

cubs

International Activity Badge Leaders' resource

Helping Cub Scouts take part in international activities



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International Activity Badge – Cubs

Introduction

You don't have to leave the meeting place to take your Pack to fascinating and far-off destinations. This resource has been developed to support you to complete the International Activity Badge with your Pack. Activity ideas and background information are provided for each requirement of the badge. You could do these activities across a couple of section meetings, or plan a themed camp or event on a country or a number of countries. Why not ask Cubs to vote on which countries they would like to find out about?

This badge is a great opportunity to tap into the experiences of others. Have any of the Cubs been abroad, or lived in another country? What can they tell you about the country? Perhaps they can bring in some photos or objects to share with the Pack. If you know parents/carers or volunteers in the Group that have lived or volunteered in another country, perhaps they could share their experiences with the Pack and help to run a session. There may even be some Explorer Scouts or Scout Network members who could share their experiences of completing their Explorer Belt.

Or, why not try to make contact with a group overseas? You could do this by using the guidance on making international links at scouts.org.uk/intlinks or by taking part in Jamboree on the Air or Jamboree on the Trail which takes place in October. Find out more at scouts.org.uk/jotajoti.

Badge requirements

How to earn your badge

- 1 Draw or create the World Scout Badge. Explain the meaning of each of its parts and talk about the advantages of being part of a global movement of Cub Scouts.
- 2 Make, build or draw something to represent a country. Include things like its currency, national dress, cultures, customs and languages.
- 3 Explore another country's traditions and culture around food and eating. What time do they eat? How do they eat? How do they sit? What do they eat?
- 4 Take part in the activities of a celebration or festival that usually takes place in another country. Explore why the celebration or festival happens. What are the customs of the event?

Please note that these badge requirements are correct as of September 2018. For up to date information and badge requirements, please visit the members' area of scouts.org.uk.

Flexibility

Each young person who participates in the programme, including badges and awards, should face a similar degree of challenge, and requirements can be adapted according to each young person's abilities. For more information and practical tips see our guidance at scouts.org.uk/diversity.

Additional resources

A certificate is available for Cubs who have completed their badge. The certificate can be customised and downloaded or ordered from the Scout brand centre at scouts.org.uk/brand.

Additional resources to support the global elements of the programme can be found at scouts.org.uk/globalprogramme.

For further support, please contact the Scout Information Centre on info.centre@scouts.org.uk.

Ideas and activities

1. Draw or create the World Scout Badge. Explain the meaning of each of its parts and talk about the advantages of being part of a global movement of Cub Scouts.

The World Scout Emblem represents being part of the world family of Scouting of over 40 million members and is worn by members all over the world.

Since the very beginning, young people have worn a symbol to show that they are part of Scouting. Baden-Powell described the original symbol as an arrowhead which shows North on a map or compass, to show us the way in doing our duty and helping others. He later renamed it after the fleur-de-lis symbol, which is said to represent peace and purity. He also said that the three parts of the symbol can represent the three points of the Scout Promise.

It was added to over time, to become the emblem that we use today, with additions such as the two stars and reef knot. Different countries interpret the emblem in different ways, but in the UK we describe that:

- the 10 points of the two stars represent the 10 parts of the Scout Law from 1911
- the bond tying together the fleur-de-lis represents the family of Scouting
- the rope represents the family of the World Scout Movement
- the reef knot represents the strength of this family. This knot can never be undone no matter how hard it is pulled.

After the launch of the Wolf Cub section in 1916, Baden-Powell said that the two stars could represent the eyes of a wolf cub.

You can find a labelled diagram of the emblem on page 7.

There are lots of different ways that Cubs could create the emblem. They could draw, or use craft materials or building bricks such as lego. Or Cubs can create the badge using natural materials by completing the activity below.

