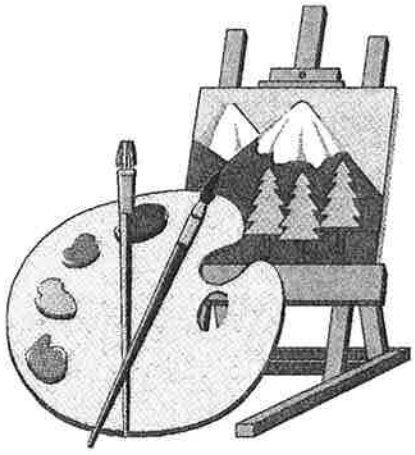
Works of Art



Cub Scout Roundtable Handout
Theme Ideas For December 2009

Pack Resource Sheet

December 2009 Theme: Works of Art

Some of the purposes of Cub Scouting developed through this month's theme include:

Respectful Relationships. As Cub Scouts discover their own talents, they will gain more respect for the different talents of those around them.

Spiritual Growth. Cub Scouts will develop an appreciation for God's works of art.

Friendly Service. Cub Scouts will make the lives of others more cheerful when they create art pieces to share and give.

The core value to be highlighted this month is:

Faith. Through creating artwork related to the holidays, Cub Scouts will gain more understanding of their own religious traditions.

Opening Ceremony: Cub Scout Artists

Materials: Paintbrush, paper, clay, pencil, sketchpad, soap, plastic knife

CUB SCOUT 1: The theme for December is "Works of Art." Let's see what Cub Scouts are doing.

CUB SCOUT 2 *(with paintbrush and paper):* I'm painting a self-portrait like Norman Rockwell.

CUB SCOUT 3 *(with clay):* I'm busy molding a sculpture like Michelangelo.

CUB SCOUT 4 *(with pencil and sketchpad):* Just like Frank Lloyd Wright, I am drawing designs for my newest building.

CUB SCOUT 5 *(with soap and plastic knife):* Carving is so much fun. Someday I want to carve a totem pole.

CUB SCOUT 6: These Cub Scouts are doing their best. Now let's do our best. Please stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prayer: God's Works of Art

"Wonders of white snow and shining stars, oceans with their ever-changing colors, rolling hills and rocky mountains, beautiful flowers and majestic trees, all creatures on the earth ... we thank you, God, for your works of art."

Song: We've Been Working on Art Projects

Tune: "I've Been Working on the Railroad"

We've been working on art projects
All den meeting long.
We've been working on art projects
As we sing our Cub Scout song!

Can't you see the fun we're having?
Puddles of glue and glop!
Can't you hear it in our voices?
We don't ever want to stop!

Scissors in the glue!
Glitter on the floor!
Sticky on the handle of the door!
Cotton balls and tape!
Markers and the paint!
We love this! Can't we do more?

Someone get a broom and dustpan.
Someone get the mop, let's go!
Someone rinse the table and chairs off!
We'll leave it cleaner than it was before!

We're singing:
Oh my, where did the time go?
Oh my, where did the time go?
Oh my, where did the time go?
Are we ready for the pack's art show?

Cheer: A-R-T-I-S-T

Hold thumb straight out in front of you and close one eye as an artist would while eyeing his subject; exclaim, "A Real Talent I See There!"

Advancement Ceremony: Great Works of Art

Materials: Tiger Cub advancement items attached to a musical instrument, Wolf badges attached to a large paintbrush, Bear badges attached to a large framed photograph, Webelos badges attached to a copy of a Shakespeare play

CUBMASTER: Art comes in many forms, like music, painting, photography, and plays. The Cub Scouts of our pack are very creative and have been working hard on their works of art. They also did their best in completing the rank requirements.

(Play a few bars on the instrument.) It is music to my ears to hear that the Tiger Cubs have accomplished a great deal. *(Invite Tiger Cubs and their adult partners to come forward. Present their awards.)*

(Ask the Wolf Cub Scouts to come up with their parents.) The Wolf Cub Scouts have been brushing up on their Cub Scout skills! *(Present awards.)*

(Ask the Bear Cub Scouts and their parents to come forward.) Things have been developing in the Bear den, and we now have a clear picture of their hard work. *(Present awards.)*

"To be or not to be" is not a question for our Webelos Scouts because they will always be loyal Scouts! *(Ask Webelos Scouts and their parents to come forward. Present awards.)*

Cubmaster's Minute: The Picture of Peace

"There once was a king who offered a prize to the artist who would paint the best picture of peace. Many artists tried. The king looked at all the pictures, but there were only two he really liked. One was of a calm lake. The lake was a perfect mirror for the peaceful, towering mountains that were all around it. Overhead was a blue sky with fluffy white clouds. Everyone who saw this picture thought it was a perfect picture of peace. The other picture had mountains, too. But these were rugged and bare. Above was an angry, rainy sky in which lightning played. Down the side of the mountain tumbled a foaming waterfall. This did not look peaceful at all. But the king saw behind the waterfall a tiny bush growing in a crack in the rock. In the bush a mother bird had built her nest. There, in the midst of the rush of angry water, sat the mother bird on her nest ... in perfect peace. Which picture do you think won the prize? The king chose the second picture. Why? 'Because,' said the king, 'peace does not mean to be in a place that has no noise, trouble, or hard work. Peace means to be in the midst of all those things and still be calm in your heart. That is the real meaning of peace."

