THE GUIDE FOR Daisy Girl Scout Leaders

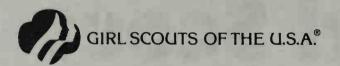




THE GUIDE FOR Daisy Girl Scout

Leaders

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. 420 Fifth Avenue New York, N.Y. 10018-2702



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Girl Scouting and You

ALL I REALLY NEED TO KNOW about how to live, and what to do, and how to be, I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate-school mountain but here in the sandpile at Sunday school.*



These are the things I learned:*

Share everything.

Play fair.

Don't hit people.

Put things back where you found them.

Clean up your own mess.

Don't take things that aren't yours.

Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody.

Wash your hands before you eat.

Flush.

Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.

Live a balanced life—learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some.

Take a nap every afternoon.

When you go out into the world, watch for traffic, hold hands, and stick together.

Be aware of wonder.

Remember the little seed in the styrofoam cup:

The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.

Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even the little seed in the styrofoam cup—they all die. So do we.

And then remember the Dick-and-Jane books and the first word you learned—the biggest word of all—LOOK.

Everything you need to know is in there somewhere. The Golden Rule and love and basic sanitation. Ecology and politics and sane living.

Think what a better world it would be if we all—the whole world—had cookies and milk about three o'clock every afternoon and then lay down with our blankies for a nap. Or if all governments had as a basic policy to always put things back where they found them and to clean up their own mess.

And it is still true, no matter how old you are—when you go out into the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together.

^{*} From *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, by Robert Fulghum. Copyright (c) 1986, 1988 by Robert Fulghum. Reprinted by permission of Random House, Inc.

Welcome to the world of Girl Scouting and the lively and exciting world of Daisy Girl Scouts. You are about to embark on an enjoyable journey—an adventure full of wonder in the lives of five- and six-year-olds. The Girl Scout program allows girls to participate in activities with adults and other children beyond their usual scope. They may come from different family situations and different lifestyles. By the time they reach kindergarten, probably many have been exposed to television, videos, malls, preschool and day care, yet may have seen little beyond their immediate neighborhood. Being a Daisy Girl Scout gives each girl an opportunity to develop according to her own interests and abilities, and to follow whatever course the Girl Scout movement offers her.

What Does Girl Scouting Have to Offer Girls?

Girl Scouting extends many special things to girls. As a Daisy Girl Scout, each girl has the opportunity to:

- > learn about and believe in herself.
- develop an awareness of others and a sense of personal responsibility.
- **)** build a sense of personal worth.
- **>** develop a close relationship with an adult which she may not otherwise have.
- **)** develop an understanding of good citizenship.
- > learn how to work in small groups.
- > learn through play and Girl Scouting's informal education program.
- **>** develop a growing awareness of the world.
- **>** find guidance in physical, intellectual, social, emotional, and spiritual growth.

Who Is a Daisy Girl Scout Leader?

What are some of the characteristics that make a good Daisy Girl Scout leader? You probably had many reasons for volunteering for this job, but among the reasons may be, you:

- I like children and enjoy working with them.
- are enthusiastic and want to share this enthusiasm with others.
- are curious about people, places, and things.
- **>** are a keen observer, and want to learn as much as possible about the girls in your troop and what is special about each one.

- **)** are you a good listener—you take the time to find out about girl's needs and feelings.
- I have energy—working with girls this age can take a lot out of you!
- > believe in every girl and her worth as a human being.
- **>** are patient and able to work at the pace of five- and six-year-olds, understanding just what it is about this age group that makes it unique.
- believe that each girl has something to contribute and that your work as a leader helps her develop these assets.
- **)** understand and respect the individuality of each girl, knowing what is common about girls of this age, and allowing girls to work and grow at their own pace.

All of these worthwhile reasons for wanting to become a Daisy Girl Scout leader will no doubt make you an enthusiastic and competent leader on the job.

You also may discover a lot about yourself. You may uncover skills you didn't know you had or see a new side of yourself develop. As a Daisy Girl Scout leader, you will become one of the most important people in these young girls' lives. In Chapter Three, "Working With Daisy Girl Scouts," you will learn the characteristics of Daisy Girl Scouts, the things they can and can't do, and how they think at this age. Throughout the book you will find out things about girls and Girl Scouting that will help to make your experience more rewarding. In your role as leader, you can help these girls develop into confident, capable young women. •

About Girl Scouting

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. was founded by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912. It is a not-for-profit, youth-serving organization chartered by the United States Congress. Based on sound ethical values, the movement provides opportunities for girls to learn and work in partnership with adult volunteers.





Blue Book of Basic
Documents
My Daisy Girl Scout
Activity Scrapbook
Daisy Girl Scout
storybooks
Safety-Wise

The Foundation of Girl Scouting

The guiding principles on which Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. is founded are stated in the opening passages of the organization's Constitution as printed in the *Blue Book of Basic Documents*.

The Promise

On my honor, I will try:

To serve God and my country,

To help people at all times,

And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

The word "God" is subject to individual interpretation and encompasses a very wide range of spiritual beliefs. One of the keys to the Girl Scout Promise is to try to serve God in a way that's compatible with the individual's beliefs.

You will find a page with the Girl Scout Promise in *My Daisy Girl Scout Activity Scrapbook*. You can use this page to bring out a discussion on what the Promise means and some of the ways girls can practice it.

The Law

I will do my best to be
honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong, and
responsible for what I say and do,

and to

respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.



If you look in the Daisy Girl Scout storybooks, both the Big Book and individual book, as well as *My Daisy Girl Scout Activity Scrapbook*, you will see a poem that describes the Girl Scout Law for Daisy Girl Scouts. Chapter Six, "Tips for Using Girl Scout Resources," gives specific suggestions on how to use these resources with girls.

(*Adopted by the National Council at its October 1996 session.)

Beliefs and Principles

We, the members of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, united by a belief in God and by acceptance of the Girl Scout Promise and Law,

And inspired by the aims of the Founder of the Scout Movement, Lord Baden-Powell, and of the Founder of the Girl Scout Movement in the United States, Juliette Low,

Do dedicate ourselves to the purpose of inspiring girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism, and service that they may become happy and resourceful citizens.

We believe that the motivating force in Girl Scouting is a spiritual one.

We affirm that the Girl Scout Movement shall ever be open to all girls and adults who accept the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

We maintain that the strength of the Girl Scout Movement rests in the voluntary leadership of its adult members, in the cooperation and support of the community, and in the affiliation with Girl Guide and Girl Scout Movements of other countries through the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

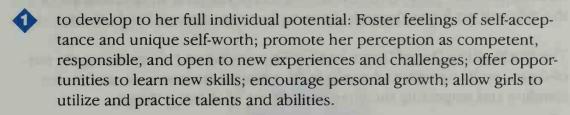
We declare that the democratic way of life and the democratic process shall guide all our activities.

We hold that ultimate responsibility for the Girl Scout Movement rests with volunteers.

From the Blue Book of Basic Documents

Girl Scouting's Goals for Girls

There are four basic goals of the Girl Scout program. They describe how each girl should benefit and grow as a result of her activities in Girl Scouting. The four program goals are:



to relate to others with increasing understanding, skill, and respect:
Help each girl develop sensitivity to others and respect for their needs,

feelings, and rights; promote an understanding and appreciation of individual, cultural, religious, and racial differences; foster the ability to build friendships and working relationships.



to develop values to guide her actions and to provide the foundation for sound decision-making: Help her develop a meaningful set of values and ethics that will guide her actions; foster an ability to make decisions that are consistent with her values and that reflect respect for the rights and needs of others; empower her to act upon her values and convictions; encourage her to reexamine her ideals as she matures.



to contribute to the improvement of society through the use of her abilities and leadership skills, working in cooperation with others: Help her develop concern for the well-being of her community and its people; promote an understanding of how the quality of community life affects her own life and the whole of society; encourage her to use her skills to work with others for the benefit of all.

The Five Girl Scout Worlds of Interest

In order to achieve a balanced and educationally sound program, and one that is fun for girls, activities are grouped into five broad subject areas called worlds of interest.

The World of Well-Being has activities that focus on physical and emotional health, including nutrition, exercise, relationships, home, safety, work and leisure, and consumer awareness.

The World of People activities promote awareness of the various cultures in our society and around the world, while building pride in one's own heritage and appreciating and respecting those of others.

The World of Today and Tomorrow has activities that focus on learning the how and why of things, on exploring and experimenting with the technologies of daily life, learning about math and science and looking to future events, roles, and responsibilities.

The World of the Arts includes activities from all areas of the arts—visual, performing, literary—and stresses enjoying and developing an appreciation of the different art forms through the contributions of oneself and others.

The World of the Out-of-Doors focuses on enjoying and appreciating the out-of-doors, on living with and caring for our natural environment, and understanding and respecting the interdependence of all living things.

Many activities may overlap into more than one world of interest. This should help girls see the interrelatedness of so much of the world around them.











Girl Scout Program: An Overview

Key Aspects of Girl Scouting Fit Together to Form the Design for Girl Scout Program Developing Individual Potential Worlds of Interest Relating **Promise** Contributing to Others and Law World of Today and Tomorrow Developing Values



Membership in Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. gives girls and adults the opportunity to participate in Girl Scout troop activities and other Girl Scout-sponsored events, to wear the appropriate uniform and insignia, and to be covered by Girl Scout accident insurance. In addition, adult members receive *Girl Scout Leader*, the official GSUSA magazine, and are able to receive training, consulting, and ongoing assistance to do their jobs.

The Daisy Girl Scout pin is the Daisy Girl Scout's membership insignia. It symbolizes the girl's membership in Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.





The Girl Scout Promise and Law: The Foundation of Girl Scouting



The Four Program
Goals:
Our Goals for Girls



Five Worlds of Interest: Activity Areas

Membership as a Girl Scout is granted to any girl who has made the Girl Scout Promise and accepted the Girl Scout Law; has paid annual membership dues; and meets applicable membership standards.

Membership as a Girl Scout adult is granted to any person who accepts the principles and beliefs as stated in the preamble of the Constitution of Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.; has paid annual or lifetime membership dues; and meets the applicable membership standard.

Membership Standards

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Daisy	age 5-6	OR in kindergarten or grade 1
Brownie	age 6-7-8	OR in grade 1-2-3
Junior	age 8-9-10-11	OR in grade 3-4-5-6
Cadette	age 11-12-13-14	OR in grade 6-7-8-9
Senior	age 14-15-16-17	OR in grade 9-10-11-12

GIRL SCOUT ADULTS

Minimum age—18 years

Girls with mental retardation should be registered as closely as possible to their chronological age. They wear the uniform of that age level. Program adaptations for these girls should be made to the ongoing activities of the age level to which the troop belongs. When girls reach the age of 18 or complete high school or its equivalent, they move into an adult membership category. Young women who are mentally retarded may retain their girl membership through their twenty-first year or until they complete high school or its equivalent; they then move into an adult category of membership.

Registration

As a leader, you are responsible for registering all girl and adult members of the troop and collecting national membership dues each year. Your Girl Scout council will supply registration forms and instructions for completing them.

If additional members join during the year, be sure to register them promptly so they can receive the full benefits of Girl Scout membership, including the very important accident insurance.

Girls or their parents who pay annual membership dues should know and understand that the dues make it possible for them to be a member of the largest organization for girls in the world. Girl Scout members automatically become members of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. Annual membership dues go to the national organization which:

- **)** gathers ideas for what girls want to do in Girl Scouting.
-) puts these ideas together in a program for all girls.
- **)** publishes books that explain the Girl Scout program and supply information girls and leaders need.
- **)** publishes *Girl Scout Leader* magazine for the adult membership.
- **>** provides technical assistance to councils and leaders via educational opportunities and consultation.
- **>** promotes public understanding of, participation in, and support of Girl Scouting.
- > maintains national centers.
- **)** provides accident insurance.

Helping Daisy Girl Scouting Happen

There are many sources of support for you and your Daisy Girl Scouts. Help can come from a variety of places, in a number of ways, and from many people. You cannot, and should not, carry the entire responsibility. Following are groups and individuals that you can call upon for support.

Leadership Team

The leadership team is composed of you and your assistant leader and/or program aides. The ratio of girls to adults for Daisy Girl Scout troops is five to one. Members of your leadership team might include Cadette and/or Senior Girl Scouts in addition to the number of adults needed. All members of your team must complete the appropriate training to work with Daisy Girl Scouts. See the *Safety-Wise* program standards chart on page 24 and refer to *Safety-Wise*, the GSUSA publication that outlines safety standards, for details.



Registration forms
Registration
instructions

Safety-Wise

15 + + + + + + + + +

Cadettes age 14 and Senior Girl Scouts who assume leadership roles in your troop also must conform to the council policies and standards that apply to them. These leadership team responsibilities allow older girls the opportunity to develop strong leadership skills. In addition to members of the leadership team, who plan and carry out activities with the girls in the troop, a host of other adults and/or groups may work with you and your team in support of troop activities and organization. •



The Troop Committee

A troop committee is the adult network that gives support to the troop. It is comprised of from three to seven adults who provide the troop with whatever special help it needs.

You, as the leader, may appoint the troop committee. (Usually the troop committee is organized prior to the selection and placement of the leader, but this does not affect the leader's responsibility for working closely with it.) A local volunteer should work with you to help you orient the troop committee members.

By forming a troop committee, the work of managing the troop is divided among the members of the group, so the entire responsibility for the troop is not left to one or two people. This is important at the Daisy Girl Scout age level, since Daisy Girl Scouts do not participate in money-earning activities and adults are responsible for the modest costs of troop activities. The committee will be accountable to you in terms of the support they give to the troop. Thus, your time, energy, and expertise can be applied directly to working with the girls.

Here are some ways a troop committee can help you and your troop. It can:

- **)** aid in the development and implementation of your troop's ideas.
- ensure continuity of program for a troop that is temporarily without a leader.
- ▶ keep you informed of the needs, resources, and viewpoints of the community.
- **)** secure community backing for your troop.
- > tell friends and other groups about Girl Scouting.
- **)** share its expertise, special interests, or hobbies with your troop.
- **)** assist your leadership team with troop registration and other troop management responsibilities or tasks.

In recruiting troop committee members, you will want to consider people with knowledge of the community, its people, and its resources. Individuals with enthusiasm and the ability to interest and involve other parents and community leaders in actively supporting the troop are invaluable on a troop committee. Parents, professional and career people, retirees, grandparents, and former Girl Scout adult volunteers are likely candidates for troop committee appointment.



A Troop Committee!



Family Support!

If your troop is sponsored, the sponsoring group usually appoints someone to be a liaison on your troop committee. Consider asking the teacher of a kindergarten or first-grade class to serve on the troop committee. This way you will know what the girls are doing in school and can plan troop activities that complement but do not duplicate their schoolwork.

Daisy Girl Scout Families

This essential support group includes parents, guardians, fathers, mothers, foster parents, grandparents, older brothers and sisters, and aunts and uncles. Each girl's family is a potential resource of great value for the troop, but planning for and making use of parent and family support takes time. You need to know parents' expectations for their children. They need to know about Girl Scouting, its goals for Daisy Girl Scouts, the kinds of activities the girls will be involved in, and the kind of help they can offer. Parents should be assured you care about their children's development and that you welcome their suggestions and their participation.

A guide to family support

You will find the time it takes to involve the families of your girls well spent. By inviting their participation in the troop's activities, you will be offering the girls exposure to a network of experienced, sympathetic adults.

The parents' meeting

One of the most important means of gaining and channeling family support is a parents' meeting held at the beginning of the Girl Scout year. When selecting the time for this event, the schedules of mothers and fathers who work, or who have religious obligations or travel constraints should be considered, since it is important that as many parents or other family members as possible attend. The meeting provides an opportunity for you to:

-) organize the troop and troop committee.
- **)** get acquainted with the parents and other family members.
- ▶ learn about their expectations for their daughters' Girl Scout experience.
- **>** explain the overall aspects of Girl Scout program.
- Italk about the girls' interests and plans for the year.
- **>** show families how they can help.
- **)** collect membership dues and gather information.

Getting started

It is important to organize the meeting so that everything runs smoothly. If you need help, contact the person in your geographic area assigned to support you. To get started:

- > consider who will be invited. Are girls to be included? (Parents are more likely to attend if they are.) If so, are activities planned for them?
- **>** arrange for a meeting place and time, giving careful consideration to time schedules of working parents.
- Ine up audiovisual equipment and make sure it's working.
- > check supplies: masking tape and large sheets of paper, felt-tip pens, name tags and pins to attach them, attendance sheets, and any handouts for parents.
- > plan refreshments.
- Inotify parents by mail, phone, or notes sent home with the girls.

The safety of siblings

Sometimes, organizing meetings will include arranging for supervision of siblings, especially younger siblings. Since activities for Daisy Girl Scouts are designed for that particular age group, the safety of younger children, especially, may be jeopardized if they participate.

The troop committee may want one adult responsible for supervising the other children. When this is done in an organized manner, the troop may purchase accident insurance through the council for the children who are in a "supplemental supervised unit," that is, additional children supervised by another adult or adults, depending on the number of children. If the adults providing supervision for such groups are not members, coverage must be purchased for them, too.

In addition, leaders may want to remind parents at meetings or in newsletters that Daisy Girl Scouts may bring home materials that are not appropriate for use by younger children. Handmade puppets, for example, may have button eyes that could be a hazard to a one-year-old. Daisy Girl Scouts should also be reminded, from time to time, that they must remember that while sharing is encouraged, not everything should be shared. Giving examples of items not to share could be part of a safety activity.



Filmstrip or slides
Daisy Girl Scout
storybooks and
My Daisy Girl Scout
Activity Scrapbook
Brochures about Girl
Scouting
Council forms
Sign-up sheets
Safety-Wise
Blue Book of Basic
Documents

On the day of the meeting

Once the families have gathered, welcome them. It's important not only to let the families get to know you and one another, but also to tell them how to contact you in the future.

Tell the Girl Scout story, based on *The Story of Juliette Low*, either through a short talk, a filmstrip or slides, or have girls and parents who have been previously involved in Girl Scouting give a brief presentation. In any case, make sure to cover the purpose of the Girl Scout program and activities, the benefits girls will derive from Girl Scouting, the Promise and Law, investiture and rededication, the program framework for this troop's age level, the name of the council and location of the council office, and an explanation of the volunteer organization.

Next, talk about the finances: membership dues, program and field trip money, and the cost of uniforms and materials. Parents should know that Daisy Girl Scouting is not expensive. Uniforms are encouraged, but not required, and parents are often involved in determining troop expenses.

Then discuss health and safety standards the organization observes and explain the need for parent consent forms and permission slips. Talk about your troop's activities—when and where meetings are held and what special events, field trips, and outdoor expeditions may be in store.

After you've explained the troop's hopes and plans for the year, it is a good time to ask for a commitment from family members to support the troop. Circulate a list of areas needing support and encourage fathers, mothers, and other relatives to volunteer their talents as resource persons or troop committee members.

Finally, thank parents for attending and tell them how you will keep in touch throughout the year.

Following the meeting, you or someone from your service team or troop committee should contact parents who were unable to attend.

Other ways to involve families

By continuing to communicate your troop's plans and needs to families, you are more likely to receive family help. Consider the following ways to keep families in touch with your troop throughout the year.

Troop newsletters:

A newsletter on what the troop is doing could be written with the help of girls or by a troop committee member.

Parent newsletters:

This means of addressing the families directly could take the form of a special newsletter developed by the council, a family bulletin, or an insert or regular column in the council bulletin.

Workshops and seminars:

You might suggest that your council sponsor events parents would want to attend, either alone or with their daughters. Events could include seminars or workshops on children's television viewing, computers, money management, first aid and CPR, parent effectiveness training, smokers' clinics, or family health and fitness.

Outdoor activities: Family members may be invited to troop cookouts, picnics, hikes, or family camping weekends. These outdoor activities may be either troop-sponsored or neighborhood events.

Parent assistance:

Asking a parent for assistance with a specific activity is often the key to family involvement.

Bridging from Head Start

Many girls entering Daisy Girl Scouting may already be familiar with Girl Scouting if they have participated in a Daisy Girl Scouts Bridging from Head Start project. Head Start is a demonstration program that provides comprehensive developmental services for preschoolers from low-income families. Head Start programs generally end in June.

The Daisy Girl Scouts Bridging from Head Start project's first goal is to provide a continuity of activities from June to September. Once the girls enter kindergarten, they continue with Daisy Girl Scouting. Very often, Head Start parents are very involved in their child's educational program and are active adult participants providing Girl Scout leadership. Parents already familiar with Girl Scouting through this bridging project are invaluable resources.

The Sponsoring Organization

Your Girl Scout council may enter into an association with a community organization or business that agrees to sponsor your troop. The sponsor's aims and objectives will be compatible with those of Girl Scouting. Schools, religious groups, parent/teacher groups, men's and women's service groups, professional and fraternal societies, civic organizations, and labor groups are examples of community groups that give support to a troop like yours.

The specific responsibilities of your sponsor and your Girl Scout council would be described in a written agreement between them. Your sponsor might assume responsibility for:

- **>** appointing a liaison member to serve on troop committees.
- > publicizing Girl Scouting.
- > providing resources and services for your troop: books, flags, art supplies and other materials, transportation, adult training, etc.
- > providing meeting places.
- **>** providing appropriate financial assistance to the troop.

In turn, your Girl Scout troop would:

- > keep your sponsor informed of troop activities.
- **)** include your sponsor in appropriate activities.
- > recognize and publicize your sponsor's contribution to the stability of the troop.
- **>** actively seek opportunities to provide services to your sponsor.
- > make membership available to your sponsor.

Every Girl Scout council establishes its policy on sponsorship. If your troop is sponsored, the service team member assigned to work with you will assist you in establishing and maintaining relationships with the troop's sponsoring group.

The Service Team

Every council provides a structure for supporting Girl Scout leaders. Most councils use the system called a service team. The service team is that group of people who provide direct services to troops within a neighborhood or other geographic subdivision of a council. They are responsible for seeing that troops are available to every girl who wants to become a Girl Scout (troop organizers), for providing ongoing help and advice to each troop leader (troop consultants), and for giving other special assistance when needed.

One member of the service team is assigned to work with you and your troop.

It is her job to see that your leadership team receives the services needed to deliver quality Girl Scout program to the girls in your troop. Turn to her with your questions, concerns, and needs. If she cannot help you, she will get you the assistance you need. She will also introduce you to the many other human and material resources available to you—program consultants, publications, handbooks, training courses, etc.

