## Cub Scout Den Meeting Outline

## Month: June

### Point of the Scout Law: Brave

|                   | Tiger  | Wolf                  | Bear                  | Webelos               | Arrow of Light        |
|-------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Before the        | Gather materials for   | Gather materials for  | Gather materials for  | Gather materials for  | Gather materials for  |
| Meeting           | gathering and other  | gathering and other   | gathering and other   | gathering and other   | gathering and other   |
|                   | activities, games and  | activities, games and | activities, games and | activities, games and | activities, games and |
|                   | have home assignments  | have home assignments | have home assignments | have home assignments | have home assignments |
|                   | (if any) ready.  | (if any) ready.       | (if any) ready.       | (if any) ready.       | (if any) ready.       |
| Gathering         | Snake Search   |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| Opening           | Cub Scout Safari Opening   |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| Activity          | Poisonous Snakes – Beaded Coral Snake; Cottonmouth Snake Twirler |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| Game              | Explorers and the Snake Pit                                      |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| Business          | None   | None                  | None                  | None                  | None                  |
| items/Take home   |  |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| Closing           | Living Circle Closing  |                       |                       |                       |                       |
| After the meeting |  |                       |                       |                       |                       |

#### Materials:

Gathering: copies of word search, pencils

Opening: flag, opening cards

Activity: chenille stems, red, black, and yellow pony beads, googly eyes, scissors, glue; snake twirler template, scissors, yarn, stapler/staples

Games: None

Closing: None

Home assignments: None

### Advancement: Tiger - None Wolf – None Bear – None Webelos – None Arrow of Light – None

Week: **3** 

### **Snake Search**



Find the following types of snakes:

Adder Anaconda Boa Coral Copperhead Coral Cottonmouth Grass Mamba Rattlesnake Sidewinder Viper



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### **Cub Scout Safari Opening**

**Materials:** Cards with S, A, F, A, R, I with lines on the back

**Cub Scout #1**: S is for Scouting, we're searching the trail. For adventure and fun, we surely can't fail.

### Cub Scout #2:

A is for Action, we like to play games. But being good sports is part of the aim.

### Cub Scout #3:

F is for Fun, we like being Cub Scouts! It's the best thing there is, without any doubt.

### Cub Scout #4:

A is for Adventure, and trying new things. We give it our best when we try anything.

### Cub Scout #5:

R is for Ready, we're ready to go! On field trips, or camping, or wherever we go.

### Cub Scout #6:

I is for Ideals, that we learn here in Scouts. Of loyalty, country, and freedom we shout. Please join us in saluting our country's symbol of freedom by saying the Pledge of Allegiance.





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# **Poisonous Snakes Discussion**

Have a group discussion with the Cub Scouts about the poisonous snakes that they might encounter. Then do the Beaded Coral Snake and Snake Spiral activities.

### **Coral Snake Facts:**

-Coral snakes have one of the strongest venoms of any snake, but because of their small jaws they are not considered as dangerous as rattlesnakes.

-The snakes are usually between 18 and 20 inches long. Some grow to be 3 feet long.

-They can be as skinny as a pencil.

-Their heads are small and look like their tails.

-Their fangs are always out because they cannot pull them back into their mouths. -There is a harmless king snake that looks so much like the coral snake that people made up a rhyme about their coloring. However, it is a good idea to never pick up any snake unless there is an adult with you. The rhyme is: "Red and yellow, kill a fellow; "Red and black, friend of Jack."

-Coral snakes live in a variety of habitats, ranging from marshes to woods and sand hills. They also like to sleep under rotting leaves. They are often found in suburban areas as well.

-They eat lizards and other small snakes.

-They lay eggs. Babies are 7 inches long when they hatch and are fully venomous. -Most people who are bitten receive the bite when they pick up the snakes or step on them with bare feet.



### **Copperhead Snake Facts:**

-Copperhead snakes get their name from their copper-red heads.

-They are pit vipers and have heat-sensing pits on their faces that help them detect prey.

-Copperheads have wide, muscular bodies with hourglass-shaped markings. (sometimes these markings look like Hershey's™ Kisses)

-They average between 2 and 3 feet long.

-They live in many different environments, including rocky areas, woods, and mountains; near streams, desert oases, and canyons. Nearer to humans, they also love to live in wood and sawdust piles, abandoned and overgrown yards, and old construction areas.

