



# First Five Meetings: Girl Scout Daisy

Sample Meetings for New Troops



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Welcome to Girl Scout Daisies!

This booklet has five sample meetings that you can use with your troop. They are just that - samples. Feel free to alter the plans to meet the needs of the girls and your troop's resources.

During these five meetings, there are opportunities for girls to make choices and to plan future activities. Girls who are in troops that are Girl Led - meaning they have opportunities to actually plan what they do - are happier in their troop and are becoming leaders right before your eyes.

Be sure to use this booklet in conjunction with *Volunteer Essentials*, which is found online at [www.gsofct.org](http://www.gsofct.org), on the Volunteer tab. Safety is a must, so become familiar with the *Safety Activity Checkpoints*, found on the same Volunteer tab.

As a Troop Volunteer, you have many resources available to you. In order for the girls to be able to plan well, become familiar with and share the following resources /information with the girls.

- *The Girls Guide to Girl Scouting*
- *Additional Badge Sets (Brownies- Seniors)*
- Grade Level Journeys
- *GSOFACT Program Resource Guide*; look at both Events and Program Resources
- GSOFACT Online Newsletters: *Helpful Hints, Bridges, & E-Blast*
- Information at your Service Unit Meeting
- [www.gsofct.org](http://www.gsofct.org): Get to know the Participate and Volunteer tabs. Also check out the Communities - a place for Adult Volunteers to ask questions and share information. On the main page you can click links to our social media sites.
- People! Speak with and ask questions of experienced and new Volunteers. Reach out to GSOFACT staff as well. Whether in Membership, Program Services, Volunteer Development, or other departments, we are here to help make the Girl Scout experience the best possible one for you and the girls.
- As you get to know the girls and their families, set the expectation that families participate any way they can. When the troop starts to use a Journey, use the tools for connecting families to the troop experience.

# Sample First Five Meeting Plans: Girl Scout Daisy Meeting Snapshot

Remember, these sample meetings are just that, samples. The intent is to give a suggested guideline for troops unsure of what to do...now that you're a Girl Scout Daisy Troop! Feel free to adjust to fit your troop's needs and resources.

## Meeting 1

Introductions

Girl Scout Basics: Introduce the Promise and Law, Kapers & Quiet Sign.  
Icebreakers - Let's have fun and get to know each other!  
Create Troop Agreement - how should we behave and treat each other?  
Girl Scout Sign craft

## Meeting 2

What we like & what are our options?

Intro to options - Girls Guide, Petals and Leaves, Journeys, trips, etc...  
"About Me" artwork - What are *your* interests?  
Create Troop hope map - What do we hope to do in our troop?  
Service Project - provide choice of options or solicit ideas.

## Meeting 3

Traditions & girl planning

Play a game & learn about Juliette Gordon Low.  
Service project  
Daisy Center Award activity  
Plan an Investiture Ceremony.

## Meeting 4

Sample, choose & celebrate

Sample Journey topics and activities  
Come to consensus - which Journey will we do first?  
Investiture Ceremony

## Meeting 5

Start Journey & implement planned activity

Begin your Journey - use some of the sample session activities  
Pick a petal award to earn.  
Plan for next meeting

# Daisy Meeting 1

## AT A GLANCE

### Notes:

From the start, ask & expect adult family members to help with the meetings. Consider asking different families to bring snack, take turns as meeting helpers etc...

- Opening Ceremony:  
Daisy Circle
- Girl Scout Promise & Law
- Quiet Sign & Kapers
- Get to Know You Games
- Troop Agreement
- Snack (optional)
- Girl Scout Sign “flower”
- Closing: one thing ...

