

**CUBS POCKET BOOK 3: WORLD
SPOTTING METEORS AND OTHER AMAZING ACTIVITIES**



Welcome to the Cubs World Pocket Book. This is one of three books that tell you all about the exciting things you can do in the Cub Scouts.

Look inside and discover some of the great places you can go and activities you can try.

You'll also find things to do, plans for mini-projects, amazing true stories, cool facts, and a section where you can jot down your own ideas.

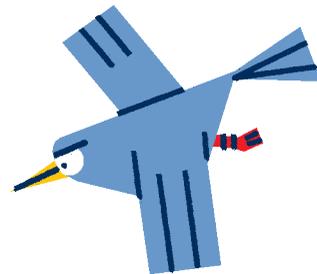
Dip in and let the fun begin!

CONTENTS

Pages 2-3
Eco Warrior
Pages 4-5
Firefighting Facts
Pages 6-7
Caring for Animals
Pages 8-9
Be an Astronomer
Pages 10-11
Be a Naturalist
Pages 12-13
Communication
Pages 14-15
International
Pages 16-17
Disability Awareness
Pages 18-19
Faith
Pages 20-21
Going Global



If you care about wildlife and protecting our natural environment, then you can become a Cub eco-warrior and join in all sorts of activities, from planting trees to saving energy.



How to make a simple bird feeder

What you need:

- a large pine cone
- smooth peanut butter
- bird seed
- a teaspoon
- 60 cm of string
- scissors
- a plate

What to do

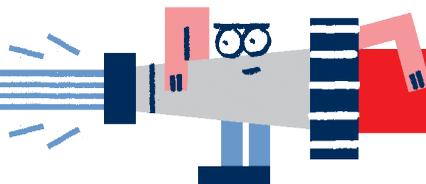
1. Tie one end of the string around the pine cone so it is well secured.
2. With the spoon, press peanut butter into the gaps of the pine cone.
3. Spread out some of the bird seed on a plate and roll the pine cone around in it so that the seeds stick to the peanut butter.
4. Press the seeds gently so that they don't fall off.

5. Choose a place outside to hang your feeder. A tree branch near a window is good, or a bird table.
6. Once the seeds are gone you can refill the feeder in the same way.

Other eco activities you can do:

- make a bird table
- plant a tree
- clear a pond
- go gardening
- make compost
- tidy up an area of wasteland
- find out how to save energy

Cubs sometimes get to visit a fire station and learn all about fire safety. A firefighter may even visit your Cub Pack and give you a talk.



Could you be a firefighter?

To be a firefighter you have to:

- solve problems
- think for yourself
- act calmly in difficult situations
- deal with people well
- be brave and fit
- work well in a team

Physical tests

Firefighters have to pass these six tests:

- climb a 13m ladder in full protective kit
- pull a person to safety over distance
- lift a heavy bar
- crawl through small spaces wearing breathing apparatus
- put together equipment
- carry bulky equipment

Some fire service vehicles

Pump rescue ladder

This is the classic fire engine. It carries four to six firefighters plus water, a long ladder, rescue equipment and hoses.

Hydraulic platform

A large vehicle with a crane on top carrying a platform for rescuing people from tall buildings.

Foam tender

A tanker carrying large amounts of foam to put out fires where water cannot be used, such as fires including petrol or jet fuel.

Jaws of life

These are often used by firefighters at road crashes where people are trapped inside cars. Their technical name is a hydraulic rescue tool. Some of these machines use steel rams powered by pumps to force apart objects. Other machines use powerful cutters which can chop through metal.

If you have a cat why not have a go at making this simple toy? You could also make it for someone else's cat!

How to make a cat toy

What you need:

- a stick
- strong string
- an old sock
- scissors
- 3 to 4 strips of fabric about 30cm x 2cm

What to do

1. Make two holes near the toe of the sock, by cutting out small V-shapes.
2. Thread the fabric strips through both holes so they hang down equally.
3. Knot the fabric around the sock using an overhand knot so it cannot come loose.
4. Make two holes near the top of the sock in the same way as before.
5. Fix one end of about 60cm of string to the sock using the holes – choose a suitable knot.
6. Tie the other end of the string to your stick: you now have a cat toy!

