

February Cub Scout Roundtable “Invention Convention”



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Opening Ceremony: A Great Invention

Materials: Table with floor-length tablecloth, a large box on the table, a participant in full leader uniform to “hide” under the table

NARRATOR: We need to invent something special to help the Cub Scouts in the pack. Let’s see what parts were need for our invention. (Cub Scouts enter one by one with items to be placed in the box. Each boy holds up the item, tells what it is, and then puts it in the box.)

- PATIENCE (puts a clock in the box)
- HELPING Hands (a pair of gloves)
- WATCHFUL EYES (a ball with craft eyes glued to it)
- A LISTENING EAR (a cutout of an ear)
- LIMITLESS ENERGY (a large battery)
- GREAT IDEAS (a light bulb)

NARRATOR: I think we may have invented the perfect thing. (The person under the table stands up.) A den leader!

Prayer:

“We give thanks for our families, our blessings, our Scouts, and their creative minds. Help us to encourage their creativity and individuality. Amen.”

Song: “Our Invention”

Tune: “Frere Jacques”

First we build it, then we test it.
Does it work? Does it work?
Shouldn’t it be moving?
Shouldn’t it be stirring?
Doesn’t work, doesn’t work.
What to do now? How to fix it?
Will it work? Will it work?
Tinker with the wires,
Checking the connections,
Doesn’t work, doesn’t work.
Stop and think now. What is missing?
This might work! This might work!
Looking for the button,
Switching on the power,

Now it works, now it works!

Recognition:

Have awards prepared for the inventions presented during the icebreaker. Awards could include “Best Use of Material,” “Most Colorful,” “Biggest,” “Strangest,” “What is It?,” “Most Creative,” “Most Thought-Provoking,” “Used the Most Materials,” “Most Likely to Be Patented.”

Game- Unscramble

Materials: Two sets of cards-One listing inventions, one listing inventors

Twenty people holding cards stand in the front of the room, the inventors standing together and the inventions standing together. Audience members study the cards for about two minutes; then ask them to call out which inventor belongs to them. Keep unscrambling until the inventors are with the correct inventions.

Steel plow-John Deere
Electric battery-Alessandro Volta
Cotton gin-Eli Whitney
Printing for the blind-Louis Braille
Passenger elevator-Elisha Otis
Condensed milk-Gail Borden
Telephone-Alexander Bell
Phonograph-Thomas Edison
Zipper-Whitcomb Judson
Diesel engine-Rudolf Diesel
Safety razor-King Gillette
Airplane-Wilbur and Orville Wright
Air conditioner-Willis Carrier
Process for quick-freezing foods-Clarence Birdseye
Paper clip-Johann Waaler
Safety pin-Walter Hunt
Pencil-Konrad von Gesner
Barometer-Evangelista Torricelli
Reflecting telescope-Sir Isaac Newton
Dynamite-Alfred B Nobel

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Skit: What an Invention!

Materials: Large pictures of a light bulb, a telephone, a car, and a television

Setting: Cubmaster and judge stand to one side. Four inventors stand in the center holding pictures behind their backs.

CUBMASTER: We are here to determine what is the greatest invention of all time. Our judge will make the decision.

Inventor 1, what is your invention?

INVENTOR1 (hold up a picture of a light bulb): The light bulb! It brightens up everyone’s life.

CUBMASTER: Thank you. Inventor 2, what is your invention?

INVENTOR 2 (holds up a picture of a telephone): The telephone. It helps people talk to one another.

CUBMASTER: Thank you. Inventor 3, what is your invention?

INVENTOR 3 (hold up a picture of a car): The car. It helps you get from one place to another.

CUBMASTER: Thank you Inventor 4, what is your invention?

INVENTOR 4 (holds up a picture of a television); Television. It entertains you.

CUBMASTER: Thank you. Now will the judge please decide on the best invention of all time.

JUDGE (ponders for a minute, and then makes a decision):

None of them.

CUBMASTER: Then what is?

JUDGE: The Cub Scout! He is bright like a light bulb, he communicates like a telephone, he can get from one place to another like a car, and he’s quite entertaining like a television. He’s the greatest invention in the world!

Theme-Related Activity:

Remember the importance of allowing each boy to express his creativity and resourcefulness.

Cast: Cub Scout, one parent (or adult family member), and another family member

Props: a chair. Optional props are “Widget” pieces (interlocking building blocks or other toy pieces), table, and phone.

Scene: Cub Scout is sitting in a chair, facing the audience and working on a building project. The parent walks in.

PARENT: I’m going to start dinner now. What are you doing?

CUB SCOUT (excited): I’m building a Widget for my Cub Scout project! This next piece is going right here, see!

