



Introducing the CYC America 250 Scouting Awards

Administered by the CYC Activities Committee

In celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the United States, the Connecticut Yankee Council Activities Committee is proud to introduce a special series of **America 250 Scouting Awards** for Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturers, Sea Scouts, and adult leaders. These recognitions invite Scouts and Scouters to explore America's heritage through learning, service, adventure, and civic engagement—while connecting directly with our 2026 District and Council programs.

This guide outlines the Cub Scout Awards

How the Awards Work

Youth Awards

- Scouts may complete **any** of the five awards—or **earn all of them**.
- Scouts who complete *all* awards earn the special **George Washington Super Award**.
- Requirements may be completed with a **patrol, troop or individually**.
- Awards may be worked on **in any order**, individually or alongside other awards.
- **Unit leaders** verify completion—no council approval or advancement entry needed.

Adult Recognition — Nathan Hale Leadership Award

- By teaching or leading one of the awards, adults qualify for the **Nathan Hale Leadership Award**. Register for the patch at the link below.
- Instructors may also order patches for any awards they helped teach.

Patch Information & Order Form

- Online Order Form Here: <https://mycouncil.ctyankee.org/Event/America250awards>
- **Cost:** \$4 per patch
- This is a unit administered award, and patches must be ordered by the unit, not by individual Scout or parent.
- Pickup at the Council Service Center
- **First order:** on or about **March 1** (approx. 3-week delivery)
- **Final order:** on or about **June 20** (approx. 3-week delivery)

We look forward to celebrating **America's Semiquincentennial** with you and your Scouts!

Yours in Scouting,

John Hanks

CYC Activities Chair

activities@ctyankee.org

CYC 250TH AMERICA AWARDS

Cub Scouts & Scouts BSA can earn any choice of the Awards number 1 to 5.

Sea Scouts can earn any 4 of the awards plus Award #6

More information and to order patches

<https://mycouncil.ctyankee.org/Event/America250awards>



**Super Award
George Washington**

Super Award Qualifications

- Cub Scouts Earn all 5 (Awards #'s 1 to 5)
- Scouts BSA & Venturers Earn all 5 (#'s 1 to 5)
- Sea Scouts Earn any 4 Awards plus #6.

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SPECIAL ADULT RECOGNITION



**Adult Leader
Nathan Hale Award**

Presented to adult leaders who teach, organize, or mentor youth completing any of the America 250 Scouting Awards. Recipients may also order the corresponding patches for the awards they have instructed or supported.

1.



**Science & Discovery
Benjamin Franklin Award**
Celebrates 250 Years of Nature,
Science, and Exploration

2.



**Participation
Gen Israel Putnam Award**
Tie-in to District & Council
250th Events

3.



**Diversity
James Armistead Lafayette Award**
Highlighting Native and African
American contributions to the
Revolution

4.



**Youth of the Revolution
Sybil Ludington Award**
Explore the courage and
contributions of youth in the
American Revolution

5.



**Women of the Revolution
Abigail Adams Award**
Honoring the women whose
courage and leadership shaped
America

6.



**Sea Scouts
Capt. John Paul Jones Award**
Celebrating Sea Scouting's
Revolutionary heritage



Teaching Guide & Nathan Hale Adult Leader Award

Nathan Hale was a courageous Connecticut schoolteacher-turned-soldier who gave his life spying for the American cause during the Revolutionary War.

Patches Can be Ordered at

<https://mycouncil.ctyankee.org/Event/America250awards>

Dear Instructor,

Thank you for helping teach these special Connecticut Yankee Council 250th Anniversary Awards for Cub Scouts. These awards are locally developed and do not have official national guidelines, so leaders may use basic online research as needed and adjust the requirements to fit the age and readiness of their Cub Scouts—especially Lions and Tigers.

We have provided a worksheet for each award on the following pages.

Teaching Guide Suggestions

- Keep activities simple and hands-on.
- Focus on fun facts, stories, and “try-it” style activities rather than heavy history.
- Use visuals — pictures, maps, short videos, or simple props.
- Let Scouts share what they learned in their own way (drawing, acting, telling, building, etc.).
- Keep discussions positive and age-appropriate.

By teaching, you also qualify for our Nathan Hale Leadership

Award. You can sign up for the patch at the link above. You can also order any of patches for any of the awards you instructed.

Use the chart to track Scouts that you are teaching.

This is a unit administered award, and patches must be ordered by the unit, not by individual Scout or parent.

