



Webelos Den Meeting 14

More Webelos Craftsmen

Craftsman activity badge (completion).

Preparation and Materials Needed

- ▶ Note that while this is laid out as one meeting, to complete this activity badge you will likely need to use two or more den meeting days—the details of each day depend on the projects you'll complete. If you have several craftsman hobbyist activity badge counselors, you might have separate meetings with each.
 - Alternatively, some may be assigned to be completed at home.
 - This meeting might include completion of items started in prior Craftsman meetings.
- ▶ Read the Craftsman chapter in the *Webelos Handbook*.
 - Review the Crafts sections in the *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book* for ideas about crafts you or an activity badge counselor could conduct in the den meetings.
- ▶ Identify any parents or other pack resources who are handy with tools and could be your activity badge counselor for this meeting—these might include woodworkers, potters (so consider your art teachers), and arts and crafts hobbyists. If you have such a resource, you might do this meeting as a field trip to the craftsman's workshop. You might see if a local hardware store can host a Craftsman meeting.
 - Be sure any guest speaker knows how long the presentation should run, and that you've confirmed what can or should be covered that would be interesting and fun for the Scouts.
 - Show any guest speaker the Craftsman chapter in the *Webelos Handbook*.
- ▶ If you are doing this as a field trip, inform Scouts and families about when and where to meet.
- ▶ Materials checklist (add to your den Cub tub of U.S./den flags, paper/pencils, other supplies):
 - Tools and material to construct two different wooden objects (see the list below).
 - Tools and material to make a display stand or box to be used to display a model or an award, or a frame for a photo or painting.
 - Tools and material to make four items out of clay, plastic, leather, metal, paper, rubber, or rope.
 - Craftsman activity badge pins for each of your Scouts (so they can be awarded if completed today), and compass emblems or points (if those will be completed today).

Before the Meeting

- ▶ Review After the Meeting at the end of the previous den meeting plan for necessary preparation and materials.
- ▶ Make final preparations with assistance from any assistant den leader or other parent helper, den chief, and/or denner. Organize the space (seating, flags, advancement charts, activity materials, handouts, etc.). If you're snacking, organize space for that and the cleanup.

Gathering

- ▶ Have a gathering activity (games, puzzles, other) that will keep Scouts interested and busy and that others may join as they arrive. If the den desires, serve a healthy snack during this time.
- ▶ If you have background materials for the activity badge, Scouts may be interested in reviewing those.
- ▶ If you're on a field trip, as boys arrive, collect permission slips from parents who are not staying.
- ▶ Collect dues, record attendance and any advancement completed at home (a good job for an assistant den leader). Assign parents to meeting roles and hand out a meeting plan to each.

Opening

- ▶ Flag ceremony (rotate planning and leadership to complete **Webelos requirement 6**), with Pledge of Allegiance; maybe recite the Cub Scout Promise or sing a patriotic song; perhaps add a roll call, uniform recognition, or den yell.
- ▶ If you have a guest, give a formal introduction, including what the guest will do for you.

Business Items

- ▶ Remind the boys of appropriate behavior, including safety considerations, at the site of your visit.
- ▶ Use this time also to discuss participation in upcoming pack meetings or events as needed.
- ▶ Explain that today's meeting is to work on the **Craftsman activity badge** because we want to learn to use tools, and find some craftsman talent that will be useful or may lead to a hobby in one of these areas.

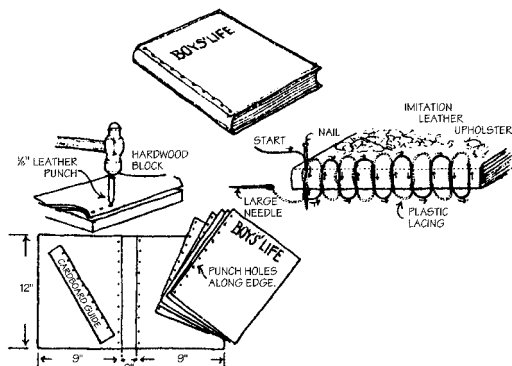
Activities

- ▶ **Craftsman Activity Badge:** Requirements are to do requirements 1–4. (This meeting does 3 and 4. Den Meeting 14 did 1 and 2.)



3. Make a display stand, or box to be used to display a model or an award. Or make a frame for a photo or painting. Use suitable material.
 - You might make pinewood derby display stands for your pack.
 - See the design at page 205 of the *Webelos Handbook* for one idea on how to make those.
4. Make four useful items using materials other than wood that you and your Webelos den leader agree on, such as clay, plastic, leather, metal, paper, rubber, or rope. These should be challenging items and must involve several operations.

- One might be a *Boys' Life* binder:
This binder will hold a year's worth of *Boys' Life* issues.
- Materials: 12-by-20-inch piece of leather or imitation leather, 6 feet of plastic or leather lacing, 1/4-inch leather punch, hammer, wood block, sack needle, cardboard gauge, nail



- a. Use a cardboard gauge to mark an even row of 10 holes along the back edge of each magazine, 1 inch apart and 1/4 inch from the edge. Place a hardwood block under the magazine while driving the punch through.
- b. Punch two rows of holes down the center of the cover, spaced 2 inches apart, center to center. Use the same cardboard gauge to mark these holes.
- c. Lace the magazines and cover together. Run half the length of lacing through the bottom hole. Using a sack needle, run both ends through the next hole (one from the top; one from the bottom) so that each end comes out on the opposite side. A nail inserted in the top hole will keep it all in line. Keep the lacing pulled tight and continue to the top hole.
- d. Tie the lacing at the back of book with a square knot. Cut off excess. Trim the cover, allowing for an extra 1/4 inch over the edges of the magazines.
- e. The cover can be tooled with the words "Boys' Life" and the year.

- This meeting might include completion of pinewood derby cars as one of the two objects.

If more time is needed, especially to complete 2–4, consider assigning as a family project.

- ▶ In the boys' *Webelos Handbooks*, sign the requirements met (and update your records).

Closing

- ▶ Award (or recognize) any advancement completed today (ideally, award the activity badge, belt loop or compass item completed today, and recognize later at the pack meeting); thank hosts, guests, helpers.
- ▶ Closing ceremony (rotate planning and leadership to complete **Webelos requirement 6**): Retire the colors; maybe with the Boy Scout Oath and/or Law, or the Law of the Pack and/or den yell. Den leader may add a den leader's minute comment.
- ▶ Remind the Webelos Scout who will plan and lead the next meeting's flag ceremony, and remind about home assignments (and include these in any family information letter or e-mail).
- ▶ Hand out or send family information letter.

▶ Home Assignments:

- **Scholar 11:** Ask a parent and five other grown-ups these questions:
 - What do you think are the best things about my school?
 - What could be done to improve it?
- Tell what you think were the best answers and why.
- Review the Scholar and Artist chapters in the *Webelos Handbook*.

After the Meeting

- ▶ If you've changed the sequence of den meetings, double-check to make sure you will still advance your boys appropriately and check with the Cubmaster to make sure you stay coordinated with the pack.
- ▶ Refreshments: If appropriate
- ▶ Cleanup: Recruit enough help to do a good job. Scouts always leave an area as clean, or cleaner, than they found it.