The Girl Scout Council

In addition to the various support resources described above, you and the troop receive many additional services from your Girl Scout council. Your council can provide:

- **>** councilwide activities and projects.
- access to Girl Scout (and other) books, films, and resources.
- **)** interpretation of the council organization and operation.
- **)** interpretation and clarification of the national organization and local council policies, standards, and procedures.
- **)** opportunities for you to express needs and make suggestions.
- feedback on how well you are doing your job.
- **)** opportunities for adult learning and sharing.
- **)** information on council-owned sites, camps, and other program facilities.

These services are provided by the service team in your area of the council, the team member assigned to you, and other council personnel. Many people are behind you to help you work with the girls in your troop, and to make your job as a Daisy Girl Scout leader rewarding. Take advantage of this support at every opportunity.

Girl Scout Program Standards

The following program standards chart provides a means to determine a desired level of performance and for meeting the basic standards for health, safety, and security that must be provided to girls. Refer to *Safety-Wise* for more detailed information.



To know your council connections!

Safety-Wise

Standard 1 GIRL SCOUT PROGRAM— FOUNDATION AND GOALS

Program experiences and activities should meet the needs and interests of girls, be based on the Girl Scout Promise and Law and enable girls to grow and develop, as described in the four Girl Scout program goals.

Standard 2 GENERAL ACTIVITIES

Program activities should include a balance of subject and interest areas. The types of activities should be determined in partnership by the girls and their leaders and reflect the girls' needs and interests, physical and emotional readiness, skill level, and preparation. The activities should provide for progressive learning experiences, both at the current age level and in preparation for the next one.

Standard 3 HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SECURITY— ACTIVITY PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION

At all times, the health, safety, and security of girls should be paramount. All activities should be planned and carried out so as to safeguard the health, safety, and general well-being of girls and adults. Girls and adults should follow proper safety practices at all times.

Standard 4 INTERNATIONAL

Girl Scouting is part of a worldwide movement, and program activities should emphasize this international dimension.

Standard 5 SERVICE

Service is inherent in the Promise and Law and is given without expectation of payment or reward. All girls should take part in service activities or projects.

Standard 6

EXPERIENCES BEYOND THE TROOP/GROUP

Girls should have experiences that broaden their perspectives and enable them to interact with individuals beyond their immediate group. Program activities should provide girls with opportunities to have experiences beyond regular troop/group meetings.

Standard 7

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Activities carried out in outdoor settings are an important part of Girl Scout program for each age level. The leader should receive the appropriate training from her council to help her guide preparation for and implementation of the outdoor activities.

Standard 8

GIRL SCOUT CAMPING

Girl Scout camping should provide girls with a fun and educational group living experience that links Girl Scout program with the natural surroundings and contributes to each camper's mental, physical, social, and spiritual growth.

Standard 9

GIRL SCOUT RECOGNITIONS

Girl Scout recognitions should acknowledge a girl's accomplishments and attainment of specified requirements. Leaders should work in partnership with girls to decide when recognitions, such as badges, patches, or awards, have been completed. At all times, adults should play a key role in stressing the quality of the program experience over quantity of recognitions.

Standard 10

PARENTAL PERMISSION

Written permission from a parent or legal guardian should be obtained for participation in Girl Scouting. Leaders and girls are responsible for informing parents or guardians of the purpose of Girl Scouting; of the date, time, and place of meetings; and of the type of activities included in troop plans. When activities take place outside of the scheduled meeting place, involve travel, or focus on sensitive or controversial topics, parents and guardians should be informed and asked to provide additional written consent.

Standard 11

GIRL SCOUT MEMBERSHIP PINS AND UNIFORMS

All Girl Scout members should wear the membership pin when participating in Girl Scout activities. Since Girl Scouting is a uniformed organization, girl and adult members should be informed, at the time they become members, that they are entitled to wear the Girl Scout uniform appropriate for their age level. Although the wearing of the uniform is encouraged, it should be clearly conveyed that the wearing of the uniform is not required for participation in Girl Scouting.

Standard 12 GIRL/ADULT PARTNERSHIP

Girls and their leaders should work as partners in planning and decision-making. Tasks should be sensitive to girls' developmental maturity and commensurate with their abilities, with each girl encouraged to proceed at her own pace. With each age level, the girls' opportunity to act independently and handle responsibilities should increase.

Standard 13 TROOPS/GROUPS

Each troop or group should have at least one adult leader and one or more assistant leaders. Because the female role model is essential to fulfilling the purpose of Girl Scouting, at least one member of the leadership team must be an adult female.

The adult leaders must be at least eighteen years of age or at the age of majority defined by the state if it is older than eighteen. Leaders should have training as specified by the council. In addition, an active troop committee of registered adult members should provide ongoing support to the troop.

Standard 14 HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SECURITY — ADULT SUPERVISION AND PREPARATION

Proper adult supervision and guidance for each activity are essential. Adults with requisite expertise are part of the adult leadership when implementing activities. Adequate training and preparation for girls and adults precede participation in any activity.

Standard 15 COUNCIL SUPPORT TO ADULT LEADERSHIP

All adults within the Girl Scout council work in concert to ensure the highest quality program experience for girls. Communication and cooperation are essential for providing training, giving ongoing support to troops and groups, and obtaining appropriate activity approvals.

Standard 16 PROGRAM CONSULTANTS

The regular adult leadership of any Girl Scout group should be complemented by program consultants who possess technical competence and the ability to share specialized skills.

Standard 17 PROGRAM CENTERS

All centers and facilities used for Girl Scout program activities should have present at least one adult with appropriate qualifications and competencies to guide girls in the type of program conducted at the facility. Additional adults trained for their particular roles should be present in numbers required to provide adequate adult guidance for the ages of the girls, the size of the group, and the nature of the activity.

Standard 18 ADULT LEADERSHIP — GIRL SCOUT CAMPS

All Girl Scout camps should be staffed by adults who possess the qualifications and necessary competencies for the positions held.

Standard 19

PLURALISM AND DIVERSITY OF TROOPS/GROUPS

Girl Scout troops and groups should reflect the diversity of socioeconomic, racial, ethnic, cultural, religious, and disability groups in the community. Whenever possible, troops and groups should include girls from different age and grade levels.

Standard 20 SIZE OF TROOPS/GROUPS

Girls should be able to participate in groupings large enough to provide experience in self-government and in groupings small enough to allow for development of the individual girl.

Standard 21

MEETING AND ACTIVITY PLANNING

Troops and groups should meet often enough to fulfill the needs and interests of girls and to maintain continuity of their program experience.

Standard 22

MEETING PLACES/CAMPS/SITES

All meeting places, camps, and other sites used for Girl Scout program activities should provide a safe, clean, and secure environment and allow for participation of all girls.

Standard 23 GIRL SCOUT CAMPS

All Girl Scout camps should be operated in compliance with local and state laws for maximum protection of campers' health, safety, and security, and with regard to protection of the natural environment.

Standard 24 OVERNIGHT TRIPS, CAMPING

All sites and facilities used for overnight trips or camping should be approved by the Girl Scout council.

Standard 25 PRIVATE TRANSPORTATION

Private passenger cars, station wagons, and vans may be used during Girl Scout activities. They must be properly registered, insured, and operated by adults with a valid license for the type of vehicle used. Any other form of private transportation may be used only after council approval has been obtained.

Standard 26 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Public transportation and regularly scheduled airlines, buses, trains, and vessels should be used whenever possible.

Standard 27 TRAVEL PROCEDURES

All travel procedures and preparations should make provision for adequate adult supervision and maximum safety.

Standard 28 ACTIVITIES INVOLVING MONEY

Troops/groups should be financed by troop/group dues, by troop money-earning activities, and by a share of money earned through council-sponsored product sales. Daisy Girl Scouts may not be involved in handling any money, including troop dues and proceeds from troop money-earning activities and product sales.

Standard 29

TROOP MONEY-EARNING ACTIVITIES

Money-earning activities should be a valuable program activity for girls. Daisy Girl Scouts do not participate in troop money-earning activities.

Standard 30

COUNCIL-SPONSORED PRODUCT SALES

Troops/groups may participate in no more than two council-sponsored product sales each year, and only one of these may be a cookie sale. A percentage of the money earned through product sales should be allocated to participating troops and groups. Daisy Girl Scouts may not sell cookies or other products.

Standard 31

PRODUCT SALE INCENTIVES

Participation in a council product sale incentive plan should be optional for troops and individuals. Incentives, if used, should be program-related and of a type that will provide opportunities for girls to participate in Girl Scout activities.

Standard 32

COUNCIL FUND RAISING

Fund raising or fund development to support the Girl Scout council is the responsibility of adults and this responsibility should not be placed with girls. Girls may provide support to these efforts through voluntary service.

Standard 33

FUND RAISING FOR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Girl Scouts, in their Girl Scout capacities, may not solicit money for other organizations. Girl members may support other organizations only through service projects. (See national policy on solicitation of contributions in the *Leader's Digest: Blue Book of Basic Documents*.)

Standard 34

COLLABORATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

When collaborative relationships or cooperative projects are developed with other organizations, all Girl Scout program standards are followed.

Standard 35

POLITICAL ACTIVITY

Girl Scouts in their Girl Scout capacities may not participate directly or indirectly in any political campaigns or participate in partisan efforts on behalf of or in opposition to a candidate for public office.



Girl Scout Uniforms,
Insignia, and
Recognitions
Girl Scout pin
Daisy Girl Scout Pin
World Trefoil pin

Troop Funds and Activities Involving Money

Daisy Girl Scouts should not be involved in handling any money, including troop dues; in troop money-earning activities; in council-sponsored product sales; or in other types of fund raising. Daisy Girl Scouts may not sell cookies or other products. Adults are responsible for meeting the modest cost of troop activities.

Service team members, parents, council staff members, and sponsors will provide ideas to generate modest troop funds. You and your troop committee may also meet to decide on appropriate methods of developing troop funds. For example, parents could pay modest monthly activity fees based on an estimated annual troop budget. Councils may raise additional monies for Daisy Girl Scouting. Sponsors may want to subsidize a troop.

Uniforms

Daisy Girl Scouts are encouraged but not required to wear their uniforms—to meetings, public ceremonies, or events; in synagogues, churches, or temples; on Girl Scout Sunday or Sabbath; when traveling as Girl Scouts; or when serving their communities.

Girl Scout adults are also encouraged but not required to wear uniforms. If you do not wear a uniform, the Girl Scout pin and World Trefoil pin may be worn to meetings and other Girl Scout events. (See *Girl Scout Uniforms*, *Insignia*, *and Recognitions* for more details on the proper way to wear the adult uniform and where to wear the insignia.)

The insignia for Daisy Girl Scouts include the Daisy Girl Scout pin and the



World Trefoil pin. You may decide to give girls the World Trefoil pin as a celebration of Thinking Day and being part of an international movement. The World Trefoil pin (called the World Badge in other countries) has three leaves on it that represent the three-fold promise as laid down by the Founder. The flame stands for the flame of love of humanity. The vein pointing upwards represents the compass needle pointing the way. The two stars represent the Promise and Law. The outer circle represents our worldwide association. The golden yellow trefoil on a bright blue background represents the sun shining over the children of the world.

The Daisy Girl Scout pin has the trefoil shape for the three parts of the Promise and the daisy flower as a symbol of the Daisy Girl Scout's namesake "Daisy" Low.



Daisy Girl Scout
certificates
My Daisy Girl Scout
Activity Scrapbook

Daisy Girl Scout Certificates

In the beginning of the year, each girl may receive the Daisy Girl Scouts Beginning Certificate. It welcomes her to Daisy Girl Scouting and may be placed in her scrapbook on the indicated page. The investiture ceremony is probably the best time to give the certificates to the girls.

Recognitions

At the older levels, recognitions are pins and patches that symbolize a girl's accomplishments in Girl Scouting, but Daisy Girl Scouts do not regularly earn this type of recognition. The only officially earned object recognition a Daisy Girl Scout receives is the Bridge to Brownie Girl Scouts patch. A girl works on the patch at the very end of the year as part of her bridging to Brownie Girl Scouting experiences.

Studies have shown that giving object recognitions to girls this age encourages them to focus on the object rather than the process. They may become so preoccupied with collecting the "pretty patches" that the meaning of their experiences becomes secondary. Daisy Girl Scouts do not yet understand that it is not the object itself but what it represents that is important. It is therefore quite possible to foster a non-learning atmosphere in which those who have the most or prettiest object recognitions will be considered the "best" by her peers. It must be remembered that it is through her experiences that the Daisy Girl Scout develops self-knowledge and confidence and begins to learn about the world around her.

It is acceptable, however, for Daisy Girl Scouts to receive souvenir participation patches for some activities that do not include required components or earned proficiency types of requirements. For example, most of the Contemporary Issues booklets contain activities appropriate for Daisy Girl Scouts. Many of the nationally sponsored service projects have participation



Scouts patch
Contemporary Issues
booklets
National service project
patches





My Daisy Girl Scout
Activity Scrapbook
Daisy Girl Scout
storybooks

patches as souvenirs. Daisy Girl Scouts may receive these. Likewise, your council may sponsor events in which Daisy Girl Scouts are invited to participate. In these instances, girls may receive the corresponding patches. These souvenir patches may be collected and glued onto pages in *My Daisy Girl Scout Activity Scrapbook* along with other mementoes of the troop year. Some girls may choose to wear the patches on the back of their Daisy Girl Scout tunic, but it is recommended that they instead use their scrapbook to hold these mementoes.

Daisy Girl Scouts do have their own special form of "recognition." The uniform, the certificates given at the beginning and end of the Daisy Girl Scout year, the scrapbook, and the welcoming, investiture, bridging, and other ceremonies provide the girls with appropriate, meaningful symbols they can understand. The insignia and acknowledgment from you and their sister troop members provide both formal and informal recognition of them as Daisy Girl Scouts. The most important and valid rewards for girls this age are those gained in an atmosphere where they have support, care, success in worthwhile learning experiences, and encouragement and praise from their peers and the adults working with them.

Service for Daisy Girl Scouts

Service is such an important part of Girl Scouting that it cannot be overlooked for Daisy Girl Scouts. Service means giving of oneself to help others and can even occur at every meeting in small ways. Larger service projects can be carried out in partnership with Brownie Girl Scout troops.

Service projects for Daisy Girl Scouts should be designed with the following suggestions in mind.

- ◆ Projects should be reasonable and provide an experience that is meaningful to the girl. For example, she could go with a family member or older friend to visit someone who is shut-in and listen to and share favorite stories. Or she could help take care of a pet for someone in her family.
- ◆ Projects should be of short duration. For example, the entire troop could clean up their meeting place in one morning. Projects should encourage learning more about Girl Scouting and bridging. For example, the girls could join with a Brownie Girl Scout troop to plant flowers for a neighbor or a community center.
- ◆ Projects should occur as part of the ongoing troop activities. For example, service in Girl Scouting includes showing kindness during activities, sharing, and playing fairly. Girls should be encouraged to be helpful at home and at school as part of their Girl Scout experience.

Daisy Girl Scout Ceremonies

In Daisy Girl Scouting, ceremonies may be held throughout the year. A troop may choose to celebrate a birthday, a special day, or an event whenever they choose. Formal ceremonies can honor times of transition, such as entering Girl Scouting or bridging into Brownie Girl Scouts. Simple ceremonies often begin or end meetings. The most important aspects of ceremonies for Daisy Girl Scouts are simplicity, appropriateness, clarity, and meaning. With understanding guidance, Daisy Girl Scouts will be able to share ideas in order to plan many of their own ceremonies.

Often, the most meaningful ceremonies are those that girls create and plan themselves. In the beginning, however, you will have to suggest ideas to the girls and go through some of the ceremonies with them. The book *Ceremonies in Girl Scouting* contains many ideas for planning and conducting ceremonies.



My Daisy Girl Scout
Activity Scrapbook
Ceremonies in Girl
Scouting



Opening and Closing Ceremonies

Each Daisy Girl Scout meeting should have a definite opening and closing. Children enjoy repetition, and opening and closing ceremonies offer them the comforting feeling of having "traditions" at the meeting and knowing what to expect.



Many times, the opening and closing ceremonies can be the same thing. For example, a meeting could begin with everyone joining hands in a circle, singing a song or calling their names—"Kim's here," "Jameka's here," etc. When the meeting ends, everyone could form the same circle and sing a song or say "Goodbye, see you next week," to one another.

These are other ideas for opening and closing ceremonies:

- ◆ You and the girls join hands in a circle and walk toward each other from all around the circle, meeting in the middle with clasped hands raised. Say a greeting or farewell, and walk backward into a full circle again, still holding hands.
- ◆ The girls skip/walk around in a circle, saying something or singing a song.
- ◆ You and the girls form a huddle and say a greeting or farewell in different languages.
- ◆ You and the girls crisscross arms, right over left, and hold hands in a friendship circle. Everyone is silent, and one person starts the friendship squeeze until it goes all the way around the circle to the person who started it.
- ◆ The girls give the Girl Scout handshake to one another while they give the Girl Scout sign with their right hands.
- ◆ Have a flag ceremony. Someone holds a United States flag while girls sing a patriotic song, say or listen to the pledge of allegiance, or stand in silence.

Welcoming Ceremony

An informal ceremony may be held in the very beginning of the year to welcome the girls and their families to Girl Scouting.

A formal investiture ceremony will be held a month or so later, after you have had a chance to develop with the girls the meaning of the investiture ceremony and the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Investiture Ceremony

At an investiture ceremony, where the registered girls formally become Girl Scouts, they make the Girl Scout Promise for the first time. This is why it is very important for you to develop the ideas of the Promise and Law with the girls before the investiture. For example, you could read and discuss the Daisy Girl Scout storybook *Who Is a Daisy Girl Scout?* at one or more meetings. Or, the girls could act out what each part of the Promise and Law means. Tie these into the corresponding pages of *My Daisy Girl Scout Activity Scrapbook* for more reinforcement. With practice, you can help girls

Daisy Girl Scout storybooks My Daisy Girl Scout Activity Scrapbook learn these concepts, and through discussion, examples, and acting out parts, they will be able to comprehend the basics of the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Working with the troop committee and the girls, you will be able to plan a meaningful and joyous investiture ceremony. Families should be invited, since it is the formal, symbolic beginning of Girl Scouting. If a new girl joins during the year, the troop will hold an investiture ceremony for her.

A Daisy Girl Scout usually wears her uniform for the first time at the investiture ceremony. The Daisy Girl Scout pin, her membership insignia, is pinned to the left side of her uniform. She wears it over her heart as all members of the movement do. Girls will also receive their Daisy Girl Scouts Beginning Certificate at the investiture.

Bridging to Brownie Girl Scouts

A bridging ceremony is held when Daisy Girl Scouts "cross the bridge" to the next level—Brownie Girl Scouts. It is one of the important milestones in Girl Scouting, and Daisy Girl Scouts should help as much as possible in its planning.





Ceremonies in Girl
Scouting
Brownie Girl Scout pin
World Trefoil pin
(if they don't
already have it)
Bridge to Brownie
Girl Scouts patch
One-year membership star
Daisy Girl Scouts
Ending Certificate
Invitations
Refreshments



They will also need to learn about Brownie Girl Scouting before bridging. Brownie Girl Scouts from a sister troop, and their leader, will be very helpful in this process. The bridging activities, located on pages 68-70, offer a variety of activities to help girls accomplish this. During the ceremony, be sure to review these activities with the girls, to remind them of what they did and why.

The troop committee should be involved with the planning of the bridging ceremony, and families should be invited. Girls can design and produce family invitations for the event, plan refreshments, decide if they want the ceremony with the whole sister Brownie Girl Scout troop, just with the Brownie Girl Scout leader, or with just a few of the members of the sister troop.

At the bridging ceremony, girls may receive the following insignia and recognitions:

- ♦ Brownie Girl Scout pin
- ◆ World Trefoil pin (if not already wearing it—some people prefer to give these to Daisy Girl Scouts on their first experience of Thinking Day)
- Bridging to Brownie Girl Scouts patch
- One-year membership star
- Daisy Girl Scouts Ending Certificate

The Founder of Girl Scouting

Daisy Girl Scouts are named after the founder of Girl Scouting, Juliette Gordon Low—"Daisy" to her family and friends. She lived for a time in England, and it was there that she met Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of Boy Scouts, and his sister Agnes, who had started a similar movement for girls called Girl Guides. Juliette Low was so impressed with this concept for girls that she decided to bring the organization to the United States. She held the first American Girl Scout meeting at her home in Savannah, Georgia, on March 12, 1912.

After her death in 1927, the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund was started to honor her and her commitment to world friendship. The funds are used to help Girl Scouts and Girl Guides travel to other countries, to bring Girl Guides to the United States, and to aid Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world.

Juliette Low set a standard for Girl Scouts, Girl Guides, and people everywhere who want to work actively to make the world a better, friendlier, and more peaceful place. The Girl Scout program, based on the ideas of Juliette Low, gives girls and adults opportunities erstand themselves and others, to develop skills, values, and ethics, and

to understand themselves and others, to develop skills, values, and ethics, and to extend and contribute their special gifts and talents. The Daisy Girl Scout

Daisy Girl Scout storybooks

Big Book and the individual storybooks contain the Juliette Gordon Low story written especially for Daisy Girl Scouts.

Girl Scouting's Special Days

Girl Scouts have three special birthdays to celebrate: October 31, Juliette Low's birthday (also known as Founder's Day); February 22, Thinking Day, the birthday of Lord Robert Baden-Powell, founder of Boy Scouts, and Lady Olave Baden-Powell, the World Chief Guide; and March 12, the birthday of Girl Scouting in the United States of America.

October 31, Juliette Low's Birthday

On Founder's Day, Girl Scouts across the country honor Juliette Low in many ways. You could:

- > tell the girls the story of Juliette Low and her life with Girl Scouts.
- **)** teach the girls some Girl Scout and Girl Guide songs and sing them for others at a gathering.
- **)** have a party in her honor and invite a sister troop.
- > create and dedicate pieces of art to her: a piece of music, a sculpture, a drawing, a mural, or a paint ing—whatever the girls would like to make.
- **>** talk about the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund.
- ➤ use an appropriate "Ceremony of Girl Scout Meaning" from Ceremonies in Girl Scouting.

February 22, Thinking Day

The birthday of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell has become a day for Girl Scouts and Girl Guides all over the world to think about each other. You could:

- find someone who knows about Girl Scouting and have her or him visit the girls.
- invite someone from the community who has lived in another country to come and share an activity with the girls. The visitor could have the girls help cook a dish or learn a dance from the country she or he lived in. The visit could include storytelling, a discussion about customs, or a video or slideshow presentation.
- invite an older Girl Scout who has traveled outside the United States, perhaps on a wider opportunity, to share her experiences with the girls.



