Welcome to Scouting

If you have a new group of Otters or you scout on a yearly schedule as opposed to a year-round/ongoing schedule, this is a great way to kick off the scouting year!

- Opening Ceremony
- Name Game & Welcome New Scouts
- Sing Otters on a Cedar Log
- Demonstrate the Otter salute and sign
- Talk about what scouting is and where it comes from
    - Who was Robert Baden-Powell?
- Read a Book About Otters
    - Talk about the difference between sea otters and river otters.
- Steam Off Game
    - Raft game: the leader calls out “Rafts of [number]” and the otters have to clump together in groups of that number. Any who aren't in a group are out that round.
- Build a Holt
    - Have the kids collect sticks and build a holt
- Friends of the Forest and Snack Time
    - Use Friends of the Forest to introduce the Otter Motto, Law, and Promise
    - Ask the kids whether the otters in the story are sea otters or river otters. How do they know?
- Steam Off Game
    - Red Light/Green Light where when they get caught they are frozen until they say the motto/law/promise.
- Closing Ceremony

Items Needed:

- Extra Games

Badge Requirements Covered:

Investiture Badge

- Learn a little about otters
- Know a little about the Jones family from Friends of the Forest
- Learn a little about the history of scouting
- Say the Otter Law
- Show the Otter Salute and Sign
- Say the Otter Promise
- Participate in an opening and closing ceremony

Blue Activity Paw

- Learn the names of every otter in your den

otter, learn about otters, friends of the forest, history of scouting, otter law, otter salute and sign, otter promise, opening and closing ceremony, learn names

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