John Hanks, CYC Activity Chair
activities@ctyankee.org

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Benjamin Franklin Award Worksheet

Scout Name: _____

Den: Circle one

Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, Arrow of Light

When completed, please turn in to your Den or Pack Leader.

Science & Discovery Benjamin Franklin Award

Benjamin Franklin was a curious and creative American who taught himself through reading and exploration. His inventions, experiments, and hard work proved that imagination and problem-solving can change the world.

Cub Scout Requirements (*Do all 4*)

1. Learn About Ben Franklin

- ☐ Discover **three fun facts** about Benjamin Franklin — his inventions, his life, or his contributions to America — and share your favorite one with your den or family.

2. Try a Franklin-Inspired Invention

Complete **one simple experiment or invention**, such as:

- ☐ Make a **paper kite** and learn how wind helps it fly
- ☐ Build a **balloon static-electricity experiment**
- ☐ Create a **homemade musical water glass**
- ☐ Make **simple hand paddles** (like Franklin's early swim fins)

3. Franklin's Community Helpers

Franklin helped start the first **fire department, library, and post office**.

Do **one**:

- ☐ Visit a **fire station**
- ☐ Visit a **library** or get your own library card
- ☐ Write and mail a friendly **thank-you letter** to someone who helps your community

4. **Polar Bear Astronomy:** Franklin & the Night Sky. Franklin loved studying weather and the world around him. Complete **one**:

- ☐ Find and identify **one winter constellation**
- ☐ Learn why we see **different stars** in winter than in summer
- ☐ Discover how sailors (like Franklin's friends!) used **stars for navigation**
- ☐ Observe the **moon's phase** and describe its shape

Attend the Feb 7 Cub Scout Polar Bear and meet Ben Franklin reenactor. We'll have a workshop to complete this award. See page.



General Israel Putnam Award Worksheet

Scout Name: _____

Den: Circle one

Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, Arrow of Light

When completed, please turn in to your Den or Pack Leader.

Participation General Israel Putnam Award

General Israel Putnam was a brave Connecticut hero who never backed down from danger. He was known for his courage, quick thinking, and protecting others during the Revolutionary War and famous for his Winter Encampment at Redding CT, now named Putnam Park. His leadership reminds us that doing your best — even when things are tough — is what makes a true Scout.

Cub Scout Requirements (*Do all 4*)

_____ 1. Participate in one or more District or Council 250th Anniversary Events

— Choose any of these special 250th activities:

- ☐ Feb 7 — Cub Scout Polar Bear Astro Fest (Stamford Museum & Nature Center) Celebrate America's 250 years with a Polar Bear adventure full of nature, science, and astronomy!
- ☐ April 11 — Fishing Derby & Rocket Academy (Deer Lake) Enjoy fishing, rockets, outdoor fun — and a lunchtime 250th celebration.
- ☐ May 2–3 — Cub Scout Camp-In at Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo A wild overnight adventure celebrating 250 years of American exploration.
- ☐ May 8–10 — Quinnipiac District Cub Scout Family Campout "Patriots of Q" A weekend of family activities and 250th celebration fun.

_____ 2. Take part in a Pack or Den event that celebrates America's 250th. This could include a special meeting, craft, game, or outing connected to our nation's birthday.

3. Learn about your town's Revolutionary War history (Do ONE):

- ☐ Take part in a local community 250th event, OR
- ☐ Learn a few facts about how your town was involved in the Revolutionary War.

4. Participate in a community service project.

Show leadership like Putnam by helping others — at home, school, in your Pack, or in your community.



James Armistead Award Worksheet

Scout Name: _____

Den: Circle one

Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, Arrow of Light

When completed, please turn in to your Den or Pack Leader.

Diversity James Armistead Lafayette

James Armistead Lafayette was an enslaved African American who bravely served as a spy during the Revolutionary War. His intelligence work helped win the Battle of Yorktown — and after the war, he gained his freedom. His story reminds us that many different people, from many different backgrounds, helped build our country, even when they were not treated fairly.

Award Requirements (Do all 4)

_____ **1. Learn About James Armistead Lafayette** — Read or listen to three facts about James Armistead Lafayette. Tell an adult or your den how he helped America win its independence.