Closing Ceremony: Cub Scout Artwork

Materials: Large soup pot, wooden spoon, colored paper (red, orange, yellow, green, dark blue, and purple), blue Cub Scout uniform shirt with all insignia attached

We have here a pot, but soup we have not.

With all of these Cub Scouts, let's see what we've got.

Some red from their heart, their new love of art,

We'll add that in first. That's a great start! *(Add red.)*

Orange is the color for adventure and fun.

Hooray for Cub Scouts under the sun! *(Add orange.)*

Yellow is best, for it seasons with care,

Supportive bright leaders, the best anywhere! *(Add yellow.)*

Green can mean "go," but it can mean "new," too.

We'll try it out this time to see what it can do! *(Add green.)*

Blue is the best, for it is loyal and true;

Showing respect for each other is what we do! *(Add blue.)*

And finally purple, a color so bright,

It says "try again" if we don't get it quite right. *(Add purple.)*

We'll give it a stir and a minute to cook. *(Stir with wooden spoon.)*

We've done what it says in our Cub Scout handbooks.

If we do it just right and add each little part *(reach in and pull out the Cub Scout uniform shirt),*

We'll bring joy to the world with our fabulous art!

Game: Mural Relay

Materials: Large sheet of paper posted on a wall, markers, container for game cards

Preparation: Write the name of an object on each card. You might choose a category of objects such as sports, animals, or holidays, or items related to school and Cub Scouting.

Form teams. The first player from each team runs to the container, draws a card, runs to the paper, and draws the object on the paper. The player's team tries to guess the object. When a team correctly guesses, the player returns to the team and the second player runs to the container. Artists can use any part of the paper to draw their objects. Display the paper at the end of the game.

Game: Out-of-Sight Shapes

In this game, an invisible bit of space can be squeezed, squashed, twisted, or rolled into any imaginable object. The players stand in a circle. The leader pulls a chunk of invisible space out of a pocket and begins to shape it into a large make-believe object, such as a fishing pole, baseball bat, or dog. (You may want to give the boys categories of objects such as holiday decorations or holiday gifts.) The leader then passes the object to the next player, who transforms it into another form and passes it along. Players describe what they are doing. Each player should take about 30 seconds to transform the shape. When the object gets back to the leader, he or she gently squeezes it into its original shape and puts it back into a pocket.

Activity: Shrink Art

Materials: No. 6 type plastic (many clear plastic salad bar and deli containers are of No. 6), permanent markers in assorted colors, scissors, hole punch, aluminum foil, potholder, oven or toaster oven set at 275 to 300 degrees Fahrenheit

Caution: Do this activity in a well-ventilated area. Use only No. 6 plastic. Other types of plastic may emit toxic fumes when heated. Do not exceed 350°F. Heating No. 6 plastic is considered safe at that temperature, but toxic fumes may be released if the plastic is exposed to higher temperatures.

Draw a design on the plastic. Cut out your design or leave the plastic square or round. If you want a hole in it, punch it now. Put the plastic on aluminum foil in an oven or toaster oven. The plastic should start shrinking in 30 to 45 seconds. Heat until the piece becomes flat. Adults will take it out and flatten with a potholder. If the piece is not completely flat, put it back into the oven for a few seconds. When the piece cools, attach ribbons, pin backs, magnet strips, etc., as desired. For a neckerchief slide, attach a section of ½-inch PVC pipe.

Project: Bubble Print

Materials: Bowls, water, liquid dishwashing detergent, washable tempera paint, straws, white construction paper

Put water in a bowl and add about 2 tablespoons of soap and paint. Use a straw to blow into the mixture until large bubbles form. Gently lay the paper onto the bubbles without touching the edge of the bowl. Lift the paper and repeat the process until bubbles cover the entire paper. If the bubbles on the paper appear faint, add more paint. You may want several bowls with different colors. Allow paper to dry. Cut into shapes for ornaments or use for a greeting card or memo pad.

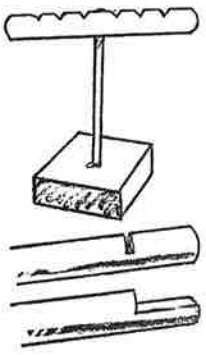
Project: Coffee Filter Snowflake Sun Catchers

Materials: Round coffee filter, scissors, water-based markers, spray bottle, paper towel, clear tape

Smooth the filter. Fold in half several times to form a wedge. Cut a design. Use markers to color all edges, both folded and cut. Spray lightly with water. Colors will bleed and blend together. Unfold carefully. Dry on a paper towel on a flat surface. Tape to a window.

