

JUNGLE SAFARI

CEREMONIES

Cub Scout Safari

Sam Houston Area Council

Setting – 8 Scouts in a line; six should be holding the letters S-A-F-A-R-I with the appropriate verses on the back.

Scene – Scouts stand in a line spelling SAFARI. One Scout without a letter stands on each side of this line.

Cub #1: Jungle Safari is our theme this month.

Safari means searching, and we are searching for some fun!

Cub #2: **S** is for Scouting, we're searching the trail.

For adventure and fun, we surely can't fail.

Cub #3: **A** is for Action, we like to play games.

But being good sports is part of the aim.

Cub #4: **F** is for Fun, we like being Cub Scouts!

It's the best thing there is, without any doubt.

Cub #5: **A** is for Adventure, and trying new things.

We give it our best when we try anything.

Cub #6: **R** is for Ready, we're ready to go!

On field trips, or camping, or hiking you know.

Cub #7: **I** is for Ideals, that we learn here in Scouts.

Of loyalty, country, and freedom we shout.

Cub #8: Please join us in saluting our country's symbol of freedom by saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jungle Lights Opening

Materials:

- Big plants, or cut out trees and greenery from construction paper to decorate meeting place.
- Have pictures of animals around.
- Turn off the lights except for small ones around trees up front.
- Each speaker carries a ("Jungle Lights") flashlight covered with transparent cup decorated with the head of a jungle animal they represent.

Ceremony:

Cubmaster: We have returned from a safari, and have learned much about the jungles and the animals in them. Let us share with you our knowledge.

Bobcat: I have gained appreciation for God, and His creations.

Tiger: I have studied the world we live in and the animals that roam upon it.

Wolf: I have found the enjoyment of freedom to explore, and learn of the animals and their homes.

Bear: I have learned to respect others as we worked together to learn about the jungles.

Webelos: I have found fun in the Pack as we traveled together helping one another.

Cubmaster: The Cub Scouts have told how they have put into practice the Cub Scout Promise. Will you all please stand and repeat with me the Cub Scout Promise.

What We Learn from the Jungle Opening

Props: Have each boy choose one of the animals below, and draw the animal on a big piece of construction paper or posterboard. Color or paint it, cut it out, and stick their words on the back.

Leader: This month's theme was "Jungle Safari" - let's see what the boys in Den ___ learned from the jungle.

Rhinoceros: "From the Rhinoceros we learn to charge through obstacles that stop us."

Panther: "From the panther we learn strength and speed, to guide us on our way."

Cobra: "From the Cobra we learn not to bite off more than we can chew."

Monkey: "From the monkey we learn to be tricky and cunning, and use our brain."

Elephant: "From the elephant we learn not to forget our friends, and those who help us."

All: "WE HAD A JUNGLE OF FUN THIS MONTH!"

Jungle Opening

Heart of America Council

Begin with Cub Scouts grouped in the front. Baloo enters from the rear of the hall and calls:

Listen, O Cubs of the jungle
To these words of old Baloo,
On your left paw (Cubs turn to face left)
Turn to follow the trails laid down for you.
Now raise your voice to the jungle,
Let the shadows echo it back;
Once, twice, and again repeat
The Law of the Wolf Cub Pack.

At the final 'pack,' the Cub Scouts start a slow, march around a circle, repeating the Jungle law three times. (The Cub respects the Old Wolf; the Cub respects himself.) By the end, they are in a complete circle and Baloo can call, "Pack, Pack, Pack!"

Jungle Book Invocation For Meeting

by Hal Robinson and Edward A. Haluska

We approach Thee, oh Great Akela of All the Packs, and ask Thee to join Thy love for the Cubs with ours, making our efforts mighty. Join with us as we begin our Pack meeting.

Grant us the patience of Baloo as we teach our Cubs.

Grant us the strength of Bagheera, as we protect the Cubs that have been entrusted to our care.

Grant us wisdom that we may lead the Cubs away from the evil of Shere Khan and the irresponsibility of the Bandar-log.

Help us to do our best, to do our Duty to God and to our Country.

Provide us the opportunities to help other people and help us to obey the Law of the Pack.

