

week 76:	celebrations
-----------------	---------------------

The fun in this weeks programme is to learn about the different ways people have fun and celebrate life all over the world – different cultures, religions and countries do different things so lets have fun with some fo them. At the end of the PoP, there are some links to websites containing further information relating to the celebrations and traditions covered here. There are many different and wonderful celebrations which we can introduce the Cubs to but not all can be covered in one sitting So let your imagination take over and make the programme as fun as possible for the Cubs.

Games:

1. **Active:** First

(Hogmanay is a celebration of new beginnings and takes place in Scotland. It is a tradition to go 'first footing' on New Year's Eve. The first person to cross the threshold after midnight should preferably be a tall dark man Or it could be a Cub!)

One Cub is at the far end of the playing area, back turned. The other Cubs are spread out in a long line at the other end. The lone Cub shouts **F, I, R, S, T spells FIRST**. While the Cub is calling, the other Cubs move forward. At the shout of FIRST, they freeze. Lone Cub turns and sends anyone seen moving back. First Cub to touch the lone Cub wins.

2. **Quiet:** I Promise

(Most people around the world celebrate the beginning of a New Year – traditionally at New Year people make New Year's resolutions promising to improve some area of their lives during the coming year.)

All Cubs have a promise to keep all the time!

Games module: page 22

3. **Relay:** Obstacle Course

(During the Holi Festival, it is usual for people to throw coloured powder, paint or water at one another during running and chasing games.)

Set up an obstacle course so the Cubs can experience the fun of Holi. Put the Cubs into teams of no more than 4 and set up a course to suit your Pack.

An example of an obstacle course could be like this:

- First obstacle: Blow/fill one water balloon with water gun/syringe.
- Second obstacle: Put one mug of water on your head and go to the next obstacle without dropping the mug/spilling the water.
- Third obstacle: Eat one sweet kept on the table. Player has to eat the sweet completely before running for the next obstacle.
- Fourth obstacle: Pop two water filled balloons with your feet.
- Fifth obstacle: Put color on your forehead (can use food colouring or powdered paint).
- Sixth obstacle: Drink one glass of juice or similar.

Each Cub then has to run through the obstacle course to the finish line.

4. **Team:** Crossing the Trenches

(Every year the New Zealanders and Australians observe ANZAC Day to remember those lost in the First World War. ANZAC means Australia and New Zealand Armed Corps. The ANZAC soldiers had to learn to cross 'no mans land' (in the middle of the trenches) to get to the enemy - they had to do this quickly and quietly.)

Explain that each army would dig trenches on their side of the battlefield to help provide protection against shells, etc. Each army would try and get across "no mans land" to get to the trenches on the other side and capture the enemy. Cubs line up in relay formation with their chairs in front of them. The aim of the game is for them to get from their trenches across No Man's Land as fast as they can. Because No Man's Land is full of mud, they need to use special equipment to get across (the chairs). The Cubs have to place their chairs in such a way as to get all the team from their side to the other side of the hall. This involves the Cubs standing on their chairs and passing one chair along the line by hand to place it further out so they can advance to the other side.

5. **Active:** Tomato Throwing

(A famous festival in Spain is the Tomato throwing festival. We don't have tomatoes but let us see how good our aim is with flour bombs.)

Cubs use flour bombs instead of tomatoes and throw them at a target (or at each other). See who can score the highest. To be played in relay formation. Allow 5 minutes to clean up. If time is short, then use rolled up newspaper balls instead.

Sense Training:

1. **Taste/Sight:**

(Most celebrations and festivals are associated with food. So choose any festival and look at the food associated with that and set up a Kim's Taste. One possible celebration is the Passover. The highlight of this major Jewish holiday is the Passover Seder. During these two special dinners, families read from a book called the Haggadah about the ancient Israelites' exodus, or flight, from Egypt more than 3000 years ago. As they honor their ancestors, Jews reaffirm the importance of freedom.)

There are six parts to the Seder plate and these can be found here with a short explanation: <http://www.reformjudaism.org/interactive-seder-plate>. If it is not possible to have the Cubs taste each food on the Seder plate, then show pictures and after the explanation see if they can remember the foods discussed.

2. **Sight:** Chinese New Year

Each year of the Chinese New Year calendar is named after an animal. This is a 12 year cycle. Once the 12 year cycle is over the animal list begins again. The list in order is: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, ram, monkey, rooster, dog, and pig. Get pictures of these symbols and stick them up around a designated area. Let the Cubs walk around and find the symbols and after a certain time they need to come back and write down what they saw.

Yarn:

Chinese Zodiac Story

(Each zodiac sign is named after an animal, and each animal has its own unique characteristics. Do you know why the 12 Chinese zodiacs are in the sequence we can see today?)

There is a legend about this, which can be found here:

<http://www.chinahighlights.com/travelguide/chinese-zodiac/story.htm>

The Test is the story about how Cubbing began in a little place called Koolamunga. It illustrates how different we all are and it is okay – we can all still be friends and help each other and this is what it takes to be a good Cub!

Long ago, somewhere in Africa, a little place called Koolamunga had a Scout Troop but no Cub Pack. When the missionary, John Cristy, sent out word that he was going to start a pack, all the boys who were too young to be Scouts rushed over to join.

John looked out at rows and rows of faces – black, white, brown, yellow, and some so dirty you couldn't tell. It was impossible to start a pack with 40 or 50 Cubs! "You can't be a Cub until you are eight," he said, "so would everybody younger please go home".