My Daisy Girl Scout

Activity Scrapbook

- **)** plant a tree or shrub in honor of Thinking Day. Send a picture of it to your council office.
- **>** plan a short ceremony with a simple theme, such as thinking about each other, what we like best about Girl Scouting, or making a wish for children everywhere.
- **)** use this as an opportunity to explain the World Trefoil pin to girls and give it to them in a ceremony.

There is a page in *My Daisy Girl Scout Activity Scrapbook* to include drawings, photographs, or other mementoes of Thinking Day activities.

March 12, Girl Scout Birthday (Girl Scout Week)

On March 12, 1912, Juliette Low and two other women met with 18 girls to form the first Girl Scout troop in the United States. Girl Scouts celebrate the birthday of this first Girl Scout meeting for an entire week. The week in



which March 12 falls is recognized as Girl Scout Week. To celebrate Girl Scout Week, the girls could:

- > wear their Daisy Girl Scout tunic.
- **)** have a Girl Scout birthday party with a sister troop.
- **)** act out the story of the first meeting in 1912, imagining how it could have been.
- **)** plan activities to coincide with council themes for Girl Scout Week.
- > plan a ceremony and recite "Who Is a Daisy Girl Scout?"
- **)** have a joint ceremony with troops from other age levels.

The Girl Scout National Centers

Girl Scouts have two national centers owned and operated by Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. and partially supported by membership dues.



Edith Macy Conference Center



Juliette Gordon Low National Center

The Juliette Gordon Low Girl Scout National Center

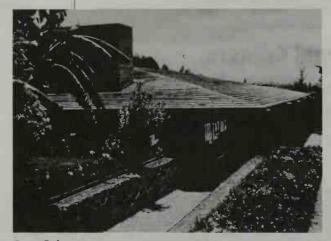
The Birthplace of Juliette Low, located in Savannah, Georgia, is part of the largest National Historic Landmark District in the United States. It is the national Girl Scout public museum, where one can learn about Juliette Low's childhood and her life's work in Girl Scouting. Many program activities are offered at the Birthplace throughout the year for girls and adults.

For more information, write to:
Juliette Gordon Low National Center
142 Bull Street
Savannah, Georgia 31401

Edith Macy Conference Center

Located 35 miles from New York City near the historic Hudson River, Edith Macy Conference Center is a facility offering training and educational opportunities for adults, and special courses for Senior Girl Scouts. It also has an adjacent site that accommodates traveling troops.

For more information, contact your Girl Scout council about courses offered at Macy or write to: Edith Macy Conference Center Information, Training Registrar, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., 420 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10018-2702.



Our Cabaña



Our Chalet



Pax Lodge, Olave Centre



Sangam

The World Centers

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) has acquired four world centers, each in a different part of the world. At Our Chalet in Switzerland, Pax Lodge in England, Our Cabaña in Mexico, and Sangam in India, Girl Scouts 14 years or older may stay and experience the special opportunities available at each center.

Our Chalet, located in Adelboden, Switzerland, was founded in 1932. A gift to WAGGGS from Blanche Storrow of Boston, Massachusetts, the center is high in the Swiss Alps and focuses on the out-of-doors, with hiking and climbing in the warm months and skiing and other winter sports in the cold months.

Our Ark, the first world center in London, was established over 50 years ago; its successor, Olave House, closed in September, 1988. Pax Lodge was built in 1989, the centenary of the birth of Olave Baden-Powell, in whose memory Olave Centre was established.

Our Cabaña was founded in 1957, in Cuernavaca, Mexico. In this city of eternal spring, Girl Guides and Girl Scouts learn about Mexican culture, customs, and crafts.

Sangam, located in Pune, India, was founded in 1966. Sangam, which means "coming together," is an appropriate name for a center where Eastern and Western cultures meet and Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from all over the world have an opportunity to work together.

Girl Scout Ways

Girl Scouts and Girl Guides worldwide greet each other in the same way and abide by the same motto.

Girl Scout Sign, Handshake, and Quiet Sign

The Girl Scout sign is symbolic of the Promise. The girl holds up her right hand with the first three fingers extended—each finger stands for one part of the Promise—and the little finger held down by the thumb. She makes the sign whenever she makes the Promise, at her investiture, and when she gives the Girl Scout handshake. The handshake is given with her left hand while she makes the Girl Scout sign with her right hand.

The quiet sign is a way to let everyone know it is time to be quiet. Someone raises her right hand and keeps it up until each person in turn sees this sign, stops talking, and raises her hand until everyone is quiet.

Girl Scout Motto and Slogan

In the many languages spoken by Girl Guides and Girl Scouts the world over, girls say some version of the motto "Be Prepared." In this country, Girl Scouts also have their own slogan: "Do a good turn daily."

Girl Scouting at the Five Age Levels

The goals, principles, and beliefs of Girl Scouting as they have been outlined in this chapter, are basic to all age levels. The particulars of Girl Scout program, however, change to meet the needs and interests of the girls in each age group. The charts (on pages 42 and 43) show the progression from Daisy Girl Scouts to Senior Girl Scouts.



GIRL SCOUTING AT THE FIVE AGE LEVELS

	Daisy	Brownie	Junior	Cadette	Senior
Age or Grade	5-6 years old or in kindergarten or first grade	6-8 years old or in first, second, or third grade	8-11 years old or in third, fourth, fifth, or sixth grade	11-14 years old or in sixth, seventh, eighth, or ninth grade	14-17 years old o in ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade
Form of Troop Government	Daisy Girl Scout circle	Brownie Girl Scout Ring with circles	Patrol system, executive board, or town meeting	Patrol system, executive board, or town meeting	Patrol system, executive board, or town meeting
Recognitions	Bridge to Brownie Girl Scouts patch	Brownie Girl Scout Try-Its	Badges (Dabbler, white, green, tan)	Interest Project patches	Interest Project patches
		Bridge to Junior Girl Scouts patch	Signs (Rainbow, Sun, Satellite,	Tan badges	Apprentice Trainer's pin
		Dabbler badge while bridging	World) Junior Aide patch	Leader-in- Training pin Counselor-in-	Leader-in- Training pin
			Bridge to Cadette Girl Scouts patch	Training pin	Counselor-in- Training pin
				From Dreams to Reality patch	Career Exploration pin
				Service Training bars	Service Training
				Religious recognitions	Religious
				American Indian Youth Certificate and Award	recognitions American Indian Youth Certificate and Award
				Cadette Girl Scout Challenge pin	Senior Girl Scout
				Cadette Girl Scout Leadership Award	Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award
				Girl Scout Silver Award	Ten-Year Award
				Bridge to Senior Girl Scouts patch	Girl Scout Gold Award
					Bridge to Adults

	Daisy	Brownie	Junior	Cadette/Senior
Basic Resources	The Guide for Daisy Girl Scout Leaders	Brownie Girl Scout Handbook	Junior Girl Scout Handbook	Cadette and Senior Girl Scout Handbook
	My Daisy Girl Scout Activity Scrapbook	vage to befolk d	Girl Scout Badges and Signs	Cadette and Senior Girl Scout Interest Projects
	Daisy Girl Scout Storybooks			From Dreams to Reality: Career Cards

Supplementary Resources

The Wide World of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting

Other young childhood publications in Girl Scout publications catalog

The Daisy Girl Scout Circle

The Daisy Girl Scout's introduction to troop government comes in the Daisy Girl Scout circle. This is where she learns the formal group decision-making process that is such an important part of Girl Scouting. In the circle, you play an active role in keeping conversation going and in helping to plan activities. The circle meets once a month or so to plan for future activities and to solve problems. You may, however, want to briefly discuss at each meeting the decisions that were made at the last Daisy Girl Scout circle.

The circle should not last longer than 15 minutes and should not take the place of or be confused with the sharing time that occurs at every meeting.

Sharing time should be initiated by the girls themselves while you only offer guidance. The Daisy Girl Scout circle, on the other hand, should be initiated and directed by you. In both instances, the girls should be permitted to express their views without censure. Girls can be made aware of the difference between sharing time and the Daisy Girl Scout circle. See page 58 for more information. Once they understand, they can keep their discussion in a circle to the business at hand. •

Working with Daisy Girl Scouts

The Daisy Girl Scout learns by doing! As she interacts with her present environment, she is using what she learned from past experiences to help her prepare for future learning. She has lost some of her interest in fantasy and has become more interested in reality.



Five- and six-year-olds want to take on more responsibility and want to do some of the "grown up" things they see others doing. While they may have participated in group activities in preschool, they are only just beginning to understand their role as a member of a group. Girls of this age also become easily attached to a warm and caring adult. In other words, the nurturing environment Girl Scouting offers is the ideal place for young girls to learn and try out their developing skills.

In this chapter you will find descriptions of general developmental characteristics found in children of this age around the world. These should give you a general idea of what to expect and where you can start in learning about special behavior patterns, intellectual traits, and emotional characteristics of girls at this level. Each girl in your troop will show some of these general characteristics, and at the same time will reveal all those traits that make her a unique individual. The lists you see here should serve then, as a guide, not an absolute rule. In other words, stay flexible. At all levels of Girl Scouting, the needs and interests of individual girls are most important. As you get to know the girls in your troop, you will begin to see things more clearly from their points of view. Watch what they do and how they do it. As you do, you will find yourself adapting more and more to their individual needs. For example, if the group seems restless, they may need more active games included in their activities. If they appear frustrated at tasks, look to see if the activity is too difficult for them (techniques for handling specific behavior can be found on page 49). You may find yourself regularly trying new methods of working with the girls in your troop. This shows you are flexible in your approach to working with children.

Each of the girls in your troop will display her own traits and signs of development; the following characteristics are meant to be a guideline for typical development in this age group. Some girls may exhibit traits of slightly older girls, while others may still be developing certain characteristics of this age level. This list is a guide, a tool, really, to help you in planning and preparing to work with Daisy Girl Scouts.

General Characteristics of Daisy Girl Scouts

Emotional Characteristics

may want to do things herself to bolster her growing independence

may be purposeful, friendly, and helpful

may be cooperative

may be close to parent(s) or main caregiver

may be curious about relationships

needs the approval and support of adults and peers

may behave in positive and negative extremes

may be afraid of the dark

may sometimes blame others for her own mistakes

can understand rules and tries to conform

is learning the power of words

is developing cooperative play. Usually likes to work in small groups of two or three, but will focus on her own work or play

has a strong link to mother or main caregiver

is developing ability to play with siblings, especially younger ones

usually has good appetite, likes snacks

may tire early in the evening dreams frequently and vividly is responsible for toileting but sometimes has "accidents" if she waits too long or is busily involved in something

Social Characteristics

may like best to play with peers

may like to please adults and is interested in adult reactions and judgments

is family oriented

may need support in completing cleanup, in putting things away, and in being neat can engage in group discussions

may be interested in making up rules for the group

is capable of compromise, waiting her turn, and working out disputes with adult support

Physical Characteristics

may still need help with dressing into outer clothes and tying shoes

may work in cyclic bursts of energy

usually has better control of large muscles than smaller muscles

is usually able to play in one place, but changes positions frequently, usually cannot sit still for long periods of time eye-hand coordination is maturing

needs to experience environment through all her senses

Intellectual Characteristics

is developing language and use of symbols

often questions the whys and wherefores of her surroundings

learns by doing, experiencing, playing

needs to play, play, play

is often factual and literal

can usually learn and remember the sequence of events in the day's routine

usually recognizes her first name when it is written out

can often print some letters, numbers, and words

may be reading or knows letters, words, and phrases

can usually count by ones to 20 or more

enjoys a sense of competence, socially and intellectually

cannot easily see the viewpoint of another if it is different from her own

centers her ideas and her perceptions around herself and how she experiences the world

can usually last in adultdirected activity for about 20 minutes is often curious and experimental

usually likes to collect things

senses space and time as here and now; does not have an accurate sense of passage of time

usually is not extremely interested in the value of money

can often learn her address and phone number

usually likes being read to

often adapts well to school environment

Tips for Managing Behavior

Although much of what you do will be based on common sense, the following suggestions might prove helpful when working with this age level. You no doubt will come up with other ideas yourself.

Points to Remember

- ◆ Build on the strengths of each child. Recognize that each girl is different, with her own unique talents and abilities. Find out what those are and use them.
- ◆ Establish appropriate rules with the girls. You shouldn't need more than five or so rules to guide your experiences together. Setting rules together teaches girls that they can be responsible decision-makers.
- ◆ Develop a friendly relationship with each girl. Let her know that she can trust you by accepting her as she is, feelings and all.
- ◆ Be sure they understand you. While you don't want to talk to them as if they are babies, remember that girls of this age think in concrete terms, and need concepts presented in ways they can visualize. Use simple words and terms whenever possible.
- ◆ Always try to be at the girl's eye level. Sit or kneel whenever possible. Not only do you appear less threatening, you will also give the girl a chance to look directly at you when she is talking.
- Speak in a quiet, pleasant tone. Be sure you are close by when you are talking to

- children, not across the room or playground.
- ◆ Only offer a choice when there really is one. For example, "Do you want to draw a picture or play with puppets?" offers a choice. "Do you want to wash your hands?" implies there is a choice but is probably not what you mean.
- ◆ Keep activities short and varied. Attention span is short at this age, so be prepared to move rather quickly from activity to activity. Also, vary the pace. Have a sitting activity followed by an active one.
- ◆ Plan time from a child's point of view. When it is time to clean up, give a warning about five minutes in advance. When you are making the transition from one activity to another, be sure to say that's what you're doing. Remember to be flexible. If the girls need more time for an activity, give it to them. You can always modify the next activity.
- ◆ Allow a girl to sit out an activity if she chooses. It is important to remember individual needs for each activity.
- ◆ Help the girls learn to share. Encourage them to work together if at all possible. If two girls want the

- same item at the same time, encourage them to problem solve. For example, you might say: "We have a problem. There are two girls but only one item. Can you think of a solution?" If this approach doesn't work, find a pleasing alternative for one of them. Or, tell them they will have a set amount of time, say five minutes, with each item, and then swap. Set a timer for the amount of time you stated, and then remind them to swap when the signal sounds. With practice, this technique becomes second nature to children.
- ◆ Be sure to praise desirable behavior. Comments such as "I like the way all of you came right to the circle," or "You are really helpful when you put away all the crayons," show girls that you notice their behavior.
- ◆ Sometimes it is appropriate to ignore undesirable behavior. A girl who is talking out of turn, tapping her foot, or otherwise acting out in a minor way will most likely stop when she finds her behavior is not getting the attention she expected. You want to help girls learn but you don't want to become exasperated correcting every minor problem.

Handling Specific Behavior

Occasionally, you may need to intervene when behavior is so disruptive that it becomes destructive or hurtful. Whether this behavior is an isolated incident or an ongoing problem, it is important to respond quickly and appropriately so that the routine for the group is maintained. Make sure that nothing you do leads to inappropriate behavior—be sure to acknowledge questions, give girls enough time, and schedule transitions wisely. Above all, be consistent. Children need limits and they need to know that they can depend on you no matter what. Don't make threats, but if you set a consequence, be sure to follow through. For example, if a girl is throwing crayons, tell her she will have to leave the table and stop using the crayons if she does it again. If she does do this again, immediately walk over to her and remind her of the consequence, then show her where she must go.

The following chart addresses specific behaviors.



This behavior might take the form of a girl exaggerating about abilities or possessions; clinging to leader, almost demanding her undivided attention; or constantly asking questions or making repeated noises or actions. If a girl displays attention-seeking behavior, offer the following alternatives:

Set up an activity with a "buddy" and rotate the buddies, so that the child forms attachments to others in the group.

Try to spend a few extra minutes with this girl each week, but designate this as a special time. Choose a time before the meeting, after the meeting, or during snack, and tell her you will talk to her then, but that the rest of the time you will be with everybody.

Help the child see that she has something to give to the group.

Offer to find the girl an alternate activity if she is really disruptive.



Make sure the activity isn't too long or too difficult.

Vary the pace of activities so that a sitting project is followed by a physical game.

Have other activities available for those who finish early.

Try a stretch break for everyone.



Make sure you are giving attention to this girl, and that she is not just trying to gain your approval.

Check that you are not encouraging too much competition in activities and thus creating confusion over expectations.

Try to discern whether the girl is actually "tattling." She may in fact just be giving information or expressing a feeling or concern. Speak to her feelings and need to tell you.

Be sure you are consistent in dealing with children and their behaviors, so that no one feels a need to tattle.

Daisy Girl Scouts with Special Needs



As more and more children become part of public school programs, increasing numbers of girls with disabilities want to be part of Girl Scouting. Our organization has for many years considered girls with special needs a valuable part of the movement.

Today, one in ten children in the United States has a disability, and Girl Scouts welcome all girls, 5 through 17—including girls with all kinds of special needs. Many of the following ideas about serving these girls can and should be applied to every Girl Scout because they help adults focus on each individual child.

Tips for Working with Girls with Special Needs

As increasing numbers of girls with disabilities participate in the Girl Scout program, leaders are looking for ways to make sure that these girls are included in all activities. More often than not, a simple adaptation or an alternate activity gives girls both with and without disabilities the opportunity to explore common interests in a variety of ways. For more complete information, consult the leaders' guide *Focus on Ability: Serving Girls with Special Needs*.

When Working with Girls with Special Needs:

- ◆ Don't hesitate to ask a girl the best way for her to do something. She probably knows.
- ◆ Ask a girl first if she needs help. She may need less than you think.
- ◆ Understand each child's limitations. Be aware of any special medication or equipment she may need. Contact her school or other agencies she attends to get specific information on working with her.
- ◆ Learn to improvise—the more you do it, the easier it becomes. Girl Scout program can become richer when it is adapted and personalized.
- ◆ Talk directly to each girl, not to or through someone else.
- Make sure each child is situated comfortably; arrange supplies so they can be easily used.
- Prepare ahead of time for new situations—discuss, role-play, and trialrun with girls.
- ◆ Don't let a girl develop negative feelings about herself. Help her feel she's an important member of the group. Set the tone with your own attitude; focus on what each girl can do. Your positive attitude can rub off on other people.
- Break down each activity into steps for girls. Go over steps in your own

- mind ahead of time to think through any adaptation that may be necessary.
- ◆ Make full use of the buddy system when special help is needed. Rotate buddies so everyone gets a chance to know everyone else.
- Watch for signs of fatigue. Some children tire more easily.
- ◆ Involve each girl's parents as much as possible, but do not expect them to be at every meeting.
- ◆ Share your successes with other leaders. Ask to observe their troops for tips. Share resources.
- ◆ Encourage girls to ask and answer questions about disabilities freely. Promote girls' natural curiosity by allowing girls with disabilities to answer questions when they are asked. There is no need for anyone to feel embarrassed or ashamed. Set reasonable behavior standards and see that they are met. Having a disability is not an excuse for behaving unacceptably.
- ◆ Show each girl that you appreciate her for her own sake, not in spite of, or because of, her abilities or her disability.
- Foster increasing independence as girls show increased ability to handle responsibilities.



Focus on Ability:
Serving Girls With
Special Needs

Adapting Girl Scout Program Activities

Each troop personalizes the Girl Scout program according to its own needs, interests, abilities, and resources. Whenever adaptations are made, they should be in line with the purpose of the activity. Here are some possible ways to adapt.

Change the method:

For example, if an on-site visit is not possible, see a film or have a speaker come to the troop meeting.

Modify the activity:

For example, in "Kim's Game" girls are asked to look at the objects on a table. After studying the objects, the girls look away from the table to cover their eyes while the game leader removes one of the items from the table. Then the girls look again at the table and try to guess which object was removed. To modify this activity for blind girls, you could ask the girls to touch or smell the objects and try to guess which item was removed from the table.

Substitute an activity that meets the same purpose:

If part of a course requires girls to ride a bicycle from point A to point B, girls who are unable to ride could be asked to do another type of physical activity for that part of the obstacle course.

Let girls share the work:

If an activity requires several steps, let girls share some of the work with a buddy. For example, if an art activity includes cutting and pasting, one girl could cut out items for herself and her buddy, and the other girl could glue items together. Or when playing a game, one girl can hit the ball while another one runs.

Allow for partial participation:

If a girl can complete part of an activity by herself, let her do so. If she has performed to the best of her ability, then she has met the intent of the activity.

Planning with Daisy Girl Scouts

One way to ensure that you and the girls have an enjoyable year is to plan your time wisely. As the children's poem on the next page illustrates, time can seem very short or very long, depending on how much you are enjoying yourself. Planning not only helps things run more smoothly, it gives girls an important leadership opportunity.





LENGTHS OF TIME*

Time is peculiar
And hardly exact.
Though minutes are minutes,
You'll find for a fact
(As the older you get
And the bigger you grow)
That time can
Hurrylikethis
Or plod, plod, slow.

Waiting for dinner when you're hungry?

Down with the sniffles in your bed?

Notice how an hour crawls along and crawls along

Like a snail with a house upon his head.

But when you are starting A game in the park, It's morning, It's noon, And suddenly it's dark. And hours like seconds Rush blurringly by, Whoosh! Like a plane in the sky.

Phyllis McGinley

Planning Your Daisy Girl Scout Troop Year

An important part of what you do as a Daisy Girl Scout leader is to prepare an overall plan for the troop year. Although you will consult with your troop committee and Girl Scout resource people for this general plan, you will decide on particular activities along with the girls. In this way you are helping Daisy Girl Scouts gain the experience of planning by making a series of small decisions. Each activity should be chosen from only two or three alternatives. Five- and six-year-olds may be overwhelmed when presented with too many choices.

Planning with Your Troop Committee

You will meet with Girl Scout resource people and your troop committee to:

make a year plan based on the developmental and interest levels of the children. Family members of the girls should be encouraged to get involved with the troop in whatever capacity they can. Parents and other relatives may have many excellent ideas and resources at their fingertips. The more families are constructively involved in Daisy Girl Scouting, the more meaningful will be the troop's experiences.

A calendar Safety-Wise

^{*}Reprinted by permission of Curtis Brown, Ltd., from *Sing a Song of Popcorn*. "Lengths of Time" by Phyllis McGinley. ©1966 by Phyllis McGinley.