Activity: Art with nature

Time needed

30 – 40 minutes

You will need

- outdoor area or selection of natural materials
- print out of World Scout Emblem as on page 6 (optional)
- copy of information on page 7
- laptop or tablet to access video (optional)

Instructions

- 1 Show Cubs the image of the World Scout Emblem or just ask them if they know what it is. Hopefully they will recognise it as being the image on their Membership Award on their uniform.
- 2 Help Cubs understand what it represents. Can they guess how many members there are in the world? They might be surprised to know that it's about 40 million people, from over 200 countries! To bring this to life, you could even show them the [KISC 2017 video](#) about the Kandersteg International Scout Centre, which can be found on their YouTube channel at youtube.com/kiscpr.
- 3 Explain a bit about the meaning of the original symbol. Can Cubs remember their Cub Scout Promise?
- 4 Next, divide Cubs into their Sixes or other small groups. Challenge them to head outside, and give them five or 10 minutes to recreate the emblem using natural materials, like leaves, twigs and stones.
- 5 Either rotating around the groups, or as a whole group when they've finished, see if Cubs can remember what Baden-Powell said about the emblem. Then, ask Cubs if they can guess which part of the emblem used today is thought to represent the following things:
 - the 10 points of the Scout Law from over 100 years ago
 - the strength of the world family of Scouting

- 6 Now, ask Cubs to talk to the Cub next to them about why it's good to be part of the world family of Scouting, then bring the group back together to share their ideas. Help them realise that being part of a global movement means that they can:
- connect with other Scouts across the world
 - learn about other countries and cultures, which can make us more understanding
 - make a big difference to the world

2. Make, build or draw something to represent a country. Include things like its currency, national dress, cultures, customs and languages.

Cubs could vote on what country they want to find out about as a Pack or as a Six.

Here are some ideas of what Cubs could create:

- a model of a famous building or landmark in the country. For example, they could recreate the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy, and see how much they can make it lean, without it falling over.
- a poster or collage in the shape of the country. (Take in a globe or world map for this one)
- A video or advert to tell others about the country.

Some facts about four countries (India, China, Kenya and Italy), can be found on page 8. Encourage the Cubs to learn and explore, and question any stereotypes or assumptions they may have.

Activity: Model landmarks

Time needed

30 minutes

You will need

- recycling items like egg cartons, milk bottles and cereal boxes
- rolls of sticky tape (one per group)
- free brochures from a travel agent
- Post-it notes or slips of paper
- pens

Instructions

- 1 Arrange the recycling items in a pile.
- 2 Divide Cubs into their Sixes or other small groups, and get them to decide on a famous building or landmark from a different country, which they will be creating using recycling items. If they're stuck, they could use the travel brochures for ideas, or you could suggest the Leaning Tower of Pisa in Italy, the Taj Mahal in India or the Great Wall of China.
- 3 Then, give each group some sticky tape and ask them to create their building or landmark. It might be useful to ask Cubs to take one item at a time from the pile, to help spread out the resources.
- 4 When they are finished, give each group some Post-its or slips of paper and pens. Ask them to write some facts about the country, like its currency and languages, to stick onto their model. Between them, they might know some facts already, and they can find out more using the travel brochures and speaking to their leaders. (Facts about some countries can be found on page 8).
- 5 Bring everyone back together, and see if groups can guess what each other's models are and the name of the country they represent.
- 6 After Cubs are finished with their creations, get them to break them down and remove the tape, so that they can be recycled.

3. Explore another country's traditions and culture around food and eating. What time do they eat? How do they eat? How do they sit?

What do they eat?

Food can be a really great way to engage Cubs in thinking about other countries and cultures. You could bring in some food, ingredients or utensils from a particular country. Just remember to check for any allergies or dietary requirements in your Pack. Many larger supermarkets will have international sections, with products grouped by different countries or continents.

Some information on food in various countries can be found on page 8 and some activity ideas are provided below.

- **China:** Taste spring rolls, or play the fun relay game below.
- **India:** Try to guess different spices used in Indian cooking (eg cinnamon, cloves, ginger, saffron) by their smell, or taste some onion bhajis. There is a recipe for onion bhajis on page 10.
- **Italy:** Make some homemade ice-cream using ziplock bags, using the recipe on page 11, or play a game using forks to pick up as much string ('spaghetti') as possible.
- **Kenya:** Why not try the recipe for Kitheri, a Kenyan vegetable stew on page 10? It's perfect for camp.

