



Cubs on the Lookout

by Julian Celms

In their quest to solve Computer Badge requirement 4b, Cubs search out a neat web site that has information that may help them with a requirement for another Cub badge. We've sorted through some of the best suggestions our fact-finding Cubs have sent to us, and I wanted to share with you where your Cubs are surfing to.

Magic Cubs

Our Cubs all love to dazzle their friends! I'm sure you get lots of requests for cool magic tricks as well (you might want to check out these sites for your own repertoire and impress your pack.) Scott and Jepson are two Cubs who must have wowed their packs with these magic tricks. These two sites have some neat tricks and guidelines (such as practice lots, and try only doing the trick once or twice so it's harder for the audience to 'figure' it out).

www.kidzone.ws, click on magic tricks.

kids.mysterynet.com, click on magic tricks.

(Entertainer badge #7)

Astronomy Badge

This is a fun site John told us about that leads you through our solar system and the planets within it as well as into deep space. For some of us (including us big kids), looking up into the sky to check out the constellations is fun, but you can get easily lost as well. Was that the Big Dipper or not...? When you're out and about, you can refer to the *Fieldbook for Canadian Scouting*, but this site has a neat, kid-friendly way of allowing you to identify the constellations. It could be a fun activity for a six to do together or a Cub to do with a parent or older sibling on the internet.

<http://www.kidsastronomy.com/>

(Astronomer Badge #2, 4)

It's always fun to provide some of the mythology of our stars. Charlene found this site interesting. You might have some Cubs be prepared to talk about the mythology or recite some of the legends found on this site. What I think is neat is that it provides some legends of the sky from both the perspective of the Inuit as well as other First Nation tribes a little more south in Ontario and Saskatchewan.

<http://www.sageanimation.com/AstroCanadaBF/en/a4101.html>

(Astronomer Badge #3)

Advanced Fire Making

This, dear leaders, will amaze your Cubs. They will think you are the greatest outdoors person ever. Some Cub badges require fire safety and how to build a fire knowledge. Why not have 'advanced' demonstrations on all sorts of different ways to start a fire? Here are a few ideas which when put into practice will 'wow' your Cubs. These links can be found by going to www.wildwoodsurvival.com, then

selecting "Fire" from the Wilderness Survival menu. Look for the titles below:

Fire from Water

Super neat — and caught Michael's eye. Taking plastic wrap and making a tight fitting balloon with water inside, you can focus light to make a fire. Make sure you have all the pieces they suggest. This will likely work better in the summer months than in January...

Making a Fire with a Bow

This will take a bit of practice, but is a cool skill to know and your Cubs will be amazed!

Making Fire with Steel and Flint

Using materials from the Scout Shop and following the directions from this web site, you will make a fire without matches.

(Green Star A7; Canadian Camper Award 5b)

Environmental Issues

This is always popular with Cubs. Requirement #5 of the World Conservation Badge asks Cubs to identify an endangered species. Austin found this list on the World Wildlife site:

<http://www.worldwildlife.org/endangered/>

You can also check out the Canadian Government's Species At Risk page that Jennifer found:

<http://www.speciesatrisk.gc.ca>

(World Conservation Badge #5)

Know It All Penguin

Tiki is a penguin who lives on the web and Francis liked his site. I've never before seen such a savvy penguin talk about some of the environmental issues that face the globe. He explores pollution, life in danger, food and climate change. Your Cubs might find him really useful to help complete environmental aspects of various badges.

<http://tiki.oneworld.net>

(World Conservation Badge #7 and 9) X

– Julian Celms, Director of Beavers, Cubs and Outdoors, enjoys reading the Cubs' emails as they discover new and exciting web sites.

Clarifying Computer Badge Requirement #4b

If you know one of your Cubs is working on the Computer Badge, can you please remind them to read requirement 4 b) very carefully. Many of our Cubs do not complete this requirement the first time. They just surf to www.scouts.ca and e-mail us our own web site.

What we want them to do is find a cool web site with information they may find useful to complete a requirement for one or more badges. Just like the Cubs in this article did!