

Lion's Pride

Required adventure • Family and Reverence

If you read nothing else

One 45-minute den meeting plus a short share-back at the start of the following meeting. Requirement 2 happens with the family, on their own time.

The Tree of Reverence runs as the gathering activity, so families do it as they arrive. Draw the tree on poster board and cut the leaves out before the meeting — that prep is what makes the gathering work.

Your job here is to make every family feel their tradition belongs in this den, including families with no religious tradition, who complete these requirements through their own values, celebrations, and gatherings. Say that in the family letter, in those words.

Send the family letter two weeks ahead so the requirement 1 conversation happens at home before the meeting. A five-year-old cannot invent their family's faith traditions on the spot.

The requirements

Official requirement text. Tick each one off as your Scouts complete it — the meeting plans below cover all of them.

- ☐ 1. With your parent or legal guardian, talk about your family's faith traditions. Draw a picture of your favorite family's faith tradition holiday or celebration.
- ☐ 2. With your family, attend a religious service or other gathering that shows how your family expresses reverence.
- ☐ 3. Make a cheerful card or a drawing for someone you love and give it to them.

Requirement 1 is a conversation with a parent or legal guardian; the drawing is done at the meeting. Requirement 2 is done with the family outside the den meeting. The den meeting completes requirement 3 and gives requirement 1 its workspace.

Meeting 1: The Tree of Reverence and a note of kindness

Goal: Every Lion draws their favorite family faith tradition, holiday, or celebration and adds it to the den's tree, and makes a card for someone they love.

Covers requirements 1 and 3, and sends home 2

Before the meeting

- Send the family letter two weeks ahead asking families to talk about their faith traditions with their Lion before this meeting. Word it so that every family is included — “your family’s faith traditions, or the values and celebrations your family holds” covers everyone, and some of your families are not religious at all.
- Draw a large tree on a sheet of poster board. Print and cut out the paper leaves — the Lion’s Pride 1 Leaves file is in the Lion adventure resources on filestore.scouting.org. Three leaves per Lion.
- Have three rolls of clear tape out and open. Kindergarteners cannot start a roll of tape.
- Look at page 23 of the handbook so you know what the card activity involves and where the cutting happens.
- Think about who in your den might have nothing prepared, and have blank paper and a warm sentence ready for them.

Supplies

- One large sheet of poster board with a tree drawn on it
- Pre-cut paper leaves, three per Lion
- Crayons, enough to share
- Three rolls of clear tape
- Lion handbooks — page 23
- Scissors, for adult hands
- Envelopes and stamps, if families want to mail the cards

Run of show

Time	What happens
10 min	Gathering: Tree of Reverence
5 min	Opening: Pledge, Scout Oath, Scout Law
10 min	Activity 1: read the tree
15 min	Activity 2: Lion Note of Kindness
5 min	Closing

Gathering — Tree of Reverence (10 min)

Tree of Reverence Lion — scouting.org/cub-scout-activities/tree-of-reverence-lion/

Greet each family at the door and give them their leaves with a single prompt: draw a picture of your favorite family faith tradition, holiday, or celebration.

Lions draw; adult partners help and write a word or two if the Lion asks. Then they tape their leaves onto the tree.

Encourage families to read the other leaves as more go up. That reading, done casually while people arrive, does more for this adventure than any discussion you could run from the front.

That is requirement 1 — the drawing here, and the conversation at home beforehand.

Also works: Lion Holiday Drawing — scouting.org/cub-scout-activities/lion-holiday-drawing/

Activity 1 — Read the tree (10 min)

Gather everyone in front of the tree. Each Lion points at their own leaf and says in one sentence what it is. Their adult partner can help.

Set the rule before the first Lion speaks: we listen, we do not compare, and nobody's celebration is weird. Say it once and enforce it the first time, and you will not need to say it again.

Expect real variety on the tree — a menorah, a Christmas morning, Diwali lights, an Eid table, a Day of the Dead marigold, a grandmother's birthday, a harvest meal, a family reunion, a Fourth of July. All of those belong on the tree and all of them satisfy the requirement.

Then ask one question and let the answers sit: what did you see on somebody else's leaf that happens in your family too?

Say something like

Look at how many different pictures are on this tree. And look how many of them have food in them, and people sitting together, and somebody saying thank you. Every family in this den does it a little bit differently, and every family in this den does it.

Leave the tree up in your meeting space for the rest of the year if you can.

Activity 2 — Lion Note of Kindness (15 min)

Lion Note of Kindness — scouting.org/cub-scout-activities/lion-note-of-kindness/

Ask the Lions what they can do to be kind to other people. Take every answer.

