Assembled Den Meeting Plan – WEBELOS (4th Grade)

This ***Assembled* Den Meeting Plan** combines ideas from Webelos Adventures Den Meeting Resources found at Scouting.Org (or from the requirements), 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) …

Webelos – 4th Grade

Art Explosion

An "Art" Adventure

ELECTIVE (2 "electives" are needed to earn Webelos Rank)

Snapshot of Adventure. Art is a powerful way to capture a moment in time, an idea, or an emotion. It's a lot of fun, too. You get to work with all sorts of gooey and gloppy materials, and you never have to worry about getting the right answer, because everybody's art is different. Whether you're into drawing, painting, sculpture, computer illustration, or photography, you'll find something to love in this Adventure.

The QR Code above takes you to scouting.org/cub-scout-adventures/art-explosion/

This Den Meeting Plan adapts Activity content from that Scouting 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.

Requirements from the Webelos Handbook

1. **Create a piece of art by exploring drawing techniques using pencils.**
2. **Using a digital image, explore the effect of filters by changing an image using different editing or in-camera techniques.**
3. **Create a piece of art using paint as your medium.**
4. **Create a piece of art combining at least two media.**

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 session if you and your Scouts are hyper-efficient – but that's probably pushing it in an Adventure that requires creating or exploring art in five different ways. Better would be a couple of sessions (add fun games) with maybe one including a visit to (and maybe art creation at) an art museum, art gallery, artist studio, art teacher's classroom, or photography studio. Add games for fun!

PREPARATION (and materials needed): Read the Art Explosion Adventure in the Webelos Handbook.

- As always, decide whether you like any of the "Activity Card" options for the Requirements or the suggested activities below or some other way to deliver this Adventure.
  - When you decide, check the materials and supplies you need. The art supplies you need depend on your media – see the notes below and the links to Adventure Resources.
  - If you do activities away from your normal meeting place, make sure families know when and where.
- For Activity/Requirement 2, encourage parents/guardians to attend with their smartphone cameras.

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.

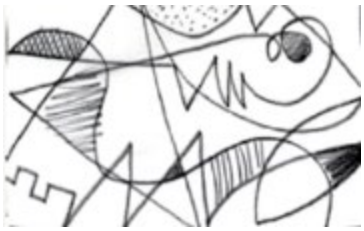
🔶**Activity 1: Pencil Drawing Art (Requirement 1: "***Create a piece of art by exploring drawing techniques using pencils.***")** (Parent leader: _____)

The plan below adapts Art in the Out of Doors from the Adventure Resources because it's outside!

- Locate a meeting place outside where Scouts can observe the outdoors and have a variety of items to draw. This can be a neighborhood park, in someone's backyard, or on a trail.
- Supply List
  - Multiple sheets of paper for each Scout (8 ½ x 11 or other)
  - Clipboard for each Scout if you're not at a table or other support
  - Pencils, one for each Scout
  - Items to share: colored pencils, large erasers, pencil sharpeners.
- Gather the Scouts and show them the different techniques of using pencils for art – examples in the Webelos Handbook.
  - As you demonstrate a method have Scouts try it on their own.
- Share with Scouts that they will be drawing what they see outdoors.
- Tell them to look up, down, and all around to decide what to draw.



- They may choose to draw a landscape or choose a small item such as a leaf to draw.
- Ask Scouts to share their work. Ask them how drawing outside differs from drawing inside.
- Tips: If Scouts have problems identifying what to draw, encourage them to start small.
  - Drawing the bark on a tree or pebbles on the path can help get them started.
  - Helping them practice drawing techniques like hatching and crosshatching, stippling, scribbling, circling, shading, highlighting, and rendering may help – see the Webelos Handbook.
  - Feel free to let them draw anything – it need not be natural. The requirement is "*Create a piece of art by exploring drawing techniques using pencils*", so if they create something super abstract, ***that's fine!***



🔶**Activity 2: Digital Photo Editing (Requirement 2: "***Using a digital image, explore the effect of filters by changing an image using different editing or in-camera techniques.***")** (Parent leader: _____)

The plan below adapts the substance of Say Cheese from the Adventure Resources.

- In advance, encourage parents/guardians to attend with their smartphone cameras.
  - After all, their Scouts have probably already taught them how to edit pictures on their phones!
- Explain to Scouts that they will be taking a picture and then use the features on their camera to edit the photo.
  - Explain that most photographers take several pictures and then edit the photo to make the best picture.



