APRIL—CHEERFUL

STRIKE UP THE BAND

A SCOUT IS CHEERFUL. HOW DOES "STRIKE UP THE BAND" RELATE TO THIS POINT OF THE SCOUT LAW?

Music can make us feel many things. One of the best things it makes us feel is cheerful. As we "Strike Up the Band" this month, we will explore ways to make people happy using music.

NOTE TO CUBMASTER

Pack meetings are best when they are no longer than an hour and a half in length. Pack meeting plans are guides and can be adjusted to fit the needs of your pack.

You might consider setting up tables or areas for each den to display pictures and items made during this month's adventure.

BEFORE THE MEETING

Set up tables or areas for each den to display pictures and items made during this month's adventure, if applicable.

Be sure the following materials are available for the meeting:

- Flags for the flag ceremony
- For the opening ceremony, 10 large musical notes cut from heavy paper or poster board, each with a letter to spell out "Do Your Best." The words for the Scouts to recite can be written on the back of each note, if desired.
- For rank advancement, create black music notes upon which to attach awards.
- To make kazoos, you'll need jumbo craft sticks; small, thin rubber bands; wide rubber bands; and drinking straws.
- To make rhythm sticks, you'll need paint stir sticks, jingle bells, chenille stems, and tape (optional).
- To make maracas, you'll need paper or plastic cups, dried beans or pasta, tape, and paint or markers.
- To make tambourines, you'll need paper plates, dried beans or a similar material, a stapler, staples, and markers.
- To make tin can drums, you'll need soup cans, balloons, clear packing tape or duct tape, and markers or stickers.
- For the closing, prepare a sheet or other large cloth to hide the boys, and a song of choice for the boys to sing.

GATHERING

As the boys arrive, have five stations set up for them to make one of the following musical instruments that can be used later in the program: kazoo, rhythm stick, maracas, tambourine, or tin can drum. (See the Resources section for instructions.)

OPENING CEREMONY

The flag ceremony is led by a predetermined den. They will present the colors and lead the pack in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cub Music

Cut 10 large musical notes from heavy paper or poster board, each with a letter that spells out "Do Your Best." The parts for the Cub Scouts to recite can be written on the back of each note.

Cub Scout 1: "D—Drumming up courage"

Cub Scout 2: "O—Offering to help"

Cub Scout 3: "Y—You are making music"

Cub Scout 4: "O—One way or another"

Cub Scout 5: "U—Under the guidance of Akela"

Cub Scout 6: "R—Ready to sing and dance"

Cub Scout 7: "B—Being willing to act a little silly"

Cub Scout 8: "E—Every Scout will have the chance"

Cub Scout 9: "S—Strumming, tooting, rocking, and rolling"

Cub Scout 10: "T—That's what this month is all about!"

◇ OPENING PRAYER

"We give thanks for the music in our lives, the music of our friends, the music of our families, and the music throughout nature and the entire world."

◇ WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:

The Cubmaster welcomes new families, introduces them to the pack, and thanks those who helped prepare the pack meeting.

◇ DEN DEMONSTRATIONS

If there is a den that needs to do some type of activity at a pack meeting for the completion of an adventure, please insert it here.

◇ AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

My Music Band
Tune: *"Bingo"*

There was a pack that had a band and music was their favorite,
M-U-S-I-C,
M-U-S-I-C,
M-U-S-I-C,
And music was their favorite.

(Repeat the verse, but instead of singing "M," have each boy make noise with his instrument. Continue doing this for each letter until they are just using their instruments.)

◇ RECOGNITION

Adventure Loops and Pins:

(Note: Adventure loops and pins can be presented at a meeting or as immediate recognition in the den.)

By den, call the names of those Cub Scouts who have completed the month's adventure to come forward.

- Have the den leader pass out the awards to the boys as they receive a Cub Scout handshake from the Cubmaster.
- If time allows, invite the den leader or den chief of the den to speak about the adventure work done for that month and have the den stand and be recognized.
- Use a positive cheer to recognize their accomplishments.

Other options:

- Have the den stand and be recognized or come forward to receive certificates for the adventure they have completed. This option would be appropriate for a den that has already received the adventure loop or pin.
- Adapt the advancement ceremony for the month's theme into an adventure loop presentation if no rank badges are being presented.

◇ RANK ADVANCEMENT

Cub Scout Music Awards

Materials: Music notes made from black paper large enough to put each award on. The Cubmaster may wish to wear a tuxedo or bowtie.

Cubmaster: "Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to our annual music awards night! This is the time when we honor the achievements of our Cub Scouts and sing praises of their hard work. Since I don't want to run overtime and risk being pulled off the stage, let's get started!

"The nominees for the Bobcat award are *(List the names. Then, with fanfare, open the envelope.)* And the winners are . . . all of you!" (*Call each boy up by name and invite his parents or guardians to join him. Acknowledge their achievements, present them with their music note with their award on it, and have the boy pin the award on his parent or guardian.)*

(Repeat for the Tiger, Wolf, Bear, and Webelos badges.)