- identify where additional assistance is needed. This could be in arranging transportation, in locating consultants, or in obtaining required permissions. Be sure to check *Safety-Wise* for precautions and planning tips.
- identify aspects of planning that will be left to the girls. Prepare alternate activity ideas. A sample three-month plan prepared by you and your troop committee might look something like this:

Possible activities for October

- > Visit a cider mill
- > Make applesauce
- Visit folk art exhibit showing pioneer crafts
- > Halloween party
- ➤ Juliette Low birthday party

Possible activities for November

- > Service project for Thanksgiving
-) Make bread
- > Make gifts for family
- > Try some Today and Tomorrow activities
- > Visit a Brownie Girl Scout troop

Possible activities for December

-) Make cards
- > Learn about special days in many cultures and religious groups
- ➤ Attend outdoor event with Brownie Girl Scout troop

Planning with Your Troop

After you have worked out a tentative year plan with your troop committee, you will work with the girls in a Daisy Girl Scout circle to decide about specific activities.

When planning, you should take into consideration the Girl Scout special days, American national holidays, and the various cultural and religious holidays celebrated by the girls in your troop. Be especially careful that you do not trivialize these experiences for children. For example, if you are learning about the significance of several holidays, make sure that girls learn more than reindeer, colored eggs, or decorated food.

A sample of the final month-by-month plan decided upon by you and the girls might look something like this:

October

- **>** Make applesauce
- Go on a short nature hike
- **)** Have Juliette Low birthday party
- One meeting for business, with justfor-fun activities decided that day

November

- > Help in a Brownie Girl Scout troop environmental service project
- **)** Make Discovery Boxes
- > Visit fire station
- **)** Make rhythm instruments

December

- Learn about special celebrations around the world
- Plan an outdoor event with another troop
- > Make Birdseed Buffet
- > Learn about magnets

Twelve Tips for Planning a Troop Meeting

The Daisy Girl Scout troop meeting can be a special time for girls as they learn to work together in a variety of fun activities. It can also be an extraordinary experience for you as their first Girl Scout leader. You have the opportunity to make a tremendous difference in their lives. Time spent planning can make the experience more rewarding both for you and the girls in your troop. Here are twelve tips that will help ensure that all of you have an enjoyable and successful meeting.

- 1. Be prepared.
- 2. Plan a pre-meeting activity.
- 3. Connect with each girl.
- 4. Use the five- and one-minute warnings.
- 5. Establish routines.
- 6. Plan opening ceremonies.
- 7. Enjoy a sharing time.
- 8. Involve Daisy Girl Scouts in planning activities.
- 9. Make formal decisions about activities in Daisy Girl Scout circle.
- 10. Enjoy an organized, simple, relaxed snack time.
- 11. Remember that clean-up is everyone's responsibility.
- 12. Finish with a closing ceremony.

How can you use these tips in planning with girls? Here are some suggestions:



Be prepared. The Girl Scout motto is especially important when you want to make sure the meeting runs smoothly! Set up materials ahead of time, and go over the day's activities. Consult with the assistant leader or others who will be helping so that everyone is part of the team. This can be done before the troop meeting or by phone earlier in the week.



Plan a pre-meeting activity. Because girls may arrive at different times before the meeting starts, it is important to have a pre-meeting activity available they can do themselves or with the help of an assistant or

program aide. This gives them the opportunity to work independently while you are greeting girls and family members as they arrive. Chapter Seven, "Program Activities," includes a number of ideas suitable for this purpose. You might try dress-up clothes, puppets, magnets, or blocks. You may want to provide puzzles, crayons and drawing paper, or books. This is also a good time to work on an activity in *My Daisy Girl Scout Activity Scrapbook*.

3

Connect with each girl. Be sure to say hello to each girl as she arrives. Find out how she is feeling. Let her know you are glad she came with a smile or a hug.



Use the five- and one-minute warnings.

Girls of this age need to know when one activity is ending and another is about to begin. This helps them learn to plan their time and not feel rushed. Warn them when it is about five minutes before the activity will end. Then warn them again about one minute before the transition. Your warning can be a few notes of a favorite song, a bell, music, or any other signal you choose.

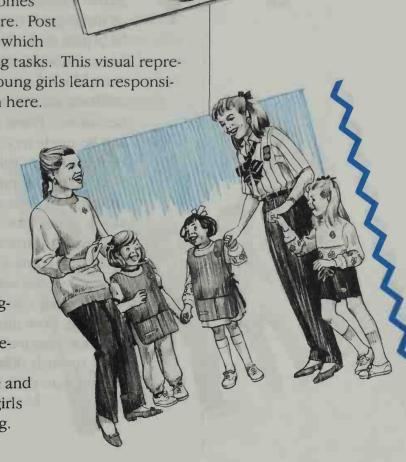


girls interested in meetings and in helping them learn to take responsibility. The meeting becomes theirs when they know what the day's plans are. Post kaper charts (similar to job charts) that show which girls are helping with which particular meeting tasks. This visual representation is especially important in helping young girls learn responsibilities. An example of a kaper chart is shown here.

Along with learning meeting routines, it is important that girls learn how to use the space and materials properly, where bathrooms and fire exits are, and any rules that they have established.



Plan opening ceremonies. Opening ceremonies signal that the meeting is about to start. They are also an enjoyable and meaningful way to get the girls together as a group. Opening activities can include simple flag ceremonies, favorite songs, reading or reciting a poem, or telling a story. Reciting the Promise and reading Who Is a Daisy Girl Scout? will help girls understand their special place in Girl Scouting.



Ceremonies Snack

One kaper should be to plan the opening for the next meeting. You or an assistant can take five minutes at the end of a meeting for those who will work on the next opening ceremony.



Enjoy a sharing time. Sharing time helps develop good relationships and communication. Encourage girls to talk about their interests, feelings, and daily experiences. Be sure, though, that this is strictly voluntary; don't insist that each girl say something. By making sharing a routine part of every meeting, you are giving girls the assurance that they will have the opportunity to speak at the next meeting.

Set a good example by really listening to what girls have to say. Respond to their comments. This will help girls to become more responsive to each other.



Involve girls in planning the activities. Girls this age have a lot of ideas, and if you involve them in planning, they become more interested in troop activities. This process gives them an opportunity to be with people who care about what they think, who listen to what they say, and have a genuine regard for them. This is also the first step in developing the girl/adult partnerships important in fostering leadership skills.



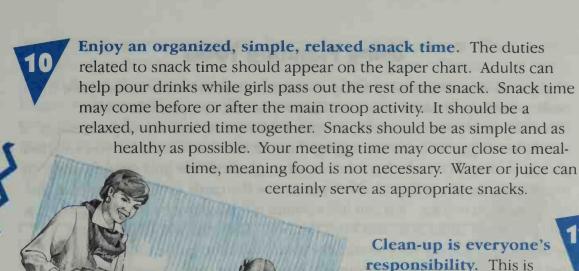
Make formal decisions about activities in the Daisy Girl Scout circle. This is their form of troop government. You can help girls make their decisions by encouraging them to share their ideas, listen to one another, and make troop decisions. These decisions can be made by consensus or voting. You will then need to help them follow through on their decisions. Remember, this is a learning process. They may come up with

ideas or decisions that you

wouldn't, or that you feel are unworkable.

Learning from mistakes offers valuable lessons. If their decisions are unsafe or highly impossible, guide them with questions towards other ideas. Otherwise, every effort should be made to

incorporate their ideas into meeting activities.



Clean-up is everyone's responsibility. This is another job that should be on the kaper chart. While clean-up involves everyone, one or two girls can be "checkers" to make sure "a Girl Scout leaves a place better than she found it."

You may feel it is easier to pick up after the girls yourself, but resist the urge! Cleaning up teaches responsibility and ownership for troop activities. Adults can help clean up as part of the group.

Finish with a closing ceremony. Closing ceremonies offer a meaningful way for everyone to come together before they leave. Some girls can be assigned to help plan the closing ceremony with an adult beforehand. Some popular closing activities include the friendship circle and squeeze, saying goodbye in other languages, singing a goodbye song,

or a flag ceremony.

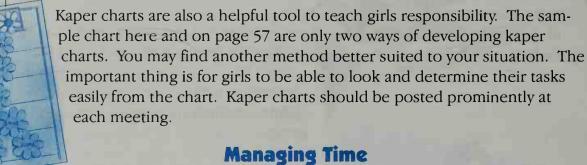
Another important part of the closing is a brief discussion of the day's activities. Ask girls to name the activities they did or to talk about their favorite part. This is also a good time to briefly plan the next meeting and talk about any materials that will be needed. Make the right goodbye connections. Parents should be aware of the importance of picking up their children promptly when the meeting is over. Be sure you know the names and faces of anyone who will be picking up each girl. While girls may occasionally tell you about a change in plans in who will meet them, you should rely mainly on parents and guardians for this information.



Program activity cards Kaper charts Calendars

Using Planning Tools

Along with tips for planning troop meetings, there are tools you can use to make planning an easier process. Chapter Seven, "Program Activities," describes how you can develop program activities to use at troop meetings. If you follow suggestions for arranging the activities into a card file you will have plenty of ideas from which to choose (though these are only suggestions). In the beginning, you will probably want to use the cards each week to plan the next week's activities. You can incorporate girl planning by having a girl choose two or three activities from the box. Then the whole group can decide which activity they would like to do. You can guide their decisionmaking in this process. For example, if one of the cards chosen involves snow, and it is May or you live somewhere where it doesn't snow, you can discuss the feasibility of this activity. The girls might then decide on something else they would like to do. This process may take a little time, but it is an important step in helping girls learn to make decisions. Eventually, the girls may become so adept at this routine that they can plan without the cards.



Look at the parts of a meeting shown in the example listed below.

Activity	Time `
Pre-meeting	(varies)
Opening	5 minutes
Song and Promise	5 minutes
Sharing time	10 minutes
Daisy Girl Scout circle (once a month)	10 minutes
Program activity	20 minutes
Snack time	15 minutes
Clean-up	10 minutes
Closing	5 minutes

Your actual plan may vary slightly. By remaining flexible, you can allow more time for some activities when needed, and less for others. The meeting will probably run about an hour to an hour and a half, but should not run much longer, unless a field trip or other special event is planned. Allow for more time than you think will be needed for activities that use a lot of materials or require moving to a different place, such as art projects, hikes, some service projects, and cooking activities.



Planning Trips with Daisy Girl Scouts

Troop activities are enriched by field trips. The most important things to remember when you take your Daisy Girl Scouts on a trip are:

- > avoid over-planning
- **>** be conscious of safety, always referring to *Safety-Wise*
- that Daisy Girl Scouts tire easily and should not be pressed beyond their endurance
- > to always use the buddy system for troop travel

With your guidance, and with parents, guardians, or other family members, your Daisy Girl Scout troop may participate in occasional overnight family camping experiences. Family camping can provide Daisy Girl Scouts with positive, out-of-door experiences appropriate to their age level. It will also give those girls who are bridging to Brownie Girl Scouts a better foundation for troop camping.

Trip Checklist

Here is a checklist you may find useful when planning a trip with your troop. Try filling it out along with the girls, to make them more conscious of the planning process. You will find more specific information in *Safety-Wise*.

•	Girls and their parents are in favor of the trip.
2	The planned activity is appropriate for five- and six-year-olds.
•	Council approval has been given, if needed (see <i>Safety-Wise</i> for information).
4	Girls are familiar with safety procedures (see <i>Safety-Wise</i> for specific details)
4	The time frame fits the activity.
4	Permission forms have been distributed and a list for those who have returned their forms has been started.
•	The required number of adults have agreed to accompany the troop.
8	All arrangements have been made at the site for the visit, including checking for accessibility for girls with mobility or sensory problems.
•	Transportation has been arranged
10	All money matters, such as admission fees or meal costs, have been arranged.
4	Health records are up-to-date.
1	Itineraries, along with the phone number and address of the site, have been given to girls, their families, the council office, and any

Following the trip, get together with the girls to evaluate this time together. Was it successful? Would you do it again? You may want to help the girls write a group thank-you note to your contact person at the site, the adults who accompanied you, and anyone else who helped you prepare for the trip.

other contact person.

Measuring Troop Progress

Case Study #1 After four months of Daisy Girl Scouting, this troop of 15 girls can easily recite the Promise and *Who Is a Daisy Girl Scout?* for the Law. Each meeting begins with a flag ceremony and girls are able to follow a kaper chart easily. All girls come in quietly to the meeting and immediately get into the meeting routine.

Case Study #2 This troop, with eight girls, still enjoys a lot of play together after four months. None of the girls in the troop has a uniform or any of the books. They have learned the Promise and are still learning the Law. Several of the girls come straight from day care, so they arrive at staggered times.

Case Study #3 After four months, this troop of ten girls has gone on four field trips. Parents help out at every meeting. The girls have already visited a Brownie Girl Scout troop and the leader and troop committee have already started work on the bridging activities that will happen soon.

Which of these is the best Daisy Girl Scout troop? THEY ALL ARE! There is no one way to measure success. Just as all girls are different, so will all troops be different.

You may wonder at times if you are a successful leader. There are four things to remember when evaluating troop activities:

- 1. Are activities safe, as specified in Safety-Wise?
- 2. Are girls involved in planning activities that meet their needs and interests in a fun way?
- 3. Do activities follow the Promise and Law?
- **4.** Do activities meet the four program goals?

If you can answer yes to these questions, then you should feel confident that you are doing a good job!

As the year progresses, you will be looking at your troop as a whole and also at each girl in the troop as an individual. Observing how the troop functions and grows as a group and how each member functions and grows on her own will provide you with invaluable insight to help you work more effectively with the girls. You can use the charts that follow to focus on the individual and collective development of your troop. Based on the outcomes stated in the program goals, the four charts list behavior and actions that relate to each goal. (See pages 11-12 for more about Girl Scouting's goals for girls.) Read over the charts at the beginning of your Daisy Girl Scout year and keep them in mind while you are working with your troop. The lists describe the ways in which you will want to see the girls grow in a manner appropriate to their age level.

From time to time during the year, look over the charts and put checks in the boxes that best indicate how the girls are doing. It will be helpful to do this with your leadership team, so you can discuss the areas where girls' strengths lie and where they need more help.

The charts are just one means for you to measure your troop's progress. They are to be used only as a helpful personal tool and not as a basis for outside judgment of either your troop or your leadership.

Related to Goal #1:

To help each girl develop to her full individual potential.

	Seldom	Often	Most of the time
Girls show that they accept themselves and have a feeling of self-worth.			The state of
Girls express confidence in their own abilities.		-04 17 4/143-71	The Park Street Street
Girls show interest in trying new things, in meeting new people.		Limenti gund	a cream in front
Girls are learning to think of things to do on their own, and to ask for help when they need it.			
Girls are interested in solving problems.			

Related to Goal #2:

To help each girl relate to others with increasing understanding, skill, and respect.

	Seldom	Often	Most of the time
Girls get along together and have a sense of troop spirit.			organización de la composition della composition
Girls listen to each other's problems and are willing to help search for solutions.		Complete Solvers M	TOP INC. STORES
Girls enjoy meeting and working with people from a variety of backgrounds.		victure hand	
Girls give support and recognition to the efforts, talents, and contributions of others.			
Girls help make the rules, if troop rules are needed to guide behavior and interaction.		The second second	

Related to Goal #3:

To help each girl develop values to guide her actions and to provide the foundation for sound decision-making.

	Seldom	Often	Most of the time
Girls choose from a variety of activity/action possibilities.			
Girls show that they can think through choices rather than just follow the crowd.			
Girls are open to new ways of thinking about and doing things.			
Girls try to accept their mistakes and are able to grow from them.			
Girls have opportunities to test their ideas, values, and beliefs by acting on them.			

Related to Goal #4:

To help each girl contribute to the improvement of society through the use of her abilities and leadership skills, working in cooperation with others.

	Seldom	Often	Most of the time
Girls are able to identify what they can do to help others—in the troop, at home, and in the community.			
Girls show interest in learning about the customs and traditions of various groups and cultures.			
Girls show their concern about protecting their environment by doing something about it.			
Girls like to help and can help by doing with, rather than for, others.			الملك
Girls consider each other's talents and abilities when making plans for activities.	There is not the		



A journal
A notebook



Further Ways to Measure Progress

Meet with other adults who work with the children to exchange ideas and observations about the girls and the troop. Gather ideas about solving problems, etc.

Try keeping a brief journal of your troop meetings; it will help you remember more clearly what happened. Write what you did, how you felt, what the girls did, problems that arose, solutions to problems, things girls said, insights they had, insights you had, etc. When you go back and read it, you will discover the progress the girls are making and your own growth in working with them. You will also be able to assess areas to plan improvement and continued growth.

A notebook is helpful for keeping all of your Daisy Girl Scout materials together. Have a section for each girl in which you place permission slips, notes from parents, and other Girl Scout records. This will save time, and, when you plan meetings, you will have necessary information at your fingertips. Other items to keep in your notebook are this leaders' guide and *Safety-Wise*, along with materials your council may have provided.

Bridging to Brownie Girl Scouts

When girls are ready to move from Daisy Girl Scouts up to Brownie Girl Scouting, they participate in what are known as "bridging" activities.





Brownie Girl Scout
Handbook
Bridge to Brownie
Girl Scouts patch
Brownie Girl Scouts!

Bridging activities are done near the end of one age level to prepare girls for the next level. Girls get to sample some of what this other age level does as part of their typical troop or group experience. When they have completed the activities, they may receive a special patch that recognizes their preparation for Brownie Girl Scouting. This patch shows a rainbow bridge over land and water. Usually this type of recognition is presented at a bridging ceremony. Examples of these ceremonies can be found in *Ceremonies in Girl Scouting*. At the ceremony, they receive the patch that shows they have bridged to the next level.

The bridging activities described below are designed to be carried out in only a few meetings, since girls at this age will not understand the meaning if activities are drawn over too long a time. You will play a very important role in helping them understand what they are doing. These activities are written to girls, so let them decide which activity to do when there is a choice. Also, let them do as much of the planning as possible.

Bridging Step One

Learn about Brownie Girl Scouting.

- ◆ Invite some Brownie Girl Scouts to come and tell about Brownie Girl Scouting.
- Read or have someone read the Brownie Story in the *Brownie Girl Scout Handbook*. Draw a picture of your favorite part.
- ◆ Visit a Brownie Girl Scout troop during a planning meeting. Find out about the Brownie Girl Scout ring and the circles they may use as patrols.





Bridging Step Two

Do a Brownie Girl Scout Activity.

- ◆ Find out about three things that Brownie Girl Scouts do.
- ◆ Do an activity from the *Brownie Girl Scout Handbook*.
- ◆ Ask a Brownie Girl Scout to tell you about some of the things she does.



Bridging Step Three

Do Something with a Brownie Girl Scout.

- Plan and carry out a service project with Brownie Girl Scouts.
- Go on a field trip with Brownie Girl Scouts.
- ◆ Visit Brownie Girl Scouts at their meeting and do an activity with them.

Bridging Step Four

Help Plan Your Bridging Ceremony

◆ Work with your Brownie Girl Scout sister troop in planning your bridging ceremony. Make a list of things your Daisy Girl Scout troop will need to bring.



These activities will take time, but careful planning and continued reinforcement of the idea that they are getting ready to move on to the next age level in Girl Scouting will make the experience more meaningful for girls. You will want to coordinate some of the activities with the Brownie Girl Scout leaders of the sister troop. When a sister troop is involved, make sure the Daisy Girl Scouts are not just passive observers.

It is important to remember that bridging activities should not dominate the troop activities and they are best kept to the end of the girls' time as Daisy Girl Scouts. The Bridge to Brownie Girl Scouts patch is the first official recognition that a Daisy Girl Scout earns and she may put it on her Brownie Girl Scout uniform sash or vest.

Tips for Using Girl Scout Resources

Girls at the Daisy Girl Scout age level love stories—funny stories, rhyming stories, stories about animals, and stories about children like themselves.





Daisy Girl Scout
storybooks
My Daisy Girl Scout
Activity Scrapbook

They love to play with words and see where these words will take them. To make the most of this love of words and stories, you can use the Daisy Girl Scout storybooks as part of your meeting activities.

Likewise, girls also love to draw, to play, to sing, to dance, and to do any number of activities as part of being a Daisy Girl Scout. Most activities suggested in Chapter Seven, "Program Activities," integrate learning from more than one of the worlds of interest. *My Daisy Girl Scout Activity Scrapbook* was developed to help girls keep a record of all of these fun activities. You can help them enjoy all of these materials to their fullest with only a little planning.

A description of resources that you may find helpful are described in this chapter. You will find resources both specific to the age level as well as other Girl Scout books that will be helpful.

Daisy Girl Scout Storybook

Girl Scouts at every age level know about the Girl Scout Promise and Law and about the founder of Girl Scouting, Juliette Low. The Daisy Girl Scout stories were written to help leaders present this information to Daisy Girl Scouts in an interesting and easy-to-understand manner. You will notice that the Big Book and the individual storybooks, Who Is a Daisy Girl Scout? and The Story of Juliette Low, are both contained within the same book, printed upside down and reverse from each other to give the impression of being two separate books. This was done to give the leader one resource, while giving the girls the visual appeal of two books.

On the inside cover of each story, a scene suitable as a backdrop for puppet shows or plays is depicted. The scene can also serve as a story starter for girls to make up their own stories. Let the girls think up other ways to use these scenes—they will probably have many!

How to Use the Big Book

Developmentally appropriate activities that encourage reading, writing, language, and thinking skills are important for this age level. "Big books," or oversized books, are widely used for this purpose. Big books allow the adult to show the illustrations to the children while they read the story. Large print encourages children to read along as they become familiar with the story. Who Is a Daisy Girl Scout? was written to help leaders teach this age group the concepts of the Girl Scout Promise and Law. The story format, with illustrations and easy-to-understand language, should spark girls' interest and help them learn the Promise and Law quickly.

Likewise, the Juliette Low story has been written in a format in keeping with the interest and attention levels of five- and six-year-olds. While the sentences are a little more difficult, they are still easy to understand and are accompanied by several realistic illustrations that depict the life of Juliette Low.

Here are some suggestions for using the Daisy Girl Scout Big Book to its full advantage.



Sit in a chair or on the floor as you hold the book in your lap. Hold the book up, so that the pages are facing the girls. Sit the girls on the floor around you so they can easily see the book as you read it.



Read one page at a time, pointing to the illustration or the words as you read. Read the story through completely once, responding to comments, but without really stopping.



Go back to the beginning of the story and read the first page.
Ask girls for comments about the picture.



Repeat this process for each page. When there is a reference to part of the Girl Scout Law, ask them questions such as: What do these words mean?, What is happening in this picture?, What are some other ways we can (do whatever is being illustrated)? If some girls can read the words, allow them to.



