



## BEAR CUBS



# Leader Activity Guide



Any questions or comments on this Leader Activity Guide are welcome. Contact the Director of Education at:

Jefferson National Expansion Memorial  
11 North Fourth Street  
St. Louis, MO 63102  
(314) 655-1600

Produced by the Division of Museum Services and Interpretation



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# To the Leader

## Scouting and the National Park Service

The Boy Scouts of America and the National Park Service have a lot in common. Both organizations have a long history, beginning in 1909 and 1916, respectively. Both organizations appreciate and preserve nature, the environment and our nation's history. Both are recognized by their distinctive uniforms, badges, and emblems. Scouting and the National Park Service have common goals and missions, particularly in educating today's youth to be responsible and productive citizens. The ideas of scouting and national parks have since expanded to countries around the world.

The National Park Service offers a variety of experiences for scouts. Join us for exciting and fun-filled programs that will help your scouts earn their badges, while scouting in the national parks.

## User-Friendly Format

To prepare your scouts, use the two Pre-Visit Activities in this guide before you visit the Old Courthouse. We also suggest you use the two Post-Visit Activities after your visit.



## Program Description

History is not just about famous people and events; it is also about everyday people doing everyday things. In this program scouts will explore beyond their history books by taking a more personal look at the history of their family and community and how the past defines their lives.

When your group finishes Pre-Visit Activity #2 (Achievement 8d), participates in the “The Past is Exciting and Important” program (Achievement 8e) at the Old Courthouse and completes Post-Visit Activity #1 (Achievement 8f), they will meet all the requirements for Achievement 8: *The Past Is Exciting and Important*. In addition, there is a Jefferson National Expansion Memorial patch available to your group, for a nominal fee, to recognize their participation in this program.

As the leader of your group, you are a positive role model and an essential part of this program. Thank you for letting us share in the responsibility of teaching your scouts to make positive choices and helping them to be responsible and productive citizens.

**Do Your Best and Have Fun at the**





# Pre-Visit Activity #1

## **Please read to your scouts:**

Boy Scouts wear a uniform with badges and the Boy Scout emblem. These help to tell people who you are and what you do. The uniform and badges communicate or tell a message about you and the Boy Scout organization.

## **Activity**

Have boys look closely at the Boy Scout emblems below and look at any other badges they have.

## **Decision Making:**

*What messages do these emblems tell people about you?*

*What positive character traits must you have to be a scout?*



Badge



Emblem

(copy/cut)

# Uniforms, Badges, and Emblems

When you visit the Museum of Westward Expansion, you will be in a national park and you will meet park rangers. They wear uniforms, badges, and emblems, too. Look closely at their badge and emblem below.

## **Decision Making:**

*What stories do the badge and emblem tell you about national parks and the park rangers? (See Appendix, page 14)*

*What positive character traits must park rangers have to do their job?*



Badge



Emblem

(copy/cut)

## **Explore A Career**

Park rangers take care of the national parks by protecting the natural and cultural resources. They also teach visitors like you the story of their park and how you can help preserve and protect it. Listen to the ranger's stories and messages.

## **Decision Making:**

*How can you help the rangers take care of national parks?*



## Pre-Visit Activity #2

During your visit to the Old Courthouse, scouts will be transported over two hundred years into the past as they explore the development of St. Louis from its beginnings to contemporary times. We can learn about the past by reading about it; another way to learn is to talk to the people who were there.

### **Achievement 8b (REQUIRED)**

Have scouts play the role of a historian and conduct an oral history interview. Have them find a relative 60 years or older, preferably one involved in scouting, and interview him or her. Use the questions below. You may want to make up some of your own questions. If the person you interview tells you information you did not ask for, record that too. Ask this person to help you trace your family back several generations using the chart on the following page. Encourage scouts to share their family histories at your next gathering.

When were you born?

What is the earliest memory you have?

What did your parents do for a living?

Did you enjoy school? What was it like?

What kinds of books did you read?

Did you belong to any groups or organizations?

What did you do for fun?

Did your family go on vacations?

