

BUILDING A BETTER WORLD



REQUIRED ADVENTURE

Complete the following requirements.

Approved by

- | | |
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| 1. Explain the history of the United States flag. Show how to properly display the flag in public, and help lead a flag ceremony. | _____ |
| 2. Learn about and describe your rights and duties as a citizen, and explain what it means to be loyal to your country. | _____ |
| 3. Discuss in your Webelos den the term “rule of law,” and talk about how it applies to you in your everyday life. | _____ |
| 4. Meet with a government or community leader, and learn about his or her role in your community. Discuss with the leader an important issue facing your community. | _____ |
| 5. Show that you are an active leader by planning an activity for your den without your den leader’s help. Ask your den leader for approval first. | _____ |
| 6. Do at least one of these: | _____ |
| A. Learn about Scouting in another part of the world. With the help of your parent, guardian, or den leader, pick one country where Scouting exists and research its Scouting program. | _____ |
| B. Set up an exhibit at a pack meeting to share information about the World Friendship Fund. | _____ |
| C. Under the supervision of your parent, guardian, or den leader, connect with a Scout in another country during an event such as Jamboree-on-the-Air or Jamboreeon-the-Internet or by other means. | _____ |
| D. Learn about energy use in your community and in other parts of the world. | _____ |
| E. Identify one energy problem in your community, and find out what has caused it. | _____ |

SNAPSHOT OF ADVENTURE

This adventure is all about being a good citizen. You’ll learn about the

United States flag and about your rights and duties as an American. You'll meet with a city leader and discuss a problem facing your community. You can also find out about Scouting in another country.



COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS.

REQUIREMENT 1 | Explain the history of the United States flag. Show how to properly display the flag in public, and help lead a flag ceremony.

The Flag of the United States of America

The United States flag is very familiar. We see it at Cub Scout meetings, in school, in front of government buildings, and at sporting events. You could probably draw it from memory without much trouble.

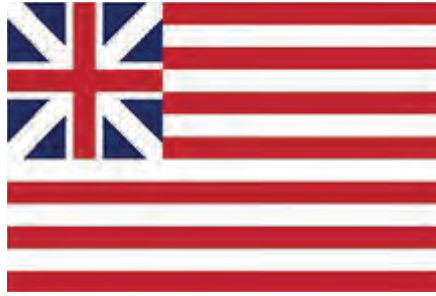
But the flag hasn't always looked like it does today. If a person from history, such as George Washington, saw today's flag, he or she would probably say there was something wrong with it!

Here are some of the flags that have flown over our country.

British Red Ensign. This ensign (another word for flag) flew over the American colonies before the American Revolution. It shows Great Britain's Union Flag of 1606, which combines the crosses of St. George (for England) and St. Andrew (for Scotland).



Grand Union Flag. George Washington flew this flag over his army headquarters near Boston, Massachusetts, in 1776, a year after the American Revolution began. This flag included 13 stripes representing the Thirteen Colonies.



Old Glory. This is the first official flag of the United States. On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress decided that the flag should have 13 stripes like the Grand Union Flag, along with a union of “thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.” We celebrate June 14 as Flag Day each year.



Star-Spangled Banner. This flag includes 15 stripes and 15 stars because Vermont and Kentucky had joined the Union in the 1790s. It flew over Fort McHenry near Baltimore, Maryland, during the War of 1812 against Great Britain. Francis Scott Key watched it waving as the British bombarded the fort. Then he wrote our national anthem, “The Star-Spangled Banner.”



Flag of 1818. This flag has 20 stars but only 13 stripes. As more states joined the Union, people realized that the stripes were going to get too

narrow. (Can you imagine 50 stripes on a flag?) Since 1818, all flags have included 13 stripes representing the Thirteen Colonies and one star for each state.



Today's Flag. Here's the flag we use today. The most recent stars were added in 1959 (for Alaska) and 1960 (for Hawaii). This version of the flag has been in use longer than any other version in our history.



Displaying the Flag

When the flag is displayed flat on a wall, the stars should always be up and to the left (the flag's right).



