scouting are not required to reveal details of their faith or faith practices. All comments must be strictly voluntary.

Also before Meeting 1, if you are completing requirement 2B as a den, research potential projects that would provide service to help a church, synagogue, mosque, temple, religious fellowship, school, or chartered organization. List the possible choices on a poster board for the den to review. Plan to prepare and send out permission slips for Scouts to have signed once the project has been chosen and details of the service project have been confirmed with the selected organization.

All requirements in this adventure may be completed with the Bear's family and/or faith organization. Confirm with Bears their plans for the adventure, and record their completion at the appropriate time.

MEETING 1 PLAN

PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED

- U.S. and den flags
- List of service project options on poster board
- If desired, ask a Cub Scout and their family to prepare and/or bring refreshments.

GATHERING

Participate in the All Together activity.

Materials:

- Four separate pieces of rope or yarn, at these lengths—20 foot, 15 foot, 10 foot, and 5 foot

Instructions:

1. Tie the ends of the ropes together to form a circle.
2. As the Scouts gather, have them all get inside of this circle. There should be plenty of room for everyone!
3. Next have a Scout untie the 20-foot rope and then retie the remaining ropes together.
4. Once again, everyone gets inside the newly created smaller circle.
5. Continue to take sections out of the circle—the 15-foot piece next, and finally the 10-foot piece—and tie the remaining ends together. Fitting all of the Scouts inside will become more of a challenge as the circle gets smaller and smaller. It takes cooperation and creativity!

This activity can be restarted each time a Scout arrives for the meeting; the goal will be to finish with the den of Bears “All Together”!

OPENING

- Conduct a flag ceremony of your choosing that includes the Pledge of Allegiance and the Scout Oath and Scout Law.
- Optional: Include a prayer or moment of reflection for the den.

TALK TIME (REQUIREMENT 2A)

- Carry out business items for the den.
- Allow time for Bears who would like to share their research on people of faith in history (requirement 2A).

ACTIVITIES

◆ Activity 1: Brainstorming With Bear Scouts (Requirement 2B)

- If the Bears plan to work together on the service requirement (2B), it will be useful to research ideas for projects in advance. Prepare a poster board with several ideas listed. This will provide suggestions that might expand beyond cleaning up litter around a church or school grounds, although that is a worthy project to consider!
- To get ideas, you can:
 - Contact your chartered organization representative, and ask what service they need that would be appropriate for the Bear Scout age and group size.
 - Communicate to parents via email or letter, and ask if they are affiliated with a community group that would benefit from a service project.
 - Ask pack families if they need some help with a project that could be done by Bear Scouts.

- Brainstorming inspires creativity and can generate ideas from all the members of the den, including adults, without focusing on “correct” or “incorrect” responses. Activities such as writing down their ideas will give everyone a skill for planning that becomes natural and easier over time. Keep the tone positive. Even if an idea seems unlikely to work, write it down and make sure the den hears it out; that idea may be a stepping stone to another one! Brainstorming is a great opportunity to encourage respect for everyone’s contribution, whether or not it is ultimately chosen. Thomas Edison said, “To have a great idea, have a lot of them!”
- To start the brainstorming session, you can write ideas on a flip chart or whiteboard. You may also want to draw or print out a picture of a bear, for example, and have cut-out bear paw prints to give to the Cub Scouts to write down their ideas. Each den member would then place the prints around the bear, showing a “fellowship” of ideas, and review each one. (See Meeting 1 Resources.)
- Allow limited time for discussion, including pros and cons for each project. Decide ahead of time on a method of voting: raising hands, casting ballots, etc. Note that some projects might require only a few individuals. Keep in mind the objective of reaching out into the community to provide service, and allow the Bear Scouts to participate in planning what they can do.

◆ Activity 2: Service Project Plan (Requirement 2B)

- After selecting a project, determine the steps that need to be taken to accomplish it. Write down each question below on its own piece of paper. Then place the questions in individual envelopes or zippered plastic bags and scatter them around the meeting place so Bears must take “steps” to get from one to the other. This activity will help them identify all the tasks the project requires and who will do what. Let each Cub Scout announce one of the questions so that everyone participates.
 - Who will call and make arrangements with someone at the organization or service project site?
 - When can the project be done?
 - What equipment is needed?
 - Who will be responsible for each of the listed steps (youth and adults)?
 - How will we let others know what help we need (pack families, pack committee members)?
 - Add other questions that might pertain to your specific project.

