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The Boy Scouts of America wants you and your boy to:

[ ] Have fun together.

Know one another.

Grow together.

Get along together.

Discover together.

Tiger Cubs, Boy Scouts of America, is a program for boys in the first grade and their adult partners. It allows the boy and adult to build strong relationships with each other, the rest of the family, and with other members of the Tiger Cub's den. The main emphasis of Tiger Cubs is fun for a boy and adult, but many of the activities are suitable for participation by the rest of the family as well.

Tiger Cubs BSA gives parents an opportunity to provide their children with a safe, structured, and nurturing environment. Tiger Cubs and their adult partners have fun together while developing closer family relationships. Scouting can provide positive, enriching experiences and activities to complement a child's formal classroom education. Scouting and education share the common goal of helping young people grow into self-reliant, dependable, and caring adults.

Tiger Cubs BSA is a simple, fun, easy-to-operate program that helps a boy and his adult partner gain a better understanding of and an appreciation for the community environment in which they live, and even the world at large

The Tiger Cub dens are a part of the Pack. Tiger Cub dens meet twice a month and attendance at all pack meetings is urged. There are Tiger Cub resource books and program helps available for the Tiger Cub Den Leaders. Tiger Cubs are not first-grade Cub Scouts. Tiger Cubs BSA introduces boys and their adult partners to the excitement of Cub Scouting as they "Search, Discover, and Share" together.

#### **The Tiger Cub Motto**

Search, Discover, Share

#### **The Tiger Cub Promise**

I promise to love God,

My family,
And my country,
And to learn about the world.

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# **Big Ideas**

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#### 1. Getting to Know You

Purpose: To provide a fun time for all Tiger Cubs and adults to get to know one another at the first Tiger Cub group meeting. Also, to provide a meeting format as an example of one way a future meeting can be run.

#### 2. Family Entertainment

Purpose: To have fun together and in this way to help bring family closer together.

#### 3. Discover Nature and Energy

Purpose: To develop in your child an appreciation of the world around him, and an awe for its Creator. Also it will provide the basis for several hobbies and interests that may extend into the future. Perhaps most important, you are given the opportunity through this big idea to reinforce your own values about environment, energy, and even spirituality.

#### 4. Prepare for Emergencies

Purpose: This activity is designed to equip the child to deal with an emergency when there is no adult present. There are activities that will help him help others. In the expanding world of a first-grade boy, there are times that he is not under the immediate protection of a parent of other adult family member. His knowledge of emergency procedures will strengthen his self-esteem and self-confidence. In this big idea, you can discuss with your son how to react to strangers and persons whose motives are either not known or are unacceptable.

#### 5. Know Your Family

Purpose: Gives you a chance to explore your family's heritage, background, and structure. But it also gives you an opportunity to express to one another what makes you feel good - what makes you feel bad - all of you. It also aids in his understanding of other family members and their feelings.

#### 6. Know Your Community

Purpose: One of the underlying purposes of the Boys Scouts of America is to develop responsible citizenship in boys. This begins with an understanding of their community. As you explore your community with your boy and your Tiger Cub group, you will be giving your boy and others a better understanding of the environment in which they live. Boys will develop a deeper appreciation of their community and how it works.

#### 7. Helping Others

Purpose: Helping others should be part of anyone's life, not only because it makes for a better world, but also because it gives good feelings to both the helper and the one being helped. Giving your boy a chance to help others enables him to learn that it is an important part of his life both now and in the future. It also lets him learn that helping others can be fun and rewarding. Helping others as a family or as a group makes the experience all the more fun and rewarding.

#### 8. Go See It

Purpose: This big idea gives you and your boy a chance to enjoy all the special places and activities in your area. Seeing these things as a family makes for enjoyable times for all. It allows your family to have fun together, and grow together as well. GO SEE IT!

#### 9. **Getting There**

Purpose: Transportation is a big part of everyone's lives. We travel to work, we travel on vacations. This big idea lets you and your Tiger Cub explore some of the many ways man travels from one place to another. As your boy learns about transportation, you can take the opportunity to explain how important it is to be on time, to be courteous to others. You can also plan activities that will help to make your family trips pleasant experiences for everyone.

### 10. Something Special, All Your Own

Purpose: This is your own big idea. Pick whatever big idea your group wants. Let the boys play as big a part in this as the adults. Make it fun for everyone. Let your imagination suggest

whatever it wants to. Make it the group and family happening of the year. What's important is that the boys and adults plan the big idea together. That way it belongs to you and your group. Come up with family activities and group activities, too.

#### 11. Making Your Family Special

Purpose: To help you and your boy explore the things that make your family unique, special, one of a kind. Take the opportunity to let everyone talk about those things that strengthen the family. It will help everyone develop more of a sense of belonging and pride. And the goal of this big idea is to make family bonds stronger.

#### 12. Make Your Own

Purpose: To help your boy develop a sense of pride and satisfaction by making all kinds of things. This big idea also will help him develop patience, perseverance, and initiative.

#### 13. Caring For Your Home and Household

Purpose: Learning what is required to keep a home neat and clean is important for a first-grader. Part of the goal of this big idea is to help your boy realize that if everyone does his part to keep the home clean, neat, and fixed up it will be a happier place to live. In addition, some of the activities in this big idea are designed to give your boy a greater appreciation of all things that others do to keep the home in good shape. Lastly, an objective of this big idea is to help your boy learn to follow directions.

#### 14. Family Games, Tricks and Puzzles

Purpose: Part of the goal of this big idea is to have boys learn to become both good winners and good losers as well. In addition, this big idea will teach them how to play by the rules and how to follow instructions. It also holds the opportunity for boys to develop patience as they work to solve a puzzle or invent a new game.

### 15. Fitness and Sports

Purpose: Sport and physical fitness activities, even calisthenics, can be fun. Naturally, though these activities do more than just provide fun. They can make family members

healthier as well as bring families closer together. Learning new sports can help give a boy more self-confidence and self-esteem. And if good sportsmanship and teamwork are emphasized, the boy will learn some important things that extend far beyond sports. But let's not forget what was said at the beginning. More than anything else sports and other physical fitness activities can spell fun for the whole family.

#### 16. Tell It Like It Is

Purpose: Communication is a big word to a first-grade boy, but it is an important one. This big idea lets the boy learn some of the many ways people communicate with each other. It also has the goal of letting him learn how to communicate better with those around him. The activities are designed to make it fun and interesting.

#### 17. Cub Scouting, Here We Come!

Purpose: Tiger Cub groups are affiliated with a Cub Scout pack, and both the Cub Scouts and the adults who run the Cub Scout Pack are looking forward to having your boys join the pack after their time as Tiger Cubs. Cub Scouting will build on what your boy is learning and discovering as Tiger Cubs, BSA. This big idea will be carried out by the boy and his partner, the den, and the pack. The Tiger graduates to a Wolf den in an impressive ceremony led by the Cubmaster. The adult partner presents him with the yellow neckerchief of the Wolf Cub. The new Cub Scout is then ready to start down the Bobcat trail!

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## **Getting To Know You**



This Big Idea is the first theme of the Tiger Den. The BSA wants the Tiger Den to become a team and the best way to guarantee it's success is for everyone to get to know one another. The Tiger and his partner will also become a team as they run their designated monthly theme. Using this Big Idea, allows them to also get to know one another better.

