



**Core Value:
Citizenship**

Fifty Great States

Pack Committee

Why 50 Great States for the Core Value Citizenship. “Fifty Great States” reminds us that we are to contribute our service and show responsibility to local, state, and national communities. Cub Scouts develop good citizenship skills when they learn about respecting the flag and providing service to the community.

BEFORE THE MEETING

Consider inviting veterans in your area to your pack meeting. Invite dens that have been working on their Citizenship belt loops and pins to bring their posters to satisfy requirement 2. Make a poster showing things that you can do to be a good citizen.

Gather items required for the flag ceremony: one American flag; one large bowl or pot (like a Dutch oven); one extra-long spoon; pieces of red, white, and blue paper; white stars; a needle; and some thread. A few days before the meeting, create “weathered” copies of the Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights, and U.S. Constitution: Print a copy of each document, and soak the paper in hot tea until the tea has stained the paper. After the pages have dried, crumple them up to make them look more authentic and weathered. Decorate the meeting room with the weathered documents.

Gather materials for the gathering part of the meeting: names of 50 states cut and folded in a jar; each state’s motto, cut and folded and placed in same jar; scroll for awards ceremony.

Help Cub Scouts set up their displays.

GATHERING

As the Scouts arrive, have each one pull an item from the jar containing state names and mottoes. Have the Scouts figure out their corresponding state or motto and then find the Scout who has that matching state or motto. (For example, the Scout who pulls “Michigan” will find the Scout who pulled Michigan’s state motto.) As the Scouts get settled, have them stay with their partner states and mottoes.

OPENING

The Cubmaster asks whether we have a lot of states represented here. The Cubmaster will call out each state’s motto. The Scouts with that state and motto will stand up and yell out their state’s name. Example: When the Cubmaster calls out “Lone Star State,” Scouts who pulled the state name “Texas” and the motto “Lone Star State” will stand up and yell “Texas!” Be sure to invite the parents to join in the activity.

Invite the preassigned den to do the opening flag ceremony.

Materials: seven Scouts; one narrator; one American flag; one large bowl or pot (like a Dutch oven); one extra-long spoon; pieces of red, white, and blue paper; white stars; a needle; and some thread.

Preparation: Conceal an American flag inside a large bowl or pot. The Cub Scouts will use a long spoon to stir the pot as they add pieces of red paper, blue paper, and white paper; white stars; a needle; and some thread.

NARRATOR: Today we have a special treat, and we’re going to follow this recipe, the greatest in the land.

First, we put in a heaping cup of red for courage. (*CUB SCOUT 1 puts pieces of red paper into the pot.*)

We’ll add blue for truth, justice, and loyalty. (*CUB SCOUT 2 puts pieces of blue paper into the pot.*)

We’ll also need some white for purity or cleanliness of thought, word, and deed, along with some stars. (*CUB SCOUT 3 pours in pieces of white paper and CUB SCOUT 4 pours in white stars.*)

Last, we’ll add a needle and thread. The steel of the needle represents the strength of our nation. The thread ties us all together as Americans. (*CUB SCOUT 5 puts in the needle and thread.*)

When you combine these things, you come up with our flag, Old Glory. (*CUB SCOUTS 6 and 7 remove the flag from the pot, open, and hold it.*) May it always fly with honor and respect.

(After this opening, have the Scouts put the flag on a flagpole for display during the meeting. Repeat the Pledge of Allegiance if you would like.)





Prayer

CUBMASTER OR LEADER: Tonight, let us remember all of those who came before us to help build this country. Remember their sacrifices and their examples of citizenship. Let us also remember those who will come after us to help keep this country the beautiful place that it is.

Welcome and Introductions

The Cubmaster welcomes new families, introduces them to the pack, and thanks those who helped prepare the pack meeting. Greet especially those veterans who have joined you. Encourage each boy to thank these veterans for their service to their country. A preassigned den recites the Preamble to the Declaration of Independence. Have several boys each memorize one line:

In 1776, when the Declaration of Independence was written,

Our forefathers started the outline of our rights as American citizens:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident,

That all men are created equal,

That they are endowed by their Creator

With certain unalienable Rights,

That among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.”

CUBMASTER: With these rights, we have our own duties of being good citizens. Tonight, we invite those dens that worked on their Citizenship belt loops to share what they have learned about our duties as citizens.