In all of this we can teach the Cubs in our care by our example, which will speak louder than our words.

AMEN

Safari in the Jungle

Sam Houston Area Council

Materials – Cubmaster can dress as an explorer with pith helmet and pack, and put decorations around the room to represent a stream, trees, etc.; or you could keep it simple.

Assistant Cubmaster: I'm ready for the Jungle Safari you said you would lead me on!

Cubmaster: Great!! Let's set out at once!

Assistant Cubmaster: How will we know how to get through the jungle?

Cubmaster: Easy! We have a trail to follow – the SCOUTING trail!

Assistant Cubmaster: Lead on.

Cubmaster: The first part of the road is easy, as we approach the jungle. It's an easy path, through low rolling hills, with lots of fun things to see along the path. Now, here we are at the top of the last easy hill. Watch for Bobcats!

Assistant Cubmaster: BOBCATS!!! WHERE???

Cubmaster: Right there! We have some Bobcat ranks to hand out tonight. Will the following Cub Scouts who have earned their Bobcat rank and their parents please step forward? *(Assistant Cubmaster hands out awards as Cubmaster reads names)*

Assistant Cubmaster: Well, those Bobcats weren't so scary. What's next?

Cubmaster: Well, we walk carefully through a small marsh and come to a stream to cross.

Cubmaster: We just need to watch out for Tigers now.

Assistant Cubmaster: Tigers!?

Cubmaster: Right! And here are some now. Will the following Tiger Cubs and their parents please step forward? *(Assistant Cubmaster hands out awards as Cubmaster reads names)*

Assistant Cubmaster: I'm getting the hang of this jungle stuff. What's next?

Cubmaster: Now we head into a thickly vegetated part of the jungle - we must maneuver through dense thickets, and impassable trees.

Assistant Cubmaster: Whew, we got through those, we deserve an award.

Cubmaster: Actually, the young men that have fought that hard to get through the Wolf program deserve an award. Will the following Wolf Cubs and their parents please step forward? *(Assistant Cubmaster hands out awards as Cubmaster reads names)*

Cubmaster: Now there's some more jungle ahead – but we're getting to some bigger trees – harder than those thickets. Let's climb a tall tree here and look to see our progress.

Assistant Cubmaster: Good thing these are only imaginary trees – I didn't bring my climbing boots. *(They both act out climbing a tree.)*

Cubmaster: Look how far we've come!

Assistant Cubmaster: Wow! That's about 3/5ths of the way through!

Cubmaster: Right you are, and it's time for more awards! Will the following Bear Cubs and their parents please step forward? *(Assistant Cubmaster hands out awards as Cubmaster reads names)*

Cubmaster: Now, look forward.

Assistant Cubmaster: Wow, that's a big mountain! Are we going there?

Cubmaster: Yes, that's our destination. The jungle changes at this point, and now we're hiking up into the foothills.

Assistant Cubmaster: Can we get out of this tree, first?

Cubmaster: Sure! Just take a leap of faith... *(Acts out a jump)*

Assistant Cubmaster: I hope you know what you are doing. *(Acts out hiking)* This trail is harder going now.

Cubmaster: Yes it is – as these Scouts grow in ability, the trails they want to take get more challenging.

Assistant Cubmaster: *(Stops suddenly)* Whoa! Look out! There's a cliff here!

Cubmaster: Yes, here we are at the top of Webelos cliff. Quite a view from up here, no?

Assistant Cubmaster: Yes! In fact, I can see all the young men who have earned the Webelos rank from here!

Cubmaster: Will the following Webelos Scouts and their parents please step forward? *(Assistant Cubmaster hands out Awards as Cubmaster reads names)*

Assistant Cubmaster: Well, is that it?

Cubmaster: No, no! Let's go all the way to the top of the Mountain!

Assistant Cubmaster: I was afraid you were going to say that. *(They act like they are climbing some more.)*

Cubmaster: Well, here we are.

Assistant Cubmaster: Look at this! There's a fancy arrow up here at the top of the mountain!

Cubmaster: Yes, that's the Arrow of Light – the highest rank that can be achieved while still in Cub Scouting.