Webelos Activity Badge Projects

Craftsman: Mini-Rack



Materials: 2-by-2-by-¾-inch wood block, ¼-inch dowel 4½ inches long, craft stick (fancy or plain), ¼-inch drill bit, clamp, ruler, coping saw, pocketknife, glue, sandpaper

Drill a ¼-inch hole ½ inch deep in center of wood block. With sandpaper, round top edges and corners. Sand all surfaces until smooth. Mark dowel ⅜ inch from an end, clamp to secure, and saw halfway through. Use pocketknife to create a notch. Glue craft stick to dowel in the notch. Use the rack to hold small items like neckerchief slides. The rack makes a great gift as a jewelry stand.

Scientist: Giant Inertia Game

Materials: Four or five large boxes (file boxes, copy paper boxes), tape

Boys will kick the boxes. If any side can easily be kicked in, reinforce with tape. Stack the boxes, making sure they touch on smooth sides. Challenge the boys to kick the box that is second from the bottom, swiftly, so that the remaining boxes stay stacked and drop down. It might require practice.

Pack Resource Sheet

Theme for December: Works of Art

Flag Ceremony

The stage is set with a kettle labeled "Paint Pot." Inside the kettle and against one side is a folded flag out of sight of the audience.

BOY 1: Tonight, we'll create for you a scene that's really grand. Just watch us make a masterpiece—the grandest in the land.

BOY 2: First we'll add the color red that stands for courage true. *(Pours in the kettle red paper cut in small pieces.)*

BOY 3: And then we'll add for loyalty a dash of heavenly blue. *(Pours in blue paper cut in small pieces.)*

BOY 4: For purity we'll now mix in a layer of snowy white. *(Pours in white paper cut in small pieces.)*

BOY 5: To our collage—a pinch of stars—to make it come out right. *(Pours in a small container of silver stars.)*

BOY 6: As we reveal the palette you will see that what we've made is Old Glory. *(Pulls out the flag and holds it up.)*

BOY 7: Our flag is beautiful. Let's always be loyal to it. Will everyone please stand and say the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag?

Song: "We'll Be Goin' 'Round the Color Wheel Tonight"

Tune: "She'll Be Comin' 'Round the Mountain"
We'll be goin' 'round the color wheel tonight,
We'll be goin' 'round the color wheel tonight,
We'll be goin' 'round the wheel,
We'll be goin' 'round the wheel,
We'll be goin' 'round the color wheel tonight.

Start with yellow, red, and blue colors tonight
Start with yellow, red, and blue colors tonight
Start with yellow, red, and blue,
Call 'em primary colors, too,
Start with yellow, red, and blue colors tonight

Mix for violet, orange, and green tonight,
Mix for violet, orange, and green tonight,
We make violet, orange, and green
For the secondary scene—
Mix for violet, orange, and green tonight.

Repeat first stanza.

An Artist's Prayer

"We ask for guidance tonight as we pull our creativity together and share the wonder of Cub Scouting with each other. We are inspired by the amazing talents of the famous artists of the works around us and recognize them for their own unique qualities. Help us to act as artists ourselves, painting a cheerful landscape in which our boys will flourish, seeing and savoring the beauty all around us. Amen."

Works of Art Leader Recognition Ceremony

Preparation: The assistant Cubmaster is dressed as an artist (with beret and painting smock, holding a palette of paints and paintbrushes). Set up an easel/tripod with a canvas or flipchart turned away from the audience. Have enlarged copies of photos of the leaders to be recognized mounted in the center. As the Cubmaster speaks, the "artist" is working frantically on an unseen "painting" next to the Cubmaster. Have a framed photo of the honoree's den to present.

CUBMASTER: Our pack is very fortunate to have the talents of people such as [den leader's names]. Please come forward at this time. *(Pauses as leaders come forward.)* Den leaders are special people. Their work is much like that of an artist. They follow the principles of Cub Scouting to sculpt our sons into the men we want them to become. They begin with a blank canvas—the new Cub Scout—and draw guidelines for them to progress in the ranks of Cub Scouting. They make their meetings colorful by playing fun games and making beautiful crafts. Tonight, we have invited an artist to paint portraits of these special people. *(The "artist" turns the easel around to show photos of the honorees.)*

To show our appreciation for what you do, we would like to present you with another work of art. *(Hands the leaders the framed photo of their den.)* Thanks to your hard work, this group photo is a masterpiece!

Drawing Santa Relay

Form two teams. Hanging at the opposite end of the room is posterboard and a marker for each team, as well as a paper sack containing the words *head, beard, cap, jacket, pants, belt, gloves, boots,* and other words describing parts of Santa. The first player on each team runs to the poster, pulls a word from the sack, and draws that part of Santa on the poster. He runs back and tags the next player. Play continues until all parts of Santa are drawn. Boys will enjoy the amusing representations that they have created!

