

# Cub Scout Academics: Collecting



## REQUIREMENTS

Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, and Webelos Scouts may complete requirements in a family, den, pack, school, or community environment. Tiger Cubs must work with their parents or adult partners. Parents and partners do not earn loops or pins.

### Belt Loop

Complete these three requirements:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Begin a collection of at least 10 items that all have something in common. Label the items and title your collection.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Display your collection at a pack or den meeting.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Visit a show or museum that displays different collections.

### Academics Pin

Earn the Collecting belt loop and complete five of the following requirements:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Give a talk about your collection to someone other than your family. Give a description of your collection, including a short history. Explain how you got started and why you decided to collect what you do.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Show how you preserve and display your collection. Explain any special precautions you must take including handling, cleaning, and storage. Note precautions for dampness, sunlight, or other weather conditions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Read a book about what you collect and then discuss it with your den or an adult family member.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Start a new collection of at least 20 items. Label the items, and title your collection.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Explain to your den or an adult family member what *numismatics* and *philately* mean.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. With your parent's or adult partner's permission, join a club of collectors who share your hobby. This club may be a group of your friends.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Find out if there is a career that involves what you collect. Find out what kind of subjects you need to study to prepare for such a career.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. If you collect coins or stamps, make a list of different countries in your collection. Explain how to identify each country's issues. Make a list of "clues" that help you identify the origin.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. With an adult partner, visit an online auction and look for items you collect. Discuss what it tells you about the rarity and value of the things you collect.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Create a method for organizing and keeping track of your collection. Use a computer if possible.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Help a friend get started on a collection of his or her own.



## Resources

Check the reference section at your local library for information on collecting and a wide variety of things people collect. If you have access to the Internet, try using various search engines to look for the information you need. (Be sure to have your parent's or adult partner's permission first.)

Other resources might include collecting clubs and specialty shops in your area.

A field trip to a nearby museum can provide an excellent opportunity to learn more about what you collect.



**Coin folders are a great way to organize, catalog and display your coin collection.**

## Things Some People Collect

- Arrowheads
- Autographs
- Barbed wire
- Baseball or sports cards
- Books
- Bottle caps or bottles
- Butterflies and other insects
- Christmas ornaments
- Coins and stamps
- Dolls and plush animals
- Leaves
- Little or antique cars and toys
- Mugs and china
- Neckerchiefs
- Old tools
- Restaurant menus
- Rocks and minerals
- Scout patches
- Shells
- Spoons
- TV or movie posters
- Water samples

## Stamp Collecting for Beginners

**Start as a general collector.** You do not need to specialize until you have seen and handled a wide range of stamps.

**Start with quantity and learn** to appreciate good stamp design, town cancellations, color varieties, perforated initials, and the other attributes and differences that make stamps interesting.

**Collect what interests you,** and not what others tell you that real philatelists collect.

**Display stamps** in a book or case so that you and others can enjoy the stamps without damaging them.

**Visit stamp exhibitions** whenever you can. They will help to open your eyes to the wide world of philately.

## Numismatics

*Numismatics* is derived from the Greek word *numisma* ("coin knowledge") and today refers to the study and collecting of coins, paper currency, medals, tokens, and other similar monetary objects.

## Philately

*Philately* is the collection and study of postage and imprinted stamps. Philately is derived from two Greek words: *philos* ("loving") and *atelos* ("free of tax" or "paid"). Stamps are signs that the postage or tax has been paid.