



Cub Scout Language and Culture

Academics Workbook

The work space provided for each requirement should be used by the Cub Scout to make notes for discussing the item with Akela, not for providing the full and complete answers. Each Cub Scout must do each requirement.

No one may add or subtract from the official requirements found in the Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide (Pub. 34299)

This workbook was updated in May 2012.

<http://www.USScouts.Org> • <http://www.MeritBadge.Org>

Please submit errors, omissions, comments or suggestions about improving this workbook to: Workbooks@usscouts.org

Cub Scout's Name: _____ Pack No. : _____

If the Scout's native language is not English, then English may be used to satisfy the appropriate requirements.

Webelos Scouts that earn the Language and Culture Belt Loop while a Webelos Scout also satisfy requirement 6 for the Scholar Activity Badge.

Cub Scout Language and Culture Belt Loop (See the [Pin Requirements](#) below.)

Complete these three requirements:

1. With your parent's or adult partner's permission, talk with someone who grew up in a different country than you did. Find out what it was like and how it is different from your experience.

2. Learn 10 words that are in a different language than your own.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

3. Play two games that originated in another country or culture.

Cub Scout Language and Culture Pin

Earn the Cub Scout Language and Culture belt loop, and complete seven of the following requirements:

- 1. Earn the BSA Interpreter Strip.

Language: _____

- 2. Write the numbers 1-10 in Chinese or another number system other than the one we normally use (we use the Arabic system).

1. _____ 6. _____

2. _____ 7. _____

3. _____ 8. _____

4. _____ 9. _____

5. _____ 10. _____

- 3. Visit an embassy, consulate, or chargé d'affaires for another country.

- 4. Make a display of stamps or postcards of another country. Explain the importance or symbolism of the things depicted to that country's culture. _____

- 5. Learn 30 words in a language other than your own. Practice saying these words with your den or an adult family member.

1. _____ 11. _____ 21. _____

2. _____ 12. _____ 22. _____

3. _____ 13. _____ 23. _____

4. _____ 14. _____ 24. _____

5. _____ 15. _____ 25. _____

6. _____ 16. _____ 28. _____

7. _____ 17. _____ 27. _____

8. _____ 18. _____ 28. _____

9. _____ 19. _____ 29. _____

10. _____ 20. _____ 30. _____

- 6. Learn a song in another country's language. Sing the song for your den or an adult family member, and then tell what the words mean.

- 7. Say five words in American Sign Language. One of these words could be your first name.
- 8. Visit a restaurant that specializes in recipes from another country.
- 9. Watch a TV show or movie in a foreign language. Tell how easy or difficult it was to understand what was happening.

- 10. With your parent's or adult partner's permission, interview an interpreter. Find out what his or her job is like.

- 11. Make a list of 30 things around your home that were made in another country.

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 11. _____ | 21. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 12. _____ | 22. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 13. _____ | 23. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 14. _____ | 24. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 15. _____ | 25. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 16. _____ | 26. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 17. _____ | 27. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 18. _____ | 28. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 19. _____ | 29. _____ |
| 10. _____ | 20. _____ | 30. _____ |

- 12. Read a book or story about an immigrant to the United States.

Requirement resources can be found here:
http://www.meritbadge.org/wiki/index.php/Cub_Scout_Language_and_Culture#Requirement_resources

Important excerpts from the [‘Guide To Advancement’](#), No. 33088:

Effective January 1, 2012, the ‘Guide to Advancement’ (which replaced the publication ‘Advancement Committee Policies and Procedures’) is now the official Boy Scouts of America source on advancement policies and procedures.

- [Inside front cover, and 5.0.1.4] — **Unauthorized Changes to Advancement Program**
No council, committee, district, unit, or individual has the authority to add to, or subtract from, advancement requirements. (There are limited exceptions relating only to youth members with disabilities. For details see section 10, “Advancement for Members With Special Needs”.)
- [Inside front cover, and 7.0.1.1] — The [‘Guide to Safe Scouting’](#) Applies
Policies and procedures outlined in the ‘Guide to Safe Scouting’, No. 34416, apply to all BSA activities, including those related to advancement and Eagle Scout service projects. [Note: Always reference the online version, which is updated quarterly.]
- [4.1.0.3] — **Who Approves Cub Scout Advancement?**
A key responsibility for den leaders is to implement the core den meeting plans as outlined in the Den & Pack Meeting Resource Guide, No. 34409. For Wolf, Bear, and Webelos advancement, den leaders take the lead in approving requirements, though their assistants, and also parents who help at meetings, may be asked to play the role of “Akela” and assist. Parents sign for requirements that, according to meeting plans and instructions in the handbooks, take place at home. For the Bobcat trail and Tiger Cub achievements, parents (or adult partners) should sign in the boy’s handbook; the den leader then approves as progress is recorded in the den’s advancement record.
- [4.1.0.4] — **“Do Your Best”**
Advancement performance in Cub Scouting is centered on its motto: “Do Your Best.” When a boy has done this—his very best—then regardless of the requirements for any rank or award, it is enough; accomplishment is noted. This is why den leaders, assistants, and parents or guardians are involved in approvals. Generally they know if effort put forth is really the Cub Scout’s best.
- [4.1.2.2] — **Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program**
More than just a recognition opportunity, this program develops new skills, improves those existing, and otherwise enriches Cub Scouting. Details can be found in the Cub Scout Academics and Sports Program Guide, No. 34299. Activities include subjects like science, video games, collecting, and chess; and sports such as baseball, skateboarding, and table tennis. Each has two levels—a belt loop and a pin. Belt loops, which can be earned more than once, are awarded when each of three requirements is met. Cub Scouts may then continue with additional requirements and earn the pin. Archery and BB gun shooting are included, but can only be conducted at a council presented activity with certified supervisors.

Additional notes of interest:

- Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, and Webelos Scouts may complete requirements for all Academics and Sports Belt Loops and Pins (**except shooting sports**) in a family, den, pack, school, or community environment. Tiger Cubs must work with their parents or adult partners. Parents and partners do not earn loops or pins.
- **“Akela”** (Pronounced “Ah-KAY-la”) — Title of respect used in Cub Scouting—any good leader is *Akela*. *Akela* is also the leader and guide for Cub Scouts on the advancement trail. The name comes from Rudyard Kipling’s Jungle Book. (See “Law of the Pack.”)
- **“Law of the Pack”** —
The Cub Scout follows Akela.
The Cub Scout helps the pack go.
The pack helps the Cub Scout grow.
The Cub Scout gives goodwill.