[optional part]

Cubmaster: Will the following Webelos Scouts and their parents please step forward to receive their Arrow of Light Rank: *(Assistant Cubmaster hands out awards as Cubmaster reads names)*

[end of optional]

Assistant Cubmaster: So this is the highest point, now?

Cubmaster: Only of CUB Scouting! Look behind you.

Assistant Cubmaster: Wow! The trail goes on to higher and higher peaks from here!

Cubmaster: It sure does. This point is the end of the Cub Scout trail and the beginning of the Boy Scout trail. We aren't going down this road today.

Assistant Cubmaster: Oh, good.

Cubmaster: ... But it's nice to know that it's there someday. Thanks to everyone for coming with us today on our safari through the jungle, and congratulations to all the new rank recipients.

The Test of a Zulu Boy

Heart of America Council

PERSONNEL

Cubmaster, Bobcat candidates and their parents.

EQUIPMENT

White adhesive tape, Bobcat badges, safety pins.

ARRANGEMENT

The Cubmaster brings boys and their parents forward.

Cubmaster: [Boys' names] have successfully completed the test for Bobcat. Before we present them with the badge of the Bobcat, let me tell you all a story of long ago, about the test young Zulu boys were given. Before they were allowed to become scouts and warriors, Zulu boys had to pass a pretty tough examination. This is what they had to do:

When a boy was nearly old enough to be a warrior, he was taken aside, stripped of his clothing, and painted white all over. He was given a shield and a small spear with which to protect himself and to kill small animals. He was then sent into the bush.

Anyone seeing the boy while he was painted white would hunt and kill him; and that white paint took about a month to wear off-it would not wash off.

So, for a month the boy had to hide in the bush and live as well as he could. He had to follow the

tracks of the deer, and creep near enough to spear the animal to get food and clothing for himself. He had to make fire to cook with by rubbing two sticks together; he had no matches. He had to be careful not to let his fire smoke too much, or it would catch the eye of scouts on the lookout for him. He had to be able to run long distances, to climb trees, and to swim rivers in order to escape from his pursuers. He had to be brave, and to stand up to a lion or any other wild animal that attacked him. He had to know which plants were good to eat and which were poisonous. He had to make his own cooking pots out of tree bark or clay. He had to build himself a well-hidden hut to live in. He had to take care that wherever he went, he left no tracks for his enemies to follow. If he snored when he was asleep, it would give him away to a keen-eared enemy. He soon learned to sleep with his mouth shut, and to breathe quietly through his nose.

For a month he had to live this life, sometimes in burning heat, sometimes in cold and rain. When at last the white stain had worn off, he was able to return to his village, where he was received with great joy and allowed to take his place among the young warriors of the tribe. He could go on to become a 'ring-top'-that is, a proven warrior, who was allowed to wear a ring on his head. Then he could possibly go on and earn the honorable title of wolf. But you can imagine that many boys who went out did not get through their white period at all. Some were killed by wild animals; some were killed by enemies; and some died of starvation, exposure, or by drowning. Only the best among them survived. It was a pretty stiff exam, wasn't it?

Cub Scouting has its tests also. With the help of your parents, you have completed the first test of a Cub Scout-Bobcat.

It is now my pleasure and joy to present this badge and to call you a 'Bobcat.' (*The Cubmaster gives the badges to parents to pin on the boys.*)

Are you now ready to follow the [Wolf, Bear, or Webelos] trail? (*The boys answer.*) You have answered that you are ready. Then seal that pledge by giving the Cub Scout Promise. (*They do.*)

Let me now, as the leader of this tribe, give you a reminder of the tests that lay before you. (*The Cubmaster places a strip of white adhesive tape on each boy's forehead.*) Remember that some do not successfully complete the tests. In the Cub Scout Promise, you promised to do your best. If you always remember to do your best, you will successfully walk the trail of the [Wolf, Bear, or Webelos]. Go now and do your best, and return to me as an honorable [Wolf, Bear, or Webelos] Scout.

The End of the Trail Closing

Sam Houston Area Council

Setting – 6 Cub Scouts, use the S-A-F-A-R-I letters from the opening, with the appropriate verses noted below.