_____ **2. Celebrate America's Many Heroes**

Choose one Black or Native American hero from the Colonial or Revolutionary era and learn one thing about them. Some Cub Scout examples:

Black Americans:

- ☐ Crispus Attucks (the first casualty of the Revolution)
- ☐ Phillis Wheatley (first published African American poet)
- ☐ Prince Estabrook (Lexington militia member)
- ☐ Salem Poor (hero of Bunker Hill)

Native Americans—Pick one Learn About CT Tribes:

- ☐ Pequot
- ☐ Mohegan
- ☐ Nipmuc
- ☐ Paugussett
- ☐ Schaghticoke

_____ **3. Do a Helpful Service Activity**

Do one small act of service that shows kindness, teamwork, or inclusion. Examples: Invite someone new to a Pack/Den Meeting. Help a Scout with an activity
Explain how your service helped someone else.

_____ **4. Create a "Heroes of Freedom" mini-poster.** Draw pictures or symbols for three different people who helped America during the Revolutionary War — from different backgrounds. (They can be anyone from the list above or heroes you learned about.)



Sybil Ludington Award Worksheet

Scout Name: _____

Den: Circle one

Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, Arrow of Light

When completed, please turn in to your Den or Pack Leader.

Youth of the Revolution Sybil Ludington Award

Honoring the courage and hard work of young people during the American Revolution.

Sybil Ludington was a brave 16-year-old who rode through the night to warn local soldiers of danger—traveling almost twice as far as Paul Revere. Her story shows that even young people can make a big difference when they choose to help others.

Do ANY Four (or more) requirements:

☐ **1. Dress Like a Colonial Kid**

Wear a simple colonial-style outfit or accessory (tricorn hat, bonnet, apron, sash, vest, cloth pouch, etc.).

☐ **2. Sing a Colonial-Era Song**

Learn and sing a song children may have known in the 1700s (such as Yankee Doodle).

☐ **3. Play a Colonial Game**

Try a game from Sybil's time—hoop & stick, marbles, ninepins, cat's cradle, or pick-up sticks.

☐ **4. Make a Colonial Snack or Meal**

With your family or den, make a simple food from colonial times (johnnycakes, cornbread, homemade butter, apple slices with cinnamon, etc.).

☐ **5. Learn How Colonial Kids Helped**

Talk about ways young people helped during the Revolution (carrying messages, farm work, candle making, caring for siblings). Share one example.

☐ **6. Map Sybil's Ride**

Look at a simple map of Sybil Ludington's route. Point out where she started and where she warned the militia.

☐ **7. Make a Lantern or Signal Light**

Create a safe "lantern" craft using a flameless tea light and paper to learn how colonists signaled danger.

☐ **8. Learn About Another Young Patriot**

Choose another young hero from the Revolution and share something they did (suggestions: Joseph Plumb Martin, Deborah Sampson, Ned Hector, Polly Cooper).



Abigail Adams Award Worksheet

Scout Name: _____

Den: Circle one

Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, Arrow of Light

When completed, please turn in to your Den or Pack Leader.

Women of the Revolution Abigail Adams Award

Abigail Adams was one of the most important women of the American Revolution. She was smart, courageous, and believed strongly in education, fairness, and helping others. While her husband John Adams helped build a new nation, Abigail ran their farm, raised their children, wrote hundreds of letters, and gave wise advice that shaped early America. Her famous message, "Remember the Ladies," reminds us that women and girls played a big role in our country's beginning.

Do ANY 3 requirements:

☐ 1. Learn About Women of the Revolution

Discover one woman or girl who helped during the Revolution and share one thing she did.

Suggestions: Abigail Adams, Phillis Wheatley, Sybil Ludington, Molly Pitcher, Martha Washington, Deborah Sampson, Ona Judge.

☐ 2. Create a "Remember the Ladies" Poster

Make a small poster showing a Revolutionary-era woman or girl and how she helped her family, community, or the new nation.

☐ 3. Try a Colonial Skill

Do one activity girls and women often helped with during Colonial times.

Examples:

- Make butter in a jar
- Sew a simple stitch on fabric
- Make a paper bonnet or tricorn hat
- Try writing with a quill-style pen

☐ 4. Honor a Woman in Your Life

Choose a woman who helps you today (family member, teacher, neighbor, troop leader). Tell her how she makes a difference — or make her a simple thank-you card.

CUB SCOUT 250TH AWARDS



George Washington Super Award Worksheet

Scout Name: _____

Den: Circle one

Lion, Tiger, Wolf, Bear, Webelos, Arrow of Light

Requirement: Earn all 5 Awards

When completed, please turn in to your Den or Pack Leader.