This is the one theme that is done by the Tiger Cub Coach with the group to show them how to run a meeting when it becomes their turn. The group then continues with this theme for the month. Family Activities are encouraged to strengthen the Tiger/partner bond.

The First Meeting: The Tiger Cub Coach will need to be prepared for this one. He/she should have the list of names of both Tigers and partners and the activities planned. These should be copied out so that each team has a copy to facilitate communication within the den. The coach will also need to heave an agenda with specific items to be discussed. He/she should have the Tiger Den Notebook ready to be passed on. This should include the roster of the Tiger Den, a list of the Pack's leadership with telephone numbers, a Pack calendar of events, the Tiger Cub Resource book and a monthly list for sign-up.

The Tiger Cub Coach should also have a simple craft for the Tiger Teams to complete. Boys love making things, and this gives them something to take home and show off to their friends. This craft has a twofold purpose; to give the Tiger something of which to remember their first meeting and to show others what fun Tiger Cubs can be. Remember, when his friends see how much fun the Tiger is having, they also will want to join.

Gathering Activity: As the Tiger Teams arrive, have a simple puzzle for the Tiger to put together. This could be just a picture of the Tiger logo glued to card stock, cut apart and placed in an envelope. Try to have one for each Tiger. While the boys are putting the puzzle together, check with the Tiger Partner for the correct spelling of names and that you have correct addresses and telephone numbers. If they have not received their Tiger Cub

Packets, now is the time to distribute them.

**Opening:** Begin the program with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag. Following this, the Tiger Cub Coach introduces his/herself and explains their role. He/she can then explain the Tiger Cub motto or pledge.

**Searching/Discovering/Sharing:** This is the time of information sharing. Start this session with having each boy introduce his partner, explain their relationship, and share his ideas of a favorite food or dessert. This can be a fun time, leading to lots of smiles as the partner finds out what his/her favorite actually is in the boy's eyes.

Next the Tiger Cub Coach begins her information sharing. He/she will cover the basics of the Tiger program, assist the Den in choosing a Tiger Cub Coordinator, and discuss the contents of the Tiger packets. Uniforming is then discussed and the den is encouraged to make a decision. Set a time limit for the Tigers to have their uniforms. When discussing the uniform, it helps if the coach has examples.

The Tiger Cub Coach will want to discuss how a meeting works. He/she will discuss the assignment of Teams to take a monthly theme and encourage the Teams to sign-up and helping them to choose their monthly themes. Den activities can be suggested and the coach will review Pack Policy concerning 'field trips'.

At this point, the Tigers are getting restless and need some activity. One such activity that will last them the entire year is the making of the Tiger Tales Scrapbook. Explain that this book is to be used to put their thoughts and mementoes of their year in Tiger Cub. The scrapbook can be just pre-punched typing paper place in either a orange three-prong folder or cover with orange construction paper. The Tiger then can decorate his scrapbook in whatever manner he desires. He may have his partner letter the scrapbook for him. Have plenty of Tiger stickers, crayons, markers and other decorations. The Tiger Cub Coach uses this time to remind the Tiger Den that they are now a den and of any upcoming Pack events, especially the first pack meeting. He/she then closes them meeting with the Tiger Cub Promise.

#### **Meeting Ideas**

- 1. Make a Den totem to place on top of the Tiger Den flag.
- 2. Have everyone make name tag necklaces.
- 3. Make a Tiger Cub magnet using an orange mile jug lid, cover edge with black tape or yarn, glue a magnetic strip to the

back.

- 4. Set up a monthly meeting poster. Decorate it with Tiger pictures. Have everyone fill in their assigned months. Post at Den Meetings.
- 5. Discuss what you would like to do and see as a Tiger.
- Have the partner draw a picture of his/herself with their Tiger doing a favorite activity. Have the Tiger color and place it in his scrapbook.
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### **Family Entertainment**



There is a little part in every Tiger that is a natural "ham". Bringing the family together while having fun is the goal of Tigers. This big idea allows the den to explore the various avenues with which each family has fun. Do they play games? Do they go to the movies? Do they have musical talent? Does the family enjoy making crafts together? All these are forms of entertainment

and the Tiger will love sharing his family's skill for fun.

This is not a complex Big Idea. It is actually very simple - to encourage the family to have fun together.

#### **Meeting Ideas**

- Make homemade instruments and play along while adults sing some Cub Scout songs. maybe even make up your own for your Tiger Den.
- 2. List out your favorite TV shows. Find out how many favorites the teams have in common.
- 3. Make and share you family's favorite snack.
- 4. Discuss your favorite vacation or travels. Mark the areas on the map.
- 5. Play a favorite family game. Keep in mind any safety issues if playing an action sport. Include the partners in the game.

#### Places To Go, Things To Do

- 1. Go caroling as a Tiger Den or with the Pack.
- 2. Hold a talent show.
- 3. Put on a play or puppet show. Make you own puppets.
- 4. Attend a school play or concert. Discuss what you liked best.
- 5. Go kite flying. Make you own Tiger kites at an earlier meeting.
- Include the entire family in any of these ideas or come up with one of your own.
- 7. Learn and sing a Tiger song at the Pack meeting.

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## **Discover Nature And Energy**



The world is a big place. Because of his age, the Tiger's world is limited to his immediate surroundings. Not that he doesn't know that the world is round, but rather his development limits his appreciation to what concerns him immediately. The goal of this Big Idea is to help the Tiger develop an appreciation of the world around him and an awe for its Creator. This Big

Idea can help the Tiger to explore energy conservation and to see how one energy source relates to another.

The BSA has joined the nation in being conservation conscious. They have extended this to all levels of Scouting. This Big Idea is centered on that concept. Here the Tiger Den has the opportunity to reinforce personal values about the environment and energy. Tigers can explore recycling, learn about energy use and its production, and nature and humanity's impact on it. In doing this Big Idea, we need to keep in mind that these are first grade boys. In other words, keep it simple.

Inevitably, the question will arise during the meetings as to how the world came about. This is time to explore each team members spirituality. Remember that everyone has their own ideas, no one is wrong and acceptance is the key here. It is not the goal of Scouting to explain the creation, nor to push one's ideas on another. BSA wants the Tiger Dens to just accept that those ideas exist.

### **Meeting Ideas**

The Tiger Team that takes on this Big Idea can use any number of scenarios. They can start the meeting with a world globe - boys love spinning them. As an opening, point out an approximate location of your meeting place and explain is relation to the rest of the world. Believe me, the Tigers' eyes will b as bit as saucers. Now you can split off on several different tangents. You can discuss weather and how losing the ozone layer affects it. Even possibly plan a trip to a weather station or television studio to discuss weather.

The Tiger Team may wish to discuss nature itself and it's impact on the world. Here is the time to bring in conservation and recycling.

Visit a recycling plant or local trash site. Learn what is done with our nation's

trash and what you as a family can do to help. You may wish to discuss the water we drink and visit a water plant in your community to learn how it is made safe to drink.

Don't forget our four legged friends when doing this Big Idea. Humans are not the only living things on this planet. Each Tiger Team can draw his favorite animal and share with the group as to what makes this his favorite. A trip idea would be to go to a nature center or zoo to see these animals.

Whatever you do for this meeting, try to close with a statement concerning the age of our planet. It has been here for thousands of years, and with careful management will continue for just as many more.