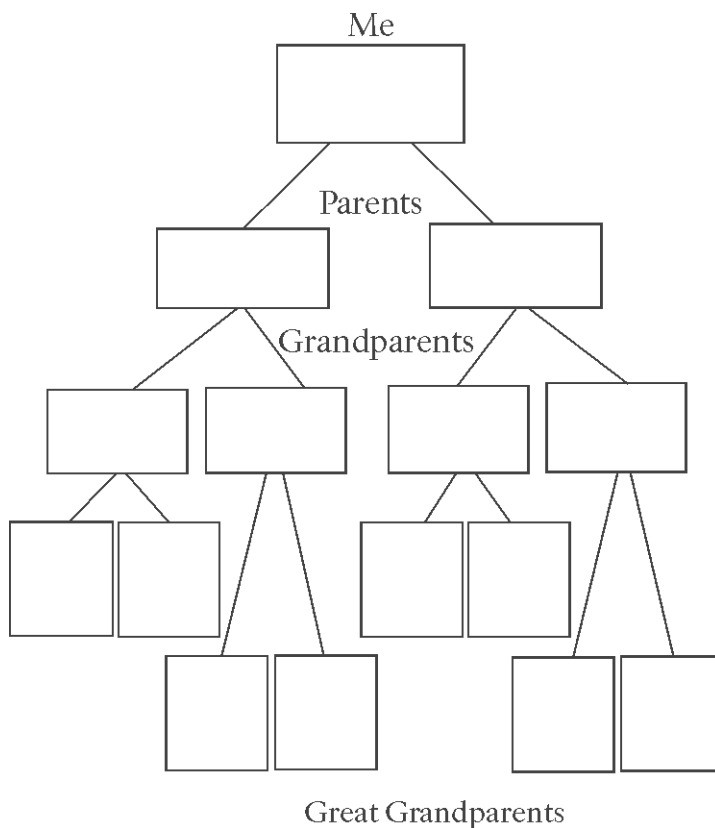
What is your favorite memory?

What do you enjoy doing now?



# Your Family Tree

## Family History



(copy/cut)



### Did you know?

Ellis Island National Monument reopened to the public in 1990 as the country's primary museum devoted entirely to immigration. Between 1892 and 1954, 12 million immigrants entered the United States through this New York port. For more information see page 15 in the Appendix.



# The Past is Exciting & Important

## Museum Manners:

Please read the instructions listed below to your scouts before entering the Old Courthouse.

## Registering

Upon arrival, register your group with the park ranger at the Information Desk on the eastside of the rotunda and review Museum Manners.

## Briefing

Scouts should have completed Pre-Visit Activity #2, *What Was It Like*, on pages 6 and 7. The park ranger may ask them some questions about the interview. It may be helpful for the boys to bring their answers with them.



## Did You Know?

The Old Courthouse commemorates St. Louis History and Judicial History. The Old Courthouse Shop offers a great selection of books on St. Louis and Missouri history.

The park rangers are glad we are visiting with them today. They need our help to preserve this national park and to protect us—their visitors.

Please pay attention to the following:

- ◆ Look only with your eyes and not with your hands. Do not touch the displays, step onto exhibits or lean against photographs and photomurals.

8



## **Interpretive Program**

Using hands-on items, photographs and source documents, the park ranger will present an interpretive program focusing on the growth and development of the St. Louis community. The program will also stress the important role all people play in making history happen.

## **Investigative Learning Activity**

Throughout the program, scouts will be divided into a number of smaller groups as they explore the St. Louis history galleries and discover for themselves how the lifestyle of St. Louisans changed over the years. Based on their findings, the program will proceed with discussions and activities on the history of the community.



## **Safety Tips:**

Park rangers are here to protect you and keep you safe. If you need help, please contact a ranger.

Multiple and uneven steps, and stone and carpeted floors are found throughout the Old Courthouse. Walk carefully!

- ◆ Museum artifacts and exhibits are fragile.
- ◆ Remain in your group at all times. You are responsible for your behavior.
- ◆ Soft drinks, candy, gum or any other foods, including lunches are not allowed.
- ◆ Refrain from running, using loud voices or pushing.



# Post-Visit Activity #1

## **Please review with your scouts:**

During your program at the Old Courthouse, you explored the St. Louis history galleries and discovered how the community grew and how the lifestyles of the average St. Louisan changed. As the park ranger explained, much of what we know about the past comes from the diaries and journals kept by everyday people doing everyday things. Years from now future historians will be reading about our lives to learn about the past. To complete the requirements for Achievement 8, your scouts must do the activity in the box. To explore the material further, use the activity on the following page.