CLOSING

- **12th Point of the Law.** Say: *Baden-Powell, the founder of Scouting, wrote: “First, love and serve God. Second, love and serve your neighbor.” In doing your duty to God, always be grateful to Him. Whatever you do, whether at home or school, whether in play or at work, thank God for it, if only with a word or two. Let us each now say a silent prayer for our brother on our right ... for our brother on our left ... and, now, for our brother Scouts around the world.*
- Make sure the Bears have their permission slips to take home.



Do-at-Home Project Reminder:

Bears should continue to work on other requirements for the adventure with their families and/or faith organizations.

AFTER THE MEETING

- Serve refreshments, if desired.
- Record completion of requirement 2A.
- Work together to clean up the meeting place.

MEETING 1 RESOURCES



Do-at-Home Project: Requirement 2A

Many people throughout history have shown great faith in God by reaching out to those in their neighborhoods and communities. Many desired to make life better for others and willingly shared their resources, talents, and time to achieve this goal.

If a Scout chooses requirement 2A as an option in this adventure, the requirement should be completed at home. If they want, Scouts who select this requirement can also share with the den about the person they admire as someone of faith.

BRAINSTORMING WITH BEARS:



SERVICE PROJECT PERMISSION SLIP

A SCOUT IS HELPFUL!

My child _____ has permission to participate in the
(name)

SERVICE PROJECT

Date: _____ Time: _____

Please contact _____
(den leader name here)

at _____ if you are able to help us on this service project.
(den leader's phone number)

Your Scout is to bring this permission slip to the service project and return it to the den leader.



MEETING **2** PLAN (Den Outing)

PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED

- Contact the service project location and work with someone there to review the project plans, date and time, and any items that the den might need to bring with them.
- Confirm any necessary equipment.
- Secure adult supervision to help with the project.
- Make and confirm all plans for transportation.
- Get a flag that can be used for the opening. This could be a small flag that one Scout will hold as the flag bearer.
- Arrange for water to be available if the project is outside.
- Arrange for refreshments after the project, if desired.
- Have the Bears bring their handbooks to the project site for recording requirement completion.

GATHERING

Gather permission slips from parents for each Scout's attendance and for photos if you plan on taking pictures that may include the Scouts. (You might ask a parent to take photos of the project site before and after the work.)

OPENING

- Conduct a flag ceremony of your choosing that includes the Pledge of Allegiance and the Scout Oath and Scout Law.
- Optional: Include a prayer or moment of reflection for the den.

TALK TIME

- Carry out business items for the den.
- Review plans for the project and any equipment that will be needed.
- Remind Scouts about on-task behavior and showing respect for other people's property as they do the work. Through their service today to others, they are showing their duty to God.

ACTIVITIES

◆ Activity 1: Service Project (Requirement 2B)

Do the service project as planned.

CLOSING

- Gather in a circle for the Living Circle ceremony. (See Meeting 2 Resources.)
- Den Leader's Minute: "To Build a Better World" (See Meeting 2 Resources.)

AFTER THE MEETING

- Serve refreshments, if desired.
- Record completion of requirement 2B and any requirements completed by Bears at home.
- Work together to clean up the meeting place.

Upon completion of the Fellowship of Duty to God adventure, your Bears will have earned the adventure loop shown here. Make sure they are recognized for their completion by presenting the adventure loops, to be worn on their belts, as soon as possible according to your pack's tradition.



MEETING 2 RESOURCES

THE LIVING CIRCLE

The Living Circle is an important Cub Scouting ceremony that may be used as an opening or closing for a den meeting. It reminds everyone in the den of the friendships they are making and links them with all other Cub Scouts. To form a Living Circle, Cub Scouts and leaders face inward in a close circle. With the right hand, each person gives the Cub Scout sign. They turn slightly to the right and extend left hands into the circle. Each thumb in the circle is pointed to the right, and each person grasps the thumb of the person on their left, making a complete Living Circle handclasp. The Scout Law, Scout Oath, or motto can then be said.

The Living Circle also can be performed by moving all of the left hands up and down in a pumping motion while the Cub Scouts say, "A-ke-la! We-e-e-ll do-o-o ou-r-r best," snapping into a circle of individual salutes at the word "best."

TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD

"Your task, young Scout, is to build a better world," God said.

I answered, "How? The world is such a large, vast place, so complicated now. And I am so small and useless, there is nothing I can do."

In all His wisdom, God said, "Just build a better YOU."

NOTES