

CUB SCOUT MOVING-UP CEREMONY

Introduction

This is an essential ceremony that celebrates the advancement of the Howlers as they continue their journey into Scouts. If possible, hold this ceremony with all Sections of your Group so that the Beaver Scouts move up to Cub Scouts, then Cub Scouts to Scouts and so on.

Make it Memorable

Scouting has been around for more than 100 years. Your Group may have unique traditions for its Advancement Ceremony. Don't be afraid to make it as memorable for all participating.

Plan

- What materials will you need for the ceremony?
- Where can the ceremony be done?
- What roles will everyone play?
- Who will speak at the ceremony?

Do

- Rehearse what you have planned.
- Make it memorable!

Review

- What was the best part of the ceremony?
- What do you think was the most memorable part for the Howlers moving up?
- What can be done differently next time?

Advancement to Scouts

“Moving Up” to Scouts is the last celebration of the Cub Scout’s journey in Cub Scouts. Many Groups gather all of their Sections to have their advancement ceremonies happen at the same time. At the least, the Cub Pack and Scout Troop meet for this celebration. There are also many variations in how this is done, but the essence of the Ceremony is that the Pack and Troop use their traditional opening circle and horseshoe, the Pack Scouter says goodbye and good luck to the Howlers, and the Troop Scouter welcomes them to the Troop. What follows is a suggestion.

The Pack forms a circle at one end of the field or hall while the Troop forms a horseshoe a short distance away, with the open end of the horseshoe facing the Pack.

A Scouter, often Akela, stands in the centre of the circle and the other Pack Scouters stand on the far outside of the circle, away from the Scout Troop. The Troop Scouter stands in the opening of the horseshoe with the other Troop Scouters in a line alongside the horseshoe. Akela calls the Howlers into the circle by name.

Akela offers a few words to the Howlers. There are many ways to wish the Howler good luck. Here is a sample that uses the Jungle theme:

“There comes a time when Cub Scouts must leave the jungle. They have run with the Pack, played with the Pack and learned many skills with the Pack. They have shared those skills with other members of the Pack and (though we will miss them) it is time for them to continue their Scouting adventures with the Troop.”

Akela may then say something personal about each Howler. Some Packs choose to present parting gifts to the Cub Scouts. The Howlers may exchange high fives or handshakes with the rest of the Pack. The Howlers move outside of the circle and move around it giving a high five to each of the Cub Scouts in the circle and the other Scouters. The Cub Scouts return to the inside of the circle.

Akela then leads the Cub Scouts out of the circle to the horseshoe. Akela may say to the Troop Leader, “The Pack has said goodbye to these Cub Scouts and they are ready to blaze their trail with the Troop.” The Troop Leader then welcomes the new Scouts.