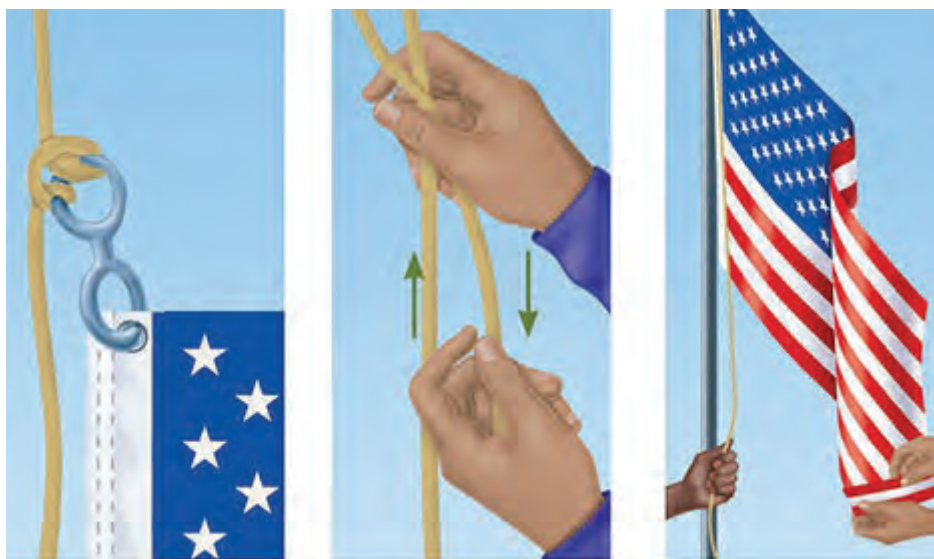
When the flag is on a stage, it should be on the speaker's right. When it is in the audience, it should be on the audience's right.

When the flag is displayed with other flags, like state flags, it should be higher than them. When it is flown with flags of other nations, all the flags should be at the same height, but the United States flag should be on its own right.



Raising and Lowering the United States Flag

It takes two people to raise and lower the flag correctly. The first person holds the flag. The second person attaches it to the halyard (rope) and raises it, keeping it close to the pole by holding the halyard tight. He or she then fastens the halyard to the cleat on the pole. (Make sure it's snug so the flag stays at the top.)



The flag should be raised quickly in the morning and lowered slowly in the evening.

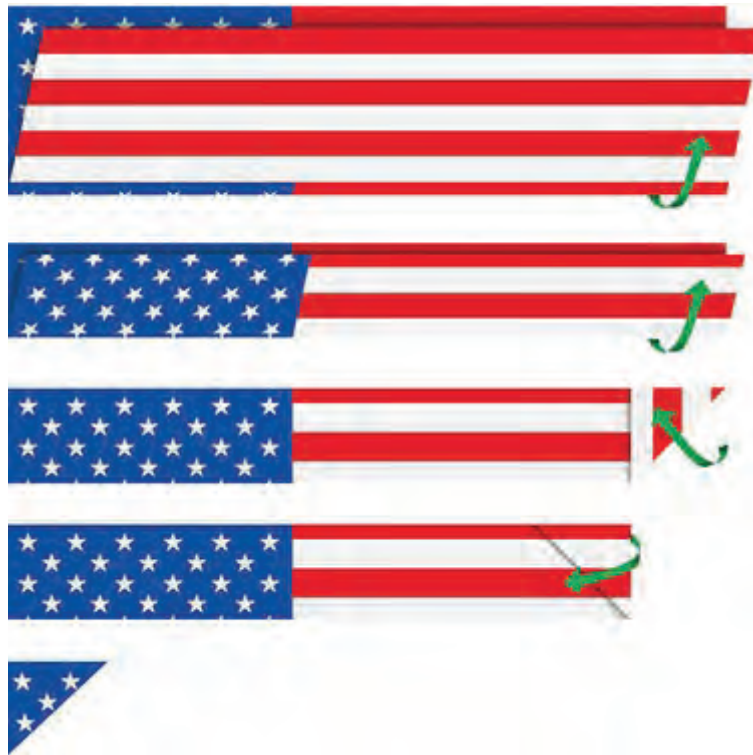
The guidelines for displaying the United States flag are part of something called the United States Code. You can learn more about it at your library or, with permission, online at www.usflag.org.

The president, a governor, or the mayor of the District of Columbia can order the flag to be flown at half-staff on certain occasions, such as when a national leader dies. In the morning, the flag should be raised to full-staff and then lowered to half-staff. In the evening, it should be raised to full-staff before it is lowered.

