APPENDIX “A”: BEAVER TERMINOLOGY

Here is a quick re-cap of “Beaver Lingo” and other terms used. To help you out, we’ve listed some of the names typically assigned to the leaders (taken from the characters in Friends of the Forest), and other terms used, along with an explanation of who or what is being referred to.

Friends of the Forest Names used by Beaver Leaders:

- **Bubbles** - the person having so much fun splashing her feet in the water
- **Hawkeye** - the tall person that first noticed the beavers in the pond
- **Rainbow** - the child who wore clothes of many colours
- **Rusty** - child whose hair was the colour of a red fox
- **Sunshine** - the person with sparkling eyes and whose smile made people feel warm and good inside
- **Tic Tac** - the squirrel

Other terms frequently used:

- **Beaver Hand Signal** - Leader’s arm straight up with hand forming Beaver salute. This signals Beavers to stop everything they are doing and pay attention to the leader.
- **Beaver Salute** - Special sign of greeting, made with bent fingers. It represents the two front teeth of a beaver.
- **Beaver Position** - Seated cross-legged on the floor.
- **Big Brown Beaver** - A large toy beaver mascot used in ceremonies.
- **Busy Beavers** - Seven-year-old Beavers who are getting ready to swim up to Wolf Cubs.
- **Chopping Position** - Squatting down with elbows on knees, and both hands making a Beaver sign. (Used in the opening and closing ceremonies.)
- **Colony** - The entire group of Beavers and leaders.
- **Dam Formation** - Circle formation used for organizing Beavers.
- **Eager Beaver** - A KIT who has learned the Promise, Law and Salute and the opening, closing and investiture ceremonies.
- **Feeding The Beaver** - The act of collecting dues (money children contribute weekly for supplies or special activities).
- **Grand Tail Slap** - Sit cross-legged on the floor, raise the right hand above the head and bring it down to slap the floor in front of you.
- **Investiture** - The ceremony in which a KIT is invested (receives the Beaver neckerchief) and becomes an Eager Beaver.
- **Keeo** - Keeo is a Wolf Cub who works in a Colony to serve as a link between the Beaver and Wolf Cub sections and to strengthen communications between Beavers and the adult leadership team. Keeo is also a member of the Beaver colony leadership team.
Kit - In nature, a growing beaver. In the program, a Beaver who has not yet been invested.

Lodge - Lodges are smaller working groups of five or six Beavers and a leader. Lodges are useful for some activities like crafts and discussions, or, at times during the meeting when Beavers would benefit from more individual attention.

Lodge Patch - Beavers usually decide upon a name and symbol for their lodge and attach their symbol (lodge patch) to the right hand pocket of their uniform as a sign of identification and belonging.

Lodging - The name of the closing ceremony which occurs at the end of each meeting.

Pond - The place where a Beaver colony meets: i.e., a church, school, community club, auditorium, etc.

River Banks - A formation used to organize Beavers quietly. Beavers stand side by side in two wavy lines that are about three feet apart.

Swimming-Up - The ceremony in which the oldest Beavers are transferred to the Wolf Cub program. A Beaver goes to Cubs when he/she is between 7 and 8 years old.

Tail Celebration - The meeting, usually held in the fall, at which the Colony recognizes that all Beavers have grown older. The children receive a new colour coded tail to symbolize their growth. The tail is then sewn onto the back of their Beaver hat for all to see.

Tail Groups - A very useful sub-grouping system which is used to create smaller working groups within the colony. Tail groups are indicated by Beavers wearing different colours of tails on their hats. Typically, they are the same age: 5-year-olds (Brown Tail), 6-year-olds (Blue Tail) and 7-year-olds (White Tail) form the three different tail groups.

This type of grouping is very practical at different points in the program. It allows leaders to give older Beavers a different or more challenging activity than younger or newer Beavers.

Tail - Magic Light Symbol - The magic light symbol is a silver streak down the centre of the White tail. Seven-year-olds (Busy Beavers) may change from a White Tail to a “White Tail with a magic light symbol” a few months prior to swim-up to Wolf Cubs.

Tail Slap - The name of the opening ceremony which occurs at the beginning of each meeting. The action of clapping the hands behind the back.