#### Places To Go, Things To Do

- 1. Go on a short guided hike at a local nature center.
- 2. Design and conduct a nature scavenger hunt. Show samples of the 3-5 items on the list.
- 3. Visit you local water treatment plant. What makes the water safe to drink?
- 4. Visit a planetarium. Learn about those stars in the sky. Discuss the aerospace program and how close we are to living up there.
- 5. Go fishing. Release your fish when you are done.
- 6. If possible, visit a trash-to-energy plant.

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## **Prepare For Emergencies**

The motto for the Boy Scouts of America is "Be Prepared". BSA tries to incorporate their ideals into all levels of their Scouting program. This Big Idea makes use of this motto to help Tigers learn what to do in case of emergencies when there is no adult present. These are activities that will help the Tiger to help others.

Understand that in the expanding world of the Tiger, there will be times when he is not under the protection of a parent or other adult family member. The lessons learned in this Big Idea will enable him to cope and will strengthen his self-esteem and self-confidence. Unfortunately in today's society, emergencies are not limited to natural disasters. This is the Big Idea to use to discuss with the Tiger how to react to strangers and persons whose motives are questionable, something every Tiger should know how to handle.

#### **Meeting Ideas**

The challenge for the Tiger Team is to make this a fun activity and not a "Doom and Gloom" meeting. Tigers get excited when discussing disasters and love to tell the biggest tale. After the opening, get the Tigers to share with the Den a disaster or emergency story. Find out how many heroes you den has. This can lead into a what would you do/what should you do discussion. Encourage the adult partners to point out any home emergency preparations they have in each scenario. Another excellent idea is the "Hug A Tree" concept as described in the Tiger Cub Resource Book.

Next in the meeting would be an activity time. Remember that tigers get very bored quickly when they have to sit for long periods of time, even when they are involved with the discussion. You could do a game or make a craft, depending on the time of the year and the weather outside.

Closing can be a recap of what the Tiger Team has learned. You can even present each team with a "Prepared Tiger" mementos to paste into their scrapbook. This could be a paper fireman's hat or a paper police badge with the words printed on it. Again you are providing something for the Tiger to take home to share and to remember his meeting by. Every time he looks at his badge, he will remember his

lessons.

#### Places To Go, Things To Do

- 1. Visit your local fire station.
- Play make-believe telephone calls to 911. Have the adult partner play the part of the 911 dispatcher while the Tiger provides the information. Remind Tigers that this number is for real emergencies and should never be used for prank calls.
- 3. Discuss what to do if school is let out early and no one is at home to let you in.
- 4. Play a skit in which you encounter a stranger that makes you feel uncomfortable. What should you do? How loud can you scream?
- Review a basic First Aid kit. Learn what the various items are used for. Discuss when it is time to call for an ambulance or emergency personnel.
- 6. Visit a police station.
- 7. Have your local Safety officer come to your meeting.

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## **Know Your Family**



Every Tiger comes with some form of family structure. He lives with what is known as his nuclear family, but also has a much larger extended family. The purpose of this Big Idea is to explore the family's background and structure. it allows the Tiger to explore family traditions and to express what makes him feel good or even what makes him feel bad about his family.

Remember that Tigers are still in that self-centered stage of development. To them, their feelings are the most important. As leader for this Big Idea, you may need to help the Tiger understand that others have feelings also and that these need to be considered also. The Tiger's concepts of family may differ from those of others within his family and this Big Idea will help his partner to understand them. For instance, the Tiger may express feelings that his baby sister is nothing but a nuisance, while others seem to dote on her. This allows for open dialog between the Tiger and his partner.

A word of caution as you pursue this Big Idea. The BSA takes a strong stand on reporting suspected child abuse. The Tiger may feel comfortable discussing certain incidents with the group that is totally unexpected. If at anytime, a suspicion of child abuse surfaces, you are obligated to report the incident to you local Boy Scout Council. Contact your Cubmaster or Pack Committee Chairperson to find out the procedure for doing so. BSA assures their volunteers that all reportings will be handled in a confidential, anonymous manner.

#### **Meeting Ideas**

- 1. Share the family photo album. Identify special family members.
- 2. Share family histories and traditions.
- 3. Have a 'families' picnic. Get to know one another.
- 4. Have a group activity. Use a holiday for theme. How about Halloween in February?
- 5. Design and make a family tree. Share it with others in your den.
- 6. Design a family coat of arms. Have the Tiger include special areas of the family's past.
- 7. Conduct your own 'family" activity.

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### **Know Your Community**

With this Big Idea, the BSA wants you to begin one of the underlying purposes of Scouting: that is to develop responsible citizenship in boys. This begins with an understanding of your community. As you explore your community with your boy and your Tiger Cub den, you will be giving your boy and others a better understanding of the environment in which they live. This is the beginning of developing

a deeper appreciation of their community and how it works.

Remember for the most of these boys, so far, their life has been centered around their families and their homes. Yes, they go to the stores and church with their parents, by that is the basis of their knowledge. They don't have a clue what makes a community just that. This is your challenge to help the Scout and his partner see the bigger picture.

So, let's search out the community. What is in it? What makes a set of streets a community? And finally, what is there to do within each individual's community? Sounds like a rather big undertaking. After all, these are only first grade boys, with a limited attention span and very limited reading skills.

Don't be frightened of this Big Idea. This can be lots of fun and educational, too. By the end of your meeting, even your adult partners may have learned something new about that town they live in. As the Adult leader for this activity, you may need to do some research, but the resources are out there for you. All you have to do is ask.

**Meeting Ideas:** Let's plan together a meeting for the Tiger Cub den as they get to know their community. All meetings start with planning. What are you going to do and how? Once that has been established, the rest is easy.

Most meetings are set up with the same basic agendas. The gathering, opening, business time or information sharing, activity for the group and finally, the closing. This is what we will set up our Big Idea meeting with.

**Gathering**: Have a map of your community spread out on a table. As Scouts and their partners arrive, have them mark on the map the location of their home. Compare distances between each Tiger and to

the nearest store or local landmark of your choice.

**Opening**: For Tiger this is short and sweet. Remember the new logo you are learning in Scouts - KISMIF (Keep it simple, Make it fun). Ask a Tiger and his partner to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag. As group leader, explain the Big Idea for this meeting and how you hope everyone will learn a little more about your community.

**Information Sharing:** Again this is as it sounds. Share any information coming from the Pack, i.e. When is the Pack meeting?, What do the Tigers need to do to prepare?, When the next meeting will be?, And who is running it? Should there be expenses for the group, now is the time that it should be collected.

**Activity:** Using the map, that now has the group's homes located, start locating various other parts that make up a community. Go around the room and have each Scout name other parts that make up a community. Go around the room and have each Scout name another aspect of the community. Some of these may include: Fire Station, Police Station, Town Hall, Library, favorite restaurants, video store, personal place of worship, hospital or physician's office, and more and more and more. Take a minute with each suffestion and see if your group can tell how this place helps the community. Believe me, the video store will have a totally different answer than the police station.

Now it is time to get away from the table. Ask the boys to do an impromptu skit where they meet one by one on the street and each is going somewhere different. See how many places within the community they wish to go. This is the adult partner's time to see the hidden hams within their boys.