Despite what you may have heard, you don't have to retire a United States flag if it accidentally touches the ground. In fact, it's OK to clean or repair a flag that becomes dirty or torn.

Folding the United States Flag

The United States flag is folded in a special way until only the blue field shows. First, fold the flag lengthwise in half, then lengthwise again with the blue field on the outside. (It can help to have a third person support the middle of the flag.) Next, make tight triangular folds, starting from the striped end, until only the blue field is showing. Tuck in the loose end.



Showing Respect to the United States Flag

There are many rules about the flag, but the most important one is simple: Show respect. The flag represents our country and all the men and women who worked to make it great, so don't treat it like an ordinary piece of cloth.

Two ways you can show respect to the flag are by saluting it and flying it.

Saluting the United States Flag

If you are in uniform, give the Cub Scout salute at these times:

- ◆ When the flag is being raised or lowered.
- ◆ When the flag passes by or when you pass the flag. In a parade, salute just before the flag passes and hold your salute until it has gone by.

- ◆ When you recite the Pledge of Allegiance or sing “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

If you are not in uniform, greet the flag by taking off your hat and placing your right hand over your heart.

Flying the United States Flag

The flag is flown on public buildings every day when weather permits. You can fly it at your home every day, too.



A Scout is loyal. Showing respect for the flag is a way to show loyalty to your country.

Some special days to fly the flag are:

- ◆ New Year's Day, January 1
- ◆ Inauguration Day, January 20 in the year after a presidential election
- ◆ Martin Luther King Jr. Day, third Monday in January
- ◆ Lincoln's Birthday, February 12
- ◆ Washington's Birthday or Presidents Day, third Monday in February
- ◆ Armed Forces Day, third Saturday in May
- ◆ Memorial Day, last Monday in May (half-staff until noon, full-staff until sunset)
- ◆ Flag Day, June 14
- ◆ Independence Day, July 4
- ◆ Labor Day, first Monday in September
- ◆ Patriot Day, September 11
- ◆ Constitution Day, September 17
- ◆ Veterans Day, November 11



It is also flown on other days proclaimed by the president of the United States, on the birthdays of the states, and on state holidays.

Retiring the Flag

When a United States flag becomes worn beyond repair, it should be retired by burning it completely to ash. This should be done in a simple manner with dignity and respect. Your den or pack may do this as part of a

ceremony, but your family could do this as well.

Be very careful when retiring a flag so you don't injure yourself, especially if the flag is made of synthetic material. Melting nylon can cause serious burns if you let it touch your skin.

REQUIREMENT 2 | Learn about and describe your rights and duties as a citizen, and explain what it means to be loyal to your country.

As a Webelos Scout, you are not old enough to vote or serve in the military or run for political office, but you still have duties as a citizen of the United States.

In the Scout Oath, you promise to do your duty to your country. One way to do that is by obeying the law.

Some people are citizens of other countries but live in our country. You may know somebody like that. People who are not American citizens have some of the same duties and basic rights as citizens. However, there are things they can't do, like vote and run for president.

Here are some things you and your family should do:

- ◆ Obey laws
- ◆ Respect the rights and property of others
- ◆ Help the police
- ◆ Take care of the environment by recycling and conserving natural resources
- ◆ Keep informed about what is going on around you
- ◆ Help change things that are not good



When you are an adult, you should also:

- ◆ Vote
- ◆ Pay taxes
- ◆ Serve on a jury when asked to do so

As a citizen you also have many rights as defined by the United States Constitution and other governing documents.

Here are some specific things you and your family can do:

- ◆ Worship how and where you like
- ◆ Say what you think
- ◆ Join other people in peaceful assemblies
- ◆ Petition the government if you think it is doing something wrong
- ◆ Own property and choose where to live
- ◆ Get a public school education through 12th grade
- ◆ Have a trial by jury if you are accused of a crime
- ◆ Vote (age 18 or older)

We are lucky to have many freedoms in the United States, but always

remember that those freedoms come with responsibility. As President John F. Kennedy said, you should “ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.”



