



Wolf Den Meeting 14

American Indian Lore

Elective 10.

Preparation and Materials Needed

- ▶ Materials checklist (add to your den Cub tub of U.S./den flags, paper/pencils, other supplies):
 - Bring a short book on American Indian lore with lots of drawings (ask your public librarian for assistance in identifying a suitable book for second-graders).
 - Bring brown paper sacks, scissors for each boy, and markers. Each boy will cut a vest, fringe it, and decorate it with markers. Alternate craft: Drums (coffee or paint cans, chamois or vinyl cloth, string or thong, sticks, cotton ball and string).
 - Alternate to this for the “non-crafty”: Drop the vest/drum, and add **Elective 1** (“It’s a Secret”), bringing white paper and milk or lemon juice, plus toothpicks.
 - Bring copies of the lyrics to “She’ll Be Coming ’Round the Mountain” (*Cub Scout Songbook*) for each boy.
 - Beads for Cub Scout Immediate Recognition Emblems

Before the Meeting

- ▶ 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.
- ▶ 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

- ▶ Conduct a flag ceremony, indoor (**Achievement 2b**) or outdoor (**Achievement 2f**).
Options include:
 - Gather in a line, circle, or square. Pledge of Allegiance; have the Scout leading the ceremony tell what the Pledge means (**Achievement 2a**); Cub Scout Promise or Law of the Pack; lead patriotic song.
 - Rotate leadership of flag ceremonies so each boy has a turn at every role (**Achievement 2b**).

Business Items

- ▶ Use this time to discuss participation in coming pack meetings or events, as needed.

Activities

- ▶ **Elective 10a** (“Read a book or tell a story about American Indians, past or present.”):
 - Ask if anyone has read a book about American Indian lore and would like to discuss it.
 - If not, ask if anyone can tell a story about American Indians, past or present.
 - If needed and you have a book, have each boy read two pages (or so) and pass the book to the next boy—pause at optimal intervals to discuss.
 - If needed, make an assignment for each boy to read another book about American Indians to tell about at the next den meeting.
- ▶ **Electives 10c** (“Make traditional American Indian clothing.”) and **10f** (“Learn 12 American Indian word pictures and write a story with them.”) (page 159 of the *Wolf Handbook*):
 - Each boy cuts a vest from a brown paper sack, then cuts fringe along the bottom of his woodland vest. Then write a story on the vest, with markers, using Indian word pictures.
 - Have each boy choose an American Indian name (Swift Runner, Peace Maker, etc.).
 - If a vest isn’t your thing, they can make a drum with coffee or paint cans, chamois or vinyl cloth, string or thong to tie the cloth on, and drumsticks made of cotton ball and string wrapped around a stick. Decorate as you would the vests.



- ▶ BUT, if you are not crafty and want to drop the vest/drums, you can stay on theme and do **Elective 1** (“It’s a Secret.”):
 - Remind the Scouts that Navajo code talkers were integral to our winning World War Two.
 - **Elective 1a** (“Use a secret code.”): See page 110. Allow them to create their own messages.
 - **Elective 1b** (“Write to a friend in invisible ‘ink.’”): The ink is milk or lemon juice; use a toothpick as a pen/quill. Write the message on a white paper, and let it dry. Can’t be seen . . . unless you put it over or up to a light.
 - **Elective 1d** (“Use 12 American Indian signs to tell a story.”): See page 114. See who can understand some simple messages.
- ▶ Sing “She’ll Be Coming ’Round the Mountain” (*Cub Scout Songbook*).

Closing

- ▶ Award (or recognize) any advancement completed at this meeting; thank hosts, guests, and helpers.
- ▶ Closing ceremony: Retire the colors (fold and return the flag), or have a den leader’s minute with a Living Circle, or the Law of the Pack and den yell (or other ceremony).
- ▶ Hand out or send family information letter.

- ▶ **Home Assignment:** Explain the assignment to read a book about American Indians, past or present (**Elective 10a**), and ask parents to help their boy complete this and **Elective 21** at home.

Boys who have attended all den meetings and completed home assignments will qualify for their fourth yellow Progress Toward Ranks bead to be placed on their Cub Scout Immediate Recognition Emblem (for completing **Achievements 2, 11, and 12**).

These boys have now completed requirements for the Wolf badge, which should be presented at the blue and gold banquet. Or you could present today, and “recognize” at the banquet.

Boys who have attended relevant den meetings and completed home assignments will qualify for a Gold Arrow Point for 10 electives completed: **Electives 9b; 11a; 17a–c; 20g; 20h–j; and 20k, l, or m.**

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.