## **Achievement 8f (Required)**

Have your scouts keep a diary for two weeks. Have them begin by recording their reactions to their visit to the Old Courthouse. Then have them imagine it is 100 years into the future and a group of cub scouts find their diaries. Discuss what they would learn about our lives today from these diaries.



# Recording the Past

## Views of St. Louis

During the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, St. Louis was a busy city. In 1900 it was ranked the fourth largest city in the United States. Over the years, many people, visiting St. Louis for business or pleasure, had their own thoughts about the city.

The quotes below, and continued on page 15 in the Appendix, come from four different time periods. Copy and cut the cards below. Read each aloud to your scouts. As a group, discuss the meaning of each and try to put them in chronological order. See page 16 in the Appendix for the years.

*The building of the arch has engendered a fresh confidence. St. Louisans have learned how much they really can do. They have made the arch not merely the symbol of two hundred years gone, but also of a future, bright as the sky on topping-out day.*

St. Louis Post Dispatch

*There are but few trades which do not prosper here. The prospects are most favorable for tanners, skilled mechanics, joiners, masons, carpenters, saddlers and blacksmiths. There is a great lack of glass factories... Earthenware too... Beerbrewers would quickly become rich... I need hardly add that master builders are always welcome in this land of ceaseless town building.*

Gottfried Duden

(copy/cut)



## Did you know?

Mark Twain received his riverboat pilot license at the Old Courthouse on April 9, 1859.



## Post-Visit Activity #2

### *Decision Making:*

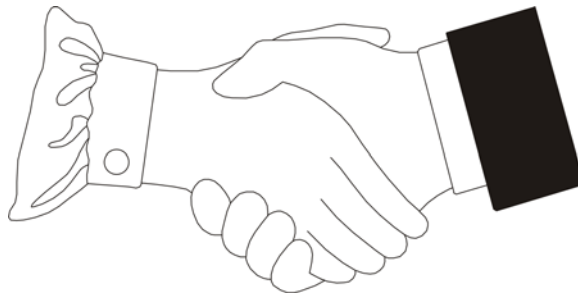
*Choose a culture that you are unfamiliar with and learn about it.*

*Decide how it is similar and/or different from your culture.*

As the members of your troop researched and shared their family histories, it may be apparent that their backgrounds were diverse. We are fortunate to live in a country and a community that respects and appreciates diversity.

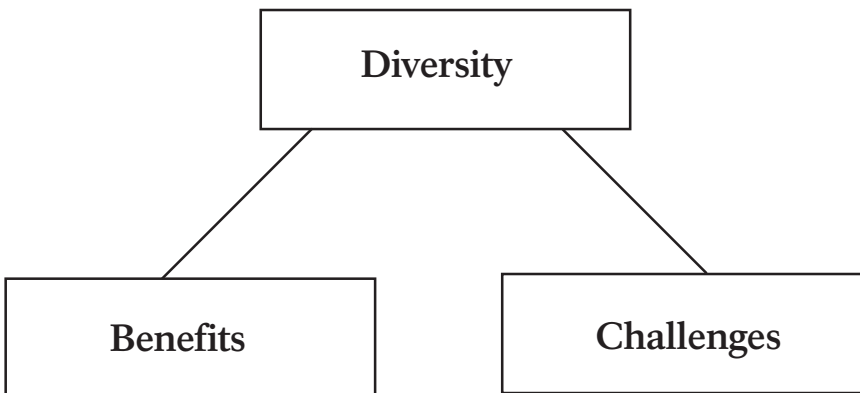
Our community's diversity is reflected in its food, traditions and politics. There are even differences among people as to how to interpret our diversity. Some people characterize our population as a melting pot, while others maintain that it is a salad bowl. Others refer to it as a tapestry. Explore these issues. Use the questions below to stimulate a discussion.

- ◆ How do these terms differ?
- ◆ How are they the same?
- ◆ How do these terms depict American society?
- ◆ Which term do you think is most appropriate?



# Living Together

Regardless of which term was the most popular among your scouts, each suggests a mixture of many different people, ideas, and philosophies. As we move into the future, we can only expect our world to become more diverse. To begin preparing your scouts for their future, discuss with them the benefits (sharing customs, new foods) and the challenges (learning a new language, experiencing prejudice) of living in a diverse society. Use a diagram, similar to the one below to record the comments.