### MATERIALS

- Crayons and white paper
- Girl Scout Promise and Law written on large paper
- Small flag if you wish to include the Pledge of Allegiance in your opening
- Kaper Chart
- Ball (beach or playground size) with numerals 1- 10 written on it
- Large paper and markers
- For Girl Scout Sign Flower: Paper, pencils, scissors, small sticks or pop sticks, markers, glue, paper cups or small clay pots, modeling clay to fill the base of each cup/pot, small card or label with Girl Scout Promise on it, string to attach
- Snack (optional)

### PREPARE AHEAD

- Write the Girl Scout Promise and the Girl Scout Law on sheets of large paper.
- Make a *Kaper Chart*. This is a tool that lists and assigns girls a job for each meeting. Although it might be easier & quicker to do things yourself, it is important for girls to take these roles. Jobs could be: attendance, leading the opening ceremony, passing out supplies, snack, sweeping, closing... a simple list on cardboard, with the girls names written on wooden clothespins allows you to easily change the chart.
- With a permanent marker, write numerals on the ball , 1-10 is fine. You can re-use this ball for many activities.
- Practice making a Girl Scout Sign flower so that you can better help the girls during the meeting.
- Prepare snack or ask others to bring. (Optional)

# Daisy Meeting 1

## Start Up

As girls arrive, have them check in with you and then guide them to the table with crayons and white paper. Invite them to draw a picture. This will help girls ease into the troop meeting setting and keep them occupied while everyone arrives. Assign one adult to stay at the table, and another to greet the girls. Be sure to have girls clean up their spaces before going to Opening.

## Opening

Ask girls to form a circle, standing. If they hold hands at first, then drop hands, it will help them form the circle. Don't worry, after a few times they'll "circle up" easily.

Introduce yourself and ask each girl to say her name.

Explain that at the start of every meeting we'll be having a *Daisy Circle*. Ask one girl to hold the flag as the girls say the Pledge of Allegiance. At the end, "post" or place the flag to the side.

Show girls how to make the Girl Scout Sign with their right hand. (Three fingers straight up, with their pinky bent, and thumb hugging their pinky.)

Recite the Girl Scout Promise. You can say the whole thing through as they listen and then ask them to repeat after you, as you say the Promise, line by line. Let the girls know that Girl Scouts around the world all make this promise to each other.

Remind the girls that at the end of the Girl Scout Promise, it mentions the Girl Scout Law. The Law helps us remember how we should behave and treat others. Review quickly, line by line. If you wish ask girls to give an example of how a part of the law can be used in everyday life. i.e. "Use resources wisely" could mean turning off water while brushing your teeth, or putting the amount of food on your plate that you know you will be able to eat. Later in the meeting you'll be talking about what "being a sister to every Girl Scout" means for your troop.

## Business

Quiet Sign: Explain that all Girl Scouts use the Quiet sign. The sign is when a person holds up their right hand high in the air. When you see someone with their hand up, it means that someone has an important announcement to make and that everyone should be quiet. As they are quiet, they should put up their hand to help others realize that "the sign is up".

## Notes:

If adults are staying for the meeting, encourage them to assist, but not do things for the girls.

When you make the Girl Scout Sign, the three fingers represent the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise.

When making the Quiet sign, hold all five of your fingers upright.

# Daisy Meeting 1

## Notes:

An online search for Kaper Charts for Daisies will bring you a slew of ideas. A Kaper Chart can be as simple as you want - as long as it functions. You might want to wait to make an intricate one after you've found all of the kapers needed at your meetings.

When planning a meeting, remember to mix up active & quiet activities. It is also a good idea to give girls opportunities to interact as a whole group, in small groups, or with partners.

## **Business, cont...**

Practice using the Quiet Sign. Ask girls what they'll do when they see the Quiet Sign. Next, invite girls to talk loudly while in the circle. Put up the quiet sign and wait till everyone is quiet and has their hand up. Practice a few times, if necessary. How fast can they spread the quiet sign? Congratulate the girls for being observant.

Kaper Chart: Explain that since this is the girls' meeting everyone has an opportunity and responsibility to help make the meetings work. Ask if girls have any jobs that they have at home. Show the girls the Kaper Chart, and explain the jobs. Reassure girls that they will have different kapers each meeting, and that everyone knows that they'll need to learn how to do them. If they have any questions, it is good for them to ask each other and the adults.

Thank the girls for being attentive and respectful of each other during the Opening and Business portions of their meeting. Recognizing that it may be time to get up and move around, we're going to play some games.

## **Activity 1 - Get To Know You Games**

### *Yes, No, Maybe*

Tell the girls that one side of the room is "YES", the opposite side is "NO", and in the Middle is "Maybe, or Sometimes". When you make a statement, girls should go to the spot of the room that best reflects their answer. For instance, if you say "I'm a girl", where would you go? (encourage girls to point to the YES side.). If you said "I drive a truck" where would they go?