Alternatively, if you have a link to a Group in another country, why not support Cubs to find out information first-hand. Both Groups could write or draw each meal they've had in a day, and swap these with each other, to compare. Or, if you're taking part in Jamboree on the Air or Jamboree on the Internet, Cubs could prepare some questions for young people overseas, to get an insight into their lives, including mealtimes.

Activity: Chopstick relay

Time needed

20 minutes

You will need

- a pair of chopsticks (one per team)
- printed or written facts as on page 9
- a large bowl or several smaller bowls

Instructions

- 1 Before the activity, fold or roll up each of the facts, and place in the large bowl or across several smaller bowls.
- 2 Divide Cubs into teams and give each team a pair of chopsticks.
- 3 Ask Cubs if they can name any countries that use chopsticks. You can explain that they are used in a lot of Asia (eg Japan, Thailand, China), and were first invented and used in China.
- 4 Ask teams to line up at one end of the space.
- 5 Then, get teams to run or walk, to collect the facts using just the chopsticks. Each team member should take it in turn to do this, and take the fact back to their team.
- 6 When the relay is finished, get Cubs to count how many facts they managed to collect, and share their facts with the rest of the section.
- 7 To explore the topic further, you could ask Cubs about how they found using the chopsticks and what they think the benefits of using these, rather than a knife and fork, could be.

4. Take part in the activities of a celebration or festival that usually takes place in another country. Explore why the celebration or festival happens. What are the customs of the event?

Festivals and celebrations happen across the world each year, to mark an aspect of a particular faith or a significant date of national importance. Here are some activity ideas.

- **Get creative for the Carnival of Brazil :** This usually takes place in February or March, as it happens just before Lent (the 40-day period before Easter in the Christian faith). It was originally a Catholic food festival, but is now focused on celebrations and parades which are held accross the country, with amazing fancy dress costumes and floats.

Why not challenge your Cubs to create their own masks or costumes, and create their own dance or sketch to perform for the Pack?

- **A colour party to celebrate Holi** : Known as the "festival of colours", Holi is a spring festival, which takes place in March, and is particularly celebrated in India and Nepal. To mark the occasion, Cubs could have a colour party. One of the activities could be heading outside with some brightly coloured paints, and creating a giant piece of art using footprints and handprints. Just ask Cubs to wear old clothes and use paint that is non-toxic and washable.
- **Water games for Thai New Year** : Known as Songkran, the Thai New Year is now celebrated between 13-15 April and is the biggest celebration in the country. It's traditionally a spiritual holiday, with people taking time to meditate and pray, but it's also known for its water fights ! Water symbolises cleansing and renewal, and people spend time cleaning houses and temples, and celebrating with water festivals. Depending on the weather, Cubs could head outside for their own water festival, making water rockets, playing relay games with water balloons and completing teamwork challenges.
- **Make papel picado for the Day of the Dead** - The Day of the Dead sounds a little frightening, but it's just a Mexican holiday where people celebrate and remember friends and family who have died. It is celebrated each year from 31 October to 2 November in Mexico and by people with Mexican ancestry. Why not make papel picado, which is Mexican craft involving paper cutting ? Each Cub can create their own by folding coloured paper or tissue paper in half and cutting out a pattern. Then, the designs can be hung together as a beautiful banner.
- **Make Diwali lamps** : The Hindu festival of lights, Diwali, takes place in October or November. The core theme is the celebration of the victory of good over evil and light over darkness. It marks a new beginning and is celebrated with massive firework displays, family feasts, by giving presents and decorating your house with colourful lights and candles. Why not make Diwali lamps with your Cubs ? Here are some instructions.