After going through the story the second time, you may want to encourage girls to act out the words on each page, either through role play or hand motions.

How to Use the Individual Storybooks

The individual books contain the same words and illustrations as the Big Book. After you have read the Big Book once or twice, the girls may want to read along in their own books (if they have them) as you read the story. When they seem familiar with the words, the girls may want to draw their own illustrations to the story. For example, each girl may choose a different part of the Law to illustrate; or, you may want to focus on one part and ask all the girls to draw a picture of what it means to them. For the Juliette Low story, they may want to draw a picture of their favorite part.

My Daisy Girl Scout Activity Scrapbook

Daisy Girl Scouts will flourish when given plenty of hands-on experiences that encourage creativity and curiosity. Girl Scout program activities are designed to do just this. It has been said that first books must be of the children themselves. Children develop language and literacy through meaningful experience such as reading and listening to stories and poems, going on field trips, playing through creative dramatics, and experimenting with their emerging skills by drawing, copying, and telling their own stories. Therefore, care has been taken to ensure that *My Daisy Girl Scout Activity Scrapbook* is openended and allows for girls' self-expression. While there are some pages with uniform color and cut-and-paste activities, these have been kept to a minimum so that each girl can create a book that is hers alone.

All of the activities are designed to include the worlds of interest and to provide a record of a girl's year as a Daisy Girl Scout. The title of each page refers to an activity that the girls may have already participated in, or one that you may want to help them plan and arrange. Some pages have only a title; to complete, girls may draw a picture, paste in photographs or magazine cutouts, or in some other way depict the topic. Other pages show lines that indicate where written words are to be included. Girls who can write some words should be encouraged to do so; other girls can dictate stories to adults or older girls. Girls may draw or paste pictures with any of these activities. Other pages may have part of a picture drawn, and a question that the girls answer by completing the picture.

One important point to note about the activity scrapbook: it is *not* designed to be used as the main activity at troop meetings. As a scrapbook, it should be used only as a record of activities. It is appropriate for girls to work on scrapbook activities as they get to the meeting place, before the meeting starts, or at the end of the meeting. The scrapbook is also fun when a girl finishes an

activity early or wants to do something at home. Sometimes the troop may finish an activity and girls can record it in the scrapbook. For example, the main activity may be a nature walk, and girls may use one of the appropriate scrapbook pages to depict what they saw and did. These are all acceptable ways of using the activity scrapbook, as long as the book itself does not become the main activity.

It is also important to keep in mind that all girls will not produce the same type of work, nor should they. Individual creativity is to be encouraged. Too often we see a "cookie cutter" approach to children's activities (as in a coloring book, for example), where children are given a model to copy or reproduce. This not only stifles creativity, it can lead to frustration when girls are unable to make an exact replica of something an adult has demonstrated. Offer help when it is needed, but don't give girls the idea that there is one "right" way to do an activity. They will discover their own right way.

The pages in the activity scrapbook are organized to follow a typical troop year. However, it is important to remember that it is not set up to do one page after another in numerical order. The front of the book has such pages as "My Investiture," "This Is My Daisy Girl Scout Leader," "My Beginning Certificate." These should be introduced at the appropriate time—not in consecutive order. Most pages can be filled in with drawings, photographs, and other appropriate items. Other pages throughout the book represent activities that you may have done from each world of interest. For example, "Shapes in Nature" could be completed after you have taken a nature walk. If girls find leaves, bark, or other items on the ground (nothing should be pulled from a living plant), they can match them to the appropriate shapes on the page and glue them in. Likewise, another time you may be discussing feelings. The pages about being afraid, brave, glad, mad could be used to help girls learn more about their feelings. On another day, you may use the play dough recipe that is included in the scrapbook. You can then use the page in the book for drawings or photographs of what the girls actually made with the play dough. None of the pages has to follow a particular order; you may do any activity at any time.

Suggested Scrapbook Links to Program Activities

You will think of many ways to tie the scrapbook into your meeting activities. The following are just a sample of activities that can be tied into particular scrapbook pages. Feel free to apply your own ideas to scrapbook activities.

Scrapbook Links to Activities

Pages Scrapbook Page Titles

3-14 "The Girl Scout Promise" through "My Beginning Certificate"

These pages relate to a girl's beginning in the Girl Scout movement. Chapter Two in this book, "About Girl Scouting," contains much of the information you will be introducing to Daisy Girl Scouts at the beginning of the year. You may want to reinforce the information you're presenting by having girls work on the corresponding scrapbook activity page. Be careful not to do more than one or two pages at any one meeting. Girls may also do a page at home.

15 "This Is Juliette Low"

Read *The Story of Juliette Low.* Let girls tell what they liked best about the story as they describe the pictures in the scrapbook. They can color as they talk. Or, use this page to supplement activities for Juliette Low's birthday, Thinking Day, or the Girl Scout Birthday.

"Girl Scouts and Girl Guides Are All Over the World" and "I Did This on Thinking Day"

Girls of this age will find the concept of an international movement too abstract. You might, however, try talking about the world centers by using a globe or map to show them other countries. Explain that the girls shown on the page are like them, and do many of the things they do. You might also try appropriate activities from the Contemporary Issues booklet *Valuing Differences*. For ideas on Thinking Day activities, see the section on "Girl Scouting's Special Days."

18 "Suzy Safety Helps Me Remember to Be Safe"

Link safety activities, discussions (don't forget to talk about safety in the meeting place), trips, and walks around the neighborhood to this page.

76

Pages Scrapbook Page Titles

19-31 "A Story About Me" through "People in My Community"

These pages are designed to complement activities that help girls discover good things about themselves and others. Look through Chapter Seven's "Program Activities," particularly the sections on Communication, Investigation, Family Living, and Creative Dramatics, for ideas. Also look at activities in the Contemporary Issues booklets *Girls Are Great*; *Tune In to Well-Being, Say No to Drugs*; *Into the World of Today and Tomorrow*; and *Right to Read*.

32 "Play Dough"

Try out the recipe, then draw pictures or include photographs of the play dough sculptures. Talk about texture, color, etc.

33-38 "Things I See Around Me" through "Things I Can Touch Around Me"

These pages will nicely follow some of the activities on the senses in the Communication, Investigation, Outdoor Play, and Construction sections in Chapter Seven, "Program Activities." Urge girls to talk about the activities as they complete the scrapbook pages.

39 "My Invisible Ink Message"

Use this page after you have made the invisible ink from the Investigation section.

40 "Things I Count"

Try some of the counting activities in the Investigation section or an activity from the Contemporary Issues booklet *Into the World of Today and Tomorrow*.

Pages Scrapbook Page Titles 41 "We Took a Field Trip"

This page can tie into any field trip you take.

42 "Dear____"

Girls can use this format for writing letters and thank-you notes.

43-44 "These Daisy Girl Scouts Are Painting" and "How I Make Music"

Use these pages to add dimension to painting, music, or other creative program activities. Girls can use their imaginations to express what they think others are painting. Likewise, girls can express how they make music by drawing, painting, or writing about their pursuits.

45 "Ways I Fix Things"

Let girls use their imaginations with this one and experiment with painting or drawing. Help girls explore things they fix.

"Shapes We Found on Our Nature Walk" through "Plants I Grow"

These pages can follow activities in the Outdoor Play section, or you can tie them into *Exploring Wildlife Communities with Children* or the Contemporary Issues booklet *Earth Matters*. Use bark, leaves, and other natural objects to show various designs and colors in the environment. Try growing plants both indoors and out. Explore the environment and observe changes during the different seasons.

Pages Scrapbook Page Titles

50 "What Is in the Treasure Chest?"

This can follow a story you read or one the girls make up. Let them decide individually what their treasure chests hold.

51-52 "A Very Good Day" and "A Very Bad Day"

These can follow the Feelings activity in the Communication section, or any other you choose. You can also tie it into the Contemporary Issues booklets *Girls Are Great*; *Tune In to Well-Being*, *Say No to Drugs*; *Caring and Coping*; and *Right to Read*.

53 "Can You Make a Picture from This?"

After exploring some of the shapes activities in the Investigation section, let girls use their imaginations to complete this page.

54 "Me and My Shadow"

Try some activities in which girls measure their shadows at different times of the day. Or, let them compare each other's shadows.

"One Time I Was Really Glad" and "One Time I Was Really Mad"

See the suggestions for pages 51-52.

57 "My Ending Certificate"

Girls add their ending certificates to this page.

Pages Scrapbook Page Titles

58 "My Bridge to Brownie Girl Scouts Patch"

After girls have completed the bridging activities in Chapter Five, "Bridging to Brownie Girl Scouts," lead them in a follow-up discussion about what they have done. Tie this page into the discussion.

59 "Make a Puzzle"

This could be about a specific event during the year or some other idea each girl has. They may even want to make puzzles and then give them to each other as end-of-the-year gifts.

60 "Make a Daisy Girl Scout Bookmark"

This page can follow activities from the Communication or Creative Dramatics sections, or the *Right to Read* Contemporary Issues booklet.

61 "Make This Dog"

Help girls follow the diagram to make a dog. The girls can make up stories or perform puppet shows and plays with their creations. They can manipulate the shape to make other things.

62-64 "My Own Page"

Girls can use these pages to carry over work from other pages or to express new ideas or feelings.

Other Girl Scout Resources

A number of other Girl Scout resources are available to help plan activities. Those included here are particularly suited to the Daisy Girl Scout level. Consult your catalog or council office for ordering information.

Troop Records and Reports (available with index tabs)

A three-ring binder to keep *The Guide for Daisy Girl Scout Leaders*, *Safety-Wise*, council forms, girl information, and other Girl Scout materials together.

Safety-Wise

A must for every leader, this book contains safety and security guidelines, program standards, activity checkpoints, information on planning trips, resources, and safety terminology. Three-hole punched for convenience.

Leader's Digest: Blue Book of Basic Documents

Covers all the basic policies of Girl Scouting.

Bienvenidos a Girl Scouting/Welcome to Girl Scouting

Written in English and Spanish, this resource is a guide for Daisy Girl Scout leaders. It is based on the *Daisy Girl Scouts Leaders' Guide* and other Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. resources.

The Contemporary Issues series includes activities appropriate for the Daisy Girl Scout age level. The following summarizes the contents of each booklet:

Tune In to Well-Being, Say No to Drugs: Substance Abuse

Activities that promote self-esteem, decision-making, and general information about the harmful effects of substance abuse.

Staying Safe: Preventing Child Abuse

Learning personal safety skills, good and bad feelings, and finding someone to trust.

Girls Are Great: Growing up Female

Activities that promote self-esteem, good health, and positive attitudes about growing up.

Into the World of Today and Tomorrow: Leading Girls to Mathematics, Science, and Technology

Exploring activities that make math, science, and technology fun while promoting girls' natural curiosity.

Reaching Out: Preventing Youth Suicide

Learning communication skills, self-esteem, and helping others.

Caring and Coping: Facing Family Crises

Dealing with issues such as divorce, death, and low self-esteem.

Earth Matters: A Challenge for Environmental Action

Numerous ways for girls to learn to take care of the environment and to respect their place in it.

Valuing Differences: Pluralism

Activities that promote understanding and appreciation in differences of ethnicity, race, and culture.

Right to Read: Literacy

Learning the value of reading through books, stories, poems, and art.

Developing Health and Fitness: Be Your Best!

Learning to lead a healthy lifestyle by improving habits in such areas as nutrition, exercise, and stress reduction.

The following can help with program activities and events:

Focus on Ability: Serving Girls with Special Needs

Information on various disabilities. Learning how to adapt activities and how to mainstream girls with disabilities into activities with their nondisabled peers.

Exploring Wildlife Communities With Children

Activities for girls and adults to explore together to learn to care for the environment.

Ceremonies in Girl Scouting

A compilation of favorite ceremonies from around the country and the world. Many are appropriate for Daisy Girl Scouts.

Games for Girl Scouts

A variety of games such as wide games, simulations, quiet games, and others. Suitable for all ages.

Exploring the Hand Arts

A wide variety of handcrafts, with directions and illustrations.

Sing-Along Songbook and Cassette

Includes the new Daisy Girl Scout song, along with new and old favorites from this and other countries. The cassette follows the book page-by-page.

World Games and Recipes

A variety of games and recipes submitted by WAGGGS' (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts) member countries.

Your council may have also developed resources for leaders. Check with your council office to find out what is available. •

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

Children thrive with hands-on experiences, whether they are all working on one activity or on a variety of simultaneous activities. Children should be able to explore and use their natural curiosity.



Their discoveries will also help them develop communication skills, social skills, practical knowledge, and a growing awareness of the world around them.

When you provide an atmosphere that allows for multiple activities, individual interests and abilities can be accommodated. You can structure the activity area so that more than one activity can take place simultaneously. For example, you may be working with a small group of girls on a collage of different textures. Nearby, another group can be experimenting with magnets. At a designated time, each group can switch to the other activity. Later, the whole group may go out to play a game. This structure gives girls the opportunity to enjoy several activities from different interest areas.

You can even create the idea of different learning areas by altering the environment. For example, if girls are exploring dramatic play, you may be able to use a table as is, turn it on its side, or hang an old blanket over it to create a special space. Or you can hang a backdrop—something you or the girls have made—on the wall. If you are unable to create such spaces, don't worry. When the girls are involved in an activity, their imaginations will provide for more than you thought possible!

What You'll Find in this Chapter

In this chapter, you will find suggested activities for Daisy Girl Scouts. These are by no means a complete list of activities, but should give you plenty of ideas for things to do. You and the girls will probably come up with many other things that interest you, and you should certainly try them.

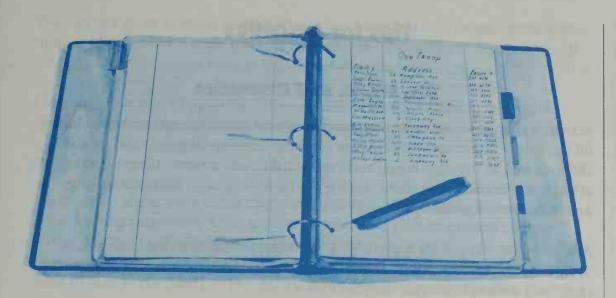
The first part of this chapter offers suggestions for organizing materials and carrying out activities. The chapter is then divided into seven categories of activities—Communication, Creative Dramatics, Family Living, Investigation, Outdoor Play, People and Places, and Construction—and arranged in a "program activity card" format. These hands-on activities cover the five worlds of interest and reflect how young children learn best. You may note that some of the activities overlap categories. For instance, the Daisy Girl Scout Band falls into the Communication section, but could also be appropriate as a Creative Dramatics activity. So look through all the sections to tailor activities to your needs. Also note that activity cards are marked with either an active or seated figure (sometimes with both) to indicate whether girls are up and moving around or seated. Be sure to include both types of activities during a meeting.





Active

Passive





Organizing Your Materials

You can organize your Daisy Girl Scout program activities by notebook, card file, or any other method you choose. If you keep all your leader materials in a notebook, you can set up activities by category accordingly. You can choose activities from two or more areas during a troop meeting, depending on the amount of time you have and how long the activities take. The activities are also set up so that you can photocopy and affix them onto 5" x 8" index cards to arrange in a file box. You can then draw them out by subject. You may also want to write comments on each as you use them, such as: how well the activity went, what you might do differently next time, how easy it was for the girls to do themselves, etc. Either the notebook or card-file system will allow you to add your own ideas for activities.

Note: Laminating the cards or covering them with clear plastic adhesive paper will make them more durable. The easiest way to do this is to photocopy or cut out the whole page, laminate it, and then cut the cards apart.

You will notice the Suzy Safety symbol on many activities throughout this chapter. This indicates an activity that requires adult supervision in using materials or otherwise carrying out an activity. When you are working with girls on safety rules, it is a good idea to show them the Suzy Safety symbol and discuss what it means.

Note: Whenever setting up or supervising an activity, or adapting or substituting materials, be sure to follow *Safety-Wise*.

A notebook or card file Salety-Wise













Scrap materials
Clothes for dress-up
Wooden or large cardboard blocks

Tips for Activities

Art, Music, and Dramatics

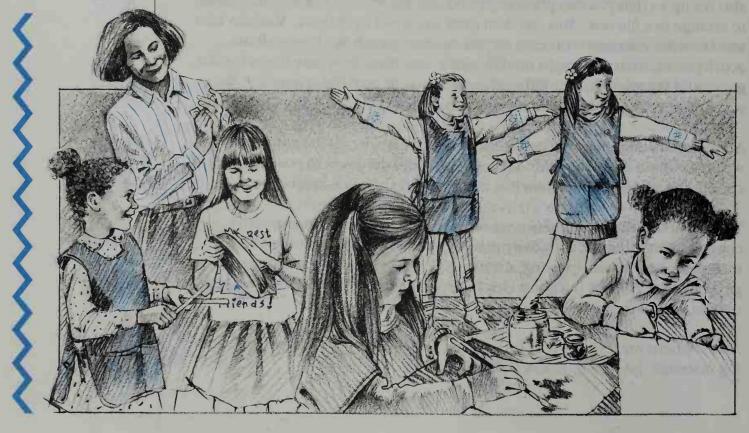
Activities that promote enjoyment and appreciation of the arts make wonderful activities. Music and art activities can help develop language and motor skills, as well as increase social and emotional development. Likewise, creative dramatics activities allow children to build language, problem-solving, and social development skills.

Arts activities will call for materials for cutting, pasting, drawing, painting, sculpting, and craft-making. Lots of "junk" materials can be used—ribbons, cloth and wallpaper scraps, old jewelry, etc.

Dramatics activities will require materials for making puppets and costumes as well as clothing for dress-up. You may also want to provide wooden or large cardboard blocks; these not only allow for a great deal of dramatic and creative ideas, but they give girls the opportunity to engage in an activity they often do not get to choose during the school year.

Painting

With water-based paints, have a selection of clear, bright colors. Daisy Girl Scouts cannot be expected to know how to blend colors. They generally tend to choose bright, primary colors, but you can help them learn how colors blend after they have mixed some themselves.



You can put paint in small baby food jars for individual use, or use divided aluminum plates, old ice cube trays, or cupcake tins for palettes. Use only small amounts of paint at one time as it dries up after one day's use.

Cleaning up is part of painting. Time should be left for cleanup, and girls should be encouraged to learn how to clean brushes and palettes properly.

Puppets

Throughout the activity cards there are opportunities to make and use puppets. Making puppets is a fun and creative way for girls to express themselves. Puppets can range from minimally decorated to very elaborate, but for this age, it is best to keep materials and directions simple. While girls may want to take home many of the things they make, encourage them to leave puppets at the meeting place, if possible, so they all can be kept together and brought out over and over. In this way, dramatic play can enhance the experiences girls have in any of the worlds of interest.

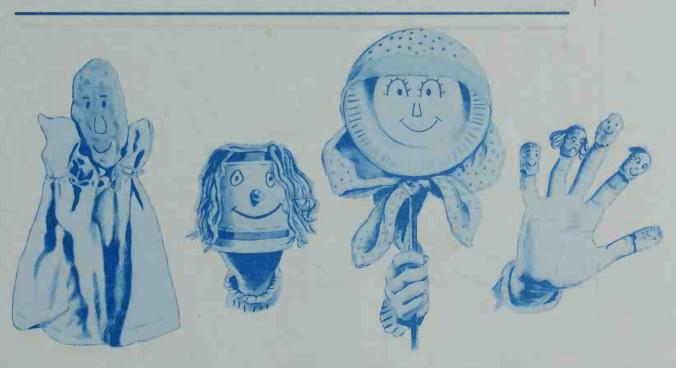
All the suggestions for puppetmaking are intended to be simple, with most of the materials coming from things you have on hand. You may want to have parents collect some of the items you'll use in puppetmaking as well as for craft activities.

Materials to Collect for Puppetry and Other Crafts

yarn, fake fur, string, old string mops, crochet thread, rope, old pantyhose, felt, buttons, beads, markers, crayons, old makeup, assorted paper, old fabric, scraps, scarves, tissue paper, wrapping paper, tennis balls, wads of paper, old cups, foam balls, rubber balls, sponge balls, gloves, old jewelry, silk flowers, feathers, fancy trim, socks, stockings, paper bags, dried apples, and dried corncobs



Water-based paints
Small baby food jars
Aluminum plates, old
ice cube trays,
cupcake tins
Various-size paint
brushes





Cardboard boxes
Sheets, bedspreads,
blankets
Cardboard and table

Ideas for Puppet Show Stages

Almost any surface can be turned into a stage for puppet shows. You can even play a game with the girls by having them figure out what materials they have available to make a stage. The following are just a few suggestions for making puppet stages:

- ◆Cut open a cardboard box and draw or paint a scene.
- ◆Cut out the front opening of a large appliance box so girls can get inside.
- ◆Drape old sheets, bedspreads, or blankets over a table or line.
- ◆Tape cardboard to the side of a table, so girls can crawl under the table.
- •Maneuver puppets in front of a window; the audience sits outside and looks at the window.

Note: While you may want to show girls how a finished product will look, it is important not to say "this is what it will look like." Not only does having each child produce exactly the same thing stifle creativity, it can also cause some children to become upset when theirs "doesn't look right." There should be no "right" way to make anything.

Games

Many items can be collected or made as supplies for both indoor and outdoor games. Some suggestions are listed below. You may think of other items that can be used.

Materials to Collect for Indoor and Outdoor Games

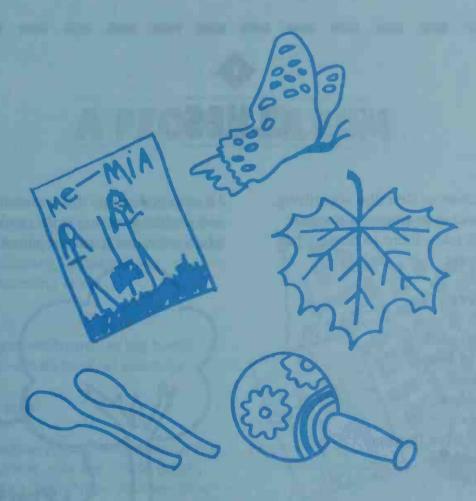
beanbags, boxes, pennies, balls (all kinds made from rubber, foam, plastic, etc.), newspaper, scraps of paper, old socks or hose, yarn, plastic cups, sticks, and string

Program Activity Cards

Communication Activities



Communication activities help girls develop skills in reading, speaking, writing, listening, planning, and problem-solving. You can encourage spontaneous learning by having any of these materials on hand: picture books, activity books, comics, magazines, picture encyclopedias, pencils, paper, crayons, markers, posters, puppets, etc. You might also have these available as girls are arriving or leaving a meeting, or any time the whole group is not involved in an activity.