Now give them a few statements and ask them to go to one side or the other - keep going until they look like they are beginning to tire of going back and forth. This is a good opportunity to look at similarities with the girls. Here are some suggestions - then add some of your own.

- I have a brother
- I have a sister
- I'm an only child
- I like to sleep late in the morning
- I like to play a sport
- I like to try new things
- I have a pet in my home
- I like to ride bikes
- I've been on an airplane

# Daisy Meeting 1

## **Activity 1 - Get To Know You Games, cont...**

### ***Name Game***

Have girls form a circle, standing. Ask them to go around the circle and say their name loudly for all to hear (repeat for any girl who is quiet). Explain that we're going to pass the ball around the circle so that everyone has a chance to catch and toss the ball. When you get the ball, say, "(your name) and to (the name of the person you're tossing it to)".

Since there are people we don't all know, you may need to ask the girl who you're going to toss the ball to what her name is - you can ask or point to that girl so that she can give you her name. When you've had a turn with the ball, put one of your feet into the circle. This will tell other girls that they should pass the ball to someone else.

Try making the ball go one time around. Do the girls remember who tossed the ball to them, and who they tossed it to? Ask them to point to those people. Challenge the girls to have the ball make the same pattern around the circle, but this time go a little faster. Does anyone have suggestions or strategies for making this happen faster? Try it. Ask what happened? Explain that we'll try it one more time - does anyone have any suggestions?

### ***Answer Me This***

This time as you pass the numbered ball around, it can go in any direction. When you catch the ball, look at the number closest to your right thumb. Each girl will say the number which correlates to one of the *Answer Me This* Questions. Ask one adult to read the question when a girl says a number. Keep going until everyone has had a turn. Ask girls if they want to use the "put a foot in the center" signal again for this game. Questions: (you can make up your own list - these are just suggestions)

1. What do you like to do outside?
2. What is one of your favorite foods?
3. When it is raining, what do you like to do?
4. Have you ever built a sandcastle - where?
5. When you're at home, what is a favorite thing to do?
6. Where do you like to go/or visit?
7. What do you want to learn how to do?
8. Do you have a favorite part of school - what is it?
9. What is your favorite flavor of ice cream?
10. If you could do anything all day long, what would that be?

Positively reinforce girls' actions as they play: "I can see that you're really paying attention", "you're being respectful of each other as you take turns", etc...

Notes:

If you have a hard time remembering names, it is fine to give girls nametags, or take a photo of everyone so that you can practice linking their name to their face. Consider adding their photo to their Kaper Chart marker.

# Daisy Meeting 1

Notes:

When deciding on snacks, be sure to make everyone aware of any allergies that affect the group.

Use snack as an opportunity to teach healthy lifestyle choices, encouraging a variety of foods rather than always a refined, sweet snack.

Even though it may be easier for adults to swoop in and clean up, Girl Scouts need to learn to leave a place in as good or better condition than they found it.

## **Activity 2 - Troop Agreement**

Ask girls to think of ways that they'd like to be treated during Girl Scouts. What are some expectations we can have for each other? Examples could include: How to talk to each other, keeping our meeting place clean, following rules, asking questions when we're unsure, respect...

On a large sheet of paper, write "Troop Agreement", underneath, record the girls thoughts - be sure to keep them in a positive format. Rather than "No yelling", coach the girls to say something like "use inside voices" or "Speak so people can understand you".

At the end, have girls write their names or initials on the paper.

## **Activity 3 - Snack (optional)**

### **Activity 4 - Girl Scout Sign Flower**

Using a cut-out hand traced on paper, girls will fold the fingers into the Girl Scout Sign, to make a flower shape.

How to:

- Trace girls hands on paper. Be sure pinky and thumb are separated from the other fingers. If the girls' hands are too small, you might trace an adult's hand. Cut out shapes.
- Fold and glue the pinky and thumb down to form the Girl Scout Sign, and making the "flower" shape.
- If desired, color the "flower" with markers.
- Glue the flower onto a stick, making the stem.
- Push clay into the bottom of the small cup/pot.
- Stick the flower stem into the clay so that it stays upright.
- Add the Girl Scout label or card to the pot or hang from the stem.
- Optional: add leaves, or make more than one flower for each stem, or pot.

