

LION DEN • ADVENTURE MEETING PLAN

King of the Jungle

Required adventure • Citizenship

If you read nothing else

Two 45-minute meetings. Meeting 1 is about family — who we live with and how we help. Meeting 2 brings in an older adult and does the service project.

Invite the grandparent or older adult at least three weeks out and confirm the day before. Ask the families in your den first; somebody's grandmother lives ten minutes away.

Requirement 2 is finished at home. The Lion picks a job at the meeting and then actually does it — you collect the confirmation from the adult partner next time.

Requirement 4 is a service project. Tell your committee so the hours get logged in Scoutbook; it counts toward the pack's Journey to Excellence score.

The requirements

Official requirement text. Tick each one off as your Scouts complete it — the meeting plans below cover all of them.

- ☐ 1. Draw a picture or take a photo of the people you live with.
- ☐ 2. With your Lion adult partner, choose a job that will help your family. Follow through by doing that job at least once.
- ☐ 3. Talk with a grandparent or other older adult about what citizenship means to them.
- ☐ 4. Participate in a service project.

Requirement 2 is chosen at meeting 1 and completed at home. Confirm with the adult partner at meeting 2 that the job actually got done at least once.

Meeting 1: Who I live with, and how I help

Goal: Each Lion draws the people they live with and picks one real job they will start doing at home.

Covers requirements 1 and 2

Before the meeting

- Set up table space where each pair can draw side by side.
- Read the room before you start. Some Lions live with one parent, some with grandparents, some between two houses, some with a foster family. Every one of those is a family and your language needs to say so from the first sentence.
- Look at page 17 of the handbook beforehand so you know the list of jobs you are working from.

- Have a way to record which job each Lion picked — you are going to ask about it next meeting and they will not remember unless you do.

Supplies

- Lion handbooks — pages 16 and 17
- Pencils, one per Lion
- Crayons, enough to share
- A notepad or roster to record each Lion's chosen job

Run of show

Time	What happens
5 min	Gathering: free drawing
5 min	Opening: Pledge, Scout Oath, Scout Law
15 min	Activity 1: My Lion Family
12 min	Activity 2: Lions Can Help Too
8 min	Closing: grandparent visit preview

Activity 1 — My Lion Family (15 min)

My Lion Family — scouting.org/cub-scout-activities/my-lion-family/

Gather the Lions and adult partners and tell them that the people we live with are our family, and a family is like a little community all on its own — everybody in it has things they need, and everybody in it has a job.

Adult partners then help their Lion draw a picture of the people they live with on page 16. If a Lion divides their time between two families, they draw both. Say that out loud before anyone starts drawing, not afterward when a Lion has already gone quiet.

When everyone is done, each Lion tells the den who they live with. Keep it short and keep it warm. This is a share, not a presentation.

A photo counts too — the requirement allows a picture or a photo. If a family would rather bring one in, that is complete.

Activity 2 — Lions Can Help Too (12 min)

Lions Can Help Too — scouting.org/cub-scout-activities/lions-can-help-too/

Tell them the link that makes this a citizenship adventure and not a chores adventure: being a good member of your family is the same thing as being a good citizen of your town. You do what you can to help.

Adult partners work with their Lion through the tasks on page 17 and talk about which ones the Lion is going to start helping with. They color in the ones they choose.

Then ask the room whether there is anything a Lion could do, or already does, that is not on the page. There always is, and the ones they invent themselves are the ones that stick.

Before you move on, remind every adult partner directly: the requirement is not choosing the job, it is doing the job at least once. Write down what each Lion picked. You will ask about it next meeting.

Closing — Grandparent visit preview (8 min)

Tell the den that a grandparent is coming next meeting to talk about being a good citizen, and get them to think of one question each between now and then. Adult partners write the question on a card at home and bring it.

Kindergarteners will not produce a question cold in front of a guest. They will absolutely produce one at the kitchen table the night before.

Send home with families

Do the job. Your Lion picked one thing to help with at home — help them do it at least once before the next meeting, and tell the den leader it happened. That is requirement 2.

Help your Lion think of one question for the visiting grandparent and write it on a card.

Talk about who is in your family and who else your Lion counts as family. There is no wrong answer to that.

Meeting 2: An older adult, and a service project

Goal: Lions hear what citizenship means from someone much older than them, and take part in a real service project.

Covers requirements 3 and 4

Before the meeting

- Ask the families in your den whether a grandparent lives locally and would come and talk to the den about citizenship. If nobody can come in person, a virtual visit works.
- Once you have a guest, give them the date, time, and location, and tell them exactly what you want: their own thoughts on what being a good citizen means. Send them three questions so they can prepare something concrete — What can someone do to be a good citizen? When was the first election you voted in? How are things different now from when you were growing up?
- Confirm with the guest the day before. This is the single most common failure point in this adventure.
- Read the instructions at militaryholidaycardchallenge.com/how-to-send/ and make one sample card yourself so the Lions have something to copy.
- Gather the card supplies and pre-fold the paper. Kindergarteners cannot fold a straight edge and the folding will eat your whole block if you let it.
- Check the current year's deadline and mailing address before you tell families anything. For the 10,000 for the Troops campaign, cards go in one package from the den to the Scouting America National Service Center — in 2025 the deadline was November 7 and the address was 10,000 for the Troops, Scouting America, 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, Irving, TX 75015-2079.
- Ask the adult partners as they arrive whether the requirement 2 job got done at home. Tick it off your list.