Space and other planets are fascinating. You can earn your Astronomer Activity Badge by learning about comets, asteroids, black holes and more.

Shooting stars

Shooting stars are meteors – small pieces of rock from comets or asteroids which zoom through space at amazing speed, crash into the earth's atmosphere, and then burn up.

This produces a thin streak of light in the night sky which looks a bit like a star shooting across space. You can see shooting stars if you know where and when to look!

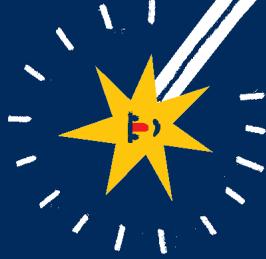
How to see shooting stars

1. You need a clear night sky.
2. Go to a dark place, away from lots of lights (somewhere in the countryside is best)
3. Keep looking up!
4. These are the best times to see meteor showers:

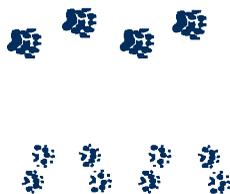
Name	Date
Quadrantids	3-4 January
Delta Aquarids	31 July
Perseids	12 August
Orionids	21 October
Geminids	14 December

Facts about meteors:

- meteors are **REALLY** fast – they travel at around 20km per second (that's about 45,000 mph!)
- in a rare meteor storm you can see thousands of shooting stars every hour
- meteors can be different colours
- most meteors are caused by small particles that weigh less than 2 grams
- big, heavy meteors sometimes hit the earth with a thump – these are called meteorites



Do you enjoy spotting wild animals, watching birds, exploring woods or finding wild fruit? Cubs can try all these activities, and more.



How to track mammals

You can learn to recognise the tracks of six British wild animals using this simple guide.

Badger

Broad prints with long claws and five toe pads.

Stoat

Small, well-spread pads sometimes with claw marks.

Deer

A cloven (split) hoof, ranging from quite small to very large.

Otter

Webbed, with five toes and a large rear pad.

Hedgehog

Long claws spread around a rounded pad.

Fox

Four toe pads: two in front and two to the side in a diamond shape.

Tips for finding tracks:

- winter is a good time to look, when the ground is damp and soft
- snow often shows very clear footprints
- river banks are good places to look, along with muddy woodland paths
- watch out for other signs of mammals: droppings, hair caught on barbed wire, or gnawed bark on trees

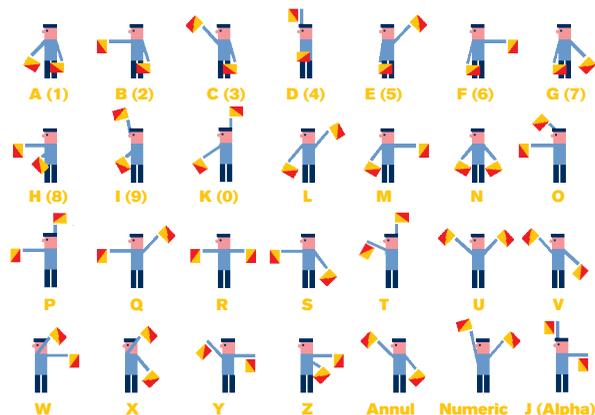
Today there are more ways to communicate than ever before, and you can try many of these as a Cub. Some of the older communication methods are fun too – like this one!

Make your own semaphore flags

Semaphore involves passing messages using pairs of flags. It's been around a long time but is still used sometimes to signal between ships at sea. Why not make your own flags and try sending a message using the semaphore code above.