Being Loyal

All Scouts promise to be loyal—that’s the second point of the Scout Law. You are loyal when you obey the laws of our country, your state, and your community. You are loyal when you try to make your community a better place to live. You are loyal when you stay informed about how government works. You are loyal when you support those who work to keep our country safe.

You are also loyal when you try to get things fixed that are wrong. If you think a law is unfair, you should obey it, but you should also work to get it changed.

“My country, right or wrong; if right, to be kept right; and if wrong, to be set right.”—U.S. Senator Carl Schurz (1829-1906)

REQUIREMENT 3 | Discuss in your Webelos den the term “rule of law,” and talk about how it applies to you in your everyday life.

Have you ever watched a TV show or movie where a king made up laws on the spot or threw people in jail just because he felt like it? A few countries still operate like that, but most operate under what is called the “rule of law.”

The rule of law means that:

- ◆ Laws apply to everyone, both government officials and private citizens.
- ◆ Laws are clear and fair and are evenly applied.
- ◆ Laws respect basic rights like people’s security.
- ◆ The way laws are created is open and fair.

Talk with your den about how that idea affects you. How does following the Scout Oath and Scout Law serve as a “rule of law” to help us work together in Scouting?



REQUIREMENT 4 | Meet with a government or community leader, and learn about his or her role in your community. Discuss with the leader an important issue facing your community.

Your community is made up of many leaders who work hard to keep it safe and running well. They probably include a mayor, city council members, judges, police and fire chiefs, and people who run various government departments.

With the help of your den leader, pick a local government leader and plan to meet with him or her. Before the meeting, decide on one or two questions you would like to ask.

Here are some possible questions:

- ◆ What is your most important responsibility?

- ◆ What background or education prepared you for this job?
- ◆ Why did you want to be a government leader?
- ◆ How can citizens help you be more effective?
- ◆ What is the biggest challenge facing our community?

Also before the meeting, watch a local news program or read a local newspaper and find an issue that you feel is important in your community. Be prepared to ask the government leader about this issue.

Many elected officials first held office in a Scout troop or in student government at school. Ask the government leader you meet with about his or her early leadership experience.

REQUIREMENT 5 | Show that you are an active leader by planning an activity for your den without your den leader's help. Ask your den leader for approval first.

While working on this adventure, you have met people who are leaders. These people see what needs to be done and make it happen.

Now, it's your turn. Work as a team with your den to plan and carry out an activity without your den leader's help. (Of course, he or she will need to be around to make sure everybody stays safe.) Your activity might be a fun activity for the younger members of your pack, or it might be a den field trip. Whatever it is, make sure you have a good plan and that you follow that plan to achieve your desired result.

Sometimes, it helps to write things down when you plan an activity.

If you can answer these questions, you are good to go:

- ◆ Who is invited to take part in the activity, and who needs to give them permission to participate?
- ◆ What are you going to do? What do you need to bring?
- ◆ When will the activity take place?
- ◆ Where will you go? How will you get there?
- ◆ How much does it cost?



REQUIREMENT 6 | Do at least one of these:

REQUIREMENT 6A | Learn about Scouting in another part of the world. With the help of your parent, guardian, or den leader, pick one country where Scouting exists and research its Scouting program.

Scouting doesn't happen only in the United States. It happens in nearly every country around the world. Today, there are more than 30 million Scouts and leaders in more than 160 countries!

Every country does Scouting its own way. The words of the Scout Oath and Scout Law are different. The uniforms and badges are different. The membership requirements are different.



If you have relatives in another country, ask them to send you information about the Scouting program there.

Today, it's easy to learn about Scouting in other countries. Most national Scout associations have websites, and even those where English is not spoken

often have English translations available. With the help of your parent or den leader, pick a country where Scouting exists and learn more about their program for Scouts your age.

Try to find answers to these questions:

- ◆ What is the Scout Oath and Scout Law in that country?
- ◆ What badges do Scouts earn?
- ◆ What do their uniforms look like?
- ◆ What activities do they do?
- ◆ How is their program like Cub Scouting in America, and how is it different?



Share what you learned with your den. Then, set up an exhibit at a pack meeting to teach other pack families about that country's Scouting program.



One good place to start looking for information about Scouts around the world is the World Scout Bureau's website, www.scout.org. Be sure you have your parent's or guardian's permission to search the internet.

