

# Opening Assembly

<b>Learning Objectives</b>	By the end of this activity, participants will be able to <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Describe how they were made to feel welcome to this training.</li><li>• Identify members of the training staff.</li><li>• Explain how to conduct a flag-raising ceremony.</li></ul>
<b>Trainer Preparation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Study the training outline.</li><li>• Make notes of background information for introduction of trainers.</li><li>• Review the proper procedure for flag raising, found in “Outdoor Flag Ceremonies” in the appendix.</li><li>• Review the Outdoor Code.</li></ul>
<b>Materials</b>	33221B, <i>Cub Scout Leader Book</i> 33212B, <i>Cub Scout Ceremonies for Dens and Packs</i> 33222, <i>Cub Scout Songbook</i> 33428A, Outdoor Code cards U.S. flag and flagpole Webelos den flags on staffs—one for each den (optional)
<b>Handouts</b>	33428A, Outdoor Code card Outdoor Flag Ceremonies (see appendix) Den Assignment cards (optional)
<b>Time</b>	20 minutes. Start on time. End on time.

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<b>Before the Ceremony</b>	Participants should be given the Outdoor Code card and the “Outdoor Flag Ceremonies” handout when they check in. They should be reminded to bring these with them to the opening ceremony.  Hold the opening ceremony outdoors near the flagpole. Arrange participants by den. Furnish each den with a Webelos den flag, if used.
<b>Opening Ceremony</b>	Conduct the flag ceremony, raising the colors properly. Lead the group in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.  Ask participants to join you in reading the Outdoor Code, using the cards they were given at check-in.

**Welcome and Introductions**

Welcome the participants. Let them know you're glad they are here.  
Introduce the trainers, giving a short background on each. Keep the introductions brief.  
Introduce any special guests.

**Special Announcements**

Make any special announcements if necessary.

**Song**

Teach a lively song, such as "If You're Happy and You Know It."  
Show the resource, *Cub Scout Songbook*.

**Optional Assignment**

Give each den an assignment card showing what the den is assigned to accomplish during the training. This could include, but is not limited to, preparing a skit and song for the campfire, electing a denner for the day, creating a den yell or cheer, lowering the flag before (or after) dinner, or other relevant items.  
Remind participants that a denner installation ceremony will be held just before lunch.

**Combined Sessions**

When conducting the course as a part of Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills, mention at this point that some of the sessions will be held in conjunction with Boy Scout leader training, and that this will be a fun and rewarding experience for leaders in both groups.  
Explain that just as Webelos Scout outdoor skills are an introduction to Boy Scout outdoor skills, this training is an introduction to Boy Scout leader outdoor skills. Tell participants that they will learn introductory skills appropriate for Webelos Scouts, but in some cases they will not stay for the entire skills sessions. The reason for this "split" is to allow specific information for Webelos den leaders and specific information for Boy Scout leaders to be covered separately.  
Tell participants that all of the information they need to be successful leaders in the Webelos Scout outdoor program is contained in Cub Scouting literature, particularly in the *Cub Scout Leader Book*, *Webelos Leader Guide*, *Webelos Handbook*, and *Cub Scout Leader How-To Book*.

**Director's Remarks**

The course director should make brief introductory remarks about what participants can expect from this session, and the value of the Webelos Scout program as a link between Cub Scouting and Boy Scouting. The participants and their Webelos Scouts will benefit from what they learn here. Emphasize that Scouting is fun and we hope all participants will have fun as they are learning.  
Tell participants it is important to understand that the Webelos Scout program is a transition to Boy Scouting. We want Webelos Scouts to have a small sampling of Boy Scouting through the activity badges, while leaving more advanced outdoor Scouting experiences to a Boy Scout troop.