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

Champions for Nature Lion

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

Snapshot of Adventure. As part of the World Organization of the Scouting Movement, this program is part of a global effort to teach youth about the conservation of natural resources. This includes participating in a service project.

The QR Code above takes you to scouting.org/cub-scout-adventures/champions-for-nature-lion/ ↑

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. **Discover the difference between natural resources and man-made items.**
2. **Discover the difference between organic, paper, plastic, metal and glass waste.**
3. **Discover recycling.**
4. **Participate in a conservation service project.**

Meeting Plan

Does this take one Meeting to complete – or more? It's up to the Parents / Leaders! You might squeeze this into a single session but to really engage in the recycling investigations, many might do the instruction part in one meeting (add some fun games), or two if you do a site visit, and the conservation project separately (perhaps with the entire Pack – every rank has a "Champions for Nature" Adventure with a service project).

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 Champions for Nature Lion Adventure in the Handbook.

- Determine and share your Service Project for Activity 4 (Requirement 4).
  - Your den families, Chartered Organization, and local schools and places of worship may have great options – other ideas in the Adventure Resources.
  - This page has many Service Project ideas: scoutingatl.org/serviceprojects.

- Determine and share your plan for the other recycling and trash collection Requirements.

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: Natural Resources and Man-Made Items (Requirement 1: "*Discover the difference between natural resources and man-made items.***")** (Parent leader: _____) The Adventure Resources offer Match Natural and Man-made (Handbook Crayon Exercise), Natural to Man-made (Discuss the Differences), and Sorting Natural Items (Collecting in a Pillowcase Game). Use what you like – or something else. The plan below adapts Natural to Man-made and the Requirement.



- Gather the Scouts and adult partners and explain that we're going to discuss the difference between something that is man-made compared to something that is natural.
  - Explain that many things are made from natural materials – because people have learned to use to make useful things (man-made things) from natural materials.
  - For example: man-made pencils are made from natural materials wood and graphite.
  - Man-made clothing is made from natural materials like cotton and wool.
  - Man-made glass is made from sand! – another natural material.
- Maybe ask what these man-made items are made of (if you have examples, that's better):
  - Lion Handbook // Spoon // Water bottle // Flashlight // Trash bag // Towel

◆Activity 2: Organic, Paper, Plastic, Metal and Glass Waste (Requirement 2: "*Discover the difference between organic, paper, plastic, metal and glass waste.***")** (Parent leader: _____) The Adventure Resources offer an Activity Card of Types of Trash (Handbook Coloring Game). Use that if you like – or something else. This adapts the Requirement for discussion (color if that's what your Scouts like).



- Gather the Scouts and adult partners and share with them that when we are done using something it becomes trash but maybe can still be useful.
- Some items can be used again either in the same way or in different ways.
- There are things like food that we don't eat or that goes bad that is called organic, and it naturally breaks down into food for plants.
- Broken glass can be gathered, heated, and made into new glass.
- Paper is from trees. Paper can either break down in the ground or be gathered and mixed with water and other materials to make new paper.
- Color in the Handbook, but in any event ask whether these are Organic, Paper or Glass waste:

Bag // Milk Carton // Piece of Fruit // Milk Bottle // Newsprint // Stick // Leaf // Apple Core // Broken Mirror // Chewing Gum Wrapper // Cereal Box // Banana Peel // Cardboard Box // Chewing Gum You Just Spat Out into Tissue // Tissue

◆Activity 3: Recycling (Requirement 3: *"Discover recycling."*) (Parent leader: _____)

The Adventure Resources offer Activity Cards of Use It Again (Visit a Recycling Center) and You Can Recycle (Guest Speaker to Talk About Recycling). Use what you like – or something else. The plan below adapts the substance of both and the Requirement.

- Perhaps find a family in your Den that is really into recycling and what the garbage process is – a recycling family has probably done their homework.
- Ask Scouts and discuss as you can:
  - What can be recycled?
  - What cannot be recycled?
  - Why do we separate recycling from regular trash?
  - What do you do with recycled material?
  - How can we help with recycling at home?



◆Activity 4: Conservation Service Project (Requirement 4: *"Participate in a conservation service project."*) (Parent leader: _____)

- Pick a service project that will be helpful in your community and meaningful to your Scouts. The Adventure Resources offer Activity Cards of Clean Waterways (clean a waterway), Dinner Time for Bees (Plant Native Plants) and Sowing The Seeds of Love (Wildflower Seed Bombs). Do what you like – or something else.







- This page has many Service Project ideas: scoutingatl.org/serviceprojects.
- For the Clean Waterways activity, see https://www.scouting.org/outdoor-programs/scouting-clean-waterways/cubscouts/
- Participate in your service project. Be sure all families know when and where to meet, what to bring, and what you'll do. Check to be sure you have all needed materials, which will depend on your project.
- Take pictures and video of your Scouts and families serving, and share with your Chartered Organization, Schools, places of worship, and elsewhere in your community.

◆Activity 5: [*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/champions-for-nature-lion/. 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. **Discover the difference between natural resources and man-made items.**
   - Match Natural and Man-made (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **2** of 5 Supplies; **1** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Natural to Man-made (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Sorting Natural Items (Indoor; **4** of 5 Energy; **4** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
2. **Discover the difference between organic, paper, plastic, metal and glass waste.**
   - Types of Trash (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **2** of 5 Supplies; **1** of 5 Prep Time)
3. **Discover recycling.**
   - Use It Again (Travel; **2** of 5 Energy; **1** of 5 Supplies; **5** of 5 Prep Time)
   - You Can Recycle (Indoor; **1** of 5 Energy; **1** of 5 Supplies; **5** of 5 Prep Time)
4. **Participate in a conservation service project.**
   - Clean Waterways (Outdoor; **4** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **5** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Dinner Time for Bees (Outdoor; **4** of 5 Energy; **4** of 5 Supplies; **5** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Sowing The Seeds of Love (Outdoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)