Activity: Diwali lamps

Time needed

30 minutes

You will need

- clay (air-drying if possible)
- clay tools, glue spreaders or similar
- tealights

Instructions

- 1 Talk to the Cubs about Diwali. What do they know about it? Do they know who celebrates it and why?
- 2 Explain that small lamps, called diyas, are often used for special occasions such as Diwali. They are usually made from clay and have cotton wick dipped in oil. Cubs will be making their own, just using tealights instead of oil.
- 3 Give each Cub a piece of clay and ask them to roll it into a ball of about 5cm.
- 4 Then, ask them to make a hole in the top with their thumb, and gradually make the hole larger, until they have a small bowl-shape.
- 5 Then, ask them to shape their bowl so that it has a point at the front, a bit like a boat, and is big enough to fit a small tealight inside.
- 6 Then, using clay tools, glue spreaders or similar, or just their fingers, they can decorate the outside of the bowl with patterns.
- 7 Leave the finished lamps to dry, and when they are dry, put in a tealight. If you're using clay that isn't air-drying, Cubs could take their lamps home, along with instructions for their parent/carer about how to harden the clay in the oven, according to the instructions on the packaging.

World Scout Emblem

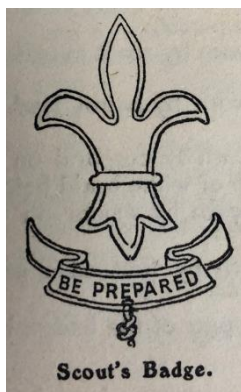


World Scout Emblem information

The World Scout Emblem represents being part of the world family of Scouting of over 40 million members and is worn by many members all over the world.

The fleur-de-lis

Since the very beginning, young people have worn a symbol to show that they are part of Scouting. In *Scouting for Boys* (1908), Baden-Powell wrote the following:



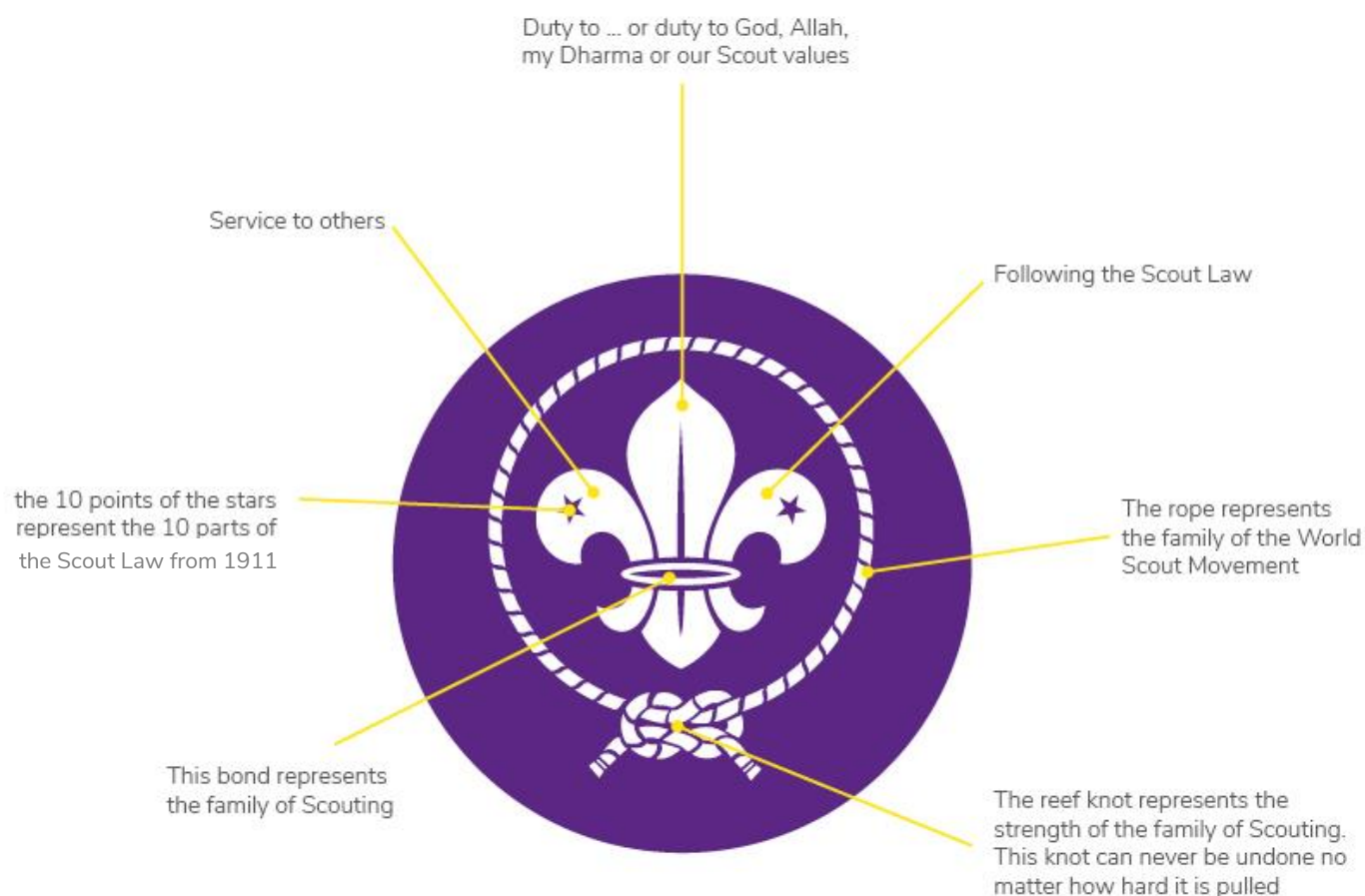
“The Scout Badge is the arrowhead which shows the North on a map or on a compass. It is the Badge of the Scout because it points in the right direction and upwards. It shows, the way in doing your duty and helping others. The three points of it remind you of the three points of the Scout Promise.”