Season of Lights Closing Ceremony

You may want to use as props the Stained Glass Votive Candles prepared in the Cubmaster split session.

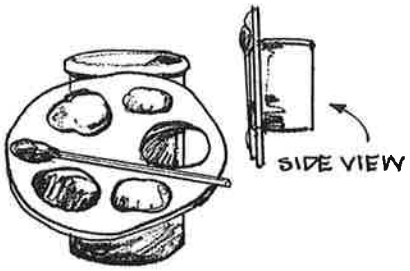
CUBMASTER: This is the season of lights. It is a time when the days are shorter and the nights are longer. Somehow, things seem brighter. Shopping areas and homes are bright with holiday lights. Even the stars in the winter sky seem brighter. The most brilliant glow, however, comes from the spirit of goodwill that you live all year long in the Cub Scout Promise and the Law of the Pack. Let us all stand and repeat them together.

Stained Glass Votive Candle

Dip the outside of a baby food jar in liquid starch, and then stick little squares of colored tissue paper to the outside. Place a tea candle inside, and you have a "stained glass" votive candle.

Artist's Palette Neckerchief Slide

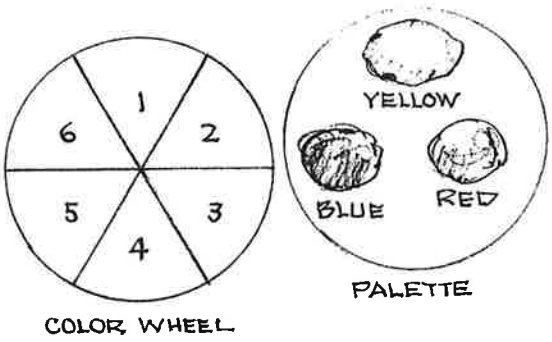
Materials: Craft foam or posterboard; hole punch; red, yellow, and blue paint; half a toothpick; PVC ring



Cut out 2-inch ovals of posterboard for the artist's palette. Punch a hole on one side for the palette for a finger hole. Put small dots of paint on the palette. Dip the end of the toothpick into paint to color it. Glue the toothpick onto the palette. Glue the PVC ring to the back.

Color Wheel Picture Frames

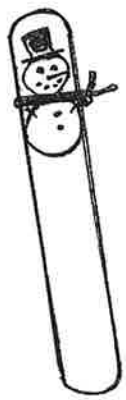
Materials: Pencil; two uncoated paper plates; red, yellow, and blue tempera paints; paintbrushes and water for rinsing



Divide a plate into six equal sections, labeling them Nos. 1 through 6 as shown. Place paints (half-dollar size mound) as indicated on the "palette" paper plate. Paint No. 1 yellow, No. 3 red, and No. 5 blue, rinsing the brush between colors. These are the primary colors.

Mix the secondary colors on the palette, and then transfer the color to the plate. When mixing, begin with the lightest color and add the darker color, rinsing the brush between colors. Paint No. 2 orange by mixing red and yellow; No. 4 violet by mixing red and blue; and No. 6 green by mixing blue and yellow.

Allow the plate to dry and then mount a soda tab (for hanging) or magnet on the back of the wheel and glue a photo of the artist in the middle.



Snowman Bookmarks

Materials: Craft sticks, cotton swabs, toothpicks, acrylic paints (white, black, orange); 6-inch strips of fabric or yarn

Paint white "snowballs" onto craft sticks with cotton swabs. Use toothpicks to paint in eyes, buttons, nose, and hat. Tie fabric around the craft stick for a scarf.

Lighted Christmas Tree Jars

Materials: 10 baby food jars, drill with drill bit, string of small Christmas tree lights, silver or gold tinsel, 6-inch-wide green felt ribbon

Have boys drill small holes into the lids of the baby food jars. (Holes need to be large enough for the small Christmas tree lights to fit through.) Drill as many holes in the lids as you have lights on a string.

Glue green felt around the bottom edge of the jars and then glue the jars together into a pyramid (tree) shape. Put tinsel in the jars so that the lights show through the tinsel when viewed from the bottom. Thread the lights into the holes in the lids, and then attach the lids to the jars. Plug into an electrical socket and watch your creation shine!

Paintbrush Holder

Materials: Empty thread spools, a rectangular piece of wood, paint, paintbrush, glue

Paint the wood base and spools using colors of your choice. Glue the spools evenly spaced and centered on the base. Place paintbrushes in the spools for easy access when you're painting.