Supplies

- Construction paper, 8.5x11, various colors
- White copy paper, 8.5x11
- Crayons and markers, enough to share
- Scissors, for adult hands
- Decorative stickers
- A sample card you made in advance
- Camera or phone for photos, with permission on file
- A thank you card for the den to sign for the guest

Run of show

Time	What happens
5 min	Gathering: sign the thank you card
5 min	Opening: Pledge, Scout Oath, Scout Law
15 min	Activity 1: the grandparent visit
15 min	Activity 2: 10,000 For the Troops
5 min	Closing

Activity 1 — Grandparent Visit (15 min)

Grandparent Visit — scouting.org/cub-scout-activities/grandparent-visit/

Gather the Lions and adult partners and introduce your guest properly, by name, and say who they are.

Let the guest talk about what citizenship means to them. Then open it up for questions — the Lions have cards they wrote at home, so start with those. A five-year-old reading their own question off a card, with their adult partner helping, is far better than silence and a den leader filling it.

Fifteen minutes is the right length. Tell the guest that number in advance so they plan for it and do not feel cut off.

Thank the guest before they leave, out loud, from the den. Hand over the signed card. Then send a written thank you afterward as well.

Also works: Visiting Grandparents — scouting.org/cub-scout-activities/visiting-grandparents/ · Visit From A Veteran — scouting.org/cub-scout-activities/visit-from-a-veteran/

Activity 2 — 10,000 For the Troops (15 min)

10,000 For the Troops Lion — scouting.org/cub-scout-activities/10000-for-the-troops-lion/

Tell the Lions what they are doing and why: they are making holiday cards for people in the military. Some of those people cannot come home for the holidays, and we want them to know somebody was thinking about them.

Then the rules, which are not optional — walk the adult partners through them before anyone picks up a crayon:

- Address the card to “Dear Warrior.”
- Write a holiday or gratitude greeting, remembering that the people receiving these have many different holidays and beliefs.
- Add a personal note — how does your family celebrate, what do you remember about a holiday. The service members say this is their favorite part.
- Sign with your first name only, plus your town, your state, and your pack number. No last names, no addresses.
- Keep it no bigger than an 8x11 sheet folded in half.

Adult partners write; Lions draw, decorate, and dictate the words. A Lion who cannot write yet still authored the card.

Let them make as many as the time allows. Collect them all yourself at the end — do not let cards go home to be finished, because they will not come back.

Mail them in one package from the den, before the campaign deadline. Then tell your committee so the service hours get logged in Scoutbook.

Also works: Lion Art Supply Drive — scouting.org/cub-scout-activities/lion-art-supply-drive/ · Lion Book Drive — scouting.org/cub-scout-activities/lion-book-drive/ · Lion Scouting for Food — scouting.org/cub-scout-activities/lion-scouting-for-food/

Closing (5 min)

Say something like

Today you discovered that being King of the Jungle is not about being in charge — it is about leading with kindness, courage, and respect. You practiced helping others, making good choices, and showing the confidence that Lions carry wherever they go. Keep using your strengths to lift others up and keep leading in ways that make your den proud. That is how Lions truly rule the jungle.

Confirm you have heard from every adult partner that the requirement 2 job got done at home. Chase the ones you have not.

Send home with families

Tell your Lion who the visitor was and ask what they remember them saying. It will be one sentence, and it will not be the one you expect.

If the family job has not been done yet, do it this week. It is the only part of this adventure a den meeting cannot complete for you.

Watch for the pack service project on the calendar — the more service a Lion does, the more normal it becomes.

Leader notes

- Language about families matters more in this adventure than anywhere else in the Lion year. “The people you live with” is the wording in the requirement, and it is the right wording — use it instead of naming roles.
- A grandparent is not required. Any older adult works: a neighbor, a veteran, someone from your chartered organization, a great-aunt on a video call.
- The service project can be shared with the pack, but every Lion must actually take part. A pack food drive where a Lion carried two cans counts; one where the parents dropped off a box does not.
- Log the service hours in Scoutbook. It takes two minutes and it earns Journey to Excellence points for the whole pack.
- Get photo permission before you post anything with a guest or with a Lion's family drawing in it.

Safety

Before this adventure

Two registered adults with current Safeguarding Youth Training at every meeting, plus each Lion's adult partner.

A guest who is not a registered leader is never alone with Scouts and is never left in charge. Two registered adults stay in the room for the whole visit.

Adults handle the scissors. Lions decorate and dictate.

No last names, no home addresses, and no school names on the cards. First name, town, state, pack number.

Photo permission on file before you photograph a Lion or post anything from this meeting.

Tracking

Write each Scout in and tick the requirement number as it is completed. Report to your advancement chair once the row is full.

Scout	1	2	3	4

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