- Have Scouts take a picture of each item they select – it could be fruit (because isn't most art comprised of still life of fruit?) but it could be any object or any person (with permission).
  - Once with the flash off and again with the flash on.
  - Stop and examine the pictures. What differences do they see?
- Next, take pictures zooming in on the object, and then another picture zooming out.
  - Let them take a variety of pictures zooming in close and zooming way out.
- Examine the pictures. Which do they like best?
  - What can they see when zooming in that is not seen when zooming out?
- Using the pictures taken, have each Scout select one of their photos and make three copies of it.
  - In one copy of the photo, use the edit feature to make changes to the photo.
    - Maybe contrast or filters or redeye adjustment.
  - In a second copy of the photo, use the crop feature to edit out unneeded parts.
  - In the third copy, use the brightness feature to make an edit – brighter or less bright.
- Compare the 3 edited photos to the original.
  - How are they different? Any similarities?
  - Which photo makes the fruit look the best?



◆Activity 3: Painting Art (Requirement 3: *"Create a piece of art using paint as your medium."*) (Parent leader: _____)

The plan below adapts the substance of No Brushes from the Adventure Resources.

- This is ideally done in an artist studio or art classroom because they'll have supplies. And artists!

Supply List:

- 16 oz bottles of acrylic paint, various colors, like black, white, blue, yellow, red
- 5" x 7" paint canvas or paper (from a giant roll – art) for each Scout
- Heavy-duty paper plates, one for each Scout
- Plastic tablecloth + Paint shirt for each Scout
- Water and Wash basin
- Items that can be used to spread, dab, roll, print or stamp paint, like Cotton swabs, Toothbrush, Tree leaf, Sponge, Bubble wrap, Paper towel, Marbles, Straws, Cotton balls, Painter's tape, Plastic cellophane, Paper towel tubes, Jar or bottle lids, Plastic fork, spoon, knife, toy car



Painting Process: Tell Scouts that they will be painting a work of art.

- Ask scouts what they would typically use to paint. They will probably answer, "a paintbrush."
  - Let them know that today, they will not be using a paintbrush.
- Point out that they will be using different items to paint a picture – show them the items.
  - If you have one, share a sample painting and the items that were used.

- Ask them how they think some of the items could be used.
- Remember that a painting can include texture.

- This project lends itself greatly to abstract art but can be done with any subject.
  - Ask Scouts to think about what they may want to paint.
- Portion out paint onto the heavy-duty paper plates + let all have fun creating and using their imaginations.
  - Have Scouts sign and date their artwork.
  - Once Scouts are done painting, have them clean their hands.
  - After cleaning up, have time for Scouts to look at each other's artwork and share what they learned about not using a paintbrush when painting.





◆**Activity 4: More Art – Two More Media! (Requirement 4: "***Create a piece of art combining at least two media.***")** (Parent leader: _____) The Adventure Resources offer Activity Cards of 3D Sculpture (Wire and Bead Sculptures), and Mixed Medium Madness game (A "gamed up" mixed media exercise). Use what you like – or something else. The plan below adapts the substance of the Requirement.

- Decide on which media you want to use for this art creation.
  - Earlier in this Adventure the media explored have included pencil drawings and painting (maybe watercolor, oil, acrylic – brush or no brush), plus digital photos.
  - Other media not yet explored include:

    sculpture // printed photos // chalk // crayons and markers // clay and playdough // googly eyes // yarn and textiles // charcoal // construction paper // aluminum foil // pebbles and marbles // tile // colored tissue paper // recycled materials // bottle caps // leaves and flowers // toys like Legos // more.



  - Common mixed media projects may combine photos and drawings into collages or mobiles.
- What media you select will determine what supplies you'll need and what directions you'll provide.
  - Give Scouts plenty of time to imagine and create their art.
  - After cleaning up, have time for each scout to share their artwork with the den, what they used to make it and say what they liked about this activity.

◆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. NOTE: the fun game doesn't' need to be connected to today's Adventure topic – it can just be FUN!

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 Pins 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 Webelos will have earned the Adventure Pin for it. Make sure they are recognized for their completion by presenting the Adventure Pins 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/art-explosion/. 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. **Create a piece of art by exploring drawing techniques using pencils.**
   - Art in the Out of Doors (Outdoor; **3** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Drawing the Artist (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
   - The Style of Art (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **3** of 5 Prep Time)
2. **Using a digital image, explore the effect of filters by changing an image using different editing or in-camera techniques.**
   - Say Cheese (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **2** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
3. **Create a piece of art using paint as your medium.**
   - No Brushes Needed (Indoor; **3** of 5 Energy; **3** of 5 Supplies; **3** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Watercolor (Indoor; **2** of 5 Energy; **4** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
4. **Create a piece of art combining at least two media.**
   - 3D Sculpture (Indoor; **3** of 5 Energy; **4** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)
   - Mixed Medium Madness game (Indoor; **3** of 5 Energy; **4** of 5 Supplies; **2** of 5 Prep Time)