Cub #1: **S** Scouting spirit

Cub #2: **A** Aims and Methods

Cub #3: **F** Friends

Cub #4: **A** Awards

Cub #5: **R** Really fun games

Cub #6: **I** I had a great time tonight!

All together – Thanks for bringing us to the pack meeting!

A Wild Time

Sam Houston Area Council

Wow! What an exciting adventure we had tonight with our Jungle Safari. We met some pretty interesting characters along our trek and we congratulated a lot of Scouts for their awards.

Scouting can be a real adventure, whether or not we're in the jungle. Lord Baden-Powell called Scouting, "fun with a purpose." There is a definite purpose to the awards our Scouts are earning. They are learning new skills and developing a sense of character so that when they enter the real jungle of being grown up, they will be prepared. I, for one, am very proud of their accomplishments and I hope they are proud, too, and will continue along the safari trail of Scouting.

Safari Guide Cubmaster Minute

Adapted from San Diego Council Pow Wow Book, 1983

Materials: • Binoculars, Cubmaster (dressed as a Safari Guide)

Did you know that you can look through either end of a pair of binoculars?

(Look through the wrong end).

If you look this way, everything is very tiny and distant. You don't see things the way they should be seen. The binoculars make the view look worse instead of better.

(Turn the binoculars the right way).

But if you use them the right way you see things as they are suppose to be seen. In fact, you even get a better perspective of how things look, things look closer and clearer.

As we close this month long Safari into the wilds of Cub Scouting think about how you look at achievements and badges, people and things in everyday life. Do you see them distorted and distant or do you see them in the best possible light? Remember to "Look well, o wolves", and "Do your best"!

Cubmaster Thought-jungle Book

Heart of America Council

One of the very first things you learned as a Bobcat was the story of Mowgli, the boy adopted by the wolf pack. When he came to Council Rock to become a member of the pack he agreed to learn and follow the Law of the Pack.

Akela was the wise old wolf, the leader of the Pack. His duty was to see that all the young Cubs kept the Law of the Pack. Today in our pack we know that Akela is any good leader, teacher or parent who helps boys learn to be strong and useful.

When the wolf pack met in the jungle, Akela, the Old Wolf stood on a great rock in the middle and the Pack sat in a circle round it. Today a Cub Pack forms a circle around Akela when he calls them together for the Grand Howl or for a talk. For this reason the circle is the normal formation for Packs the world over and also because the circle is a sign of family unity. Let us now form our family circle and give the Grand Howl as we close this meeting.

Your Wild Animal

Heart of America Council

Cubs, did you know that everybody, including you, has a wild animal behind bars? The wild animal is your tongue, and the bars are your teeth. If your tongue is not trained it can cause a lot of trouble, not only for yourself but for those around you. Keep those bars of teeth closed until your tongue is so well trained that you know it won't harm anybody. Your wild animal can make trouble by bad mouthing other people, by gossip and slander, and by wisecracks at the wrong time. Train your tongue so that it knows the right time to speak and the time to keep quiet. Until you have it fully trained, keep that wild animal behind those bars.

Cubmaster Minute - Adult Examples

Simon Kenton Council

I heard a strange story out of Africa. It seems that there was a game preserve, sort of like a huge open zoo or wild animal park, where they were trying to save some rhinoceros from going extinct. On this preserve, the elephants started going crazy, like a bunch of juvenile delinquents. They were being rude to one another and the other animals, knocking down trees and knocking rhinos over!

It turns out that in order to make more room and food for the rhinos, the people had moved most of the elephants to another preserve. Apparently, they took all the older elephants and just left the young ones. Elephants, just like people, learn how to behave from their elders, and when there's nobody around for them to respect and keep them in line, they go a little nuts!

I see and read about kids that don't have a good adult example to look up to all the time. Just like those elephants, they're going a little wild, but instead of tipping rhinos, they get involved in gangs, crime and drugs.

That's what I like about Scouting--there are lots of parents and leaders who care about you, and that you can look up to. They set an example for you about how to behave, and pass on all the traditions and ideas about what it takes to be a good person when you grow up!