Assembled Den Meeting Plan – LION (Kindergarten)

This ***Assembled* Den Meeting Plan** combines ideas from Lion Adventures Den Meeting Resources found at Scouting.Org or from the requirements themselves, into the parts of a quality Den Meeting, which are **Preparation** (plan + collect materials needed), **Gathering** (something for early arrivals to do), **Opening** (a ceremony to start), then **Activities** (an Activities Intro chat, followed by a series of activities, ideally alternating quiet and energetic fun), **Closing + Recognition** (ceremony), and **After the Meeting** (follow up) …

Lion – Kindergarten

Build It Up, Knock It Down

A "Building and Fun" Adventure
ELECTIVE (2 "electives" are needed to earn the Rank of Lion)

Snapshot of Adventure. Lions will have fun building a structure on their own and as a team.

The QR Code above takes you to scouting.org/cub-scout-adventures/build-it-up-knock-it-down/ ↑

This Den Meeting Plan adapts Activity content from that Scouting.org link with other fun, simple, easy ideas. For more, see the Adventure Resources at the end of this Plan for a menu of activity options at that link.

Requirements from the Lion Handbook

1. **With your Lion adult partner, build a structure.**
2. **With your den or family, build a structure.**
3. **Build something that is designed to be knocked down.**

Meeting Plan

Does this take one Meeting to complete – or more? It's up to the Parents / Leaders! As written, you can do this in a single 60-minute session, but if the three building items are a lot of fun and the Scouts are having a good time, feel free to extend to another session and add fun games of any type.

A Tip About Den Meetings for Kindergarten Kids:

- Which is better? Classroom or Playground? ***Yes, Playground!***
  - Better for the Scouts – they'll know what to do at a Playground.
  - Better for the Parents – while the Scouts play you can finalize your plans for the next part of your Cub Scout Adventure content today.
- If Scouting is "*A Game with a Purpose*", maybe Lion Dens are "*A Play Date with a Purpose*" – and there's nothing wrong with combining fun with meaning + values!
  - Maybe visit multiple playgrounds during your Lion Year – adult partners to host.



PREPARATION (and materials needed): Read the Build It Up, Knock It Down Adventure in the Handbook.

- Decide whether you like any "Activity Card" options or the suggested activities below or some other way.
  - When you decide, check the materials and supplies you need.
  - Probably paper and scissors, cardboard or cards, maybe building blocks.

GATHERING: A "gathering" activity is to keep Scouts occupied as the rest of the den arrives. *What you do will depend on your location and leadership resources*.

- Use gathering time to connect with adults and "share the leader load": everyone can help with something! A good approach is for different parents (or teams) to share the "lead" of parts of the Adventure below.

OPENING: (Parent leader: _____) An Opening ceremony says, "we've begun" and helps set the tone.

- Maybe: a simple ceremony you like that includes the Pledge of Allegiance and the Scout Oath and/or Law.

ACTIVITIES (See also other Activities linked at Adventure Resources – use those if you like them):

🔶**Activity Intro:** (Parent leader: _____) As you move into Activities, have some "talk time" where you (1) discuss today's Adventure activities (what you'll do, how you'll do it – share in a way to get the Scouts excited) and (2) let each of the Scouts share "what's new" with them and get to know each other better.

🔶**Activity 1: Build a Structure (Requirement 1: "*With your Lion adult partner, build a structure.*")** (Parent leader: _____)

The Adventure Resources offer Activity Cards of Building Block House (Legos), Cardboard Skyscraper (Build Out of Cardboard Boxes and Pieces), and Gingerbread House (Yum!). Use what you like – or something else.

- Other materials could be Lincoln Logs, TinkerToys, paper towel and toilet paper rolls, or plastic cups. Can you build a house of cards? Sure, why not?
- Gather the Scouts and adult partners.
  - Share with them that during this activity each Scout will work with their adult partner to build a structure.
  - They get to choose what to build. A house? A bridge? A carnival ride? A boat? A car?
- Share what materials you're going to make available to Scouts and adult partners to make the structure.







- Build away!