What you need:

- two short sticks about 30-40cm long
- two pieces of A4 yellow paper
- two pieces of A4 red paper
- glue
- scissors
- clear sticky tape



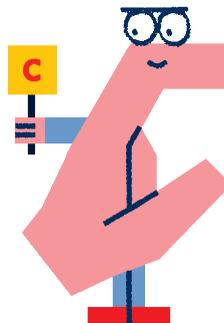
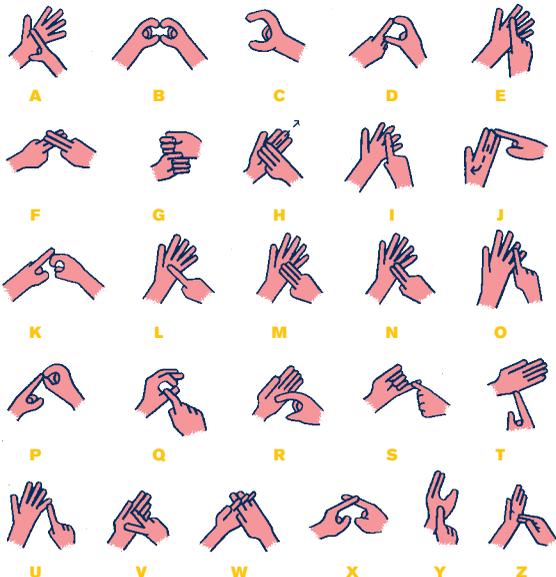
What to do

1. Fold one of the pieces of red paper diagonally and cut along the fold.
2. Do the same with one of the sheets of yellow paper.
3. Glue one of the red triangles onto the remaining whole piece of yellow paper so that it covers half of it as shown in the picture. Stick the other triangle on the back.
4. Glue one of the yellow triangles onto the remaining whole red piece to make a second flag as shown. Stick the other triangle onto the back.
5. Attach each flag to a stick using plenty of sticky tape wrapped from one side to the other. You are now ready to send signals!

How to send signals by semaphore

1. One person flags at a distance while the other writes down each letter in a notebook.
2. Both will need a copy of the semaphore alphabet code, above.
3. To start sending numbers, signal "Numeric". To start sending letters, signal 'J (Alpha)'. To cancel the last signal you sent, signal 'annul'.
4. Remember to signal spaces between the words!

If you don't know what it's like to have a disability, being a Cub can help you learn more about the impact it has on people. You might try to do a task with only one hand, visit a cinema to see what it's like for wheelchair users, or maybe learn how lip-reading works. Here's a sign language challenge for you.



How to use fingerspelling

Fingerspelling is a way to spell words using hand movements rather than sounds. It is used in sign language where words like names need to be spelt out. Sign language like this is often used to help deaf people communicate.

Tips:

- have a go at forming each letter of the alphabet using the chart on these pages
- try spelling out your name
- with another person, see if you can fingerspell a word so that they understand. You'll both need a copy of the alphabet chart on the left (you can also search for one online)
- now swap over so that you receive a message spelt out by your friend

Scouts around the world follow many different faiths and beliefs (including those with no faith). They may practice different customs, enjoy a range of foods, and wear a variety of types of clothes. Finding out about what these faiths and beliefs are like is an important part of understanding other people and their lives.

The Golden Temple

Here is the story of one of the most amazing buildings in the world. The city of Amritsar is located in northern India near the Himalaya Mountains. In the centre of Amritsar is the famous Golden Temple, a building holy to people of the Sikh faith. The temple is built on a lake and is partly covered with real gold. It is over 400 years old and has been destroyed by invaders many times. The Golden Temple has over 5 million visitors a year. The temple is a place of worship for Sikhs who call it the Harmandir Sahib. The Sikhs who run the temple give out 35,000 free meals every day from a giant kitchen.

Everyone is welcome to visit the temple, but all visitors must follow these rules:

- remove your shoes
- wash your feet
- wear a head covering
- once inside, sit on the floor

Cubs can learn lots about the whole world, especially about helping disadvantaged people in other places. Some brilliant charities are listed below. Can you do some research and find out what they do and who they help?

Amnesty International:

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Oxfam:

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Save The Children:

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

British Red Cross:

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

UNICEF:

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

International activities you can do:

- take part in World Water Day
- find out about life in another country
- make a disaster survival plan
- save energy to help the planet
- discover where your belongings come from – check your clothes labels



© 2016 The Scout Association
Registered charity numbers: 306101
(England and Wales) and SCO38437 (Scotland)

