



Tiger Adventure: My Tiger Jungle



Purpose for Adventure:

In this adventure, Tigers will learn that there are many types of living things that share the place where we live. All animals, plants, and insects have a purpose in our environment. It is everyone's duty to be mindful of other creatures' habitats. Regardless of their age, Tigers can make a difference.

Takeaways for Cub Scouts:

- Learning about the creatures and plants that share our living world
- Knowing it is never too early to understand our animal and insect neighbors
- Learning how to protect the environment
- Practicing service to the community and the world
- A Scout is thrifty, kind, clean.

Adventure Requirements: (Tiger Handbook, page 44)

Complete requirement 1 plus at least two others:

1. With your parent, guardian, or other caring adult, go for a walk outside and pick out two or more sights or sounds of nature around you. Discuss with your partner or den.
2. Take a 1-foot hike. Make a list of the living things you find on your 1-foot hike. Discuss these plants or animals with your parent, guardian, or other caring adult, or with your den.
3. Point out two different kinds of birds that live in your area. With your parent, guardian, or other caring adult, or with your den, find out more about one of these birds.
4. Be helpful to nature by planting a plant, shrub, or tree. Learn more about the needs and growth of the item you have planted.
5. Build and hang a birdhouse.

Requirement 1:

1. Go outside for a short walk. Explain to the Tigers that when you are outside, you should not talk, just look and listen. In a safe place, have them

stop and close their eyes. Ask: How does closing your eyes make it easier to hear the sounds?

2. Have the Tigers and partners open their eyes and look around. Do they see something they have not seen before in nature?
3. Have the Tigers record what they observed either by writing or drawing pictures in their jungle note-books to illustrate it. If a nest is spotted, have them identify the type of material the birds used to build the nest, making sure not to disturb it.

For a different experience, try going outside at different times of the day to hear different sounds. Ask the Scout, “What sounds do you hear in the early morning or late at night?”

Requirement 2:

- Help Tigers stake out a 1-foot-by-1-foot square outside, near the meeting place.
- Encourage them to write down or draw pictures of every living thing that they see in this small space. Ten minutes is sufficient for this activity.
- After the Scouts have recorded their observations, give them time to describe what they observed to other members of the den. If appropriate, invite them to talk about how this activity would be different if carried out in a different place and what they might expect to see elsewhere.

Options for themed hikes:

- *Egg Carton Hike.* Each Tiger receives one half of an empty egg carton. During the hike, Tigers collect objects from nature to put in their containers. Adult partners help each Tiger find one example of each of the following: something smooth, something rough, something hard, something soft, something colorful, and something that is the Tiger’s favorite color. During this hike, Tigers may ONLY put in their cartons objects from nature that they find on the ground. Remind them that whatever they collect to share with the group will be returned to nature after the meeting. Doing so is one way Tigers will learn to follow the principles of Leave No Trace.
- *Babies Hike.* Each Tiger/adult partner team searches an assigned area for babies of all kinds—plants, animals, and insects. Remind them to only observe and never disturb. They should be ready to share with the group about the things they found.

- *Circle Hike.* All participants form a circle in the selected observation area and identify as many different living things as possible within the circle. This can also include evidence of living things, though you may not see the creature itself. For example, you may see a spider web but not see the spider. The circle can be made larger by taking steps backward if the observation area needs to expand.
- *Friend of Nature Hike.* Provide each member of the den with a trash bag and nonlatex disposable gloves. During the hike, each Tiger commits to being a “friend of nature” by putting in their bag anything that does not naturally belong in the area.

Requirements 3:

Go outside, and choose a safe path where Tigers are likely to spot birds. Walk the path quietly and watch for birds as you walk. When you spot a bird, ask the Tigers and their partners to answer the following questions in their jungle notebooks:

- What color is the bird?
- How big is it?
- Can you see the bird’s home? What kind of home does this bird live in?

Share that many birds’ homes are called nests. Birds make their own nests to help keep them warm and to hold their babies or eggs when they are away from the nest. Ask: What are their nests made of? Do you see any babies in the nest? What sounds do they make?

Requirement 4:

How to Plant Trees

Materials: shovels, seedlings, water, soil

The outline below may be helpful in showing the simple steps for planting a tree with Scouts. Trees

and shrubs are a very important part of the environment. They provide several things including shade from the sun, shelter from strong winds, and homes and food for birds and other animals. They also produce oxygen for everyone to breathe, and they protect soil from damage by raindrops. Most trees live for a long time!

1. Dig a hole. Make the hole twice as wide and deep as the size of the container the tree came in. You will want to break up the soil from the hole thoroughly with your hands or with a shovel.
2. Carefully remove the plant from its container. First, break off any roots growing out of the container. Next, holding the seedlings between your first and second fingers, turn the tree's container upside down. Gently tap the bottom and squeeze the container slightly to loosen the soil. Try to ease the plant out of the container without pulling it and try to keep the soil column surrounding the roots intact. Again, it is a good idea to trim any roots that are long or that may have grown outside the container.
3. Plant your tree seedling. Support the roots and stem while filling in the hole. If you use fine soil to fill in around the roots, you can then pat it down and make it firm with your fingertips.
4. Water your seedling right away with one-half to a full bucket of water. You will need to pour the water gently, so the soil isn't washed away.
5. Look after your tree or plant, as it needs weeding and water. If you place mulch around the base of the tree, it will help keep the weeds out.
6. Now watch your tree grow! It may be fun to measure your tree as it grows, and watch what kinds of insects, birds, or other animals are attracted to it.

Requirement 5:

Milk or Juice Carton Birdhouse. This is one option for making a birdhouse. Have each Tiger and their adult partner cut the sides out of a rinsed-out, cardboard milk or juice container while leaving the corners in place. If time permits, paint and decorate the carton. Punch a hole in the top large enough for a piece of yarn or ribbon to pass through and form a loop large enough to go around a tree branch. Poke small holes in the bottom. Fill the bottom of the carton with bird seed if you choose.

Congratulations! By completing these requirements, you have completed your *My Tiger Jungle* adventure. Please make sure to mark down your completed requirements in your Handbook or in Scoutbook and let your Den Leader know you have finished the badge.

Additional Resources:

YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JuzsmvP1B6g&list=PL1ggUKSPIN4vGmC2DLrxTE95jhj-egUix&index=13&t=0s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IToINLeHOeA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vtgsdMV8Nfg&list=PL1ggUKSPIN4vGmC2DLrxTE95jhj-egUix&index=17&t=0s>

Workbook:

<http://usscouts.org/advance/cubscout/workbooks/Tiger/My-Tiger-Jungle.pdf>