-Although they hunt alone, they are social and hibernate in dens with many other snakes.

-Copperheads eat mice and other small rodents, small birds, lizards, amphibians, small snakes, and insects.

-They use their pits to sense heat and track prey. After they bite large prey, they wait until the prey dies and then eat it.

-Adults sometimes eat only 10 to 12 meals a year if the meal is a larger animal.

-Babies are born live with fangs and venom as dangerous as an adult snake's.

-Copperheads give no warning and will strike almost immediately if they feel threatened.



### **Cottonmouth Snake Facts:**

-Cottonmouths are the only venomous water snake in North America, but they are also happy soaking up the heat on land.

-They have a triangular head and a thick body.

-They are also commonly called water moccasins.

-They are called cottonmouths because they open their mouths wide when they are threatened. The inside of the mouth is white, like cotton.

-They are pit vipers.

-Cottonmouths range from 2 to 4 feet long.

-They have dark vertical lines by each nostril and pale snouts.

-They can be found in swamps, marshes, drainage ditches, ponds, lakes, and streams or sunning themselves on land nearby.

-They swim with their heads out of the water.

-They eat fish, birds, amphibians, lizards, baby alligators, turtles, small mammals, and other snakes.

-Babies are born live in litters of up to 20.

-When threatened, cottonmouths will coil up, open their mouths, and expose their fangs.





### Rattlesnake Facts:

-A rattlesnake's warning sounds are hissing and rattling of its tail.

-Rattlers can grow to be 1 to 7 feet long.

-They have a distinctly triangular head.

-Every time a rattlesnake sheds its skin, another ring is added to the rattle on its tail.

-Rattlesnakes live in many different environments in North and South America. They can live anywhere from desert sands to grasslands, scrub brush, rocky hills, and swamps. They can live in high elevations, up to 11,000 feet.

-Generations of rattlesnakes can use the same dens for hundreds of years.

-They give birth every two years to live babies.

- -They can live up to 30 years.
- -Rattlesnakes eat small rodents, reptiles, and insects.

-Their strike is extremely fast.

-They eat about every two weeks.

-Most rattlesnake strikes on humans happen when the snakes are stepped or sat upon.



## **Beaded Coral Snake**

#### Materials:

Googly eyes Glue Red, yellow, and black pony beads Chenille craft stems (Black – 1 for each Cub Scout; Red – 1 for every 4 Cub Scouts) Scissors Tags with the rhyme ""Red and yellow, kill a fellow; "Red and black, friend of Jack."

- 1. Cut red chenille stems into fourths.
- 2. Make a loop out of one end of the chenille stem to create the head.

3. Thread beads in the following order: red, yellow, black, yellow, red, yellow, black, yellow until you reach the end.

- 4. Fold a piece of red craft stem over the end of the loop and twist it to create the snake tongue.
- 5. Glue on eyes.
- 6. Add a tag with the following verse: "Red and yellow, kill a fellow; "Red and black, friend of Jack.



# **Cottonmouth Snake Twirler**

#### Materials:

Snake spiral – 1 per Cub Scout Yarn – 2 feet per Cub Scout Stapler/staples Scissors

Cut out the snake on the lines and then staple its head to a length of string. Twirl away.





# The Explorers and the Snake Pit

### Materials:

Blindfold

### How to play:

Separate the Cub Scouts into two teams, the explorers and the snakes.

Objective: To get the explorers through the snake pit without touching a snake.

The snakes sit randomly in the snake pit (playing area). One by one, blindfold an explorer and send him walking through the snake pit, with only the voice of one of the sighted explorers from that team to direct him.



While the blindfolded explorer walks through, the snakes hiss very loudly during this time, trying to mask the guide's directions. If an explorer touches a snake, he must sit down where he is and become a snake himself. Be sure to let the teams try both roles.

# **Living Circle Closing Ceremony**

To form a Living Circle, Cub Scouts and leaders form a close circle, facing inward. All turn slightly to the right, and extend their left hands into the center of the circle. Each person then grasps the thumb of the person to his left, making a complete Living Circle of left hands. Right hands are extended straight up in the Cub Scout sign.

Everyone repeats together: "We will do our best."

Everyone then says together the Scout Law:

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