PROGRAM

Den Demonstrations

Have each den talk about their posters for citizenship. Have each den come up and discuss what they have done and what our duties are as citizens of our state.

CUBMASTER: What a great example of citizenship and a good look at what great citizens each of you are becoming. Thank you for sharing your work with us. We salute you for your hard work! Let’s do the Red, White, and Blue cheer!”

Cheer

Divide the pack into three groups, RED group, WHITE group, BLUE group. As the Cubmaster points to each group, and they stand and shout their color. The cheer doesn’t always have to be in order. Mix it up to make it fun!

Pack Song

Have a preassigned den lead the pack in singing “America (My Country ’Tis of Thee),” by the Rev. Samuel F. Smith.

America (My Country ’Tis of Thee)

My country! ’tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims’ pride,
From ev’ry mountain side
Let freedom ring.

My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free,
Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,



Thy woods and templed hills,
My heart with rapture thrills
Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees,
Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake,
Let all that breathe partake,
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of Liberty,
To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light,
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King.

RECOGNITION

The Cubmaster holds out a big scroll reading the names of the Scouts receiving their awards. Have another leader or den chief help with handing out the awards.

CUBMASTER: Being a citizen of the United States, we have freedoms that are not allowed in many other countries—freedom to vote, freedom to think and say what we want, to worship as we please, and go where we want to go. Freedom to be a Scout! Tonight we recognize those Scouts who have earned their rank. *(The Cubmaster will call the boys by name and ask their parents to please step forward. Fill in lines below with each Scout and the applicable rank.)*

It is my honor as president of this state of Cub Scouts to admit you the office or rank of _____ (INSERT SCOUT'S NAME), I name you president-elect (INSERT BOY'S FIRST NAME). Be it known to all of the states that you have been confirmed with the rank of _____. Parents, will you please present (INSERT SCOUT'S NAME) with the badge representing the rank of _____.

Friends of the state, let us congratulate our new _____ with a cheer!
Red, White, and Blue! Red, White, and Blue!

Bobcat, you have completed the first freedom in this pack and exhibited great citizenship in the process. As a good citizen of this pack, you have promised to do your duty to God and your country. Live by these words and remember your duties to continue to be a good citizen.

Tiger, you are the youngest members of our pack but the most eager. Your Go See It activities remind us of our forefathers settling our country. This task of creating a new government was not easy but reminds us of our duties as a citizen and to continue to honor those words our forefathers spoke—Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness are our rights.

Wolf, one of the obligations of exhibiting good citizenship is the care and respect we are to give our flag. You have taken the challenge as a Wolf Scout, and you have learned the importance of our pledge and have given your allegiance to our flag and to our country. These are great building blocks for becoming a good citizen. Continue to build upon these blocks.

Bear, the Bears begin to see much more freedom than the younger Scouts. What requirements you need to complete your rank are decided by you and Akela. You extend these freedoms more as you continue to grow. Let us not forget the strength we need to maintain these freedoms and the duties that are required to be a good citizen.



Webelos, the oldest Scouts in our pack, are the fine young men in our Webelos patrols. Webelos, meaning “We’ll Be LOyal Scouts,” remain faithful and true to the pack even while they begin to stretch their wings and become more independent. You have been great examples of good citizens of our pack to the younger Scouts.

Arrow of Light, the highest award in Cub Scouting and the shining light of our pack. You have earned the Citizen activity badge, and you understand the importance of good citizenship. Commit to being a good citizen and influencing others to be good citizens as well.

CUBMASTER’S MINUTE

The freedoms we have were granted to us by our forefathers through the Declaration of Independence—Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness—and the Bill of Rights outlined in the Constitution. But, to quote Eleanor Roosevelt, “With freedom comes responsibility.” Tonight we learned of our responsibilities as Americans. Respecting and honoring those freedoms among the other people in this country helps us to be good citizens. But to keep these rights, men and women have made sacrifices of their time and, sometimes, their lives. The biggest way we can repay this is to be good citizens. As adults, we can vote, follow laws, and pay our taxes. As young men learning about life, you can repay this debt by being kind to others, respecting the flag, and helping others where possible.

CLOSING

A preassigned den retires the flags. Scouts again thank those veterans who have attended the pack meeting.