One way you can show your connection with Scouts around the world is to wear the World Crest patch on your uniform. When you complete a service project that promotes world peace, you can add a Messengers of Peace ring patch around the World Crest.



REQUIREMENT 6B | Set up an exhibit at a pack meeting to share information about the World Friendship Fund.

Many countries do not have the financial resources that our country enjoys. In those countries, Scouts can find it hard to purchase uniforms and go on trips, and Scout leaders can find it hard to build camps and publish Scout handbooks.

The Boy Scouts of America created the World Friendship Fund at the end of World War II to help rebuild Scouting in countries that had been affected by the war. Now, it helps strengthen and expand Scouting wherever there is a need.

Here are a few things the fund has done:

- ◆ Supported creation of Russia's first Scout handbooks since 1917
- ◆ Helped build the first Scout camp in Madagascar
- ◆ Paid for a bus to help Scouts in Nepal get to camp
- ◆ Provided scholarships to help Scouts from many countries attend the world Scout jamboree

Collections for the World Friendship Fund are often organized at camporees, summer camps, and training courses for Scout leaders. Your den might want to organize a collection at a pack meeting or blue and gold banquet. Your den leader can get World Friendship Fund brochures and other information from your local council service center.



REQUIREMENT 6C | Under the supervision of your parent, guardian, or den leader, connect with a Scout in another country during an event such as Jamboree-on-the-Air or Jamboree-on-the-Internet or by other means.

Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA) is a special event held on the third full weekend of October every year. During JOTA, Scouts work with amateur radio operators to contact Scouts in other parts of the world. Approximately 700,000 Scouts in 13,000 different locations participate each year!

Jamboree-on-the-Internet (JOTI) happens at the same time as JOTA. During the weekend, Scouts from around the world connect with each other through email, chat programs, and websites. JOTI attracts Scouts from more than 140 countries. You can participate with the help of your parent or den leader.

When you participate in either JOTA or JOTI, you can receive a special patch. But the really cool thing is making friends with a Scout in another part of the world.



If you aren't able to participate in JOTA or JOTI, your den leader may be able to help you connect with a Scout in another country by other means.

REQUIREMENT 6D | Learn about energy use in your community and in other parts of the world.

Part of building a better world is making sure you don't waste energy and other natural resources. This requirement will help you get started.

Saving Energy

To stay warm or cool, see at night, and go from place to place, we need energy. Your community uses many types of energy. So does your family. Find out what kinds of energy you use, and write them in this chart.

THE ENERGY I USE

To stay warm or cool in my home _____

To travel by car _____

To travel by bus or subway _____

To watch TV _____

To have warm showers _____

To see in my room when it's dark outside _____

Some types of energy are renewable, which means you can never use them up. These include energy from solar panels, wind turbines, and hydroelectric dams. Other types of energy are finite, which means they will eventually run out. These include gasoline, natural gas, and coal.

Whether or not the energy we use is renewable, it is still important to conserve it. If your family wastes a lot of energy, your utility bills will be high and you won't have money to spend on other things. If too many people use their air conditioners on a very hot day, a city can temporarily run out of power, which is called a blackout.

Pick one of the types of energy your family uses and decide one way that you could use less of it. Practice this saving idea for one month, and ask your family to join you.

Here are some ways you can save electricity, for example:

- ◆ Set your thermostat a little warmer in the summer and a little cooler in the winter.
- ◆ Keep your blinds or curtains closed on hot days.
- ◆ Take shorter showers.
- ◆ Use ceiling fans to make rooms feel cooler.
- ◆ Don't open the refrigerator door more than you have to.
- ◆ Unplug electronic devices when you're not using them.
- ◆ Turn off the lights when you leave a room.
- ◆ Use energy-efficient light bulbs.

You can learn more about each type of light bulb in the Fix It adventure on page 354.



With a parent's or guardian's permission, visit <http://energy.gov/energysaver/articles/types-lighting> for additional information on saving energy at home.

Incandescent bulb



**Compact
fluorescent
(CFL) bulb**



**Light-emitting diode
(LED) bulb**



REQUIREMENT 6E | Identify one energy problem in your community, and find out what has caused it.

With your den leader's help, find out about an energy problem that affects the people in your community. Learn what has created this problem. Prepare a den exhibit for a pack meeting to teach other pack families about the problem and how it could be solved.