Mini-Cupcake Ornament

Materials: Tiny paper cups (like ketchup containers at hotdog stands), 1½- or 2-inch pompoms, ¼-inch red pompoms, thread, glitter, glue

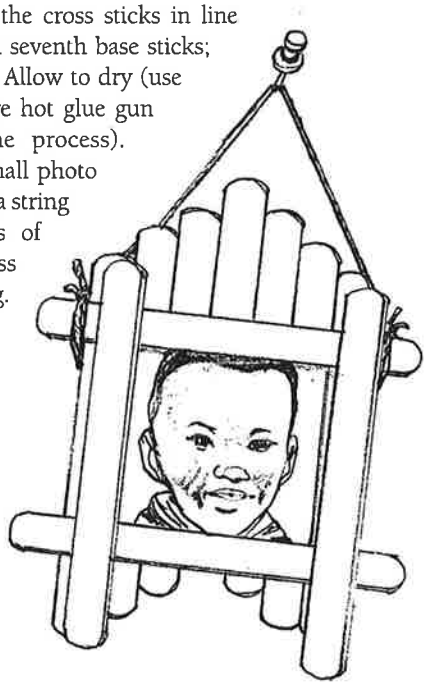
Glue a pompom inside a cup. Glue the center of a 6-inch length of thread to the top of the pompom. Decorate with glitter. Glue a red pompom to the top. Tie thread ends together and hang on your tree.

Webelos Craftsman Activity

Sled Picture Frame

Materials: 11 craft sticks, white glue, red acrylic paint, string or jute

Working on waxed paper, lay seven sticks side by side as the base, staggering the sticks to create a triangle top. Glue two sticks across the base of the sled, as shown. Layer two more sticks on top of the cross sticks in line with the first and seventh base sticks; secure with glue. Allow to dry (use a low-temperature hot glue gun to speed up the process). Paint. Insert a small photo in the center. Tie a string around the ends of the upper cross sticks for hanging.



WORKS OF ART OPENING

W Wonders of White Snow
O Ocean waves, small and large
R Rolling hills and Rocky mountains
K Kangaroos, Kookaburras, Katydids, Koalas and other Kritters
S Shining Stars in the Sky

O Opals, Onyx and other gems
F Fruits, Flowers and Forests

A Aurora Borealis in Alaska
R Refreshing Rainfalls and Radiant Rainbows
T Towering Trees and Tiny Thornbushes

These are all God's Works of Art!

HOLIDAYS OPENING

H Happy smiles will come your way...if
O Other people you help each day.
L Living your life by the Golden Rule
I Instead of being mean and cruel.
D Daily doing one good deed
A Always aware of another's need.
Y You will be a better soul
S Should "Do Your Best!" become your goal.

THE FOUR GIFTS OPENING

Cubmaster: Christmas is a wonderful time to show love to others through giving gifts. It is also a time we can look at the many gifts we have already been given and enjoy each day. I have four gifts wrapped up that represent some of the gifts that each of us receive by living in a free country.
(Four Cub Scouts unwrap the gifts and read, in turn, the statements found inside.)
C.S.#1: The gift of freedom--Freedom to worship as we choose and to express ourselves and our ideas without fear.
C.S.#2: The gift of beauty--We live in a country full of beauty and wonders. From mountains to plains, from valleys to seas, it is ours to enjoy as we freely travel its width.
C.S.#3: The gift of opportunity--We are free to become whatever our ambitions and desires lead us to. Our limits lie only within ourselves.
C.S.#4: The gift of pride--We can be proud of a country where we are blessed with freedom and justice. We can be proud each time we see "Old Glory," our country's flag, unfurled. We can be proud to be an American.
Cubmaster: With these gifts in mind, will you please stand and pledge your allegiance to our country and our flag.

Holiday Songs

Reindeer Poky

(Tune: The Hokey Poky)

You put your antlers in. You put your antlers out. You put you antlers in and you shake them all about. You do the Reindeer Poky and you turn yourself around. That's what it's all about!

You put your hooves in....
You put your red nose in....
You put your fluffy tail in...
You put your reindeer body in...

Old St. Nicholas

(Tune: Old McDonald)

Old St. Nicholas had a tree (form tree with arms) Ho, ho ho ho ho!
And on that tree he had some horns (blow horns) Ho ho ho ho ho
With a toot toot here and a toot toot there
Here a toot, There a toot
Every where a toot toot
continue....

lights - flash flash candy canes - yum-yum
drums - boom-boom bells - ring ring
stars - twinkle twinkle
snowflakes - flutter flutter

Where is Santa?

(Tune: Are You Sleeping?)

Where is Santa? Where is Santa? (hands behind back)
Here I am! Here I am! (arms out in front making a belly shape!)
Merry, Merry Christmas! Merry, Merry, Christmas!
(keep arms up through the rest of the song!)
Ho! Ho! Ho!, Ho! Ho! Ho!

This is Christmas

(Tune: Twinkle Twinkle Little Star)

What is Christmas? We'll tell you.
It's putting love in all we do;
In our work, and in our play.
In our living every day.
It is showing love for others,
Father, Mother, Sisters, Brothers.

Games

Christmas Game: Smell game, Pass jars (or film containers) under their noses & see if they can identify the smells; evergreen, ginger, candy canes, eggnog, candles, etc.