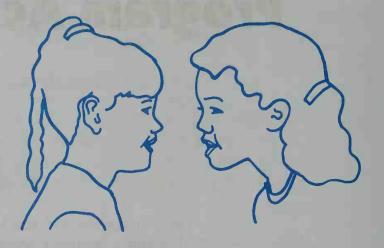




DAISY TO DAISY



The girls pair off into twos, with one person as the caller. The caller shouts out different body parts that the partners must match by touching. They hold this position until the next call. Example: The caller shouts "elbow to elbow." The partners touch each other's elbows. The caller cries "ear to ear," and each girl drops her elbow and touches an ear to her partner's. When the caller shouts "Daisy to Daisy," everyone runs to find another partner, and the calls start again. You may want to let the caller run also, so that a new caller can be chosen.



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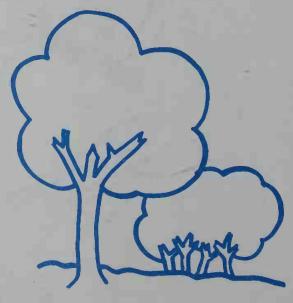


Make a list of clues to describe something, then recite one clue at a time to the girls. See how long it takes them to name what you are describing.

Example: A tree

- 1. I'm tall.
- 2. I grow in the earth.
- 3. I am made of wood.
- 4. My top is green.
- 5. I have branches.
- 6. I have leaves.
- 7. Sometimes I have flowers.
- 8. Children climb me.
- 9. What am I?

An activity such as this promotes listening and problem-solving skills, and can help when attention spans are short!





GREETING CARDS



For any occasion, whether it be a birthday, holiday, get well, or whatever, girls can design and make their own greeting cards.

You'll Need:
markers or crayons
white paper
stickers or cut-outs from magazines or
catalogues
photographs, if you like
glue or tape
children's blunt-edged scissors

Girls can fold a blank sheet of paper into a rectangle or you can let girls design their

own shapes such as hearts or diamonds. Decorate covers and inside pages with drawings or suggested materials.



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People albums can be about people the girls know, or may even be about people they are interested in learning about. This activity can help develop planning, organization, speaking, and listening skills.

You'll Need:

construction paper, wallpaper, or tag board photographs, cut-out pictures, or drawings of people glue, stapler, or tape

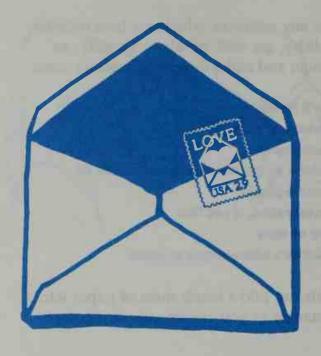
Use the construction paper, wallpaper, or tag board for the covers. On the inside pages, have girls glue, staple, or tape photographs, cut-outs, or drawings. Let each girl describe her book to the rest of the group.







Help girls write letters to themselves and address and stamp the envelopes. If possible, arrange a field trip to the post office, with a guided tour if available. Help the girls mail the letters to themselves; when they have received the letters, lead a discussion about their experiences and how the mail works.



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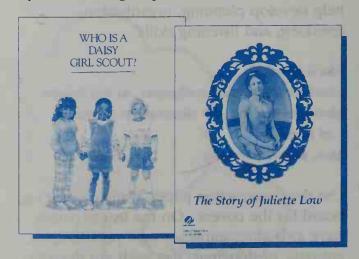
READING STORIES



One of the best, easiest, and most satisfying activities you can choose is reading aloud. Hearing language helps children learn to read. Read either short stories or longer ones in several parts, but be sure to know the book yourself before you share it with the girls. If the book has pictures, take time to have girls get comfortably settled where they can easily see the book as you read it.

Who Is a Daisy Girl Scout? and The Story of Juliette Low are two choices of stories you can read to girls. Big books, oversized storybooks for this age level, are excellent

choices for read-aloud activities because they offer large print and pictures that can be seen by the whole group.

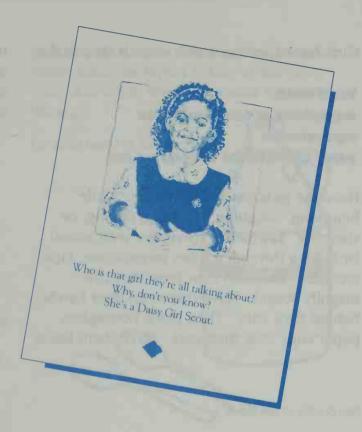




READING POETRY



Poems, like music, are meant to be heard.
Read poetry aloud. You may feel a bit selfconscious at first, but you will find that
children dearly love the sound of words, and
they will be uncritical of your dramatic
talents! Who Is a Daisy Girl Scout? is in the
form of a poem and lends itself to action as
well.



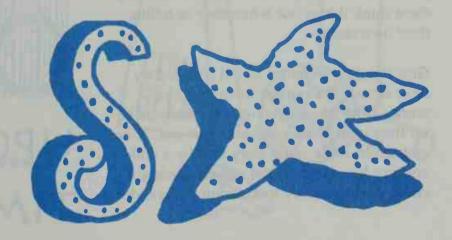
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ALPHABET HIKE



On a nature hike, a girl who sees a natural object that begins with the letter "A," names it. Then they all look for something that begins with "B," etc., through the alphabet.



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SOUNDS WE MAKE

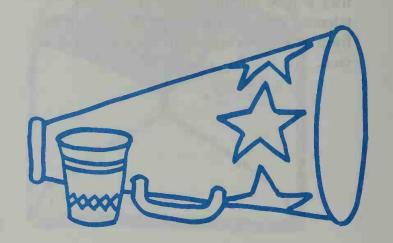


Girls can experiment with sounds they make.

You'll Need:
megaphone or cardboard tubes
tape recorder
paper cups with the bottoms cut out

Have the girls touch their throats while humming, coughing, laughing, talking, or shouting. Let them experiment with sound by talking through a tube, megaphone, tape recorder. Let them hear how they can magnify sound. Have them cup their hands behind their ears. Then place bottomless paper cups over their ears. Have them listen

to different sounds, such as whistling, talking, and laughing, with their cups. Discuss the size of various animals' ears and what this might mean.



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Storytelling is an excellent learning activity for children. It builds a love for and an appreciation of language. Storytelling helps children exercise their imaginations as they picture the story in their minds. It also helps them think things out when they're telling their own stories.

Give the girls a chance to tell stories they have heard. Encourage them to act out scenes from the story. Next, let them make up their own stories and act them out. Once in a while, write out a story told by a child and put her name on the paper. Each girl could dictate a story to an adult or an older

girl, then draw a picture to go with it. Examples of such activities are in *My Daisy Girl Scout Activity Scrapbook*.





LISTEN TO SOUND TRAVEL



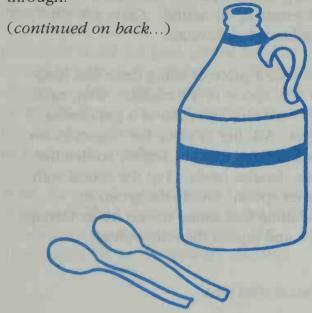
How does sound travel? How can you hear sound better? This activity involves listening to the tapping of spoons to hear how sound moves differently through different materials.

You'll Need:
table or countertop
metal spoons
an aquarium or gallon jug filled with water
a 3-foot-long piece of string
paper cups

Hold the spoons about three feet away from the girls and ask them to listen as two spoons are tapped together. Ask what the sound traveled through to get there. Then have the

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girls rest their ears on one end of the table while someone taps a spoon at the other end. Ask again what the sound traveled through.





SOUND MAKERS/SOUND GUESSERS



The object of this activity is to have girls be sound makers or sound guessers. Have everyone participate in assembling materials.

You'll Need: baby rattle egg beater whistle horn

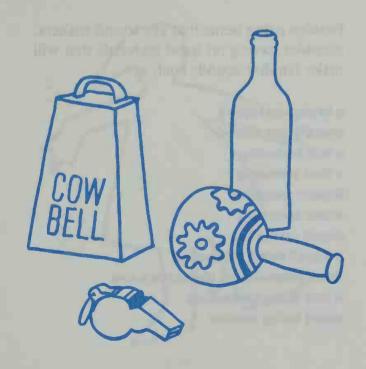
bell

a bunch of keys

any other distinctive sound maker

a moveable screen or partition made from a sheet on a clothesline

(continued on back...)



Now have the girls rest one ear on the side of an aquarium or one at a time against the side of a jug. Put two spoons into the water and tap them together. Have girls listen for differences in the sound. Again ask what the sound traveled through.

Now take a piece of string three feet long and tie a spoon in the middle. Wrap each end of the string to each of a girl's index fingers. Ask her to place her fingers in her ears and bend forward slightly so that the spoon dangles freely. Tap the spoon with another spoon. Guide the group in concluding that sound travels better through solids and liquids than through air.

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... SOUND MAKERS, SOUND GUESSERS continued

Besides using items that are sound makers, consider having on hand materials that will make familiar sounds such as:

a broom sweeping
wood being sawed
a ball bouncing
a foot stomping
fingers snapping
water splashing
paper crumpling
a pencil being sharpened
dried beans being shaken in a can
a nail being hammered
wood being sanded

First, let the girls experiment with the objects to see what kinds of sounds they can make. Then, let one girl go behind the screen and make different sounds with the materials while the others guess the sound. If a sound is not guessed correctly, the sound maker should show the group the soundmaking in progress. Everyone who wishes to be a sound maker should have a turn.

DAISY GIRL SCOUT BAND



A Daisy Girl Scout band can be done very simply with instruments made from materials found around the house. Dried beans or seeds inside a cardboard or plastic container make good shakers. Two smooth sticks can be rhythm sticks. Jingle bells like those used to decorate gifts can be attached to a pie plate to make a tambourine. Wooden blocks can be hit together for the beat. Two pieces of sandpaper can be rubbed together also. See the section on Construction Activities to see how girls can make their own permanent rhythm band instruments. Instruments often used in rhythm bands include drums, rhythm sticks, bells, shakers, and tambourines.

Use the band to accompany singing, letting the girls decide which instruments go best with each song. Or use the instruments to sound out the rhythm of dancing or marching.

Perfection is not the goal; giving girls the chance to express themselves, to make choices, and to work together is. "We are Daisy Girl Scouts" is a good song to try in this activity. Other selections can be found in *Sing-Along Songbook*.

Note: Be sure that instruments containing small parts like beans are sent home with reminders to parents that they are not appropriate for use by younger siblings.

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This is a very creative activity for Daisy Girl Scouts who are just beginning to get a definite sense of their bodies.

You'll Need:
a roll of 36-inch-wide paper
blunt-edged scissors
crayons, pencils, markers
glue
yarn
tape
cloth scraps
colored paper, wallpaper, etc.

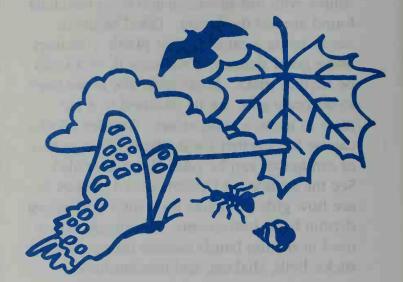
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IMITATE NATURE



Have girls tell something about natural objects—land, rocks, or trees, for example. Get them to pretend they are a tree, a rock, a blade of grass, a soft cloud, the warm sun, a butterfly, an ant, a worm, a bird. Ask them how they would position their bodies, how they would move them. Each girl might take a turn and let everyone guess what she is.



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...ME IN PAPER continued

Girls should work in pairs for this activity. After they have found someone with whom to work, the paper is spread out on the floor. One partner lies face up on the paper, while the other traces her partner's body with crayon, drawing around the head, neck, arms, waist, legs, all the way around the partner's body. (Some girls might need help with tracing.) Then they switch. Each person will have a tracing of her body done by her partner.

Then each girl decorates her paper by putting in as many details as possible—eyes,

nose, mouth, hair, skin, clothes, etc. She may use any of the available materials to decorate.

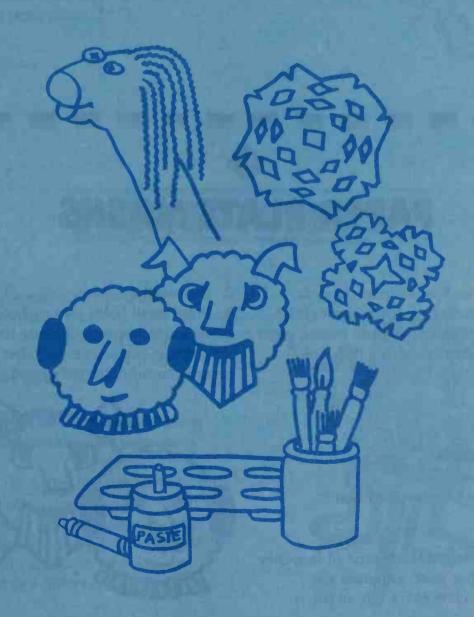
When they're finished decorating, the girls cut out their outlines and display.

Have girls talk about differences and similarities in decorations, size, etc.

Creative Dramatics Activities



These activities are designed to bring out the creative side of any girl. They include puppetry, painting, and other experiences in arts. It is important to remember when planning these that just as no two girls are exactly alike, neither should their artistic endeavors be. Allow girls to create what they want; if you feel you need a model, be sure that girls understand that their project can look different from yours.



LOLLIPOP PUPPETS



Lollipop puppets can be a fun way for girls to express themselves creatively, through both art and creative dramatics. Paper plates provide a simple and inexpensive medium for this type of activity.

You'll Need:
paper plates
crayons or markers
scarves
yarn, fabric, or other items for decoration
glue or tape
popsicle sticks or tongue depressors

- 1. Girls draw a face on the paper plate for the role they plan to play.
- 2. They can use odds and ends to make hair or other features. Scarves can be fastened to the bottom of the plate to make a body or conceal the stick. Glue or tape decorative items and popsicle sticks or tongue depressors to the back of the plate.
- 3. To act out a puppet show, each girl puts the lollipop puppet in front of her face.

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PAPER PLATE MASKS



Paper plate masks, like lollipop puppets, provide expression of creativity through art and dramatics. With paper plate masks, girls actually wear the masks rather than hold them in front of their faces.

You'll Need:
paper plates
heavy string or ribbon
crayons or markers
feathers, fake fur, yarn, or other trim
scissors

1. Instruct girls to draw any type of face they want on the paper plate. (Animals are especially good choices for this activity.)

- 2. Cut out the eyes.
- 3. Poke small holes into each side of the mask and tie a piece of string to each. When the mask is put on, tie the other ends securely around the girl's head.



SHAPE PUPPETS



In this activity, girls create the shape of the puppet body.

You'll Need:

posterboard, or paper or cardboard of similar thickness

pencils, markers, or crayons
popsicle sticks, tongue depressors, or straws
glue
scissors
strips of construction paper

- 1. Have girls draw different shapes on the posterboard to make a head and body.
- 2. Have them use markers to give each shape its own personality.

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For example, draw lines, hearts, circles, or color the shapes in.

- 3. Girls then cut out the shapes and glue onto sticks.
- 4. Then fold or fringe the paper strips to make arms and legs; then glue them on.





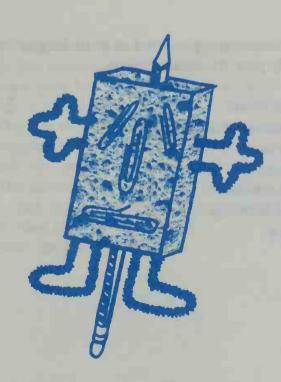
SPONGE PUPPETS



With everyday items, girls can create interesting puppets.

You'll Need:
old sponges (any type)
pencils
aluminum foil, pipe cleaners, paper clips, or
other miscellaneous items for decoration

- 1. Have girls decorate the sponge with the foil, pipe cleaners, paper clips, or other decorative objects to create anything they want. They make especially good robots.
- 2. Instruct them to stick a pencil in the bottom to use as a holder.



RECYCLED PICNIC PUPPETS



This activity will help girls learn about recycling.

You'll Need:

plastic knives, forks, and spoons
paper plates, bowls, and cups
paper napkins
rubber bands
paste or glue
crayons
rocks, leaves, twigs, fabric, or other decorative
materials

1. After a picnic, school lunch, or party, have girls gather up anything that looks like it might make a good puppet.

2. Look at the materials you have on hand. Create puppets that are animals, people, or make-believe creatures. Ask girls what they can use to make a face, arms, or legs.

3. Suggest girls make up a play for the puppets to perform in.



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Marionette puppets are fun to make and can really prod the imagination.

You'll Need:

posterboard or stiff paper pencils scissors hole puncher brad fasteners string

- 1. Instruct girls to draw any character they'd like on a piece of paper, drawing the arms separately.
- 2. Punch holes in the character's head, tops of the arms, and bottoms of the hands.
- 3. Attach the arms to the body with the brad fasteners.
- 4. Tie a piece of string onto each hole.
- 5. Make a knot at the other end of the string.
- 6. Fasten the hand strings on your thumb and little finger and the head string on your index finger. These fingers will work the marionette.

RECYCLED PANTYHOSE PUPPETS

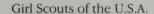


This activity teaches the concept that things can be used more than once as well as creative and artistic skills.

You'll Need:
pantyhose or stockings
old fabric or socks
scissors
ribbon
markers
yarn
glue

earrings, barrettes, or other decorations

(continued on back...)







SOCK PUPPETS



The classic sock puppet is alive and well. Socks are especially good for making snakes, dinosaurs, space creatures, monsters, caterpillars, and alligators.

You'll Need:
old socks, preferably knee socks
needle and thread
buttons
felt
cloth pom-poms, if available
markers or chalk

- 1. Have girls work in pairs. One girl will make her puppet while the other assists. The assistant puts her hand in the toe of the sock so that it runs up her arm.
- 2. The girl who is making the puppet determines and marks where the eyes, nose, mouth, etc., will go on the puppet.
- 3. The assistant takes the sock off so the other girl can sew on buttons for eyes and adds other trim for decorations.
- 4. Now the girls trade places.

- 1. Cut the pantyhose in half so that each pair makes two puppets.
- 2. Cut at the leg of the hose so that the open end reaches the elbow when the hand is put in the toe.
- 3. Have girls stuff socks (or fabric) in the toe to make the head.
- 3. They can make long or short hair using yarn or strips of stocking.
- 4. Have girls draw on faces with the markers and decorate puppets anyway they want using earrings, barrettes, or other decorations.
- 5. Girls put their hands in between the stockings in the toe to work the puppet.

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CRAYON RESIST

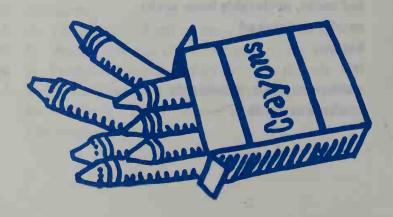


Girls can produce interesting textured drawings with crayon and paint.

You'll Need:
crayons
paintbrushes
jars to hold paint
aprons
large sheets of drawing paper
tempera paint

Have the girls draw a picture with crayon, applying the crayon heavily while leaving some areas of the background uncolored. Then they apply a thin coat of tempera over

the entire picture. If the crayon has been applied heavily enough, the tempera will be repelled by the crayon areas and will adhere to the uncolored areas, creating an interesting textured picture.



FINGER PAINTING



Finger painting is the process of creating a picture or design using fingers, hands, and even parts of the arm to apply paint on a piece of paper.

Finger paint is delightfully messy and should be great fun in the right setting. Be sure to choose large tables with access to a sink, or a place where large cans or buckets of water are nearby. Finger painting is easier done outdoors on picnic tables.

You'll Need:

finger paint or liquid starch and powdered tempera

finger-paint paper (glazed on working side) sheets of newspaper or dropcloth

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paper towels
sponge
bucket or large can for water
washable tables or heavy plastic tablecloth
protective shirts or aprons

tongue depressors, popsicle sticks, pieces of sponge, cardboard, or combs to produce variations in design

1. Cover all nonwashable surfaces with newspaper, dropcloth, or tablecloth. Prepare an area for drying finished artwork. Have clean water, sponge, paper towels, and garbage can nearby.

(continued on back...)



WATER-BASED PAINTING



Painting can be done on the floor, on an easel, or on tables. Girls should be encouraged and given enough time to paint their own experiences and expressions; in other words, no two pictures will be alike. Large brushes and large sheets of paper are best for this age. If a girl offers a word or title for her painting, you can help her improve language skills by lettering the word or title under her picture. This helps her associate her own picture with a word.

You'll Need:

easels (if possible)

small baby food jars, "sectioned" aluminum plates, old ice cube trays, or cupcake tins for palettes

brushes with 3/4" bristles and long handles
paper measuring at least 18 by 24 inches
newsprint
sponges measuring about 2 by 2 inches
newspaper
protective shirts or aprons
(continued on back...)

liquid or powdered tempera paint

... FINGER PAINTING continued

- 2. Dab starch under each corner of the fingerpaint paper to anchor it to the newspaper and keep it from sliding around.
- 3. Apply water to glazed side of paper with wet sponge. Smooth out wrinkles with sponge.
- 4. Place approximately one tablespoon of finger paint or mixture of liquid starch and powdered tempera in center of each paper.
- 5. Girls should then spread out the paint over the entire surface of the paper with the flat of their hands. Allow children to choose their own colors and provide plenty of time for experimentation. Encourage girls to use

hands, arms, wrists, as well as fingers, fingernails, and tools such as corrugated cardboard, combs, sponges, etc.

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... WATER-BASED PAINTING continued

- 1. Cover the painting surface with several pieces of newspaper.
- 2. Have a brush for each color to keep colors clean.
- 3. Show children how to tap out excess paint in the brush on the edge of the bottle or jar before painting.
- 4. Encourage children to experiment with tools other than a brush, such as a sponge. Brush paint over sponge and press sponge onto paper.



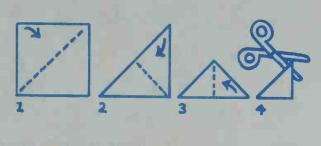


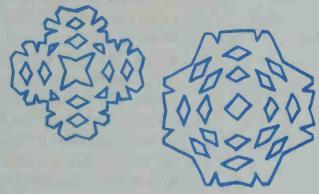
This tried and true activity helps show that no two snowflakes are alike!

