



Balancing Bears

Cub Scouts · Elective · Bear rank

Name

Started

Completed

Balancing Bears shows you the math hiding in nature. You'll make trail mix with math, look at animal patterns, and find symmetry in plants and creatures. Once you start looking, you'll see patterns everywhere.

Requirements

Every official requirement, in plain language. Check the official wording when you sign off (scouting.org/cub-scout-adventures/balancing-bears/). Tips and examples are ideas, not extra requirements.

☐ 1 Make trail mix using trail mix math

Tip: Measure and mix ingredients, then figure out how to split the trail mix evenly.

Example: Mix 2 cups of cereal, 1 cup of raisins, and 1 cup of pretzels. That's 4 cups. If 8 Scouts share it evenly, how much does each one get? (Half a cup.)

☐ 2 Find an animal with a pattern in its appearance and investigate how it uses that pattern

Tip: Pick an animal like a zebra or tiger and find out how its pattern helps it hide or warn others.

Example: A monarch butterfly's bright orange warns birds that it tastes bad, a fawn's spots help it hide in patches of sunlight, and a zebra's stripes may confuse biting flies.

☐ 3 Find examples of bilateral symmetry in nature

Tip: Look for things that match on both sides, like butterflies, leaves, or your own face.

Example: Bilateral symmetry means one side matches the other, like a mirror. Look for it in a butterfly, a maple leaf, a ladybug, a dog's face, and your own body.

☐ **4** Find examples of radial symmetry in nature

Tip: Look for things that spread out from the center, like flowers, starfish, or a cut apple.

Example: Radial symmetry spreads out from the center like spokes on a wheel. Find it in a daisy, a starfish, a snowflake, a sliced orange, or a sand dollar.