



# Beaver Meeting Schedule – Week \_\_\_

## Theme: Tails

Time	Activity	Program Details	Leader Responsible
5 mins	Gathering Activity	Greet Beavers: Exchange dues for wood chips. Gathering Game: Red Light, Green Light.	
5 mins	Opening Ceremony	Practice feeding the Beaver.	
5 mins	Song	"I'm a Little Beaver".	
5 mins	Game	Jaws	
10 mins	Story	Tell or Read Chapter 2 and 3 of <i>Friends of the Forest</i> .	
15 mins	Theme activity	Make tails, or present them. Younger Beavers may need assistance to sew them on; perhaps older Beavers can help.	
10 mins	Practice	Practice: Motto, Promise and Law Tail Ceremony	
10 mins	Closing Ceremony	Closing: Explain and practice the closing ceremony.	
5 mins	Goodnight	Say: "Goodnight and busy building tomorrow."	

Meeting Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Beaver Meeting – Detail Planning

## Games

### Red Light, Green Light

In this age-old favourite game, all but one of the Beavers are at one end of the pond, while the single person stands at the opposite end, playing the leader. Facing the wall away from the others, the leader yells, “Green Light”. Players begin to move towards the leader until the Beaver shouts, “Red Light!” and whirls around to face them. If the leader spots a player moving, that player must return to the start line. Change leaders often so all Beavers get a turn.

### Jaws

In the centre of the pond, one or two Beavers stand on their knees with arms outstretched as “Jaws”. The other players swim (run) back and forth across the pond. As they do, the Jaws try to tag them. Tagged swimmers join the Jaws in the centre of the pond so that, near the end of the game, there are many Jaws just waiting to bite the few remaining swimmers. This generates lots of excitement.

## Song

### I’m a Little Beaver (I’m a Little Teapot)

I’m a little Beaver, short and stout,  
Here is my tail and here is my snout,  
When you pull my tail, you’ll hear me shout,  
Hey I’m a Beaver short and stout.

## Activity

### Making Tails

Beavers can make their tails with help as needed from Leaders and parents. Or, leaders may simply buy tails from their nearest Scout Shop. You can provide five-year-olds with a pre-cut felt tail with pre-punched holes, and help them stitch the tail to their hat. Give six-year-olds a pre-cut tail, but let them punch the holes and stitch. Seven-year-olds often have the fine muscle coordination to handle all steps of the operation.

A Beaver wears only one colour of tail stitched to the back of his or her hat at a time. Tails worn in previous years can be saved and put into a special scrap book, or on a campfire blanket for each Beaver. (See Chapter 12 of the *Beaver Leader’s Handbook* on tail ceremonies).

# Tail Ceremony:

## A Celebration of Growth

All Beavers are presented with tails at a Beaver Tail Ceremony held early in the fall of each year. Only one tail is worn on the hat at a time: any previous tail is removed and may be given to the Beaver as a keepsake.

The primary purpose of the ceremony is to present and receive the Beaver tails, making it a special occasion of its own. The ceremony should be designed to emphasize personal growth and development. It provides an opportunity for each Beaver to be recognized personally in terms of growth and development without being compared to anyone else. The ceremony may include reference to the growth and changes that may occur in nature.

With the Beavers, talk about changes like:

- How they listen better when someone is talking
- How they're trying harder to live up to their Law, Promise and Motto
- How much they have grown
- How they play games with more skill
- How they share more with other Beavers

The tail celebration includes making new tails, tail group discussions, refreshments and games. Some colonies try to heighten the experience in a variety of ways, including:

- At each tail celebration, Beavers in colonies construct and decorate new Beaver boxes, which they use to carry crafts and materials to and from home. Leaders and parents comment on the differences between the old and new boxes.
- Beavers draw a picture of a scene from Friends of the Forest. Leaders bring out pictures they did while in the last tail group for comparison.
- Leaders and parents measure and weigh each Beaver, recording the statistics in a special scrap book. This can be compared to the statistics from the last tail celebration.
- Leaders take photos of each Beaver in each Tail Grouping. These too can be compared and added to the special scrap book.
- Beavers themselves sew their new tails on their hats.

## Magic Light Symbol

A few months before swim-up, the White Tails may be presented with new tails (white with a magic light) to signify that they will now be preparing to swim-up to Cubs. The Magic Light Symbol is a silver streak down the centre of the tail. This provides special recognition for those Beavers who will be swimming-up, and an opportunity to introduce and discuss the concept of swimming-up with all the Beavers.

Although these ideas take a bit of organization and storage space, their impact is very significant.