You'll Need: a square piece of paper scissors

- 1. Take a square piece of paper. Fold it diagonally to make a triangle.
- 2. Fold the long ends together to make another triangle.
- 3. Fold the long ends again to make a triangle.
- 4. Cut the corners of each long angle. You can cut the other angle if you choose.
- 5. Cut into the sides where ever you like.
- 6. Unfold. You should see many snowflakes, each one different.

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CRAYON RUBBINGS



This fun-to-do process, which uses few materials, results in an interesting artistic effect.

You'll Need:

crayons

lightweight drawing paper, such as typing paper coins and other items with raised surfaces to create textures

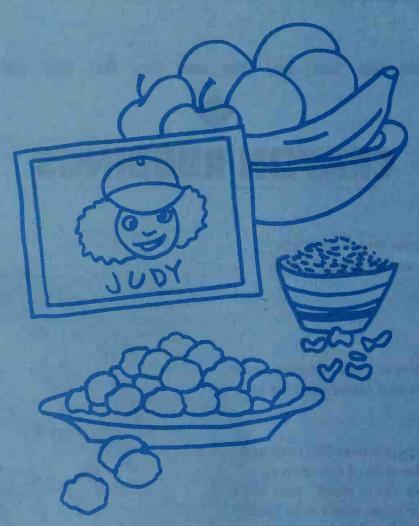
Have the girls hold paper over the coin and rub carefully with the side of the crayon. The design will show up in relief. Start with a coin, then look for other textures to create rubbing designs.



Family Living Activities



The many activities that revolve around family living prove that you don't need to stray far from home to help girls learn new and interesting things. Through the activities in this section, girls have experiences with cooking, nutrition, consumer awareness, and safety. The lively curiosity and desire for hands-on activities make cooking and food preparation a natural for this age group. Always begin every cooking activity with handwashing and safety reminders. Stress to girls the importance of having clean hands in any food preparation.

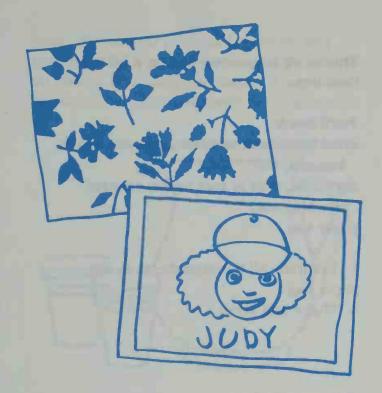


SNACKTIME PLACEMAT



You'll Need:

- a sheet of 9 x 12 inch construction paper or wallpaper sample for each girl a photograph or self-portrait of each girl crayons clear adhesive paper
- clear adhesive paper
- 1. Have each girl glue her picture to the construction paper.
- 2. Let her write her own name under the picture. (Help if necessary.)
- 3. Cover the front and back of each sheet with clear adhesive paper.



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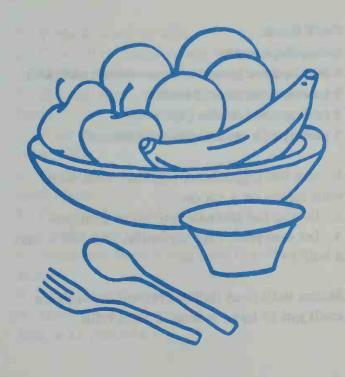






You'll Need:

- 1 apple
- 1 banana
- 4 pineapple slices (canned pineapple slices may be substituted)
- 8 orange sections
- small bowls or plates
- spoons and forks
- knife
- 1. Cut the apple into 4 sections.
- 2. Cut the banana into 4 sections.
- 3. Cut the pineapple into 4 sections.
- 4. Put one piece of each fruit in each girl's bowl.
- 5. Put 2 orange sections in each bowl.
- 6. Mix everything up. Serves 4 girls.





This snack is great to take on a hiking or field trip.

You'll Need:

dried fruits, such as raisins, apricots, apples, bananas, etc.

dry cereal, such as corn flakes, oatmeal, rice bran, etc.
paper bag

- 1. Combine all the ingredients in the paper bag.
- 2. Shake and serve.



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GRANOLA TREATS

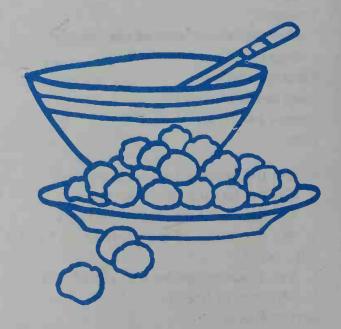


You'll Need:

measuring spoons

- 4 tablespoons granola (or uncooked oatmeal)
- 2 tablespoons peanut butter
- 2 tablespoons raisins (optional)
- 1 tablespoon sesame seeds (optional)
- 1. Mix the ingredients together well with your hands or a spoon.
- 2. Divide the mixture into even portions.
- 3. Let everyone take a portion and roll it into a ball.

Makes 8-10 treat balls. Prepare enough for each girl to have at least 2 treat balls.



PARTY PUNCH



You'll Need:

- 1 large can of chilled unsweetened pineapple juice
- 1 large can of chilled pear nectar
- 1 cup of ginger ale
- 1 tablespoon of lemon juice

large bowl

paper cups

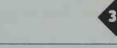
- 1. Take turns pouring the juices and ginger ale into the bowl.
- 2. Stir everything together. How does it taste?

Serves 15 girls.

Note: Before you pour each juice in, you may want to try a taste test so that girls have an idea of how each one tastes. Then have them compare that taste with the final results.



Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.



SOFT PRETZELS





You'll Need:

- 4 cups of flour
- 1 tablespoon of salt
- 1 tablespoon of sugar
- 1 package of dry yeast
- 1 1/2 cups of warm water
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 cup of kosher salt
- sauce brush
- a low table or other workspace
- 1 large bowl
- 1 small bowl
- several wooden spoons

wax paper

- 1. Preheat oven to 425°.
- 2. Cover the work surface with wax paper.
- 3. Mix the yeast and water in the small bowl.
- 4. Mix the flour, salt, and sugar in the large bowl.
- 5. Pour the yeast and water into the large bowl. Stir.
- 6. Pour the dough onto the table and knead until elastic.
- 7. Give each girl a ball of dough that she can make into any shape she wants.
- 8. Brush the beaten egg over the dough shapes.
- 9. Sprinkle with kosher salt.
- 10. Bake for 20 minutes.
 Makes 12 pretzels.







You'll Need:

8 apples, pared and quartered

1 cup water

1/2 cup brown sugar (you may want to use only

1/4 teaspoon cinnamon 1/8 teaspoon nutmeg measuring spoons medium saucepan potato masher stove or hot plate

liquid and dry measuring cups

1. Heat the apples in water until boiling.

- 2. Reduce heat and simmer 5-10 minutes until tender.
- 3. Stir occasionally and add water if necessary.
- 4. Mash the apples with a potato masher and add the other ingredients. Stir.
- 5. Heat again to boiling and remove from the stove.
- 6. Cool slightly before eating. Makes about 8 cups.

Note: If you have enough adults available, you can have them pare and cut the apples in front of the girls, so that they more clearly understand the entire process.

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You'll Need:

1 English muffin for every 2 girls

a jar of pizza or tomato sauce

mozzarella or muenster cheese (easier if already grated)

spoons

cookie sheet

- 1. Give one half of an English muffin to each
- 2. Let girls take turns spooning a little sauce over the muffin.
- 3. Let girls sprinkle cheese over the sauce.

- 4. Place mini pizzas on the cookie sheet.
- 5. Place the cookie sheet under the oven broiler. Leave it until the cheese starts to melt.
- 6. Cool slightly before eating.

Note: As with any activity involving the oven, be sure to point out how important it is to work with an adult. Be sure the girls do not reach inside the oven themselves.

TIN HOLLKOHTZHUN SJEATROS

Investigation Activities



Activities that explore science and math concepts offer girls the opportunity to learn about basic concepts through investigation, discovery, exploration, and experimentation. Because of the way children of this age learn, the activities in this section are concrete and involve manipulation and investigation of objects. Even children this young can learn observation, computation, measurement, classification, and prediction.

Most of the items you'll need for these activities are readily available; you and the girls in your troop can collect them and keep them together. You might want to keep them in the portable kit described below.

You can create excitement about exploring and investigating by gathering everyday materials.

Materials to Collect for Investigation Activities

measuring tools—rulers, tape measures, thermometers, small scales, measuring cups, etc.; magnets (keep away from compasses—they'll affect their accuracy), mirrors, small garden tools, magnifying glasses, prisms, small kaleidoscopes, eyedroppers, rocks, wood, clocks, seeds, seashells, dominoes, puzzles, shapeforms, buttons, popsicle sticks

Other items you will want to accumulate are newspapers, glass jars with lids, flower pots, and sturdy boxes and containers such as shoe boxes, round oatmeal boxes, and food storage containers with lids.

PORTABLE INVESTIGATION KIT

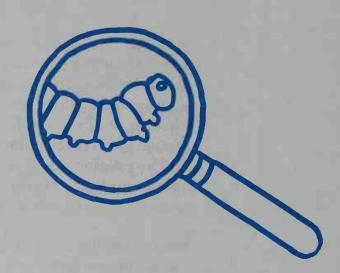


Collect the following materials to make and fill a portable science kit for indoor and outdoor explorations. Add any other materials you can think of.

- old lunchbox with wide-mouthed thermos
- small notebook and pencils
- ♦ small microscope
- binoculars
- magnifying glasses or lenses
- compasses
- old fork and spoon
- plastic or paper cups (like those from a fast-food restaurant)
- rubber bands
- paper clips
- plastic bags with zip-closures

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The kit will hold many things you want to investigate; the thermos can hold pondwater, soil, plants, or mud. The rest of the materials can fit easily inside the lunchbox.





AIR AND SPACE



In this activity, girls will not only find that air takes up space, but that warm air takes up more space than cold air.

You'll Need:

- a plastic bottle
- a balloon
- 1 or 2 deep bowls

hot water

ice

1. Put the opening of the balloon over the mouth of the bottle. Make sure there is a snug fit. If the mouth of the balloon doesn't fit tightly, you can use a rubber band to make a snug seal.

- 2. Put the bottle in the bowl and fill the bowl with hot water. You will have to hold the bottle down into the water; on its own it will float. In a few minutes the balloon will begin to inflate.
- 3. Now put the bottle in the other bowl and fill the bowl with ice. Soon the balloon will start to deflate.

The warm air needed more space, so it stretched out the balloon. As the air cooled in the ice, it needed less space, so the balloon deflated.

MAKE A PERISCOPE



Here is a shoe box activity that each girl can make for herself.

You'll Need:

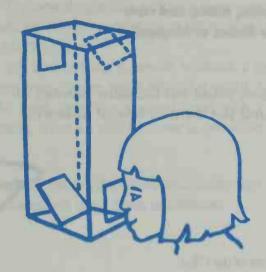
a shoe box for each girl
2 small mirrors for each box
glue
masking tape
paint
scissors

- 1. Cut two windows from the long side of the box as illustrated.
- 2. Glue or tape mirrors across from each window. To do this, put in the top mirror, then put in the bottom one, adjusting it until it catches the reflection of the top one and

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you can see out the top. Glue the bottom mirror in place.

- 3. Put the lid on the box and seal it with the tape.
- 4. Decorate the periscope.



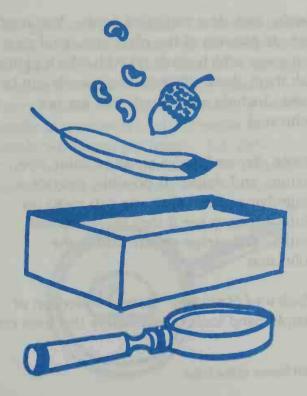


DISCOVERY BOXES



Ordinary shoe boxes can become treasure chests of science discovery activities. Put related items in separate boxes and display them so girls can handle the materials in each box on their own or with a partner. Have a "seed box," "rock box," "piece of the whole box," etc. Girls can help assemble these boxes, too. Have questions prepared to ask girls about each box so that learning becomes directed and focused rather than girls merely touching the contents. Here are just a few ideas of items to include in discovery boxes.

(continued on back...)



BIRDSEED BUFFET



Help girls set up a feeding area for birds to investigate what birds like to eat.

You'll Need:

different kinds of seeds—sunflower, pumpkin, millet, and corn shallow dishes or birdfeeder water

Have girls count out the same number of seeds and put them in several dishes or

birdfeeders. Set them out where you can watch for birds. See what birds come to eat. After everyone's finished watching, count the seeds that are left. What did the birds like? Keep track of the birds that flock to the dish. Remember to fill another dish when this one is used up. You can also set out water and watch birds drink.



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...DISCOVERY BOXES continued

Seeds: Include a variety of seeds. You might include pictures of the plant and see if girls can guess which seeds go with which plants. Ask them about different ways seeds can be used. Include some seeds that are not cultivated.

Rocks: Try and find a range of color, size, texture, and shape. If possible, provide a magnifying glass. Girls can rub rocks on blank paper to see if they leave colored marks. Encourage girls to add to the collection.

Tools and Machines: Make a collection of simple hand tools or machinery that girls can

examine. Ask them to explain what each tool does.

A Piece of the Whole: Assemble a collection of fragments from familiar items, such as egg shells, chicken bones, a pine needle, grape stems, feathers, hair strands. Girls can guess what they have pieces of.

Sense Boxes: Assemble boxes for each sense. For example, gather items that have an aroma or smell, or items that can be identified by touch. Include a blindfold so that girls may use only one sense to identify items. If testing taste, be sure to observe good sanitation and storage.

MACHINES AND TOOLS





This simple activity shows how much easier life is because of simple tools.

You'll Need:
large pieces of cloth
scissors
nuts
nutcracker
several unopened cans of food
manual can opener
electric can opener (if available)
pencils
manual pencil sharpeners
electric pencil sharpener (if available)

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- 1. Take a piece of cloth and tear it into three equal pieces. Next try using a pair of scissors.
- 2. Try cracking a nut with your hands. Then try a nutcracker.
- 3. Try opening a can without a can opener. Then try it with a manual opener, then with an electric one.
- 4. Try sharpening a pencil without a pencil sharpener. Then try it with the small, handheld type, then the manual type with a handle, then an electric one if possible.

Think of other machines and tools that might demonstrate their own usefulness.



WATER STUDIES





Girls can learn about a body of water—how it flows and what's in it—through this activity.

You'll Need: piece of cloth magnifying glass jar with lid

At the edge of a body of water, spend time investigating whether or not the water is moving. Have girls notice the direction of the current. At water's edge, move some stones around and ask girls to observe changes in the flow of the water.

Have girls scoop up water and sediment from a shallow area and dump the contents on an old piece of cloth. Have them look through the sediment with a magnifying glass to observe closely. Suggest collecting a water sample in a jar with a lid. Observe the sample when you get home. Ask girls: What's happened to the sediment? What do they think about the water?



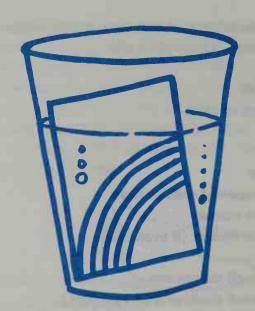
MAKING RAINBOWS



Children love to see rainbows and will enjoy this experiment that teaches about the sun, water, and reflection.

You'll Need:

- a glass of water
- a small mirror
- a sunny window
- 1. Put the mirror in the glass of water.
- 2. Put the glass somewhere so the sun shines on it.
- 3. Turn the glass until you see a rainbow reflected on the wall or ceiling.



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COLOR WONDERS



This is an activity to see how all colors come from the primary three: red, blue, and yellow (see "Tips for Activities—Art, Music, and Dramatics" for suggestions on choosing and setting up paints.)

You'll Need:

a large sheet of paper red, blue, and yellow tempera paint paintbrushes smocks or aprons

- 1. Spread a large sheet of paper for each child on the table or floor.
- 2. Set out the three primary colors of paint on each sheet.
- 3. Have girls make large sweeps with one color of paint.
- 4. Have them continue this with the other colors, one at a time, until the colors start to cross. See how red and blue make purple, red and yellow make orange, blue and yellow make green, etc.



SUGAR CRYSTALS





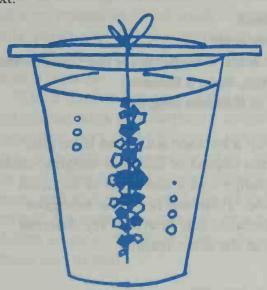
Rock candy is really large sugar crystals. Girls can make their own.

You'il Need:
tall drinking glasses
clean cotton string
1 cup sugar
2 cups very warm water

- 1. Stir sugar into warm water, a spoonful at a time until no more sugar dissolves and it starts to settle to the bottom.
- 2. Cut string into six-inch pieces and tie onto a spoon or stick.
- 3. Wet string in sugar water.
- 4. Let dry and then put into glass.
- 5. Fill the glass with sugar water.

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Sugar crystals will slowly start to form on the string. This will take several days so it is a good activity to start one week and check the next









Lemons and other fruits contain compounds of carbon that are almost colorless when dissolved in water, but will show up black when heated. This experiment will create "invisible ink," which girls can use to write a message in their scrapbooks.

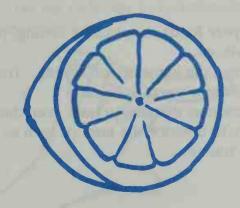
You'll Need:

juice of half a lemon per girl cotton swabs or dried-up pens a lamp paper water

- 1. Stir the lemon juice in one cup of water.
- 2. Dip the cotton swab into the lemon/water solution and use it to write a message on the

paper. (Girls may choose to draw a simple picture if their writing skills are still emerging.) When the solution dries on the paper, it will be invisible.

3. Hold the paper near a light bulb so that it starts to get warm. The message should now become visible.





This activity will help girls observe, measure, classify, and understand the concept of weight and balance.

You'll Need:

bathroom scale

balance scale, if available (or see Construction Activities, Make a Balance) objects of different weights

1. Set up a balance scale and have girls place two objects of different weights, such as an orange and a small can of food, on each side. Point out how one side goes down because it is heavier. Try different objects in the same manner.

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- 2. If you don't have a balance scale, put objects on a bathroom scale. Since they generally don't show weights of under a pound, you may have to use multiples of objects, for example, five oranges and five cans.
- 3. Have the girls decide what makes something heavy. Point out it isn't always size. A pillow may weigh less than a quart of milk.





TASTING GAME



Through this activity girls learn about taste—sweet, sour, bitter, salty, hot, and bland.

You'll Need:

different foods and spices: lemons, sugar, salt, flour, cinnamon, coffee (liquid or powder), ketchup, vinegar

- 1. Prepare foods or spices by cutting, putting in bowls, etc.
- 2. Spread the items out on a table. Try one food, such as sugar, yourself.
- 3. Encourage the girls to taste everything. Be sure to describe the taste of each as sweet, sour, etc.

Variation: Let the girls try the taste test blindfolded. See if they can tell what they are tasting.

Note: Be aware of any food allergies or sensitivities girls might have.





Magnets display interesting properties that girls can experiment with. Have them watch how magnets work with this series of activities.

You'll Need:

several magnets of varying sizes and shapes (bar, horseshoe, etc.)

coins

nails

paper

paper clips

pencils

thumbtacks

pins or needles

other magnetic and nonmagnetic objects

stiff index card

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small box such as shoe box or gift box string

- 1. What do magnets attract? Put several different objects in a box, such as coins, nails, paper, etc. Tie a magnet onto a string. Lower the magnet into the box to see which items it attracts.
- 2. Which part of a magnet is the strongest? Get several sizes and shapes of magnets (bar, horseshoe, etc.), and try to pick up paper clips or thumbtacks from the table. See how the end of the magnet is what attracts the items, and that size doesn't always indicate strength. A strong magnet can attract several objects at once. See how many you can attract end to end.

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TOUCHING GAME



In this game, girls explore their sense of touch.

You'll Need:

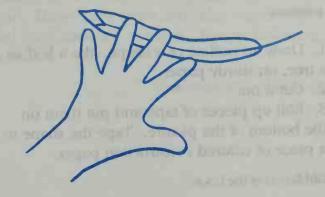
objects with different textures—feathers, sand, velvet cloth, sandpaper, apples, etc. shoe box or bag glove or mitten

blindfold

- 1. Place the objects on the table (put food in small containers).
- 2. Ask girls to describe how the objects feel. Encourage girls to use words such as smooth, rough, cold, warm, soft, etc.

3. After a few rounds, blindfold a girl or have her close her eyes and guess what she feels; or, put the objects in a box or bag and have the girls guess what they are. They might also try guessing with a glove or mitten on their hand.

Note: Let the girls take turns being the leader for this activity.



- 3. Watch how magnets attract each other when faced one way, and repel each other when turned the other way.
- 4. How can you move pins or needles without touching them? Put pins and needles on a stiff index card. Move them around by running the magnet underneath the card.

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SUN PRINTS



This fun and creative activity, appropriate for indoors or outdoors on a sunny day, allows girls to observe the sun's effects.

You'll Need: crayons, markers, or pencils construction paper colored paper tape scissors

- 1. Draw an outline of a shape, like a leaf or a tree, on sturdy paper.
- 2. Cut it out.
- 3. Roll up pieces of tape and put them on the bottom of the picture. Tape the shape to a piece of colored construction paper.

- 4. Put the picture on a windowsill or safe, sunny spot outdoors. Leave it for a while. The longer the drawing is left in the sun, the greater the contrast will be.
- 5. Carefully remove the tape and lift the cut-out shape. It will have left an imprint on the construction paper. The sun causes a chemical reaction with the paper, causing color to fade. Where the paper is covered and sunlight doesn't shine the color stays unchanged. This works with newspaper too. But with newspaper, sunlight causes yellowing.

WHAT HAPPENS IF . . . ? GAME



This game encourages girls to use their observation skills and their exploration skills when they come up with their own ideas for experiments.

You'll Need:

a variety of materials that will demonstrate physical properties that the girls can guess about—see the questions for examples.

This game involves asking the girls "What happens if . . . ?" In guessing the results, girls can respond singly or as a group. Then conduct the experiments:

1. What happens if I put salt in water? It dissolves.

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- 2. What happens if I put a rock in the water? It sinks.
- 3. What happens if I put a cork in the water? It floats.
- 4. What happens if I put a ball at the top of a slanted board? It rolls down.
- 5. What happens if I hold a feather in my hand on a windy day? It blows away.
- 6. What happens if I hold a rock in my hand on a windy day? It doesn't blow away.
- 7. What happens if I stick my hand in a bowl of water? It gets wet.
- 8. What happens if I wear a rubber glove and stick my hand in a bowl of water? It doesn't get wet.