Christmas Concentration: Cut rectangular "cards" out of red construction paper, then cut slightly smaller rectangles from wrapping paper (two from each kind) and glue to construction paper. Laminate and play Memory /Concentration. You can also use pairs of Christmas stickers. This same idea also is fun for the kids when you use double prints of pictures of them for a year-round Memory game! Include a picture of yourself as well.

Santa Claus Scramble: Write the letters S-A-N-T-A C-L-A-U-S on individual index cards. Do this four times, making four sets, or forty cards. Place the cards in a brown paper bag. To play - have the players divide into two teams on opposite sides of the room. Pass the bag that contains the letters. The teams alternate in picking a letter. The first team to combine their letters to spell SANTA CLAUS wins!

Gift Wrapped: Place a candy cane for each kid inside a small cardboard box and gift wrap it. Put the wrapped box inside a larger box, wrap it, and then select another larger box until the package is as large as you can handle. To play - have everyone sit in a circle. Play music and pass the package around. When the music stops the player holding the package starts to unwrap it. When the music stars, the package is passed again. When the candy canes are found, share them with everyone.

REINDEER BUTTING GAME

Divide the group into teams. Each team is given an orange and lines up relay fashion. On signal, the first boy in each den puts the orange on the floor and butts it with his head to a turning line and back. He may not touch the orange with his arms or hands, only with his head. The next member repeats the action, and so on until all have raced. First team finished wins.

FIND THE THIMBLE

You will need a thimble or a small holiday ornament. While everyone is out of the room, one player places the object in an unexpected location, but in plain view. The other players then return to search for the object. Whenever a player sees the object, he sits down where he is – being careful not to reveal the object's location. After everyone has spotted the object, choose a new player to hide the object.

The best thing to spend on a boy is your time!

CHEERS

DREIDEL CHEER: Spin a dreidel on a table or desk. When it lands, all yell "Happy Holiday!"

CHRISTMAS BELLS: Hold a rope or handkerchief in your hand; the left side of the audience says "Ding" on the down stroke; the right side of the audience says "Dong" on the upstroke. Vary the speed and direction.

Games
Cub Scout Leader How-To Book
"Art Consequences" Page 3 - 32
"Five Dots" Page 3 - 34
"Wiggles" Page 3 - 35

NAME THAT CHRISTMAS SONG!!!!

Answers:

(1) Jingle Bells (2) Winter Wonderland (3)Santa Coming To Town (4) Joy To The World (5) Rudolph (6) O Come All Ye Faithful (7) Dreaming Of White Christmas (8) O Christmas Tree (9) What Child Is This (10) We Three Kings (11) Deck The Halls (12) I Saw Three Ships (13) O Holy Night (14) All I Want For Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth (15) Chestnuts Roasting On An Open Fire (16) 12 Days Of Christmas (17) I Say Mommy Kissing Santa Claus (18) All I Want For Christmas The Manager (19) It Came Upon A Midnight Clear (20) Let It Snow, Let Is Snow, Let It Snow (21) Silent Night (22) O Little Town Of Bethlehem (23) Silver Bells (24)

USES FOR OLD GREETING CARDS

Some of the holiday greeting cards are so pretty it's a shame just to throw them away. Recycle them. Make them into new gift tags, greeting cards and holiday collages, or decorate a candle holder (see next item).

GIFT TAGS: You will need cards with nothing written on the reverse side of the picture. Choose the part of the picture you like. Cut around it in the shape of a tree, star, heart, circle, square, or any shape that appeals to you. Cut in straight lines, wavy lines, etc. Use pinking shears or craft scissors (which cut different curvy lines), if they are available. Punch a hole. Write "To: __" and "From: __" on the back. Attach to the gift with ribbon.

GREETING CARDS: Cut shapes as above, without punching holes. Cut colored card stock paper in half. Fold into half to form a card. Glue an 'old greeting card shape' on the outside. If desired, make a lot of dots by punching holes in scrap cards. Glue the dots around your glued piece.

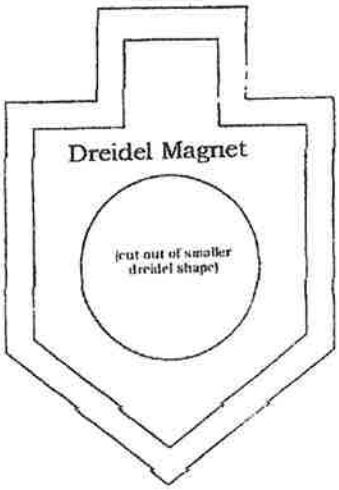
COLLAGE: Choose cards that have your favorite things (like animals) or favorite holiday activities. Cut them out and make a collage.

CANDLE HOLDER

Materials: Small jar; Old holiday greeting cards; Rubber bands; White glue; Paintbrush; Salt in shaker (or fine "pearl" glitter); Ribbon; Votive candle or Tea candle.

