Assembled Den Meeting Plan – TIGER (1st Grade)

This ***Assembled* Den Meeting Plan** combines ideas from Tiger 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) …

Tiger – 1st Grade

Fish On

A "Fishing" Adventure

ELECTIVE (2 "electives" are needed to earn the Rank of Tiger)

Snapshot of Adventure. With their family or den and adult partner, Tigers will learn the basics of fishing and go on a fishing adventure. Fishing can be a lifetime activity – and a cross generational lifetime activity with family and friends. It combines love of nature with sport and skills and relaxing and reducing stress and connecting with others in the outdoors.

The QR Code above takes you to scouting.org/cub-scout-adventures/fish-on/ ↑

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 the suggested Activities at that link.

Requirements from the Tiger Handbook

1. **With your den or Tiger adult partner, identify the body of water where you will go fishing.**
2. **With your Tiger adult partner, learn the rules of fishing safely.**
3. **Draw a picture of the type of fish you think lives in the water where you are going fishing.**
4. **Go fishing with your Tiger adult partner.**

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 fishing trip, but maybe you do the planning, drawing and learning rules at one session (maybe with just plain fun games) and do the fishing at a separate session. Or go fishing twice. Or more!

PREPARATION (and materials needed): Read the Fish On adventure in the Tiger Handbook.

- Key is to decide where to go fishing … and be sure that when you do you're in compliance with fishing rules. If needed, get permission to fish where you plan to fish.
  - Communicate with the families about when and where you will go, and what they need to bring.
  - Obtain and bring any required fishing licenses. Youth may not need a fishing license but adults who are fishing are likely to need one.
  - Note that all six ranks/grades of Cub Scouting have fishing Adventures, so you might collaborate with other Dens or maybe make it an outing for the entire Pack.
- Key materials:
  - Fishing poles/tackle for all (ideally, each family provides, but bring extra for those with no fishing gear).
  - Bait or lures for the type of fish you're trying to catch.
  - Crayons and/or pencils for drawing a picture of a fish, and paper for those who don't have their Tiger Handbook with them.

- Every Scout and Adult Partner should have the Cub Scout Six Essentials (first-aid kit, filled water bottle, flashlight, trail food, sun protection, and whistle)
- One or more "tackle boxes" with fishing gear, including fishing line, barbless hooks, bobbers, sinkers, swivels, artificial bait, needle nose pliers, scissors and de-hooker.
- First aid kit. You know: fishhooks!

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 Outdoor Code.

  "*As an American, I will do my best to: / Be clean in my outdoor manners, / Be careful with fire, / Be considerate in the outdoors, / Be conservation minded.*"

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: Find a Fishing Hole (Requirement 1: "***With your den or Tiger adult partner, identify the body of water where you will go fishing.***")** (Parent leader: _____)

- While you can (and should) solicit ideas from the Scouts, adults will ultimately decide where to go fishing.
  - This can be done in a "first fishing meeting" without water or fishing, or at some other earlier meeting.
- But you can also "*identify the body of water*" at the fishing trip with discussion of types of water bodies with fish and how different types of water bodies have different types of fish. And what type *this* water body is.
  - You can share that we all know that fish live in water, but that not all fish can live in any type of water.
  - Some fish live in the ocean where the water is salty and cold, some fish live in rivers or streams, and some fish live in freshwater lakes. Have the Scouts identify what kind of water you are fishing today.
  - In the Tiger handbook, you see three different types of fish who each live in three different types of water. Tuna are found in the ocean; Trout are found in rivers and streams; Bass are found in lakes.
  - Tuna and trout are fish that are often a source of food. Bass is known as a sport fish, which isn't caught for food, but is very fun to catch and release.
  - Describe the different types of fish that are in the body of water where you will be fishing.

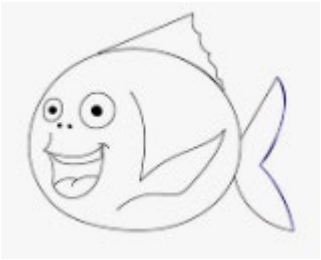
🔶**Activity 2: Follow the Fishing Rules (Requirement 2: "***With your Tiger adult partner, learn the rules of fishing safely.***")** (Parent leader: _____)

- Discuss rules to follow when fishing. These can include state and local laws (like license requirements and rules about how to fish) and local property owner requirements (about how to fish in their water).
  - Explain that these rules (which are sometimes called regulations) are important because they help protect the fish and also protect the environment in which the fish live.
  - And that it is important that we learn these rules, understand what they mean, and promise to obey them. After all, a Scout is obedient!
- Common Regulations include the following – discuss with your Scouts and have your Scouts list at least three and why we have them:
  - Rules about where and when you can fish.
    - So that areas that should not be over-fished are protected.