**Closing:** Congratulate the Tigers for a job well done on their skit. Remind partners of any future commitments and gather everyone in a circle for your closing comments. This can be just a single statement of what your community means to you. Thank everyone for coming and send them on their way.

#### **Meeting Ideas**

- 1. Draw a map of your community and include places of interest as listed from the group.
- 2. Make fire chief and policeman puppets as found in the Tiger Cub Resource book.
- 3. Play pin your town on the map, again described in the Tiger Cub Resource book.
- 4. Using a town map, plan and do a Town bike trip.

#### Places To Go, Things To Do

One of the easiest ways to get to Know Your Community is to go out and "do the town". Understand that each community is different and you may not be able to do in one community that you could do in another. The following is a list of suggested places within each community that the Tiger group could visit as part of this Big Idea.

- 1. Visit Town Hall. Learn what services are available for others within your community.
- 2. Visit a bakery, a restaurant or store.
- 3. Visit the Fire Station.
- 4. Visit the Police Station.
- 5. Have a scavenger hunt. Plan the list of items that can be found locally.
- 6. Plan a 'make believe' stay-at-home vacation. What things can be done or visited in your area?
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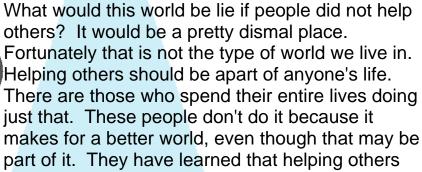
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### **Helping Others**



makes them feel good and makes them one that they have helped feel good also.

This Big Idea gives the Tiger a chance to learn that helping others should be an important part of his life, both now and in the future. Helping others as a family or as a group makes the experience all the more fun and rewarding. Experiences can be shared as memories are made.

In planning a meeting for your Tiger Den centered around this Big Idea, keep in mind that Tigers will not necessarily know or want to help others. That is not a focus of boys at this age group. You need to KISMIF - keep it simple, make it fun. When Tigers learn that helping others are fun, they will be more willing to help others in the future.

#### **Meeting Ideas**

- 1. Play charades. Have each Tiger demonstrate something he can do to help others without talking. Let the others try to guess what he's doing. At the end of the game discuss which idea the group would lie to do together.
- Make cookies and greeting cards. Present them to residents of a nursing home, a senior's center, hospital children's ward, or a children's home.
- 3. Make coupon books offering ways in which the Tiger can help in his own home. Have them present this to his Tiger partner or parent as a gift for redemption at a later time.
- Collect toys or food items and donate them to a community drive to help the needy. If possible, visit the donation center to learn more about their programs.
- 5. Adopt a family in need. Ask each Tiger and his partner to help provide for something special for one person within this family.

- Note: This does not have to be just during the Christmas season, make it all year long.
- Participate in a clean-up day at a local church, or schedule a clean-up day at a community building. Don't forget to reward their hard efforts later with snacks and drinks.
- 7. Organize and run a carnival. Donate the money to charity.
- 8. Make bird feeders. Hang them in your backyard or donate them to a local nature center. Learn what different birds like to eat.
- 9. Make simple gifts such as snack bag clips or recipe card holders. Wrap and give them to someone special.
- 10. Have a visitor from an Animal Rescue or Wildlife Rescue agency. Learn what you can do to help.

#### Places To Go, Things To Do

There are any number of places to go and things to do within a community for the Tiger Den to learn about helping others. The following list is just a partial list. Add your own ideas and go have fun.

- 1. Visit a community center. Learn what they have to offer in helping others.
- 2. Go to the Fire Station and meet the people who work there. How does their job help others?
- 3. Visit a health center. Find out how this place helps those in the community.
- 4. Visit the Police Station. Is the policeman's only duty catching criminals?
- 5. Visit a retirement home. Put on a skit, sing some songs, or just visit with the residents. You might even want to adopt a grandparent.
- 6. Visit with a veterinarian. Learn how he or she helps animals.

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### Go See It

Have you always just wanted to go visit somewhere special and just haven't gotten around to it. Well this is your chance. This Big Idea gives your and your boy a chance to enjoy all those special places and activities within your area.

Seeing things as a group or family makes for enjoyable times for all. It allows your family to have fun together and to grow together. Stuck for an idea for a Tiger Den meeting. Well, this is the Big Idea for you. It is easy. You just "Go See It".

#### Places To Go, Things To Do

There are just so many places that a Tiger Den can go, that I am not going to do a meeting scenario. As the Den Leader for this meeting, you still need to abide by National BSA policies. Let your Pack committee know of your trip plans and check to see if a Tour Permit is necessary. If so, see that this form is completed prior to the meeting occurring. Inform your Tiger partners of meeting plans, where you will meet, how long the trip is planned for and what they can expect, especially if a cost is involved. Once you have done these preliminary steps, you are ready to go.

There are always several hints for getting a group form one place to another. Plan to meet in a convenient spot. If you will be carpooling, make sure there is plenty of safe parking for those cars left behind.

Have someone at home be a designated telephone contact, should an emergency arise or you are delayed in return plans. They can contact families as necessary to avoid unhappy spouses holding dinner plans.

If a partner has a cellular telephone, ask if he/she would mind bringing it along. Know the route you will be taking. If necessary do a test run, so you can give an accurate accounting of travel time.

Contact the place you plan to visit. Inform them of your plans and ask

for help in making this a special visit for your Tiger Den. Ask such questions as: Do they have a limit on group size?, Is there a cost involved for visiting?, Do they have a special speaker for first grade boys?

#### Places to go:

- 1. Visit a local nature area or park
- Visit a historic site or battlefield.
- 3. Visit a zoo
- 4. Arrange a tour of a local business, industry, bakery, or farm.
- 5. Visit a local marina. How many different boats do they have?
- 6. Visit the train station. Check out where they go.
- 7. Go to a fair or exposition
- 8. Visit a museum
- 9. Visit the library. How many books do they have?
- 10. Visit a television studio. Go on the air.
- 11. Visit a radio station. Watch a live air broadcast.

Where would you like to go? Plan it and have fun.

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### **Getting There**

How we get from one place to another is an important part of everyone's lives. In today's society, we travel everywhere: to work, shopping, to church, to visit family, even to vacation spots. If the family automobile is in the repair shop, how does the family get from place to place? Do they ride a bike, walk, or get a ride with someone else?

The purpose of this Big Idea is to allow the Tiger to explore various methods of transportation available to people today. How do we get from place to place? Who runs those trains and planes? How did they get their jobs? What would we do without them. These are just some of the ideas included in this Big Idea for the Tiger to explore. This is also the perfect opportunity to discuss being on time and to be courteous to others. Don't forget maps. We might have the capability to travel from place to place, but without knowing how to get there, we only get lost.

#### **Meeting Ideas**

The team running this theme could open their meeting having various cars, trucks, planes and maybe even a bike or train for the Tigers to play with as they gather.

Opening can include a discussion or statement of the inconvenience out society would experience if all these forms of transportation didn't exist. Remind the boys that just one hundred years ago, most people traveled by walking, on horseback or by sailboat. Ask them to think about what their life would be lied living back then. How far would they be able to travel in a day? Would families see each other as often? How do they think their family would travel and where? Is it really easy for a handicapped person to travel?

For an activity, the den could make craft cars or planes or draw a picture of an airport. If a Tiger has a special airplane model he would like to share, this would also be the time to do it. The Tiger Cub Resources Book has any number of ideas for an activity for your meeting. Use it. This is a wonderful tool to run your Tiger Program.