1. Cut out a small picture or two from old holiday greeting cards.
2. Glue the picture onto the jar--use white glue or tacky glue, not a glue gun. Make sure the picture is positioned away from the mouth of the jar. Put a rubber band around the jar to hold the picture in place until the glue dries.
3. Remove the rubber band. Using a paintbrush, cover the outside of the jar, including the picture, with glue. Avoid painting the bottom of the jar.
4. Sprinkle salt (or glitter) over the jar. Do this over a piece of foil, styrofoam tray, or wax paper.
5. Set jar on foil to dry.
6. Tie ribbon around the rim of the jar. Curling ribbon works well but make sure curls are away from the candle flame.

DREIDEL PHOTO MAGNET



Material: Two colors of craft foam; Photo, about 2" square; Adhesive-backed magnet; Thick craft glue; Scissors. Optional: Thin clear plastic (e.g. sheet protector, report cover); Craft foam scraps; Hole punch; Pinking shears

1. Trace and cut out patterns. Enlarge as desired. Back piece does not have a hole cut out.
2. If desired, protect the photo with clear plastic. Cut the clear plastic slightly larger than the hole of the front piece. Glue it to the back of the front piece.
3. Glue the photo on the front piece so that the picture shows through the opening.
4. Center and glue the small dreidel shape onto the large dreidel shape. Allow to dry.
5. Optional decorating ideas: Use pinking shears to cut the edges of the dreidel if desired. Decorate with small circles cut with a hole punch.

BORAX CRYSTAL SNOWFLAKE

Materials: String, wide mouth pint jar, white pipe cleaners, blue food coloring (optional), boiling water, borax (20 Mule Team Borax laundry booster – not Boraxo handsoap), pencil.

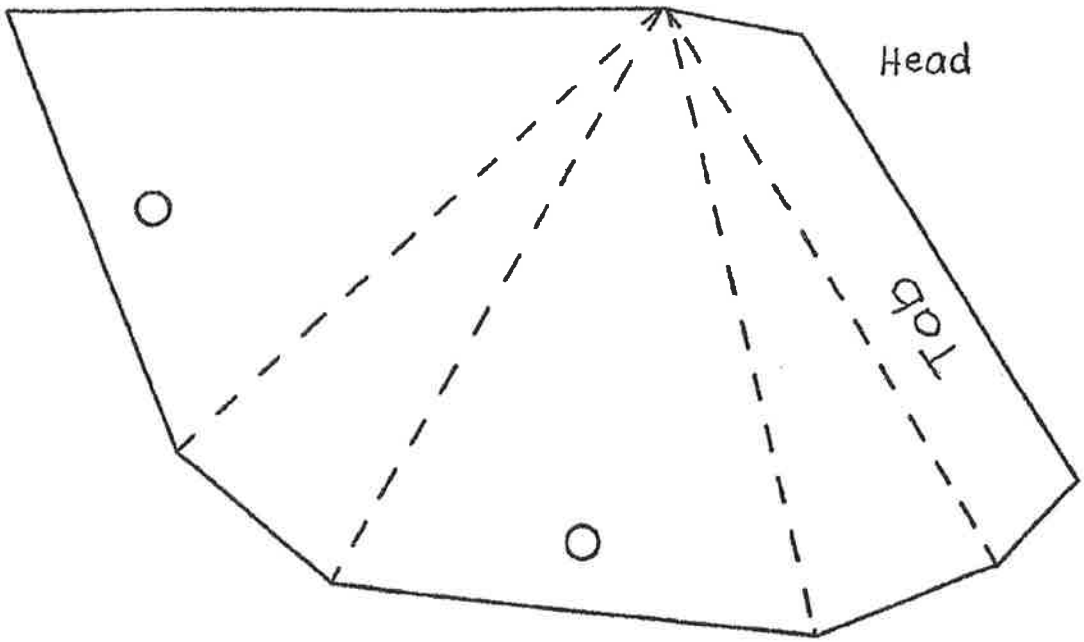
1. Cut a white pipe cleaner into 3 equal lengths.
2. Twist the 3 sections of pipe cleaner together in the center to form a six-sided star shape. If your points are not even, trim the pipe cleaner sections to the same length.
3. Attach string along the outer edges to form a snowflake pattern.
4. Attach a piece of string to the top of one of the pipe cleaners and tie the other end to a pencil (to hang snowflake)
5. Fill a wide mouth jar with boiling water.
6. Mix borax into the water one tablespoon at a time. Use 3 tablespoons of borax per cup of water. Stir until dissolved. (Some powder settling to bottom of jar is OK).
7. Add a little blue food coloring if you wish to give snowflake a bluish tint.
8. Insert the pipe cleaner snowflake into the jar so that the pencil is resting on the lip of the jar and the snowflake is freely suspended in the borax solution. Leave in solution overnight.
9. Remove snowflake from solution. Snowflake should be covered with shiny crystals.

NOTE: This may look like rock candy, but remind the boys that these are NOT EDIBLE.