Nobody left. The six and seven year olds stood as tall as they could and tried to look tough. John realised that he would have to sort them out some other way. So he told them the Cub Law. And then he said, "Next week, we will have an obstacle race. You can all come, but I shall start the pack with the 12 boys who do their best to keep the Law during the race."

A big crowd gathered on race day. The Scouts came along to help John pick his 12 Cubs. John designed an obstacle course so tough that it automatically eliminated the boys who were too young. The others had to run half a kilometre downhill to the river through prickles and a mangrove swamp with knee deep mud. Then they had to swim across the river. On the other side, they had to climb a steep bank, go along the top, cross over the river again by a fallen tree bridge, and finally climb 300m up the hill to the finish.

"This is not a race," John told them. "It's a test to see who can really do his best to keep the Cub Law. " And he was already sorting them out. Some jabbered away and didn't listen to the rules. One put his foot over the starting line. "Ready, steady, GO!" John shouted, and off they went.

Very soon, some of them were yelling and swearing at the prickles. In the swamp, some gave up, pretending they were hurt. One boy thought he would be clever and sneak along the bank instead of swimming across the river.

A small boy caught his foot in a floating branch and thought it was a crocodile. John didn't blame him for yelling, but noticed a red-headed boy swim back to pull the branch free. Then he saw a white hand shoot out and duck a black head. That settled the white boy's chances, but the black face came up smiling and the boy swam on without complaint. On the tree bridge, there was a good deal of bumping, some by mistake and some by mistake-on-purpose.

Only 20 boys finished the race and the first 12 home were sure they would be chosen. But the Scouts put aside those who had cheated or taken short cuts, those who had pretended to be hurt and those who had sworn or lost their temper.

John chose only boys who had done their best to keep the Cub Law. There were 11 of them. For the 12th he had chosen a boy named Peter who was watching but hadn't taken part in the race. John knew his mother was ill. She had asked Peter to look after the younger children to make sure they didn't fall into the river, and he did it without a grumble.

And who do you think he asked to be the sixers? He chose the red-haired boy who had turned back to help with the crocodile that wasn't a crocodile, and the black boy who came up smiling after being ducked.

And that's how the 1st Koolamunga Pack began. If you'd been there, would you have been one of the 12 chosen?

Craft/Activity:

1. **Activity:** An important activity to cover with the Cubs would be to discuss the dangers of talking to strangers and the importance of keeping personal information safe. During celebrations and festivities, children can become separated from their parents or friends and it is important that the Cubs know what to do in this event and also to make sure that they stay safe. Some people celebrate Halloween and do trick or treating and dress up. You can use this celebration as an example of how to stay safe. A worksheet can be found at this link and may be used to emphasise the importance of staying safe:
<http://www.ncpc.org/topics/by-audience/law-enforcement/teaching-children/handouts/mcgruffs-halloween-safety-quiz-and-coloring-page.pdf>

For the older Cubs who are allowed to use the internet and may want to look up more information on the different celebrations around the world, highlight the importance of staying safe on the web. A list of the dos and don'ts can be found here:

<http://www.safetynetkids.org.uk/personal-safety/staying-safe-online/>

2. **Activity:** Diwali



How to make gorgeous Diwali Rangoli patterns with DIY colored salt – instructions can be found here:
http://nurturestore.co.uk/diwali-rangoli-designs-coloured-salt?utm_campaign=diwali-rangoli-designs-coloured-salt&utm_medium=twitter&utm_source=dlvr.it

3. **Activity:** Chinese Lanterns



A variety of lanterns can be found at this site:
<http://www.activityvillage.co.uk/chinese-lantern-crafts>

4. **Handcraft:** Diwali Candle Holders (salt dough)



Instructions can be found at this web site:
<http://www.jenniferslittleworld.com/2012/09/diwali-craft-how-to-make-simple-salt.html>

Singing/Play Acting:

1. **Singing:** He's Got The Whole World in His Hands

He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got my brothers and my sisters in His hands,
He's got my brothers and my sisters in His hands,
He's got my brothers and my sisters in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the sun and the rain in His hands,
He's got the moon and the stars in His hands,
He's got the wind and the clouds in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the rivers and the mountains in His hands,
He's got the oceans and the seas in His hands,
He's got you and he's got me in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got everybody here in His hands,
He's got everybody there in His hands,
He's got everybody everywhere in His hands,
He's got the whole world in His hands.

2. **Playacting:** Train Wreck

(Idea is to illustrate to the Cubs that everyone is different but we all have something in common – we celebrate our lives and have fun!)

Playacting module: page 9.

Advancement covered:

Silver Wolf: Revision: Aptitude – Personal Safety

Gold Wolf: Aptitude – Personal Safety. Discuss the importance of never giving out personal information to someone you have never met.

NOTES:

More information on the celebrations/holidays can be found on these web sites:

Hogmanay - <http://encyclopedia.kids.net.au/page/ho/Hogmanay>

New Year Resolutions - <http://www.sunniebunniezz.com/holiday/newyear2.htm>

Holi – Festival of Colour - <http://www.importantindia.com/7226/short-essay-on-holi-festival/>

Anzac Day - <http://www.kiwifamilies.co.nz/articles/anzac-day/>

Tomato Throwing Festival (Spain): https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Tomatina

Passover - http://www.chabad.org/kids/article_cdo/aid/485982/jewish/Tell-the-Passover-Story.htm

Chinese New Year - http://www.softschools.com/facts/holidays/chinese_new_year_facts/143/

Diwali - <http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/homework/religion/diwali.htm>