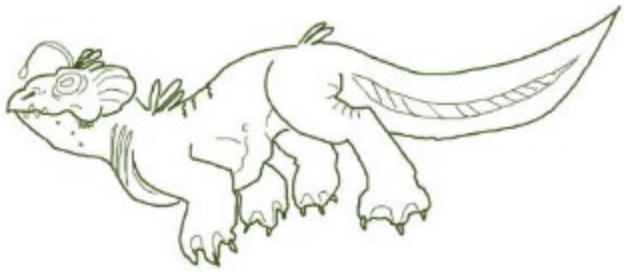
        - And fish are not disturbed at critical times when they need protection.
        - And be safe for people too, like do not fish near a swimming area – you might step on lost hooks.
    - Requirements for licenses.
        - To limit the number of fishers so that the number of fish taken won't be too great.
        - And to help ensure fisher people know the rules!
    - How many fish you are allowed to catch and keep.
        - These help keep fish populations strong enough to survive.
        - And also allow fishers to catch that kind of fish in the future.
    - How big a fish must be to keep.
        - So that immature fish can grow up and make more fish!
    - In some places you must put the fish you catch back in the water. This is called "catch and release".
        - It is a good way to make sure fish can continue to live in the place you are fishing.
        - And: A Scout is Kind! (That means also being Kind to fish.)
    - Always ask permission before fishing on another person's property.
        - A Scout is courteous.
    - Do not intrude on a spot where others are already fishing.
        - That can scare away fish! (A Scout is friendly.)
- Once you know your local fishing rules and regulations, here are the 6 things to know to keep you and others safe:
    1) Fish with proper adult supervision.
        - (Tiger Adult Partners are all supervisors today.)
    2) Get permission to fish where you plan to fish.
    3) Check the weather before you go. Do not fish in a thunderstorm or inclement weather.
        - (Scouts and Tiger Adult Partners need to watch the weather during the fishing event too.)
    4) Use the buddy system. You must be able to see them.
        - (Tiger Adult Partners are your buddies today.)
    5) Give plenty of room to others who are fishing nearby.
    6) Never fish where people are swimming.
        - (You don't want to hook any people or lose hooks in a swimming area.)

◆Activity 3: Fish Portrait (Requirement 3: *"Draw a picture of the type of fish you think lives in the water where you are going fishing."*) (Parent leader: _____)

- Let imagination flow! The requirement is to draw the type of fish the Scout "thinks" lives in the water! (This can be a good activity for when Scouts get tired of fishing or frustrated if they haven't caught any.)







◆Activity 4: Go Fishing (Requirement 4: *"Go fishing with your Tiger adult partner."*) (Parent leader: _____)





- Discuss what type of fish you will be fishing for and what type of bait or lure to use.
- Have adults help Scouts with attaching bait or lures.
- If a fish is caught practice catch and release by assisting the Scouts.

Don't have a fancy fishing pole? You can make one that will work in many places, like ponds and docks with the right kind of fish.



- To make a fishing pole, you will need:
  - Sturdy sticks, 4 to 5 feet long.
  - Fishing line or thin string.
  - Scissors
  - Fishhooks
- The best type of stick for a fishing rod is strong, yet slightly flexible.
- Bamboo—about 1/2-inch thick— would be a good choice, but if bamboo isn't available Scouts can bring something similar from home like a hiking staff or a broom stick.

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 Tigers 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/fish-on/. 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 den or Tiger adult partner, identify the body of water where you will go fishing.**
   - Department of Natural Resources Visit (Indoor; **3** of 5 Energy; **1** of 5 Supplies; **5** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Flashy Fish Homes (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Our Fishing Spot (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
2. **With your Tiger adult partner, learn the rules of fishing safely.**
   - Dry Run Fishing (Outdoor; **3** of 5 Energy; **4** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Fishing Safety Match (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **2** of 5 Supplies; **1** of 5 Prep Time)
3. **Draw a picture of the type of fish you think lives in the water where you are going fishing.**
   - Color a Fish (Indoor; **3** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **3** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Scales and Sketches (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **2** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
4. **Go fishing with your Tiger adult partner.**
   - Fish On! (Outdoor; **4** of 5 Energy; **4** of 5 Supplies; **5** of 5 Prep Time)