PARENT (Frowning): Hmm...what if you put it there instead?

CUB SCOUT (not thrilled): Oh. Well, okay, if you think so.

PARENT (getting into it): And if you put the next piece there, see how it makes the whole thing more symmetrical?

CUB SCOUT (puzzled): More what?

PARENT: Symmetrical. Here, I’ll show you. (The parent nudges the boy off the chair, sits and starts adding pieces to the Widget.)

CUB SCOUT: But....

PARENT (not paying attention): There. Where’s the next piece? (The boy hands the parent the next piece, leans in, and points to the Widget.)

CUB SCOUT: Look, I was gonna-

PARENT: No, no, no. I’ve got a better idea. Just watch.

CUB SCOUT: But, but....

PARENT: Look you want this to be perfect, don’t you?

CUB SCOUT (dejected): I guess so....(Phone rings.)

PARENT: Can you get that? I need to concentrate on this little piece here. (The boy answers phone. His posture and voice show his discouragement.)

CUB SCOUT: Hello? Hi, (name). (Name of adult) is kinda busy right now. Me? (Gets an idea.) I’m

going to make dinner tonight-for my Cub Scout project! (The parent and boy freeze. The parent

stands and they face the audience together.)

PARENT: Parents, please remember!

CUB Scout: Help me understand my task.

PARENT: Answer any questions he may ask.

CUB SCOUT: Give me scissors, paints, and glue....

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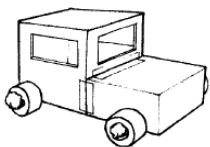
PARENT: Paper towels-and encouragement, too.
CUB SCOUT: Help me work safely. But let me do the rest.
PARENT: It doesn't have to be perfect...
CUB SCOUT: If I do my best!

Sample Ceremony: Tiger Cub Badge Ceremony
Have a Tiger Cub badges taped to a large cutout of a light bulb (or another invention).

CUBMASTER: Would the following Tiger Cubs and their adult partners please come forward?
(Reads names) Many great inventions have been developed in the past 100 years. While searching out new and better ways to do things, these inventors made great discoveries and shared them with the world. Likewise, our Tiger Cubs have spent the past months searching, discovering, and sharing things about themselves, their community, and their families. In doing this they have completed the requirements necessary to earn their Tiger Cub badge. I will present each boy's badge to his adult partner who, in turn, will present it to the Tiger Cub. This is a sign of their continued support of their Tiger Cubs in Cub Scouting.

Separate Meetings:

Tiger Cub Den Leaders and Cub Scout Den Leaders-



Motor Car Project:

Materials: Two juice or small milk boxes, pipe cleaners, four bottle caps, modeling clay, scissors, markers, tape, and paint. Draw the front opening and the windows of your car on one of the empty boxes. Cut out the windows and front. Cut out the side of the second box and attach it to the first box to form the hood of the car. Then fold it and attach it to the front opening with tape. Paint the boxes. Make two small holes on each side of the box and slide the pipe cleaner through. Poke a hole in the center of the bottle caps. Attach the bottle caps to the pipe cleaner and secure with a small piece of clay.

Webelos Den Leaders:

Webelos Athlete Activity

Strongman Crunch

Webelos Scouts will test their



strength by crumpling up newspapers using only one hand. Everyone stands with outstretched hands. Put about six sheets of newspaper in each hand. On a signal, they crumple the newspapers into a ball in each hand.

Pack Leaders:

Conducting a Science Fair. What should you call it? Invention Convention? When should you have it? On a Saturday or Sunday afternoon? How could you set up the convention? Should submissions of inventions be by individuals or by dens? Who could you invite as guests? Teachers and science teachers from the boys' schools? Should you have judging and prizes and recognition for all? Who could be the judges? And how can the pack publicize the convention? Maybe create posters for your pack's own Invention Convention.

Closing Ceremony: Cub Scout Genius

I'll build a rocket in a minute;
Ten thousand people will fit in it;
We'll circle the moon on a two-hour cruise-
But first I have to polish my shoes.
I'll dive to the bottom of the sea,
In a special boat designed by me;
All the sunken treasures I'll discover-
But first I have to ask my mother.
I'm making a very special glue,

For all the atoms they split in two;
I'll glue them together and use them again-
But I'm late for school, so I can't say when.
I'll build a giant pogo stick,
To cross the oceans mighty quick;

Just one jump and there you are-
But first I have to wash the car.

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I'll draw designs for unbreakable eggs,
For biteless dogs, and unscratchable legs;
For unspillable milk and fire without smoke-
But I can't get going 'cause my pencil broke.