## **Clean Up**

Give specific instructions on how and where things should be put away. "Put all markers back into the large plastic bag Sue is holding. When the bag is full, Sue, put the bag in the box." "make sure to pick up paper scraps on the floor and throw them in the trash", "push in all the chairs", "if you're not sure what to do next, ask if there is anything else you can help with"

When clean up is done, come to our Daisy Circle for Closing.



# Daisy Meeting 1

## Closing & Looking Ahead to Meeting 2

### *Looking Ahead:*

At our next meeting, we'll be learning more about each other and what we can do as Daisy Girl Scouts. To help us learn more about each other, we'll be doing an art project about ourselves.

If you've already made a schedule to bring snack or have adult helpers come to the meeting, remind girls who will be doing that at the next meeting.

### *Closing:*

Ask each girl to say one thing they liked about their Daisy meeting today. To get them started, you can have the adults go first -

To get the girls thinking beyond the activities, one adult might mention meeting new people or playing together.

End the meeting by singing *Taps*:

Day is done,  
Gone the sun,  
From the lake,  
From the hill,  
From the sky,  
All is well,  
Safely rest,  
God is nigh.

At Closing, you can do the friendship squeeze. Standing in a circle, hold hands with your right hand over your left. One girl can start "the Squeeze", by squeezing one of her hands. When the person who is holding her hand feels it, she squeezes her other hand, the squeeze makes its way around the circle. When complete, you can say "good bye Girl Scouts" and have everyone turn to the outside of the circle, raising their arms and uncrossing their arms as they turn.

### Notes:

At your Service Unit Meeting, ask if the group can practice the friendship squeeze and singing of Taps.

Those who know the traditions will gladly lead, and help others learn. Chances are, at the end everyone will be wearing a big smile!

# Daisy Meeting 2

## AT A GLANCE

### Notes:

*When cutting trefoils, you can use recycled materials such as wrapping paper, cereal boxes, etc.. Cut out at least 10 for each girl.*

*Ask others in your Service Unit if you may borrow their Daisy Journey books to show the girls. You can also print out Journey information found online at [gsofct.org](http://gsofct.org) [Explore the Journey](#)*

*Ask your Service Unit Manager or other leaders for Service Project ideas that can be done at your meeting.*

- Opening Ceremony:
  - Make New Friends & Girl Scout Promise*
- Look at resources
- About Me: Charades and Activity
- Snack (optional)
- Troop Hope Map
- Service & the flower friends
- Closing: one thing about you...

### MATERIALS

- For Start Up: Trefoils cut from different colored paper, solid paper, glue sticks, pencils
- *Daisy Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting, Daisy Flower Garden, Between Earth and Sky, 3 Cheers for Animals Journeys, GSOFACT Program Resource Guide*
- Roll of paper (large enough to trace a body on each)
- Markers or crayons
- Snack (optional)
- Large paper, index card size paper, marker, tape
- Samples of two service project ideas & page 6 & 7 of *Daisy Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting*
- *Names of girls on small papers*

### PREPARE AHEAD

- Cut trefoils for Start-up Activity
- Practice *Make New Friends* Song (page 9 Girl's Guide or online)
- Locate at least 2 options for Service Projects and, if applicable, make samples.

# Daisy Meeting 2

## Start Up

At each seat, set out a plain sheet of paper, cut-out trefoils, a glue stick and a pencil.

As girls check in, invite them to make a collage of trefoils using the cut outs and the glue stick. With their pencil, they can add their name and any details they'd like. Later, when you look at the Journey books, note the collages made by the illustrators.

Remind girls to check the Kaper Chart to see what their kapers are today.

## Opening

Call the girls to their Daisy Circle.

Ask the girls whose Kapers are Flag Ceremony to get ready. Lead the girls in the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Girl Scout Promise.

Explain that a big part of being a Girl Scout is making friends of all kinds. Some girls may already know each other from school or some other place, and some girls may be "new". In Girl Scouts, there is a song that talks about new and old friends. It is called *Make New Friends*.