He later renamed it after the fleur-de-lis symbol, which is said to represent peace and purity. The symbol was added to over time, to become the emblem that we use today, with additions such as the two stars and reef knot.

After the launch of the Wolf Cub section in 1916, Baden-Powell said that the two stars could represent the eyes of a wolf cub.

Other symbolism

Different countries interpret the rest of the emblem in different ways. The UK interpretation is shown below.



The emblem is white, on a royal purple background. In heraldry, white represents purity and royal purple represents leadership and service.

Country information

Country	Currency	Language	Clothing	Customs and culture	Food
India	Indian Rupee	Hindi and many other languages	Varies, but clothes made from one piece of material are popular. Women may wear a sari and men may wear a dhoti.	<p>People greet each other by placing their hands together and saying 'Namaste'.</p> <p>The cow is a protected animal in India. Hinduism is the largest religion in India and considers the cow to be a sacred animal.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lots of the food is flavoured with spices and rice is often used. - Chai tea is a popular drink. - People often sit down on mats to eat and in some areas, eat with their hands, but only the right hand. - Hinduism is the largest religion in India, and Hindus believe that the cow is a sacred animal and so they never eat beef.
China	Renminbi / Yuan	Mandarin and many other languages	Red is a popular colour for clothing, as it's thought to be lucky.	<p>Tai Chi is a Chinese martial art.</p> <p>In some areas of China, pointing is considered to be rude.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Table manners and where people sit is very important. - Vegetables and rice or noodles are very popular. - Usually, children go to school before 8am. So they have breakfast around 7am. - Meat or vegetable dishes are often shared, from big plates or bowls.
Kenya	Kenyan shilling	Swahili and English	Varies, but some people wear traditional clothes, like the Masai Mara tribe. The women wear colourful wraps called Tanga and men wear a red-checked shuka (blanket).	<p>Kenya has lots of different communities, with different cultures.</p> <p>Eye contact is important to build trust.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The national dish is Nyama choma beef or goat meat grilled on charcoal. - Most meals will include 'ugali', which is like a hard porridge, and stews are common too. - Popular breakfasts include Mandazi, which are similar to doughnuts, and uji, a thin porridge.
Italy	Euro	Italian	People often dress very fashionably. There are lots of designer brands based in Italy.	<p>Family and food are usually very important to Italians.</p> <p>Opera was 'born' in Italy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It's popular to meet with friends in the evening, for aperitivo, which means a drink and selection of snacks. Dinner is usually eaten later in the evening. - Italians usually don't sit down to drink their coffee. - Italian ice-cream is called gelato and is very smooth. - Spaghetti is usually eaten just with a fork.