"Ladies and gentlemen, the highlight of our evening will be the highest award that can be given to a Cub Scout. The nominees for the Arrow of Light Award are *(List the names.)*. And the winners are *(again with great fanfare, open the envelope and exclaim:)* . . . all of you! *(Call each boy up by name and invite his parents or guardians to come forward. Present each boy with his award and have him pin the award on his parent or guardian.)*

"Ladies and gentlemen, it's been quite an evening. The hard work from these boys leaves a song in my heart. We thank you for attending this evening's Cub Scout music awards. Congratulations to you all, and keep up the excellent performance!"

◇ CUBMASTER'S MINUTE

"If you think positively, sound becomes music, movement becomes dance, smiles become laughter, mind becomes meditation, and life becomes a celebration."

◇ CLOSING

Upside-Down Singers Skit

Cast: Singers and announcer, two people to hold up a curtain

Announcer: "The singers are going to sing upside down!"

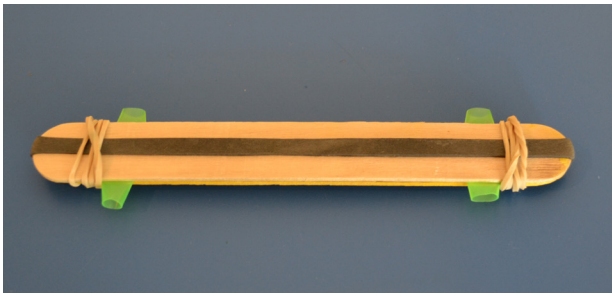
(The singers, who are already on the stage, duck behind a curtain. A sheet held by two people will do for a curtain. Placing their hands in their shoes and socks, the singers wobble the shoes above the curtain top, looking as if they are having trouble standing on their heads and some are about to topple over while singing.)

Singers: Start singing a song of their choice.

The preassigned den retires the flags.

RESOURCES

Kazoo



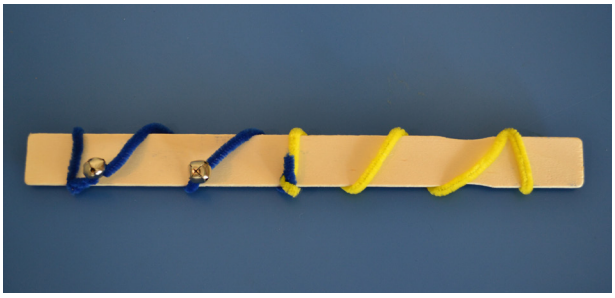
Materials:

- Two jumbo craft sticks
- Two 1-inch pieces cut from a drinking straw
- Two small, thin rubber bands
- One wide rubber band

Instructions:

1. Place a wide rubber band lengthwise on one of the craft sticks.
2. Using one of the thin rubber bands, rubber band the two craft sticks together at one end.
3. Place one of the straw pieces between the two craft sticks, about half an inch from the end.
4. Place the other straw piece between the two craft sticks at the other end. Now rubber band that end together using the second thin rubber band.

Rhythm Stick



Materials:

- Paint stir stick
- Chenille stems
- Jingle bells
- Tape to attach a chenille stem to the stick (optional)

Instructions:

- String jingle bells onto a chenille stem.
- Wrap the chenille stem with bells around the paint stir stick, or tape it to the stick at either end of the chenille stem.

Maracas



Materials:

- Two clean, dry cups or yogurt containers of the same size
- Half a cup of coffee beans, dried peas, macaroni, rice, or beads
- Glue (Hot glue will work well but requires adult supervision.)
- Masking tape or duct tape
- Paint or markers to decorate

Instructions:

- Put the beans or peas into one of the cups or containers.
- Glue the two containers together.
- Wrap masking tape around the rims for added support.
- Paint or color the shaker for decoration.

Tambourine



Materials:

- Two paper plates
- Stapler
- Dried pasta, beans, sand, rocks, or similar material
- Optional: stickers, paint, markers, construction paper, etc., for decoration

Instructions:

- Decorate the outside of the paper plates as desired.
- Fill one plate about a fourth of the way or less with dried pasta or beans (or a similar material).
- Put the other plate over the first and staple them together all around the edge.

Tin Can Drum

Materials:

- Empty, clean soup cans
- Clear packing tape or duct tape
- Balloons
- Scissors
- Stickers, markers, foam shapes, etc., for decoration (optional)

Instructions:

- Cut the end off a balloon and stretch the balloon over a can's open end.
- Cut the end off a second balloon and place it over the first balloon. (This step is optional. It makes the drum more durable.)
- Cut patterns in the second balloon, if desired.
- Tape around the balloon and can to secure everything.
- Decorate the can if you'd like.