Then tell them one way to be kind is to give somebody a card that says how special they are.

Lions make their cards using page 23 of the handbook. Adult partners do the cutting; Lions do the drawing and decide what it says.

Ask the adult partners to help their Lion actually get the card to the person — hand it over, or put it in an envelope and mail it. That last step is the requirement. A card made and left in a backpack has not been given to anyone.

Finish by telling them why this counts as Scouting: being kind is in the Scout Law, and looking for chances to be kind is part of the job now.

Closing (5 min)

Explain requirement 2 to the adult partners directly, and be generous about it. The family attends a religious service, or any other gathering that shows how their family expresses reverence. A family with no religious tradition completes this through their own gathering — a family meal, a memorial, a volunteer morning, a celebration that matters to them.

Tell them there will be a short share-back at the start of the next meeting, and that it is fifteen minutes, not a whole meeting.

Say something like

Today you showed what Lion's Pride is all about — helping your den, treating others with kindness, and learning how everyone's actions make the group stronger. When you listen,

share, and work together, you help create a den where every Lion belongs. Keep showing that pride in everything you do, because your actions make our whole pack better.

Send home with families

Attend a religious service, or another gathering that shows how your family expresses reverence. That is requirement 2. Before you go, talk together about what is being celebrated, how it connects to your faith or your family's values, and how often it happens. Afterward, talk about how it felt, what your Lion liked most, and whether anything inspired them. Lion Attend a Religious Celebration — scouting.org/cub-scout-activities/lion-attend-a-religious-celebration/

The celebration does not have to be your own family's faith. Many faiths mark births, coming of age, and weddings, and attending someone else's fully counts.

A family with no religious tradition completes this through a gathering of your own that shows what your family holds important. That is a complete answer to this requirement, not a substitute for one. Lion Family Reverence — scouting.org/cub-scout-activities/lion-family-reverence/

Make sure the kindness card actually gets to the person it was made for.

Meeting 2: Share-back

Goal: Lions say one thing about the service or gathering they attended with their family.

Covers requirement 2, completed at home and confirmed here

Before the meeting

- This is a fifteen-minute block at the start of your next regular den meeting, not a whole meeting. Say so in the family letter so nobody arrives expecting more.
- Have a roster ready so you can tick off requirement 2 for each Lion as they share.
- Have a quiet answer ready for the family who did not manage it yet. There is no penalty and no announcement — you just ask them again next month.

Supplies

- Roster for recording completion
- The Tree of Reverence, still up on the wall

Run of show

Time	What happens
15 min	Share-back circle
—	Then continue with your next adventure

Share-back circle (15 min)

Sit in a circle. Each Lion gets about thirty seconds with their adult partner beside them: where did you go with your family, and what was one thing you liked?

Thirty seconds is right. A kindergartener describing a Sunday service or a family dinner will give you one image, and that image is the whole share.

Same rule as last time, said again before the first Lion speaks: we listen, and nobody's family does it wrong.

Never ask a Lion to explain or defend what their family believes. They share what they choose to share, and you take it and thank them.

Record requirement 2 against each Lion as they go. Then move straight into your next adventure — the share-back is the front fifteen minutes of an ordinary meeting.

Leader notes

- This is the most sensitive adventure in the Lion year. Handle it with care and every family feels seen; handle it carelessly and you lose someone.
- Scouting asks a Scout to do their duty to God but does not define God for them. A family with no religious affiliation completes these requirements through their own values, traditions, and gatherings — say so in the family letter, in those words.
- Never ask a Lion or an adult partner to explain or defend their family's beliefs, and never let the den turn a leaf on the tree into a question-and-answer session.
- If your pack is chartered to a religious organization, be especially deliberate about welcoming families of other traditions and of none. The chartered organization provides the meeting space; it does not set the Scouts' beliefs.
- Religious emblems programs exist for most faiths and are earned outside Scouting through a family's own faith group. Mention them to families — this adventure is a natural on-ramp.

Safety

Before this adventure

Two registered adults with current Safeguarding Youth Training at every meeting, plus each Lion's adult partner. If your den includes girls, one of those adults must be a registered female 21 or over.

Adults handle the scissors for the card activity. Lions draw and decorate.

Ask about food allergies before anything edible is shared, and label everything that comes in.

Photo permission before posting anything from the Tree of Reverence or the share-back — some families will not want their traditions online.

Tracking

Write each Scout in and tick the requirement number as it is completed. Report to your advancement chair once the row is full.

Scout	1	2	3