🔶**Activity 2: Build Another Structure (Requirement 2: "*With your den or family, build a structure.*")** (Parent leader: _____)

The Adventure Resources offer Activity Cards of Cup Pyramid (Plastic Cups), Pillow and Blanket Fort (Of Course!), and We Built This City Out of Card and Board (Shoeboxes and Other Cardboard Boxes *While Jamming Out to Jefferson Starship*). Use what you like – or something else. This is just like the previous Activity/Requirement, except that you do with more than just your adult partner – here, with your den.

- Other materials could be Lincoln Logs, TinkerToys, paper towel and toilet paper rolls, or Legos. Can you build a house of cards? Sure, why not?
- Gather the Scouts and adult partners.
  - Share with them that during this activity the den will work together to build a structure.
  - Discuss what to build. A neighborhood? A bridge? A carnival ride? A robot? Build the Wall?
- Share what materials you're going to make available to Scouts and adult partners to make the structure.





◆Activity 3: Build It Up, Knock It Down (Requirement 3: *"Build something that is designed to be knocked down."*) (Parent leader: _____)

The Adventure Resources offer Activity Cards of Blow My House Down (Handbook Cutout and Folding), Build It Up and Knock It Down Relay (Plastic Cup Relay Race), and Down Goes the Dominoes (!!!). Use what you like – or something else.

- Gather the Cub Scouts and adult partners.
- Inform them that in this activity they are going to build something that is not designed to last, it's going to get knocked down.
- What you build is up to you.
  - A Jenga Tower? Absolutely. That game is all about building up and then knocking down!
  - A row of dominoes? More! Longer!
  - Cups? Boxes? Paper Design from Handbook? It's all good.



◆Activity 4: [*OPTION*: Fun Game We Like (Parent leader: _____):



If this meeting is too dry or the games in the Activity Cards in Adventure Resources don't resonate with you as something your Scouts will like, you can turn up the "Fun Meter" and play a game or some other Fun Activity you like. Some ideas here.

CLOSING: A Closing ceremony ends the meeting and highlights the achievements. A Den leader can reflect on the meeting + praise Scouts for specific good actions today. Thank every Parent who helped.

- If you have them, award Loops to all who completed the requirements. Maybe end with a "Living Circle".

AFTER THE MEETING: Clean up as needed. Share refreshments if that's what you like.

Upon completion of this Adventure, your Lions will have earned the Adventure Loop for it. Make sure they are recognized for their completion by presenting the Adventure Loops, to be worn on their belts, as soon as possible according to your pack's tradition. Text or email all Den parents to share these resources for future reference and so parents of Scouts who could not attend may complete this Adventure from home.

ADVENTURE RESOURCES: Den Meeting Resources and "Activity Card" options for this Adventure are found at https://www.scouting.org/cub-scout-adventures/build-it-up-knock-it-down/. Those resources include the Snapshot of Adventure (included above), a "Safety Moment" of tips and links about doing this safely, and, for each Requirement, one or more "Activity Cards" you can click on for an activity to complete the Requirement.

Those "Activity Card" pages are linked below – along with the "Key" scoring of (a) whether the Activity must be done Outdoors, may be done Indoors, or involves Travel; (b) how much Energy Scouts will generate; (c) How "Supply Intensive"; and (d) Prep Time – those last 3 categories are scored on a 1 to 5 scale, with 5 being "most". Note that while that website page says, "Choose one of the following" before the "Activity Cards", what that means is "Choose one of the following – *or do some other activity that will meet the Requirement*", because the Requirements are required, not the Activity Cards. In the Assembled Den Meeting Plan above we have adapted some of what's below or other ways to complete the requirement in easier ways.

1. **With your Lion adult partner, build a structure.**
   - Building Block House (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **4** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Cardboard Skyscraper (Indoor; **3** of 5 Energy; **4** of 5 Supplies; **3** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Gingerbread House (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **4** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
2. **With your den or family, build a structure.**
   - Cup Pyramid (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **2** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Pillow and Blanket Fort (Indoor; **3** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
   - We Built This City Out of Card and Board (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **3** of 5 Prep Time)
3. **Build something that is designed to be knocked down.**
   - Blow My House Down (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **2** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Build It Up and Knock It Down Relay (Indoor; **5** of 5 Energy; **2** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Down Goes the Dominoes (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **2** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)