**Did you know?**



The Old Courthouse hosts three naturalization ceremonies a year, Flag Day, 4th of July and Constitution Day. For more information, please call 314-655-1600.



# Appendix

## Pre-Visit Activity #1: Uniforms, Badges, and Emblems



The badge represents the establishment of the Department of the Interior on March 3, 1849. Within this department, the National Park Service was established in 1916. This federal agency takes care of the national parks and their resources, symbolized by the bison and the mountains on the badge. It is the job of the national park ranger to take care of these areas and to tell the story of each park to visitors like you, and to teach everyone how to take care of our resources.



The arrowhead is the official National Park Service emblem. The sequoia tree and bison represent vegetation and wildlife; the mountains and water represent scenic and recreational areas and the arrowhead represents historical and archaeological areas. The mission of the National Park Service is to preserve and protect America's scenic, natural, historic, and cultural treasures for future generations.



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## **Pre-Visit Activity #2**

### **Did you know?**

For more information on this park, call or write:

Ellis Island National Monument  
c/o Statue of Liberty National Monument  
Liberty Island  
New York, NY 10004-1467  
(212) 363-3200  
Fax (212) 363-6304  
[www.nps.gov/stli](http://www.nps.gov/stli)

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## **Post-Visit Activity #1: Views of St. Louis**

*The first time I saw St. Louis I could have bought it for \$6 million. It is bitter now to look abroad over this domed and steepled metropolis, this solid expanse of bricks and mortar, and remember that I allowed this opportunity to go by...*

Mark Twain

*Open ye gates! Swing wide ye portals! Enter herein ye sons of men. Learn the lessons here taught and gather from it inspiration for still greater accomplishments.*

Mayor David R. Frances

(copy/cut)



# Appendix

## Post-Visit Activity #1, continued

1827 - A European observer sent this information back to his home in Germany.

*There are but few trades which do not prosper here. The prospects are most favorable for tanners, skilled mechanics, joiners, masons, carpenters, saddlers and blacksmiths. There is a great lack of glass factories...Earthenware too...Beerbrewers would quickly become rich...I need hardly add that master builders are always welcome in this land of ceaseless town building.*

Gottfried Duden

1874 - First sees St. Louis in 1853 while looking for work.

*The first time I saw St. Louis I could have bought it for \$6 million. It is bitter now to look abroad over this domed and steepled metropolis, this solid expanse of bricks and mortar, and remember that I allowed this opportunity to go by...*

Mark Twain

April 30, 1904 - The words which opened the St. Louis World's Fair.

*Open ye gates! Swing wide ye portals! Enter herein ye sons of men. Learn the lessons here taught and gather from it inspiration for still greater accomplishments.*

Mayor David R. Francis

Oct. 28, 1965 - The day the Gateway Arch was completed.

*The building of the arch has engendered a fresh confidence. St. Louisans have learned how much they really can do. They have made the arch not merely the symbol of two hundred years gone, but also of a future, bright as the sky on topping-out day.*

St. Louis Post Dispatch

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## **Bibliography**

### Leaders

Clevinger, Martha. *Indescribably Grand – Diaries and Letters from the 1904 World’s Fair*. St. Louis, Missouri; Missouri Historical Society. 1996.

Primm, James Neal. *Lion of the Valley – St. Louis Missouri*. Boulder, CO; Pruett Publishing Company. 1981.

### Scouts

King, David. *Civil War Days*. New York, New York; John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 1999.

King, David. *Victorian Days*. New York, New York; John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 2000.

Seeback, Ann. *Favorite Places To Go With Kids in St. Louis*. St. Louis, MO; Hy-Tec Copying. 1988. Reprint 2002.

**Many of these books are available at the Old Courthouse Gift Shop.**

For information on the cost of the  
Jefferson National Expansion  
Memorial patch, phone  
The Museum Store at: (314) 231-  
5474 or (800) 537-7962



**Jefferson National Expansion Memorial  
11 North 4th Street  
St. Louis, MO 63102**



Visit the Gateway Arch, Museum of Westward Expansion and  
Old Courthouse on the Internet: <http://www.nps.gov/jeff>  
Visit the National Park Service at:  
<http://www.nps.gov>

**Help conserve our natural resources!  
If you have no further need for this booklet,  
please return it to the Park Ranger at the Information Desk  
so another scout group can use it.  
Thank you!**