#### Places To Go, Things To Do

1. Visit a train station. Take a train ride.

- 2. Visit a local airport. Try to make advance arrangements to explore a plane.
- 3. Visit the bus station. Check out timetables and where they go. Can you get there from here?
- 4. Visit a bicycle repair shop. Learn how to check your bike for problems. Take a bicycle ride as a den.
- 5. Take part in a bicycle rodeo.
- 6. Visit a local stable. Ride a horse or pony. Take a trail ride.
- 7. Make arrangements with a local Amish family. Take a buggy ride. Is this form of transportation comfortable? How do you keep warm in the winter?
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### Something Special, All Your Own



This is the one idea that belongs solely to the Tiger Den. There will be times when the monthly theme just doesn't fit with what the Tiger Den would want to do. Then it is time to put our Big Idea #10. In this Big Idea, the Tigers and their partners decide what they would like to do. The boys play as big a part in the decision making as the adults. The only requirement is that it needs to be fun for

everyone. You can let your imagination suggest whatever it wants. The important part is that the boys and adults plan the Big Idea together. Don't forget to include both family and group activities.

Because the group decides what the idea is all about, there are no meeting plans or places to go/things to do section for this Big Idea. Just remember to have fun in whatever you do.

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## **Making Your Family Special**

Every family is special in their own way. How they are made up, Where they come from, even Who is part of the family. This makes them one of a kind or unique. Being different allows each family to have its own strengths. Taking the opportunity to talk about his own family allows the Tiger to develop sense of belonging and pride.

The goal of the BSA with this idea is to make family bonds stronger. This is accomplished by helping the Tiger to see what makes his family special and how they are different from other Tiger families. No way is the Tiger allowed to view another Tiger's family as inferior. Instead, he is encouraged to view the differences with tolerance and helped to understand that being different is 'special'.

#### **Meeting Ideas**

- 1. Have a family picnic. Have the Tigers introduce the other members of his family.
- 2. Ask each Tiger to bring 2-4 pictures of something special their family has done together. Let the Scout share this with his den.
- 3. Make a Family Coat of Arms. Include individual preferences of the family members.
- 4. Play the various Tiger Cub and partner games as listed in the Tiger Cub Resource book.
- 5. Make a dessert during the meeting. Ask the family members to share it with you after closing.
- 6. Research the meanings of your names. Share what they signify with the others in your den.
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### Make Your Own



Everyone loves the feeling they get whenever they finish a project. That is the concept of this Big Idea. The BSA wants the Tiger to feel proud of whatever they accomplish, knowing that they have worked hard to make something of their very own. The satisfaction of completing a job and the pride of doing one's best are feelings that one never outgrows.

Along with this concept of making one's own, is also the chance to develop patience. Remember how hard it was to do simple things when you were a child. Well, this also pertains to Tigers. Patience is not a concept that can be taught. It is learned. With the idea, we are working on teaching just that thought. Not everything can be made in one meeting, or for that matter, two. You cannot snap your fingers and get a cookie ready to be eat - not if it is one that needs batter mixed and baked. And even though we are approaching the 21st century, we still cannot call on a replicator to give us whatever we need.

BSA wants their Tiger's to learn perseverance and initiative as well. Sticking with a project until it is done is not an easy concept for those first graders who have short attention spans. Because of this, it is suggested that Tigers make simple things. Letting them make their own designs or decorating their projects enables the Tiger to take the initiative. Praise from their partners will help the Tiger continue with their initiative and perseverance.

Tiger love to make things. The joy on their faces when they can say, "Look what I made" is precious. BSA recognizes this. Thus this Big Idea. So let's see what you can make.

#### **Meeting Ideas**

This Big Idea can be used anytime. There is any number of theme related ideas with things to make for them. Holidays lend themselves to any number of items. The kitchen is a wonderful place to start. Every Tiger loves to eat what they make. *Remember: No matter where you are meeting, always check the area for safety issues.* Are knives out of reach? We don't need to tempt out Tigers with the potential for danger. Use common sense if working with hot surfaces. i.e. Stove or oven. Nothing puts a damper on a meeting as much as an injury.

Make Your Own does not have to be the center of a meeting. This theme can be used in conjunction with any of the other Big Ideas. The following are just some examples of things you can do at a meeting.

- Make paper bag puppets. Present a puppet show at Pack meeting.
- Make a bird feeder with the help of your partner. Hang it in your backyard to watch your feathered friends all winter.
- Make a gift for someone special in your family.
- Make greeting cards. Send it to someone you know is lonely.
- Make a game. Play it as part of a meeting.
- Make cookies. Share them with a retirement home.
- Make ice cream. Have a sundae party.
- Make salt clay. Use it to make Christmas decorations.
- Make a kite. Go as a Tiger den and fly them.

#### Places To Go, Things To Do

There are any number of places to go to see how things are made. The fun part of a Tiger outing is to have something to bring home from this special trip. Even more special is if the Tiger has made it themselves. This can be something as simple as a visit to the local pizza parlor and making your own personal pizzas. The following is a partial list of places to go with things to do.

- 1. Visit a bakery. Help decorate cupcakes or cookies
- 2. Visit a pretzel factory. Try twisting those pretzels
- 3. Visit a cabinet factory. learn how they use those power tools safely.
- 4. Visit a nature center. Make bird feeders or bird houses. How about a bat house?
- 5. Visit a museum. Try your hand at making an Indian costume replicas.
- 6. Arrange a visit to a craft store. Make a special item to take home.

In arranging a trip for your Tiger Den, remember to follow the BSA guidelines for taking a trip as were discussed in the previous section. Provide advance notice to the business you plan to visit. They may not wish to have your group on certain days or may need to plan ahead in order to have enough supplies on hand. Nothing is more frustrating than to do a trip and find out that not everyone can make something.

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## Caring For Your Home And Household



A neat clean home is a happier home for anyone. In a neat home people can find things as they are put in their proper place. Not only this, but a clean home is a healthier home. People tend to have less illnesses when living in a clean home.

Parents are always asking their children to help in the chores and to pick up after themselves. It is just a right a parenting. BSA recognizes this right

and is doing their part. Part of the goal of this Big Idea is to help the Tiger realize that if everyone does his part to keep a home clean, neat and fixed up, it will be a happier place. If nothing else, by doing his part, the Tiger will lessen the amount of nagging he gets from his mother,

Another part of this Big Idea is to give the boy a greater appreciation of all the things that others do to keep a home in good shape. He learns that dad cannot always drop what he is doing to play a game of baseball. Not when there is home maintenance to be done. This Big Idea allows the Tiger to participate in simple home maintenance. By doing so, the Tiger is also learning to follow directions. Another goal of this Big Idea.

#### **Meeting Ideas**

- 1. Talk about how chores are divided in your families. Discuss how the Tiger can help in doing his share.
- 2. Make a house shaped picture frame for the Tiger to put a picture of his family in.
- 3. Talk about how the Tiger cares for his schoolbooks and clothing.
- 4. Organize a recycling program within your den.
- 5. Make something useful for your home.

#### Places To Go, Things To Do

- 1. Visit with a local handyman or contractor. Find out about basic maintenance jobs that need doing on homes in your area.
- 2. Hold a leaf raking party. Learn how to dispose of them properly.
- 3. make holiday decorations to be used in your own home. Make a second set to share with someone who is less fortunate.
- 4. Visit with a dog groomer or veterinarian. Learn how to care for

your pet.