☐ Date Earned _____



Science & Discovery
Benjamin Franklin Award
 Celebrates 250 Years of Nature,
 Science, and Exploration

☐ Date Earned _____



Participation
Gen Israel Putnam Award
 Tie-in to District & Council
 250th Events

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Diversity
James Armistead Lafayette
 Highlighting Native and African
 American contributions to the

☐ Date Earned _____



Youth of the Revolution
Sybil Ludington Award
 Explore the courage and
 contributions of youth in the
 American Revolution

☐ Date Earned _____



Women of the Revolution
Abigail Adams Award
 Honoring the women whose
 courage and leadership shaped
 America

Resources

Talking About History with Cub Scouts

As we celebrate the 250th Anniversary of America through our Scouting programs, we may encounter questions about how to discuss our nation's founders and colonial figures in today's context. For example, George Washington and Thomas Jefferson—two of our most important early leaders—also enslaved people.

Here's some talking points.

When we learn about people from long ago, we sometimes discover they did great things and also made choices we know were wrong.

During colonial times, many people—including some important leaders—owned enslaved people. Today, we know that was wrong. Long ago, many adults believed it was normal, even though it caused harm and was unfair.

We can still learn from history by remembering both parts of the story:

- We honor the good things people did to help our country.
- We are honest about mistakes so we can do better today.

As Cub Scouts, we try to live by the Scout Law. Being trustworthy means telling the truth. Being kind means caring about others. Being brave means learning from the past.

Every generation learns more. By learning the whole story, we help make the future kinder and fairer for everyone.



**Colonial Games Kids Played
Hoop & Stick**

What it was: Children rolled a wooden or metal hoop along the ground using a stick, trying to keep it upright and moving.

Why kids liked it: It was simple, active, and could be played almost anywhere—roads, yards, or fields.

How Scouts can play today:

- Use a hula hoop or sturdy ring
- Roll it with a stick or dowel
- Create races or obstacle courses

Skills learned: Balance, coordination, endurance

Sample Colonial Cooking at a Pack/Den Meeting

Johnnycakes & Apple Slices

What it is: Johnnycakes are simple cornmeal flatbreads eaten widely in colonial America.

Why it works for a Pack meeting:

- Few ingredients
- Can be made ahead of time
- Easy to serve and kid-friendly
- Naturally ties to colonial history

Simple menu:

- Johnnycakes (cut into small squares)
- Apple slices (fresh or lightly cooked with cinnamon)
- Water or apple cider (optional)

Talking point for Scouts:

"Cornmeal was common because corn grew easily and stored well."

Simple Instructions (Adult Prep)

- Preheat oven to 375°F. Grease two large baking pans.
- In a large bowl, mix cornmeal, flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt.
- In a second bowl, whisk milk, eggs, and oil/butter.
- Combine wet and dry ingredients; stir until just mixed.
- Pour into pans and spread evenly.
- Bake 25–30 minutes, until lightly golden and set.
- Cool slightly, then cut into small squares.

Shopping List (Pack Size)

- Baking & Pantry
- Cornmeal (5 lb bag)
- All-purpose flour (5 lb bag)
- Sugar or honey (large container)
- Baking powder
- Salt
- Vegetable oil or butter

Dairy

- Milk (3 gallons to be safe)
- Eggs (1 dozen)

Optional Add-Ons

- Butter (2–3 sticks)
- Honey or apple butter
- Apples (2–3 large bags) + cinnamon for slices
- Water or Apple Cider

Pack Tips

- Make ahead of time and reheat slightly if needed
- Cut into small portions—this is a tasting, not a meal
- Label the table: "Colonial Food – c. 1776"

Resources

Colonial Songs for Cub Scouts

Songs children sang during colonial times

Yankee Doodle

(Popular during the American Revolution)

Yankee Doodle went to town,

A-ridin' on a pony,

Stuck a feather in his cap

And called it macaroni.

Yankee Doodle, keep it up,

Yankee Doodle dandy,

Mind the music and the step,

And with the girls be handy.

Leader Tip:

Have Scouts march in place or clap to the beat.

Simple Simon

(Traditional nursery rhyme from colonial times)

Simple Simon met a pieman,

Going to the fair;

Said Simple Simon to the pieman,

"Let me taste your ware."

Said the pieman to Simple Simon,

"Show me first your penny."

Said Simple Simon to the pieman,

"Indeed, I have not any."

Leader Tip:

Great for call-and-response or acting out the story.