China – food facts

Noodles and rice porridge are popular breakfast foods.	It is bad luck to leave chopsticks stuck in a bowl of rice.	Table manners and where people sit is important.
Vegatables and rice or noodles are very popular.	The food in northwest China is usually Halal, as it's traditionally a Muslim area.	In the middle of China, when a baby is born, red boiled eggs are sent to tell people the news.
Meat or vegetable dishes are often shared, from big plates or bowls.	Tea was invented in China.	Usually, children go to school before 8am. So they have breakfast around 7am.
Dinner is the biggest meal of the day.	One legend says tea was invented when a Chinese Emporer saw a leaf fall into a bowl of boiling water.	Dinner time is usually between 6pm and 8pm.
Grass jelly is a type of dessert. This is jelly made from leaves.	Dining tables are usually round.	During the Dragon Boat Festival, people eat pyramid-shaped dumplings called Zongzi.

International recipes

Remember to check for any allergies or dietary requirements in the section.

Onion bhajis (makes 4)		
You will need	3 large onions 7 tbsp vegetable oil 1 tsp mustard seeds ½ tsp turmeric 150g gram (chickpea) flour ½ tsp salt ½ tsp chilli powder (optional)	chopping knife chopping board wooden spoon frying pan spatula
Instructions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Slice the onions. 2 Fry the mustard seeds and turmeric in 4 tablespoons of the oil until the seeds begin to pop. 3 Turn down the heat. Add the sliced onions and fry gently for another 10 minutes, until the onions are soft. 4 Add 1 tablespoon of the gram flour and stir. Do this again until all the gram flour has been used up. 5 Add the salt and chilli powder, (or some pepper if you don't use chilli powder). 6 Take the mixture off the cooker to cool down. When it is cool, divide it into 4 pieces and mould each piece into a ball. Flatten the balls. 7 Heat the remaining oil and fry the bhajis, so that they get brown all over. Use a spatula to make sure they don't fall apart. 	
Kitheri – Kenyan vegetable stew (serves about 4)		
You will need	500g drained kidney beans 3 potatoes 3 carrots 1 onion 2 peppers 1 tbsp coconut oil 350g sweetcorn 200g chopped tomatoes (fresh or tinned) 1½ vegetable stock cubes	small saucepan large frying pan or saucepan with a lid chopping knife chopping board peeler
Instructions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Wash the potatoes and put in a small saucepan. Fill with water and cook for about 15 minutes. Drain the potatoes, and when they're cool, chop them up. 2 Peel the carrots and the onion. Chop up the carrots and peppers, making sure to take away the stem and seeds of the peppers. Chop up the onion finely. 3 Heat the coconut oil in a large frying pan or saucepan. Cook the chopped onion for 5 minutes, adding a couple of tablespoons of water if needed. 4 Add the potatoes and carrots and cook for 10 minutes. 5 Add the peppers and heat for 5 minutes. 6 Add the chopped tomatoes and allow to simmer for 10 minutes. 7 Prepare and add the vegetable stock cubes. Add the sweetcorn and kidney beans. 8 Let the stew simmer, with the lid on, over medium heat for 30 to 40 minutes. Add a bit of water from time to time, to stop the mixture sticking to the bottom. 9 Reduce the heat and allow to simmer for a further 20 minutes or longer. 	

Ice-cream recipe (serves 2)		
You will need	300ml semi-skimmed milk 1 tbsp caster sugar ¼ tsp vanilla extract 1kg ice cubes 6 tbsp rock salt	2 medium zip-seal freezer bags 1 large zip-seal freezer bag sticky tape bowls and spoons
Instructions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Put one medium freezer bag inside the other. 2 Inside this doubled-up freezer bag, put the milk, sugar and vanilla. Then, zip up carefully and add sticky tape, just to make sure it's sealed. 3 Put the ice cubes and salt into the large freezer bag, then put the medium bag (containing the milk etc) inside it. Zip up the large freezer bag and add sticky tape if needed. 4 Then, shake the bag or keep it moving by gently throwing it, for about 10 to 15 minutes, until it's turned into ice-cream. 	