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### Family Games, Tricks, And Puzzles



This is one of the most fun and easiest Big Ideas to do. Basically this is play time for the Tiger. In doing so, the Tigers learn how to be both good winners and good losers. In this idea, they also learn to play by the rules and how to follow directions.

Although this doesn't sound like such a big deal, stop and think what first graders are like. They

want to win. they want to do things their own way and they will break the rules in order to do so. BSA is taking the time to help its Tigers learn how to play with others. Thus this Big Idea. Not only that, but this idea allows the Tiger to develop patience as he learns to solve a puzzle or invent a new game.

#### **Meeting Ideas**

- 1. Hold a den tournament in marbles. Recognize both the winners and the losers.
- 2. Learn magic tricks. Perform them at a Pack Meeting.
- 3. Have a family team game.
- 4. Make jigsaw puzzles and trade with one another.
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## **Fitness And Sports**



Sports and physical fitness activities are fun.
Naturally these activities do more than provide fun for the Tiger and his partner. They can make family members healthier as well as bring the family closer together. BSA wants its members to get up off the couch and go do things. Naturally, they want their members to have fun doing whatever it is and sports and physical activities is

the perfect way to do it.

Learning new sports can help the Tiger develop self-confidence and self-esteem. There is nothing more special than a little boy yelling, " I can do it!" at the top of his lungs. The pride that goes with this is just as special. However, winning is not emphasized in BSA Sports.

As good sportsmanship and teamwork are promoted with this Big Idea, the Tiger will learn some important values that will extend far beyond sports. No one likes a 'poor loser' and Tigers need to be taught this. Many a first grade boy, thinks the first part of a sport is winning. He needs to be reminded that someone also has to lose. In Cub Scouts, we don't ask for winners, we only ask that you 'do your best'.

Teamwork, how to work with others is another skill encouraged by the Boy Scout Program. Getting along with others, working well with others, not always being the leader, are all skills that the Tiger will use throughout his life. This is also the time to remind Tigers that physical fitness means in both body and mind. This is the time to discuss the use of drugs and alcohol on the body. Don't get heavy duty here. Remember they are only first graders.

The Fitness and Sports Big Idea helps to teach these skills and ideals. More than anything remember, sports is just plain fun.

#### **Meeting Ideas**

Meetings centered around sports and physical fitness usually need to be planned when the weather will allow the teams to be outdoors. Begin with a gathering activity that will allow the boys to identify various different sports activities. They could match pictures to the sport name, practice basic physical fitness activities such as sit-ups and jumping, or review the rules for a specific game they will be playing. After the opening, the boys could set-up and play a game or sing a favorite

sports song. How about the "take me out to the ballgame" song? The Tiger team could also have a guest for their meeting such as a High School coach or physical fitness teacher to discuss the merits of a good sports program. Have this person stay to answer any questions later and perhaps to teach the boys a sport.

For closing, reflect a minute on what being a good sportsman means. Remind the Tigers that they have their entire future before them and that they can make whatever they like of it.

#### Places To Go, Things To Do

- Hold a mini-Olympics. Discuss the training required for true Olympic athletes.
- 2. Go to a sporting event.
- 3. Go bowling
- 4. Start a family height chart. Put the Tiger's measurement in his scrapbook.
- 5. Play baseball, soccer or any other team sport.
- 6. Take the President's Physical Fitness test.
- 7. Go on a hike
- 8. Visit a Sports Medicine clinic. Learn how to prevent sports injuries.
- 9. Learn a new sport and play it together.

Reminders: Always have plenty of water on hand while playing sports. Make sure that you recognize the winners and the losers in any game.

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## Tell It Like It Is



Not many Tigers will be able to define the word communication. This is an awfully big word for a first grade boy. This Big Idea explores the ways in which people communicate with each other. How do we tell our stories? How does the deaf person get their ideas across? Can a blind person read a book? How would you send a secret message so others could not read it? These are just some of

the ideas you can explore with this Big Idea.

How to get your message across clearly is another goal of this Big Idea. This Big Idea is designed to allow the Tiger team to have fun while learning to communicate better with those around them. Think of all the ways we do communicate. This can be a fun and really interesting project.

#### **Meeting Ideas**

- 1. Review your Tiger scrapbook. How does this help you to communicate with yourself?
- 2. Learn simple sign language.
- 3. Get a book in Braille from the library. Try to read it
- 4. Have a guest speaker such as a parent of a blind or deaf child. Ask them to tell the Tiger Den how they help their child communicate.
- Learn a song and sing it at a Pack Meeting
- 6. Learn telephone etiquette. How do you answer the phone politely?

### Places To Go, Things To Do

- Visit a newspaper office. Learn how they collect their news and spread the word
- Design your own Tiger secret code. Send messages to each other.
- 3. Visit a television or cable studio
- 4. Visit the Post Office. How does the mail get sent to others?
- 5. Play a 'gossip game'. Show Tigers how messages never seem to end up as they started.

- 6. Visit the telephone office.
- 7. Explore the internet. Learn how computers help us meet and exchange ideas with others.
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## **Cub Scouting, Here We Come**



This Big Idea is reserved for May or the month in which the Tiger Den will graduate. As a Tiger Den, you are in the first level of the Cub Scout program. This theme allows for preparation of the den to advance into the next level or Wolves. Tigers are encouraged to look over the Wolf book, learn the Bobcat Trail and start planning future Cub Scouting activities.

Traditionally, the completion of this Big Idea culminates in the Tiger Cub Graduation Ceremony. Many of these are included in the Tiger Resource book and your Cubmaster and Tiger Den Coach will plan this event. This is a time for celebration. Your den has worked hard and deserves to be rewarded. They have spent the year learning to 'Search, Discover, and Share'. Now they are going to learn the Cub Scout motto or 'Do Your Best' and they will. They are ready to travel onward in Scouting. Remember: HAVE FUN!

#### **Meeting Ideas**

These meetings are a time for reflection and planning. You may want to ask your Tiger Den Coach to participate.

- 1. Review what you have done throughout the year and with the new friends you have made.
- 2. Look at the Wolf Book, review the Bobcat Trail and explain the importance of this. Make copies of this (found in the Tiger Resource Book) and distribute to each Tiger team. Ask them to start learning this.
- 3. Talk of your plans as Wolves. Do you perhaps have a set of parents who would be willing to be Den Leaders? If so, have them complete an Adult Volunteer Registration Form and submit to your Pack Committee. Have parents fill out and complete the Cub Scout Application, lettering 'Tiger Cub Transfer' across the top and submit to your local Council Service Center by June 1. This will allow your Tiger Cub Graduates to participate in summer camp Tigers cannot. As Cub Scouts, these graduates will also be able to work toward and earn the National Summertime Award.
- 4. Finally, participate in your graduation ceremony. Tigers have

watched the other Cub Scouts receive advancements and recognitions throughout the year. Now it is their time to shine. Meet with the Tiger Den Coach to find out the details.