(continued on back...)



BODY MOVEMENT





While movement can occur within any of the other activities, exploring body movement activities can help develop not only motor skills, but also awareness of one's own body, a positive self-concept, and creativity.

You'll Need:

a wide-open play area

cassette player with tapes of different kinds of music

mats

hoops

balls

jump ropes

a balance beam (or beam of wood) strips of cloth or scarves a large blanket or "parachute"

Body movement can involve any kind of physical activity but before, during, or after the activity, help girls become conscious of their body's movements. Point out how it feels when their arms or legs move a certain way. Have them tense and relax muscles to feel their muscles' strength. Try the following activities:

(continued on back...)

9. What happens if I wear a cloth glove on my hand and stick it in a bowl of water? Both the hand and the glove get wet.

10. What happens if I put an ice cube in my hand? It melts.

Let the girls lead most of these, and allow them to come up with their own "What happens if . . . ?" Then, let them see if their predictions come true.

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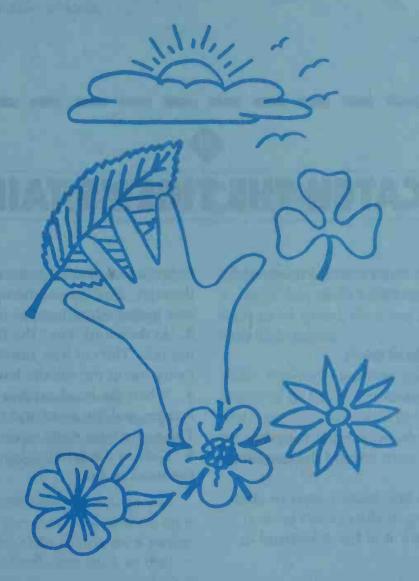
... BODY MOVEMENT continued

- 1. Play music of different rhythms and styles and have girls express how they feel about the music through dance.
- 2. With the help of other adults and the girls, lift and lower the "parachute" over the girls' heads.
- 3. Set up different activities so girls can choose—balance beam, jump rope, tumbling, etc.

Outdoor Play Activities



Everyone is aware of the need for young children to play in the out-of-doors. Outdoor play offers a natural learning environment and can serve as an extension of indoor activities. Activities may include spontaneous play or directed games, single or small group activities such as jump rope, exploring nature trails or working in gardens, playing on outdoor equipment such as slides, sandboxes, balance beams, or in wading pools. Let the girls' imaginations lead you.



HIT THE BEANBAG OFF THE STICK



This game will develop eye/hand coordination and improve counting skills. Its pace makes it a good game to alternate with an active game.

You'll Need:

a stick 1-2 feet long hammer ruler 2 beanbags

- 1. Hammer the stick into the ground.
- 2. Use the ruler to help draw a circle six inches in diameter around the stick.
- 3. Put one beanbag on top of the stick.
- 4. Draw another circle four feet away. Girls take turns standing in this circle, throwing a beanbag and trying to knock the other one off the stick.
- 5. If a girl knocks the beanbag outside the six-inch circle, she gets one point. If she misses it or knocks it inside the circle, she gets 0 points. The first one to get seven points wins.

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CATCH THE TIGER'S TAIL



This game teaches cooperation, leading and following, and large motor skills.

You'll Need:

- a scarf or large strip of fabric a belt (optional) and lots of open space!
- 1. The girls line up, one behind the other. Each girl puts her arms around the person in front of her.
- 2. The last one in line tucks a scarf or cloth in her back pocket. If she doesn't have a pocket, she can tuck it in her waistband or

fasten a belt around her waist and slip it through. She is now the tiger's tail; the first one in line is the head.

- 3. At the word "Go," the head tries to catch the tail. The tail tries not to get caught. Everyone in the middle hangs on!
- 4. When the head catches the tail, the game is over, and the head and tail trade places. The game then starts again.
- 5. Girls in the middle then get turns being the head and tail.

CAMOUFLAGE



This game teaches skills in observation, listening, and being still.

You'll Need:

open space with trees, bushes, and other hiding places close by

- 1. Cover your eyes for five minutes while the girls hide. They must try to camouflage themselves but be able to see you from their hiding places.
- 2. After the five minutes, give the girls a signal and uncover your eyes.
- 3. The girls try to blend into their environment while you try to spot as many of them as you can. You must stay in one spot, but you can turn around to look.

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- 4. After you spot the girls, point at them and call them by name.
- 5. When you have spotted as many girls as you can, choose someone to take your place.





OBJECT COURSE





In this activity, girls design their own "object" course, which involves moving from designated object to object in a specified time.

You'll Need:

stopwatch or watch with second hand enough objects in the environment so that girls can design their own course—such as swings, slides, trees, tires, bushes

1. Let the girls decide how the course will be run. Example: run around a tree, sit on a chair, slide down the slide, swing on a swing twice, run around a bush, run back to the starting place.

- 2. Let them practice a few times.
- 3. After they learn the course, ask if they want to be timed; then see if they want to beat their record.

Note: If there is a girl in your troop with a disability or health problem, skip the timing portion. You may need to offer guidance in the design of the course so that all girls can participate.



OUTDOOR SIGHTS

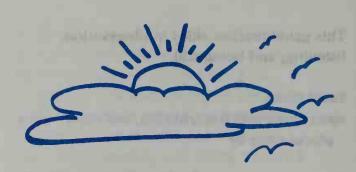


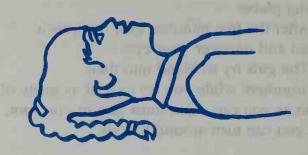
This is a guided group activity that requires no materials but observant eyes.

You'll Need: an outdoor space big enough to move around in

- 1. Everyone lies on her back and looks up. What do you see?
- 2. Next, everyone lies on her stomach and looks down. Now what do you see?
- 3. Next, everyone crawls on the ground and looks at everything from an animal's point of view.
- 4. Next, everyone looks for colors and shapes in nature. What kinds of things can you find?

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OUTDOOR SOUNDS



Though sound is all around us, it's not often we really listen. This activity will heighten girls' sense of hearing.

You'll Need: several blindfolds enough outdoor space for everyone to sit on the ground

Have several of the girls put on blindfolds and sit quietly on the ground. Ask them to sit for a few seconds before naming the sounds they hear. After about five minutes, let the other girls try the blindfolds. See if anyone hears anything new.

Note: Some girls may be afraid to put on blindfolds. Allow them to sit out the activity or just close their eyes tightly.



OUTDOOR FEELING



This activity heightens the sense of touch.

You'll Need:

outdoor space offering varied textures: trees, grass, rocks, etc.

- 1. Have girls touch several outdoor objects such as bark, leaves, soil, and rocks to feel their textures. How do they feel?
- 2. Next, have girls touch these same objects with the back of their hands, the bottom of their feet, and their cheeks. Now how do they feel?
- 3. Have girls stand in the shade; now stand in the sun. How does each one feel?

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4. If there is a breeze or wind, have girls stand facing it for a few seconds. How does it feel? What about when they turn away from the wind? What happens?





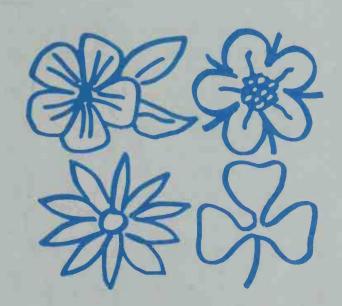


This activity heightens the sense of smell.

You'll Need:

plenty of outdoor space

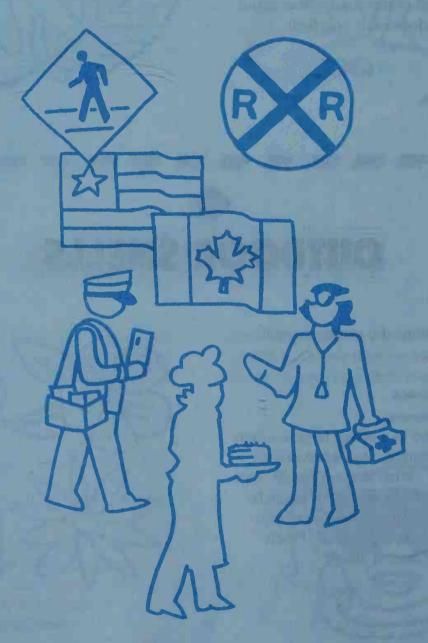
Everyone should be in a space large enough for plenty of movement. Ask everyone to breathe in deeply. What do you smell? Can you smell flowers, trees, water, or animals? Do you smell anything unusual? Can you follow the scent to see what it is? Pinch open a leaf. How does it smell?



People and Places Activities



While the Girl Scout program emphasizes individual growth and development, it also emphasizes being responsible members of families, groups, and the community. Children learn about themselves, their own environment, and cooperating with others while learning about different people and places.



SAFETY TOURS





This walk around the neighborhood emphasizes community safety.

You'll Need: a nice day for a walk in the neighborhood

- 1. Walk around the neighborhood to see how many things there are to keep people safe. These might include stop signs, traffic lights, street lights, crosswalks, bicycle paths, sidewalks, street signs, or construction markers.
- 2. Lead a discussion about these things. What did your list include? Were there any places that needed to be safer?

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Making maps is an excellent way for young children to learn about their neighborhoods and communities.

You'll Need:

an old white sheet

old newspapers or a large piece of plastic to cover the floor

markers

items to add structure and texture to the map: cardboard boxes, construction paper, fabric scraps, pieces of artificial turf or doormats, etc.

1. Decide what you and the girls are going to map. Does everyone live in the same

neighborhood? If not, you might map the neighborhood where you meet. If all the girls attend the same school, how about mapping the school neighborhood.

- 2. Use the sheet as the base of the map. Spread it over the floor, but be sure that there is paper or plastic underneath.
- 3. Help girls determine landmarks and boundaries. Or, you may want to pinpoint a particular location in the middle and move out.
- 4. Let a few girls begin to draw and color in these places while other girls work on a different section. As girls are drawing the map, encourage them to describe what they are doing.

(continued on back...)

COMMUNITY HELPERS



Help girls learn about people in the community by making a list of community helpers such as fire fighters, doctors, nurses, police officers, and mail carriers. Discuss the roles of the community helpers. Have the girls help you arrange visits by some of these people to the troop meeting. Plan activities around the visits. For example, girls can role play what the person does, interview the person, or have the person describe her or his job and some interesting stories. The girls might also make up a story about the visit.



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... MAPPING continued

5. Add extra materials for a three-dimensional effect. For example, is there a bridge somewhere on the map? How could you show it? How can you make the buildings stand up? Do you want cars on the road? Could you use blocks to build on the map?

Note: You may need to help girls space areas on the map. It is not important that their buildings, streets, signs, etc., be exact; the idea is to see where things are in relation to each other.

FAMILY PUPPETS

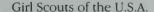


The way children play with puppets can reveal a lot about them. Encourage children to express their feelings by making and playing with family puppets.

You'll Need:

materials for any of the puppet ideas in the Creative Dramatics Activities section

Make puppets of family members using some of the puppet ideas suggested in this book. (See "Tips for Activities" in the beginning of this chapter.) Then allow time for the girls to play with the puppets. Their play will give you a great deal of insight into their family relationships.









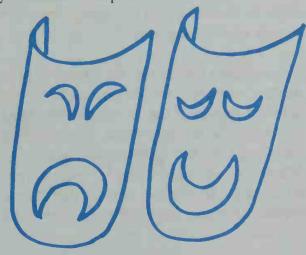
This activity acknowledges the range of peoples' feelings and can help girls understand and accept their own—an important step in building self-esteem.

You'll Need:

magazines with pictures of people expressing a range of feelings

- 1. Let girls volunteer to act out different kinds of feelings such as happy, mad, sad, or hurt.
- 2. Have girls look through magazines to find pictures of people showing different kinds of feelings. Discuss what they find.

3. Be sure to validate girls' feelings by reminding them that it is okay to be angry or upset. Add, however, that though the feeling is okay, we try to work out our problems in ways that are acceptable.

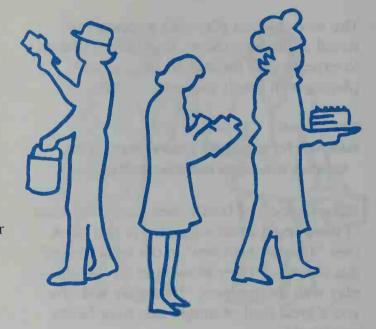




THE WORK PEOPLE DO



Help girls learn about the world of work by discussing some of the things people do. Ask the girls about what their parents, relatives, or neighbors do at work. Ask girls how certain types of people at work might be important to them, such as dentists, carpenters, reporters, astronauts, or musicians. Consider having the girls extend an invitation to a speaker with an interesting job. The girls can ask the person to come to the troop meeting and talk about what she or he does.



Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.



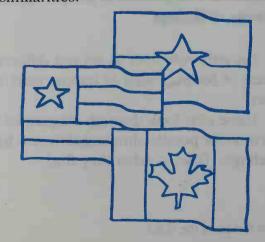
CHILDREN IN OTHER PLACES



Explore other cultures by inviting someone who grew up in another country to speak to your troop. Ask them to describe what their childhood was like, some of the games they played, what school was like, etc. They might be able to teach the girls a few words of their native language.

If you cannot find someone who was born in another country, find someone who is from a different region of the United States. Find out about the weather there, what foods are common, etc. Lead girls to see that differences are what make us unique and interesting. Help them see too that people, though they may look different, have a lot in common.

Note: While it is interesting to find out about different food, clothing, and holidays, be careful not to trivialize any of these. All cultures have traditions that are important to them, and we must make sure girls learn to respect and appreciate the differences as well as the similarities.

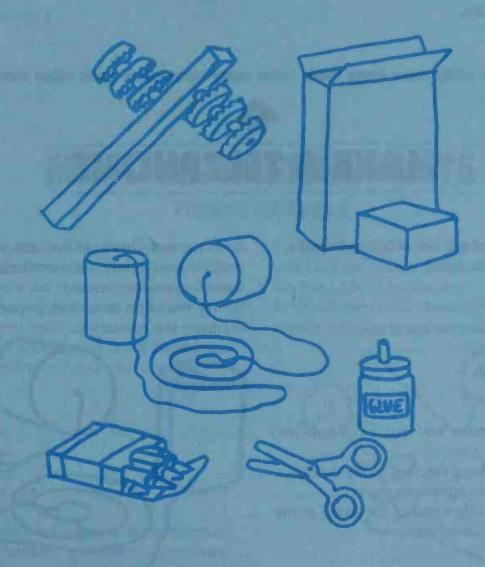


Construction Activities



While many of the activities here may actually involve wood and tools, any form of construction fits the format. Be sure to follow *Safety-Wise* and your own common sense when using tools. Many activities can actually be performed with your usual amount of adult supervision.

Skills developed here involve math concepts such as measurement and proportion as well as the motor skills involved in actually putting a project together.





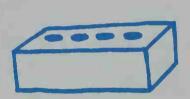
SEESAW BALANCE

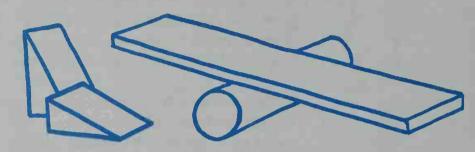


Girls can make a balance that is much like a seesaw to help them compare the weights of items.

You'll Need:
blocks or bricks
a round block
wedge-shaped blocks
long planks or pieces of wood
different things to balance

- 1. See if girls can figure out how to make a seesaw balance using a plank, a round block, and two wedges.
- 2. After they make the balance, let them experiment with several objects to see which are heavier, which are lighter, and which are equal.





Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.



MAKE A TELEPHONE





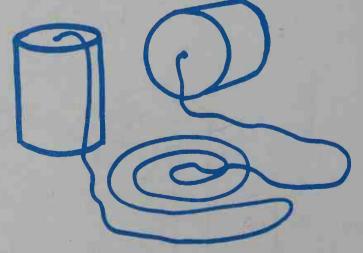
String telephones are not only fun to make; they're fun to use, too.

You'll Need:

2 cans with one end cut out of each string hammer and nail paper cups

- 1. With the hammer and nail, tap a hole into
- the end of each can.2. Knot a very long piece of string inside one can and pass it through the hole.
- 3. Connect the other end of the string to the other can in the same way.

- 4. Have two girls hold the cans, one at each end. If held tightly, they can hear soft speech across the room.
- 5. Try the same thing with paper cups and compare the results.



12

MAKE A BALANCE





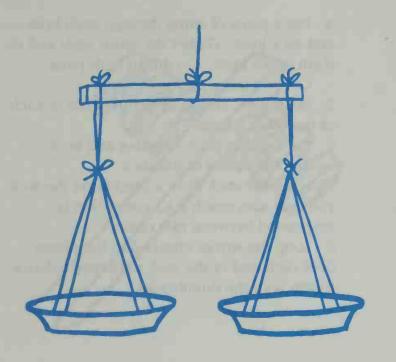
Have girls construct this homemade balance and learn about weight and measuring.

You'll Need:

- a straight piece of wood, such as a yardstick or dowel
- 2 matching aluminum pie tins heavy-duty string hammer and nail thumbtacks
- 1. With the hammer and nail, poke three or four holes evenly spaced around the perimeters of the pie plates.
- 2. Cut a piece of string for each hole, all the same length.

(continued on back...)

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.





MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS





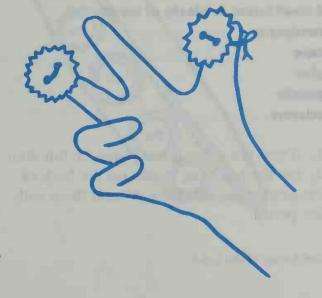


You can buy many nice sets of instruments at school supply stores, but you can also make an inexpensive set with everyday materials. By showing small groups of girls how to make different instruments, you can have all you need for a Daisy Girl Scout band in no time! Start off your band with finger cymbals.

You'll Need:
2 bottle caps
elastic thread
hammer and nail

- 1. Flatten the bottle caps with the hammer.
- 2. Use the hammer and nail to punch two holes in the center of each bottle cap.

- 3. Loop the elastic thread through the holes and knot the ends together on the other side. Do this to both bottlecaps.
- 4. Hook the elastic thread over the fingers as shown and clap together.



Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.

- 3. Put a piece of string through each hole and tie a knot. Gather the loose ends and tie them into a knot. Do this to both pans.
- 4. Cut two more pieces of string.
- 5. Loop these strings under the knot of each of the other strings.
- 6. Cut another piece of string and tie it around the center of the stick.
- 7. Hang the stick from a bracket on the wall; you may also attach it to a stick that is suspended between two chairs.
- 8. Loop the strings attached to the plates over each end of the stick until they balance. Fasten with the thumbtacks.

Note: You can check the balance by weighing two alike objects, or you can try comparing items like a small rock and a big sponge. Try to get girls to predict which will weigh more. Don't be surprised it they consistently guess the larger item, even when they have seen the rock tilt the scale. Children of this age typically equate size with weight.

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MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS





Rub blocks back and forth to produce the raspy sound.

You'll Need:

2 empty thread spools

2 small boxes or blocks of wood

sandpaper

tape

glue

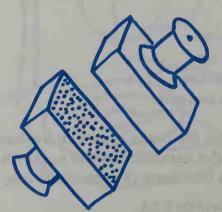
pencils

scissors

- 1. If you are using boxes, tape the lids shut.
- 2. Put the boxes or blocks on the back of the sandpaper, and trace around them with the pencil.

- 3. Cut out the sandpaper.
- 4. Glue the backs of the sandpaper to the lids and let them dry.
- 5. Glue a spool to the other side of each box or block, and let it dry.

Note: Different grains of sandpaper will make different sounds.





MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS



RATTLE



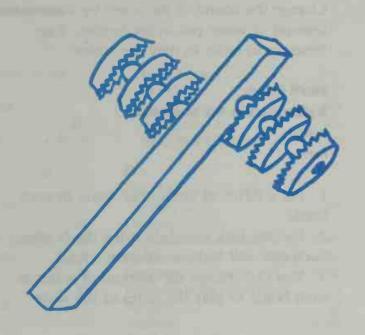
These instruments are shaken to the beat of the rhythm. Two can be used like maracas.

You'll Need:

1" x 2" x 8" piece of wood
12 bottle caps
12 spacers such as beads, buttons, etc.
6 nails, 1 1/2" - 2" long
hammer and nail

- 1. With the hammer and nail, punch a hole in each bottle cap.
- 2. Alternate the bottle caps and spacers on each nail.
- 3. Hammer the nails into either side of one end of the piece of wood.

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MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

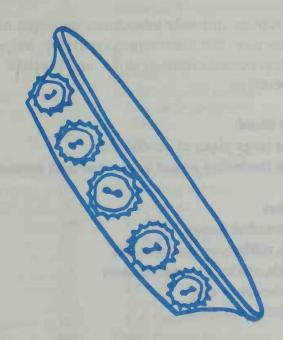




Girls can shake their sillies out with tambourines.

You'll Need:
aluminum pie plate
wire or string
bottle caps
hammer and nail

- 1. Punch holes around the rim of the pie plate with the hammer and nail.
- 2. Punch holes in the bottle caps.
- 3. Loop the wire or string through the bottle caps and attach them to the pie plates; knot the string.





MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS



BOTTLE CHIMES

Change the sound of the notes by varying the amount of water put in the bottles. Line them up in order to play the scales.

You'll Need:

8 glass bottles the same size water fork

- 1. Put a different amount of water in each bottle.
- 2. Use the fork to lightly strike the bottles. Each one will make a different sound.
- 3. You can change the amount of water in each bottle to play the notes of the scale.



Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.

BUILD A CITY

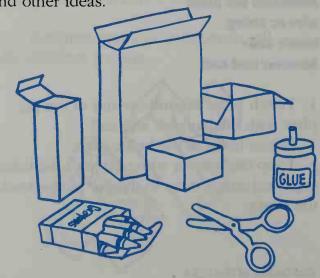


This activity not only introduces concepts of architecture, but encourages creativity, helps develop communication skills, and teaches cooperation.

You'll Need:

a very large piece of cardboard boxes (including cereal boxes and milk cartons) glue scissors construction paper foam, rubber, or sponge balls dowels, sticks, or pipe cleaners play dough or clay

Help girls make their own city or town using the materials. They can use their city as the basis for dramatic play, for talking about the work people do, what happens in a town, and other ideas.



markers or crayons

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