



Arrow of Light Adventure *Building a Better World*



Purpose of the Adventure: helps teach our Cub Scouts about participatory citizenship. But before they can contribute to their communities and our country, the Scouts need to learn more about how our form of government works.

Takeaways for the Scout:

- Learn how to honor and fold a flag
- Learn about citizenship and laws
- Learn about scouting in other countries
- Learn citizenship leader skills

Complete the following requirements:

1. Explain the history of the United States flag. Show how to properly display the flag in public and help lead a flag ceremony.
2. Learn about and describe your rights and duties as a citizen and explain what it means to be loyal to your country.
3. Discuss in your Webelos den the term “rule of law,” and talk about how it applies to you in your everyday life.
4. Meet with a government or community leader and learn about his or her role in your community. Discuss with the leader an important issue facing your community.
5. Show that you are an active leader by planning an activity for your den without your den leader’s help. Ask your den leader for approval first.
6. Do at least one of these:
 - A. Learn about Scouting in another part of the world. With the help of your parent, guardian, or den leader, pick one country where Scouting exists, and research its Scouting program.

- B. Set up an exhibit at a pack meeting to share information about the World Friendship Fund.
- C. Under the supervision of your parent, guardian, or den leader, connect with a Scout in another country during an event such as Jamboree on the Air or Jamboree-on-the-Internet or by other means
- D. Learn about energy use in your community and in other parts of the world.
- E. Identify one energy problem in your community and find out what has caused it.

Requirement #1:

Explain the history of the United States flag. Show how to properly display the flag in public and help lead a flag ceremony.

On June 14, 1777, to establish an official flag for the new nation, the Continental Congress passed the first Flag Act: "Resolved, that the flag of the United States be made of thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new Constellation."

Between 1777 and 1960, Congress passed several acts that changed the shape, design and arrangement of the flag and allowed for additional stars and stripes to be added to reflect the admission of each new state:

- Act of January 13, 1794 provided for 15 stripes and 15 stars after May 1795.
- Act of April 4, 1818 provided for 13 stripes and one star for each state, to be added to the flag on the 4th of July following the admission of each new state, signed by President Monroe.
- Executive Order of President Taft, June 24, 1912 established proportions of the flag and provided for arrangement of the stars in six horizontal rows of eight each, a single point of each star to be upward.
- Executive Order of President Eisenhower, January 3, 1959 provided for the arrangement of the stars in seven rows of seven stars each, staggered horizontally and vertically.
- Executive Order of President Eisenhower, August 21, 1959 provided for the arrangement of the stars in nine rows of stars staggered horizontally and eleven rows of stars staggered vertically.

Our Current Flag

Today the American flag consists of thirteen horizontal stripes, seven red, alternating with six white. The stripes represent the original 13 colonies, the stars represent the 50 states of the Union.

Color Symbolism

- Red symbolizes Hardiness and Valor.
- White symbolizes Purity and Innocence.
- Blue represents Vigilance, Perseverance, and Justice.

To see a script of a Cub Scout Basic Flag Ceremony, go to:

https://boyscouttrail.com/content/ceremony/basic_flag_opening-1125.asp

When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag's own right, that is, to the observer's left. When displayed in a window, the flag should be displayed in the same way, with the union or blue field to the left of the observer in the street. For more on proper display of the US Flag go to:

[https://www.legion.org/flag/code#:~:text=i\)%20When%20displayed%20either%20horizontally,the%20observer%20in%20the%20street.](https://www.legion.org/flag/code#:~:text=i)%20When%20displayed%20either%20horizontally,the%20observer%20in%20the%20street.)

Requirement #2:

Learn about and describe your rights and duties as a citizen and explain what it means to be loyal to your country.

Your Rights as A Citizen:

- The right to equal protection under the law and equal justice in court.
- The right to be free from arbitrary arrest or search.
- The right to equal education and economic opportunity.
- The right to select public offices in free elections.
- The right to own property.
- The right to free speech, press, and assembly.
- The right of religious freedom.
- The right to have a lawyer and a speedy court trial if accused of a crime.

Your Duties as A Citizen:

If you are going to have rights as a citizen and you want to keep them, then you also have certain duties that you must take care of. Your duties as a citizen are:

- Obey the laws.
- Respect the rights of others.
- Keep informed on issues of National and local government.
- To vote in elections.
- To serve and defend your country.
- To assist the agencies of law enforcement.
- To practice and teach good citizenship in your home.

Citizenship Pledge:

"As future citizens, we will do our best to be prepared in body and will, in spirit and skill. We accept our obligation to God and will show by our actions we are willing to serve others and be good members of the Scouting team".

Requirement #3:

Discuss in your Webelos den the term “rule of law,” and talk about how it applies to you in your everyday life.

The rule of law is the legal principle that laws should govern a nation, as opposed to being governed by arbitrary decisions of individual government officials.

Schools, Churches, Cities, Stadiums, and groups (like Cub Scouts) have rules & laws. Scouts has the Scout Law, a uniform code of conduct for all participants. We also have YPT to protect our Scouts and Scouters.

Requirement #4:

Meet with a government or community leader and learn about his or her role in your community. Discuss with the leader an important issue facing your community.

Most Mayors will meet with Scouting Groups at City Hall or make arrangements for an interview online. Most City Hall sessions are

available to watch via online. Ask questions relating to Scouting and how can we help our city and find out about unknown resources they may have to help the scouts become great citizens.

Requirement #5:

Show that you are an active leader by planning an activity for your den without your den leader's help. Ask your den leader for approval first.

Allow your Scouts the opportunity to discuss among themselves activities they would like to do. Guide them so each Scout has an activity to plan that you approve of. Not only is this leadership skill but teambuilding as well. Each Scout will lead the others but allow the others to help with the activity. Team building is good citizenship.

Requirement #6:

Do at least one of these:

- A. Learn about Scouting in another part of the world. With the help of your parent, guardian, or den leader, pick one country where Scouting exists, and research its Scouting program.**
- B. Set up an exhibit at a pack meeting to share information about the World Friendship Fund.**
- C. Under the supervision of your parent, guardian, or den leader, connect with a Scout in another country during an event such as Jamboree on the Air or Jamboree-on-the-Internet or by other means**
- D. Learn about energy use in your community and in other parts of the world.**
- E. Identify one energy problem in your community, and find out what has caused it**

Online you can find out how other countries do Scouting. Each Scout can pick a country and check it out with their parents or leaders. In general, scouting is not much different throughout the world.

For use of energy, you can go to: <http://needtoknow.nas.edu/energy/energy-use/#:~:text=We%20divide%20our%20energy%20use,all%20functions%20that%20require%20energy>.

All communities have energy problems. There may be streetlights on during daylight hours, sprinklers watering the street, or on during the hottest part of the day. What can you find?

Additional Resources:

An easy citizenship game can be found at: <https://cubscoutideas.com/3550/cub-scout-citizenship-ideas/>

More on energy use and types are found at:
<https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/use-of-energy/>