#### Places To Go, Things To Do

- 1. Hold a "We did it" ice cream party. Use orange sherbet and chocolate sauce to represent the Tiger colors. Celebrate your year as Tigers. Have your new friends autograph your Tiger scrapbook.
- 2. Review the Wolf book. As the Tigers to list things they would like to do next year as Wolves.
- 3. Practice the Cub Scout Promise and Law of the Pack. Learn to do the Cub Scout salute and handshake.
- 4. Make a Cub Scout neckerchief slide to wear with you Wolf neckerchief next year.
- 5. Review the Cub Scout uniform. Learn where the patches go.
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The Tiger Cub Den meets for an activity twice a month. Leadership for the den is rotated monthly among the adults. The boy and his adult partner are both present for the meetings (to be practical, if a boy's registered adult partner cannot attend a Tiger Cub activity meeting, a substitute may attend so the boy does not miss out on the meeting). Most meetings involve an activity or a field trip. Tiger Cub Dens should attend the Pack meetings.

Meeting ideas are taken from The Tiger Cub Resource Book and should be used to supplement the Tiger Cub Family Activity Book. Remember that most of the program supplies you need are available in the Scout Service Center. For each big idea completed by a den, an iron-on Tiger Track from the Family Activity Packet may be added to the front of the Tiger Cub's uniform shirt. The Tiger Cub is also eligible to receive activity beads-one orange bead for each den activity completed and one white bead for every five family activities completed. Activity beads may be worn on the specially designed leather tiger paw that is attached to the Tiger Cub belt. This is called a belt totem.

#### Sample Meeting Outline for Tiger Cubs

- 1. Gathering. Before the den meeting begins, have a game, puzzle, seek 'n' find, or other activity to keep the boys busy until everyone arrives.
- Opening. Begin the program year with the den reciting the Tiger Cub Promise or motto. Later in the year, vary the opening with the Pledge of Allegiance or a song. As the Tiger Cubs get closer to becoming Cub Scouts they might practice the Cub Scout Promise or Law of the Pack in unison.
- 3. Sharing. Let each boy share some of the things that he has done with his adult partner since the last den meeting.
- Searching. Plan for the next den meeting. Announce the big idea selected by the next host team. Give the date, time, place, and any other important information for the next den meeting.
- 5. Closing. During the early part of the year, close the meeting with the Tiger Cub Promise or motto. Later in the year, use your own closing or use the Cub Scout motto.



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Each family picks their own activities. There is no need for the teams to do the same family activities. The activities that each family chooses will depend on their activities and the ages of the other children in the family.

Family activities are just as much fun when they are simple activities. Put together a puzzle, check your first aid box, plant a tree.

Try to have a family activity each week. Put it right on the calendar. After all, spending time as a family is important.

Family activities should be just that, activities involving the whole family. Try to do something that involves the Big Ideas for the month. The Family Activity Book has many good suggestions. If you wish to do something outside the realm of the Big Idea, like making a get-well card, or going ice-fishing, remember that doing something together is what is important.

DON'T FORGET TO PUT UP THE TIGER CUB POSTER, AND TO PUT STICKERS ON IT EVERY TIME A FAMILY ACTIVITY IS COMPLETED.



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# **Tiger Cub Activities**

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#### Gathering Activity - Block Puzzle

Make a simple block puzzle out of heavy-duty paper or cardboard and a sketch of the puzzle for each boy. Put the puzzles and sketches in envelopes to hand to boys as they arrive. Let the boys assemble their puzzles during the gathering period.

#### **Peanut Totem**

Materials: peanuts, wire, paint or shellac, felt-tip pens, cardboard box lids or wood blocks, stapler or staple gun.

String a wire through several peanuts. (If you heat the wire red-hot, it will bore more easily but will require close attention if Tiger Cubs handle it.) Paint or shellac the peanuts and add monster heads, animal faces, etc., with paint or felt-tip pens. Staple the wire at the bottom of the totem to the base.

#### **Totem Pole**

Materials: large, empty thread spools; construction paper; glue; felt-tip pens; plastic wiggly eyes.

Each Tiger Cub can make one layer of the totem by decorating a spool with construction paper, glue, pens, and wiggly eyes as desired. Assemble the totem and glue the spools together for stability. Glue the bottom spool to a piece of wood for a base. The totem can serve as a den decoration for the entire year.

#### Nametag Necklace

Materials: pieces of leather, Tiger Cub leather-tooling stamp, plastic lacing, permanent markers, hole punch. (Note: Materials can be purchased from a local craft or hobby shop. The tooling stamp is available through the Scout Shop

Have each boy stamp his leather piece with the Tiger Cub leather stamp, then decorate it and add his name with a permanent marker. Punch one or two holes in the leather piece and thread the plastic lacing through to form a necklace.

#### **Toothpick Name Tag**

Materials: round, colored toothpicks; glue; uncoated alphabet pasta; safety pins.

Cover the work surface with several layers of newspaper. Choose five toothpicks of different colors. Glue them together side by side and allow them to dry. Shape your name with the alphabet pasta and glue it to the toothpicks. Seal it with shellac and glue a pin to the back.

#### Tiger Tales Scrapbook

Materials: orange and white three-prong (folder for each boy, three-hole-punched typing paper, Tiger Cub stickers, other decorations as desired.

Have the Tiger Cubs assemble their scrapbooks and decorate as desired. They can draw pictures, attach photos, and keep mementos of Tiger Cub events in their new scrapbooks.



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# **Tiger Cub Games**

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#### Pass the Block

Equipment: music player and music, wooden block.

The Tiger Cubs and their adult partners sit in a circle. The host pair starts the music and the players pass a wooden block around the circle. When the host pair stops the music, the person holding the block is out of the game. The last person in the game is the winner.

#### **Bat the Balloon**

Equipment: one or two inflated balloons.

Divide the Tiger Cubs into two teams. Have them sit in two rows facing each other with their legs stretched out in front, one hand held behind their back, and the bottoms of their feet touching the bottoms of the feet in front of them. The host partner tosses a balloon between the two rows of boys. A team scores 1 point when it hits the balloon over the heads of the other team (high enough that the other team cannot return it). The winning score is 5 points.

Variation: The host partner tosses in two balloons.

#### **Self-Portrait**

Equipment: large paper bags, crayons.

Give each boy a crayon and a paper bag large enough to go over his head. Following the host partner's directions and by tracing on the bag, the artists draw their left and right eyes, left and right ears, and left and right eyebrows, etc., onto the bag. When each artist finishes and takes off his mask, he will have a self-portrait.



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# Tiger Cub Songs

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#### **Tiger, Tiger, Little Scout**

(Tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star")

Tiger, tiger, little Scout
What is Tiger Cubs all about?
Having fun and lots of joys
That's what Tiger Cubs is all about

#### **Good Tiger Cubs**

(Tune: "Farmer in the Dell")

Good Tiger Cubs are we Good Tiger Cubs are we Everywhere we march today Good Tiger Cubs are we!

#### T-I-G-E-R

(tune: Bingo)

Chorus:

T-I-G-E-R, T-I-G-E-R

And Tiger is it's name-o

BSA has a new den

And Tiger is it's name-o

Chorus

It's made up of younger boys

We are all in first grade-o

Chorus

We joined up for lots of fun Games, and songs, and play-o

Chorus

Every team will lead us once In charge of our small den-o

Chorus

A mom or dad will be our guide To help us learn things right-o

Chorus

The Pack will welcome us just so On graduation night-o Chorus

### **Tiger Cub Vespers**

(tune: O Christmas Tree)

Softly falls the light of day
As our campfire fades away
Silently each Tiger should ask
Have I done my daily task?
Learned about my world today
Helped my family in some small way
For my God, my country cared
As I searched, discovered, shared.