Bonus Song: **Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush**

(Sung by children for play and chores)

Here we go round the mulberry bush,

The mulberry bush, the mulberry bush,

Here we go round the mulberry bush,

So early in the morning.

This is the way we wash our clothes,

Wash our clothes, wash our clothes,

This is the way we wash our clothes,

So early in the morning.

Leader Tip:

Add motions to show daily life in colonial times.

Leader Note

Songs were simple, playful, and often sung while working or playing. Encourage participation—perfect singing is not required!

Colonial School Station *"Learning Like a Colonial Kid"*

Time: 5–10 minutes

Materials

- Small chalkboards or slates (or clipboards with black paper)
- Chalk (or white crayons)
- Damp cloth or paper towel (for erasing)

Set the Scene (1 minute) -- Tell Scouts:

"In colonial times, kids used slates instead of notebooks. They copied lessons, erased them, and reused them every day."

Have Scouts sit quietly and raise hands to speak.

The Assignment (5 minutes): Write **one sentence** on a board or paper and have Scouts copy it onto their slate:

Choose ONE:

- "I will be kind and helpful."
- "Practice makes progress."
- "I will do my best."
- Scouts carefully copy the sentence.

Show & Erase (2 minutes)

- Scouts hold up their slates
- Leader says:
 - "Well done. Now erase and reuse your slate—just like colonial kids."

Quick Wrap-Up (1 minute) — Ask:

- "How is this different from school today?"
- "Was it harder or easier?"
- Tie it to the **Scout Law**.

Leader Tip

No corrections, no grades—this is about **experience**, not perfection.

Indoor Game Colonial Kids Played **Jackstones (Early Jacks)**

What it was: Children tossed a small ball or stone and picked up other stones before catching it.

Why it worked:

- Small space
- Very skill-based
- Quiet and focused

Modern version: Use jacks or small pebbles and a soft ball.

Books Colonial Kids Read

The New England Primer: First published around 1690, The New England Primer was the primary reading book for children in colonial America for over 100 years.

Aesop's Fables were widely read by colonial children and are still common today.

Getting Started — Cub Scout America 250 Awards

Choose an Award your Pack or Den would like to work on.

Assign a registered adult to lead the activities (Den Leader, Cubmaster, or Pack designee).

Review the worksheet and adapt activities to fit your Scouts' ages—especially for Lions and Tigers.

Complete the activities during meetings, outings, or family activities.

Leader verifies completion—no paperwork or council approval required.

Order patches using the provided link.

That's it! These awards are designed to be fun, flexible, and easy to integrate into your Cub Scout program.

America 250 Scouting Awards — Cub Scout Q & A Patches Can be Ordered at

<https://mycouncil.ctyankee.org/Event/America250awards>

Q: Do we need to turn in paperwork or worksheets?

A: No. Pack leaders verify completion. No council approval or advancement entry is required. Simply order the patches when your Scouts complete the activities.

Q: Who can teach the Cub Scout award activities?

A: These are Pack-administered awards. Den Leaders, Cubmasters, or Pack-designated registered adults may teach the activities. All instructors must be current with **Safeguarding Youth Training**.

Q: Should we tell Scouts who the award instructors are?

A: Yes. We recommend Packs let Scouts and parents know who is teaching the awards. Instructors may teach **one or all** awards.

Q: How do adults earn the Nathan Hale Leadership Award?

A: Adults who teach or help lead these awards are eligible. The Pack or leader may simply order the patch—no approval required.

Q: How do instructors receive the award patches they taught?

A: When the unit places its patch order, the person submitting the order should include any instructor patches needed for awards taught.

Q: How are patches ordered?

A: Patches are ordered through the provided link. Units **order only the quantity needed**—no individual names or paperwork are required. Completion is verified by the unit. **Patches must be ordered by the unit; individual orders are not accepted.**

Q: Are patches kept in stock?

A: No. Patches are produced based on orders received:

- **First Order:** On or about March 1
- **Final Order:** On or about June 20
- (Please allow about three weeks for delivery.)

Q: Why is the patch \$5?

A: These patches use the **official national America 250 logo**, which requires licensing, along with production and processing costs.

Q: Are the requirements flexible for younger Cub Scouts?

A: Yes! Activities are designed to be flexible and age-appropriate—especially for **Lions and Tigers**. The focus is on fun, learning, and participation, not strict requirements.

Q: Who do we contact with questions?

A: Please email **John Hanks** at activities@ctyankee.org.