REINDEER ORNAMENT

Materials: Brown card stock or heavy construction paper; Lightweight cardboard; 2" x 2" heavy duty aluminum foil; Red permanent marker; 2 candy canes; Ribbon or yarn; Ornament hook. (You may want to substitute wiggle eyes for cardboard ones, and a red pompom for the foil and cardboard.)

1. Cut the pattern out of card stock or construction paper.
2. Fold the pattern along the dotted lines and glue the tab to the inside of the opposite side. Now you have a pocket.
3. Cut the circle pattern out of lightweight cardboard.
4. Crumple the foil piece into a ball.
5. Unwrap the foil and cover the circle with the wrinkled foil.
6. Color the foil with the permanent marker.
7. Cut out the eyes. Glue the eyes and the nose on the face.
8. Tape the candy canes to the inside of the pocket.
9. Punch a hole on each side of the pocket. Run a piece of yarn or ribbon through the holes. Tie a bow.
10. Hang the reindeer with an ornament hook by the yarn.



SNOWFLAKE COOKIES

Decorate cookies with "snowflake" stencils.

Prepare or buy large smooth-surface cookies. If you are baking your own, gingerbread recipe works well.
Cut wax paper about the size of the cookie. Fold and cut as you would make "snowflakes." Open, press with hand to make it flat. Place the stencil on a cookie. Sift powdered sugar over the cookie.

SNOWBALL COOKIES

(recipe by: Sharon Mehl)

1 c Butter or margarine
1/2 c Sugar, powdered; sifted
1 teaspoon Vanilla
2 1/2 c Flour; sifted
1/4 teaspoon Salt
3/4 c Pecans, chopped

1. Cream the butter in large bowl.
2. Add sugar, cream until light.
3. Stir in vanilla.
4. Sift flour and salt; mix in.
5. Stir in nuts.
6. Shape into balls.
7. Place on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake 15 minutes at 350.
8. Roll in powdered sugar straight out of oven. Roll again when cool.

Makes about 36 cookies

PIXIE STIX "SAND ART"

Take Pixie Stix and clean small jars (like baby food jars).

Pour Stix into jars to make different colored layers like sand art. The sticks allow children to pour mounds or make indentation very easily. You do need about five sticks of each color per layer. Give it as a gift.

CHRISTMAS WITH THE RIGHT FAMILY

Prepare a few gift boxes containing candy or small party favors. At the end, distribute the contents to all players. Read the story below slowly enough for the gifts to be passed. Every time the word "RIGHT" is read, the gifts are passed to the persons on the right. Every time the word "LEFT" is read, the gifts are passed to the persons on the left.

Do you give out pinewood derby cars at Christmas time? Fun way to do it!

Christmas was almost here, and Mother RIGHT was finishing the Christmas baking. Father RIGHT, Susan RIGHT, and Billy RIGHT returned from their last minute Christmas errands. "There's not much LEFT to be done," said Father RIGHT, as he came into the kitchen. "Did you leave the basket of food at church?" asked Mother RIGHT. "I LEFT it RIGHT where you told me to," said Father RIGHT. "I'm glad my shopping is done," said Billy RIGHT, "I don't have any money LEFT." The hall telephone rang, and Susan RIGHT LEFT to answer it. She rushed back and told the family, "Aunt Tillie RIGHT LEFT a package for us RIGHT on Grandma RIGHT'S porch." "I'll go over there RIGHT now and get it," she said as she LEFT in a rush. Father RIGHT LEFT the kitchen and brought in the Christmas tree. By the time Susan RIGHT returned, Mother RIGHT, father RIGHT and Billy RIGHT had begun to trim this year's family RIGHT'S Christmas tree. The entire RIGHT family sang carols as they finished the decorating. Then they LEFT all the presents arranged under the tree and went RIGHT up to bed, hoping they had LEFT all the gifts in the RIGHT place and had selected the RIGHT gift for each member of the RIGHT family. Now I hope you have the RIGHT present for yourself, because that's all that's LEFT of our story, except to wish you a Merry Christmas. Isn't that RIGHT?

APPLAUSE

SLEIGH APPLAUSE: Bob up and down in chair like riding in a sleigh and say "Ting-a-Ling" three times.

SLEIGH APPLAUSE II: "Jingle, Jangle, Jingle, Jangle"

SANTA CHIMNEY APPLAUSE: "Oooh; Ouch; Rattle; Bang; Craaaassshhh! Ho, ho, ho, Merry Christmas!"

RUDOLPH APPLAUSE: Put your thumbs to your head with fingers forming antlers. Wrinkle your nose and say, "Blink! Blink!"

SANTA APPLAUSE: Hold hands on stomach and say, "HO, HO, HO."

CHEERS

SNOWBALL CHEER: Leader throws a wad of white paper into the air. As it hits the ground, all say "Happy Holiday!"

WORKS OF ART: Pretend to paint, step back, spread arms, and say "Ooooooooo, Ahhhhhhhhh, Magnificent!