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# **Graduation Ceremonies**

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About a month before the planned graduation, the den should work on Big Idea #17, Cub Scouting Here We Come. The den should be encouraged to work on the Bobcat

requirements.

A graduation ceremony needs to be planned with the Cubmaster. The ceremony in the Tiger Cub Coach manual can be used or one can be created. Be as creative as you want. If the pack has a bridge, use it. The parents "graduate" too. They need to know that they will be involved with their boys in the Cub Scout program too.

Here is a list of items that many packs present at Tiger Cub graduation. Note that if the pack does not have the funds to purchase the things for the ceremony, the parents can be asked to pay for the items for their boy.

- Service star (year pin)
- Tiger Cub Graduate Certificate
- Tiger Cub Graduate Patch
- Tiger Cub Strip Patch
- Cub Scout Neckerchief
- Wolf Book

#### **Tiger Cub Graduation**

Tigers are lined up at the back of the room with Tiger Cub Coach.

COACH: "Mr. Cubmaster, I have (#) Tiger Cubs who have completed the Search, Discover, and Share program and are now ready to be inducted into the pack.

CUBMASTER: "We are now ready to receive them."

The Coach calls each boy by name and he enters with his family. The Tigers stand with their partners behind them.

COACH: "These Tigers have shared friendship and adventure." Turning to the Cubmaster - "They are now ready to move ahead."

CUBMASTER: "Tiger Cubs, please step forward. Do you promise to do your best, to do your duty to God and your country, to help

other people, and to obey the Law of the Pack? If so, say 'I do'." Turning to the parents, "do you promise to assist your son throughout the Scouting Trail? If so say, 'I do'."

The Cubmaster then calls each boy forward, welcomes him, and presents him with his certificate and Wolf Book.

CUBMASTER: "You are now official Cub Scouts in Pack \_\_\_\_. Will the audience please stand and welcome them with a round of applause?"

#### **Cub-O-Matic Machine**

Build an "electric" Cub-O-Matic machine into which Tiger Cubs entered, were "cooked", and then exited as a Cub (yellow neckerchief on).

To make this machine, obtain a large cardboard (appliance) box. It can be open at the top and bottom, but may need to be reinforced with small boards to help it keep its shape. Paint it half orange and half blue.

Fashion a door on the front of the box by making cuts that will be the top and the handle-edge of the door. Then make the "hinged" side by folding the door back so it can swing open (i.e. the hinges are really just part of the box front). We didn't make the door the whole width of the front side. Add a simple handle on the outside that attaches to a Popsicle stick on the inside that will "catch" when turned - to keep the door closed.

On the back of the box, about shoulder high, cut a one-foot square door, making the hinge in the same way as the front door (side hinged is probably easier to work with than top or bottom hinged) - don't cut a hole out. This is the "trap" door that's used to put the scarf on the Tiger cub.

For effect, we added a "done-ness" dial on front which didn't turn: it had Tiger and the other Cub ranks on it. A black arrow-shaped "pointer" was attached to a dowel that extended through the done-ness dial to the back of the box. There was also a light bulb on front, whose cord had a toggle switch placed in back of the box.

For the ceremony, the Cubmaster explains that the Tigers are ready to graduate to the next rank, and to facilitate this process, he's using this handy-dandy, state-of-the-art Cub-O-Matic machine. He must choose the desired setting (i.e. Bobcat), insert a Tiger cub, and let him "cook" until done. To alleviate any fears or apprehensions, the

Cubmaster shows that he can enter the Cub-O-Matic, get "cooked" and come out unscathed. (Our Cubmaster entered the box in regular uniform and came out with a clown's wig & nose on. Upon exit, he pretended to not notice the changes!)

Only one boy can enter at a time. The audience can't see the person(s) in back of the box who attaches the yellow scarf & slide on the Scout, turns the done-ness pointer, then when "done" turns on the light.

Our boys were leery at first, but the Cubmaster's act helped ease their anxiety. After the pack meeting, all the Cubs wanted a turn in the Cub-O-Matic!

#### Let's Make A Deal!

Do you remember the "Let's Make a Deal!" TV program from years ago? MC Monty Hall would approach audience members who were dressed up in outrageous costumes and ask them if they would be willing to trade part of their costume for the special prize behind the curtain/the box/in his pocket? Well, many of your parents will, and even though your Tiger Cubs won't be familiar with it, if you jazz up the selections, they'll want to trade!

Create a curtained area(s) and put some junk behind it. Get a large box(es), set it on a stand or table, and put something trashy in it. Additionally, cover a shoe box in some glitzy paper, and set it on a TV tray.

The number of selections you have depends on the number of boys you have, whether you let boys select (share) the same item or not, and your creativity. I plan to create 3 "bogus" prize selections and use a shoe box selection to hold some scarves. In addition, the Cubmaster will have some "backup" envelopes in his pockets that contain scarves.

For the ceremony, the Cubmaster will explain that the Tigers are at the point in their Scouting career where they are now ready to become Cubs. He adds that they have grown and matured and are on their way to learning (or HAVE learned) the basic tenets of Cub Scouting (Bobcat requirements). But, he now wants to test their courage and decision-making skills. He asks all the Tigers to come forward.

His assistant(s) puts up the "Let's Make a Deal" sign and "rolls" the various trade-off selections into place. The Cubmaster explains that behind each selection is a very special prize. Each boy can select ONE choice, in exchange for something the Scout is willing to trade (his old Tiger Big Idea booklet, or some other prop the Den

Coordinator has pre-arranged).

If you have more boys than selections, be sure to ask all the boys what they want to trade for BEFORE showing the "prizes."

Then show the boys their prizes! The Cubmaster can "heartily endorse" the gag prizes to the boys (i.e. these boxes will really come in handy for building a tunnel or holding a collection - things that are really possible requirements for the Wolf badge).

If the boys didn't "win" the Wolf scarf, give them another chance to trade for an envelope the Cubmaster just happens to have in his pocket. Some boys may want to keep the gag prize, which is OK too.



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# **Tiger Cub Poem**

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As I take my first steps on the Scouting trail, I'll earn my paws with quite a tale.

In my uniform of orange and white, I'll try to do what's right.

As I Search out things of new.

I'll learn there's lots of things to do.

With all the things yet to Discover, I just might learn to be a nature lover.

For with my family all of this I Share, It's because of them I really care.

You never know what one may see, I just might someday an Eagle be.

- -Robin R. Custer, Sr.
- -Southeastern Massachusetts Cluster Pow Wow 1997

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Each month a different Tiger Team takes on the responsibility for planning and conducting the den meeting(s). Here is a quick (suggested) list of the responsibilities of the monthly Tiger Team.

- Plan, run and organize your month's Tiger Cub meetings.
- Remind Tigers and their partners of any Pack activities scheduled during your month.
- Phone the names of participants of the monthly meeting to the Tiger Cub Coach two days prior to the Pack Meeting. This allows for the Tiger paws to be separated for presentation at the Pack meeting.
- Pass on the Tiger Cub notebook, including the Tiger Cub Resource Book and any other Tiger equipment or supplies, to the next month's Tiger Team.



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