# *Assembled* Den Meeting Plan – BEAR (3rd Grade)

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

## Bear – 3rd Grade

# Fellowship



### A "Family and Reverence" Adventure

### REQUIRED (An Adventure "Required" to earn the Rank of Bear)

**Snapshot of Adventure:** In this Adventure, you're encouraged to learn more about your family's faith traditions. You will complete most of these requirements at home with your family. Faith means having complete trust or confidence in someone or something. Always be respectful when talking about your faith and when learning about other faiths.

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

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 list of the suggested Activities at that link.

***This Adventure is commonly done at home with the Cub Scout's family.*** *If it is being done as a den ensure that every parent and guardian is aware of the content and the activities that the den will do and allow for parents to opt out of doing it as a den activity and choose to complete the requirement at home.*

## Requirements from the Bear Handbook

**This Adventure may be earned by completing the requirements below OR by completing a Religious Emblem of the Cub Scouts family's choosing.**

1. **With your parent or legal guardian talk about your family's faith traditions. Identify three holidays or celebrations that are part of your family's faith traditions. Make a craft, work of art, or a food item that is part of your favorite family's faith tradition, holiday or celebration.**
2. **With your family, attend a religious service OR other gathering that shows how your family expresses reverence.**
3. **Carry out an act of kindness.**
4. **With your parent or legal guardian identify a religion or faith that is different from your own. Determine two things that it has in common with your family's beliefs.**

## Meeting Plan

**Does this take one Meeting to complete – or more?** If you do this as a Den Meeting, it's up to the Parents and Leaders about how many sessions. Combining the service or gathering with the craft with the story might be a lot – and might be better done from home on a family schedule. Or part at home and part with the Den.

**PREPARATION (and materials needed):** Read the Fellowship adventure in the Bear Handbook.

- Communicate how you will do this Adventure – options are: (a) everyone doing it all at home, or (b) some parts from home and some at a Den Meeting, or (c) planning a Den Meeting option for all of the Requirements.
- If you do the activity for Activity 1 (Requirement 1), you'll need:

- Materials: Colored paper, Scissors, Glue/glue stick, Pencil, Holiday symbol image for reference (simple symbols would do best for this project)
- Ask Scouts to find an image of their family's favorite holiday symbol to help draw their design and bring it to the meeting. You might bring some samples of those you know.

- If you do a Den Trip for "*With your family, attend a religious service …*" for Activity 2 (Requirement 2), determine where and when you will go, and share information with your Den families.

**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: Holidays / Celebrations (Requirement 1: "***With your parent or legal guardian talk about your family's faith traditions. Identify three holidays or celebrations that are part of your family's faith traditions. Make a craft, work of art, or a food item that is part of your favorite family's faith tradition, holiday or celebration.***")** (Parent leader: _____)

- [Reminder to Leaders and other adults: "*your family's faith traditions*" are based on what the family believes – as defined by the family. Belonging to an organization, though encouraged, is not required.]
  - A "*family's faith tradition holiday or celebration*" often includes religious holidays/celebrations, but family faith may also revere and celebrate at times like Thanksgiving, Veteran's Day, or Earth Day.]
- The Adventure Resources offer options of making Turkey Treats, Clay art, and String Art, but if none of those resonate with you, pick some other art or craft medium.
  - Or some other food!
  - Have the Scouts share "*three holidays or celebrations*" and explain their art, craft, or food item.

🔶**Activity 2: Gathering (Requirement 2: "***With your family, attend a religious service OR other gathering that shows how your family expresses reverence.***")** (Parent leader: _____)

- Note (just to be sure): Attending a religious service is excellent and common, but not required – a different "*gathering that shows how **your family** expresses reverence*" (emphasis added) satisfies the requirement.
  - The first two definitions of Reverence in Merriam-Webster are "*1. honor or respect felt or shown: DEFERENCE (especially: profound adoring awed respect). 2. a gesture of respect (such as a bow).*"
  - The full expression of the 12th point of the Scout Law is: "*A Scout is Reverent. Be reverent toward God. Be faithful in your religious duties. Respect the beliefs of others.*" Scouting America respects your beliefs.
- Some Dens do more than one visit in order to share more than one tradition. But you don't have to.

🔶**Activity 3: Be Kind (Requirement 3: "***Carry out an act of kindness.***")** (Parent leader: _____)

- Kindness ideas suggested in the Adventure Resources include a Kindness Jar exercise, how to Make a Friend, and writing a Thank You Note for a Teacher, but your Scouts can carry out any and many acts of kindness.
- More ideas in the Bear Handbook and this page has many service ideas: scoutingatl.org/serviceprojects.
  - Service Projects or "acts of kindness" don't need to be large – they just need to be kind.

🔶**Activity 4: Common Beliefs (Requirement 4:** "*With your parent or legal guardian identify a religion or faith that is different from your own. Determine two things that it has in common with your family's beliefs.*") (Parent leader: _____)

- There is a "Common Faith Elements" worksheet in the activity card for this Requirement, shown below.

| | Buddhism | Christianity | Hinduism | Islam | Judaism | Sikhism |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Golden Rule | I will act toward others exactly as I would to myself. | Treat others as you would like them to treat you. | Do nothing to others, which if done to you, could cause you pain. | None of you truly believe, until you wish for your brothers/sisters as you wish for yourself. | What is harmful to you, do not to unto other people. | As you wish for yourself, so wish for others. |
| Follower | Buddist | Christian | Hindu | Muslim | Jew | Sikh |
| Holy Building | Temple | Church | Mandir/ Temple | Mosque | Synagogue | Gurdwara |
| Leader | Monk/Nun | Priest/ Minister | Pandit/ Priest | Imam | Rabbi | Granthi |
| Book | Tripitaka | Bible | Vedas | Qur'an | Torah | Adi Granth |
| Major Festivals | Kathina, Losar, Wesak | Easter, Christmas | Diwali | Eid-al-Adha, Eid-al-Fitr | Hanukkah, Rosh Hashanah, Shabbat | Vaisakhi |

- You might use the Scout Law as a jumping off point, like "which points of the Scout law are in common with the different beliefs of different families?"
  - Surely most if not all of "trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent" will be in common across faiths and across families.

**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 Bears 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/fellowship/. 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 parent or legal guardian talk about your family's faith traditions. Identify three holidays or celebrations that are part of your family's faith traditions. Make a craft, work of art, or a food item that is part of your favorite family's faith tradition, holiday or celebration.**
   - Bear Fellowship Passport (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **2** of 5 Supplies; **1** of 5 Prep Time) – Note that this isn't really an "activity" at all. It's a signoff card for all the Requirements for this Adventure for those who like that sort of thing.
   - Beary Happy Turkey Treats (Indoor; **3** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **3** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Clay Celebration (Indoor; **3** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **3** of 5 Prep Time)
   - I Heart String Art (Indoor; **3** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **3** of 5 Prep Time)
2. **With your family, attend a religious service OR other gathering that shows how your family expresses reverence.**
   - Attend a Religious Service (Travel; **1** of 5 Energy; **1** of 5 Supplies; **5** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Chartered Partner Celebration (Travel; **2** of 5 Energy; **1** of 5 Supplies; **4** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Veterans Day Celebration (Travel; **2** of 5 Energy; **1** of 5 Supplies; **5** of 5 Prep Time)
3. **Carry out an act of kindness.**
   - Kindness Jar (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **4** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Make a Friend (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **1** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Thank a Teacher (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **2** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
4. **With your parent or legal guardian identify a religion or faith that is different from your own. Determine two things that it has in common with your family's beliefs.**
   - Common Faith Elements (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **2** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)