Sing the song one time through and then ask the girls to follow you, repeating one line at a time. When you think that they've learned it, start again, with everyone singing the whole song together.

### *Make New Friends - Lyrics (2 verses)*

Make new friends, but keep the old.

One is silver and the other is gold.

A circle is round, it has no end.

That's how long I want to be your friend.

## Business

Explain to the girls that as Daisies, they will try and learn many things.

Daisy Girl Scouts in Connecticut and around the world have several things in common that they can use to help learn and explore.

Show the girls the resources, giving a short overview of each book.

*Girl's Guide*: Gives information about Girl Scout traditions and awards they can earn by learning about the Girl Scout Promise and Law and Financial Literacy.

*Daisy Flower Garden*: Focuses on caring for a garden as we learn about the Girl Scout Law and helping others.

*Between Earth and Sky*: Talks about traveling across the country, learning the importance of local products and the natural world.

Notes:

Make New Friends, can be found on page 9 of the *Girl's Guide*, and online. While you'll find several verses of this song online, teach only one or two at a time so that girls really master each verse.

# Daisy Meeting 2

Notes:

Large rolls of paper can be found at teacher stores or at craft shops.

Worried about protecting the table or floor surface? Cover the table with plastic shower curtains or inexpensive plastic tablecloths.

## **Business, - cont...**

*Three Cheers for Animals:* By learning what animals need to be happy and healthy, we learn how to care for ourselves.

*GSOFACT Program Resource Guide:* Has events and resources that we can use. You can go to events alone with an adult, or we can go as a troop, as long as adults are trained to take trips.

Break the group into 5 smaller groups or pairs of girls. Give one resource to each small group. Explain that they should look at the resource and after 5 minutes, they'll take turns sharing something about the book (this could be the pictures, awards, anything the girls want to share.)

Explain that at a later meeting we'll try some activities related to the three Journeys to help us decide which journey we want to start on first.

## **Activity 1 - About Me**

### ***Charades***

Gather girls in a circle, with space for movement. Explain that in charades, you silently act out an activity rather than using our voices. Have each girl think of something she likes to do outdoors. When they have an idea, they should put their hand on their head. If girls are having difficulty thinking of something, quietly give them some help. Choose one girl to go first - she whispers in your ear what she likes to do, then acts it out. All other girls should follow her actions. After 15 seconds, let up to 3 girls guess what she likes to do. If no one guesses correctly, the girl to her left who has not had a chance yet, goes next.

### ***About Me - Body Tracing***

In this activity, girls trace each others bodies on the paper. Girls then decorate their bodies and either write/illustrate what they like or can do by the related body part. They may ask adults to write down their thoughts. For example, by a girl's hand she might say "I like to climb on the overhead bars" or "I can catch a ball" or "I like to pet my cat".

Girls might enjoy looking at each other's drawings for similarities.

## **Activity 2 - Snack (optional)**

# Daisy Meeting 2

## **Activity 3 - Troop Hope Map**

By creating a troop hope map, girls give ideas of things they hope to do as a troop.

Sitting in a circle or a few smaller circles, have girls discuss things they hope to do in their troop. Have an adult write these thoughts onto the smaller pieces of paper.

When everyone has had a chance to express one thought, gather together in a large group near the big piece of paper. On the paper, you can draw a line to represent the “trail” you’ll take. As you read a thought each girl gave, have her tape it onto the map. What things are the same? Are there things that you’d like to do but didn’t say up on the map? Explain that while we may not be able to do everything on the map, we’ll use it in planning our time together.

## **Activity 4 - Helping Others**

Show the girls pages 6-7 of the Girl’s Guide. Read the different flower’s names and what part of the Girl Scout Law they represent.

Which of these flowers might be related to “giving service” or “doing things to help others”? (for example: Rosie: Make the world a better place, Sunny: Friendly and Helpful, Zinni: Considerate and Caring, Vi: be a sister to ever Girl Scout)

So much of the Law is about helping others! Service means helping Others, and as Girl Scouts, we can do service projects to help others.

Show or explain the two service projects they can do next time you meet. Discuss how it helps others. When girls have a good understanding, ask them to vote on the service project that they’d like to do. Remember to explain that by voting, the group is deciding to do what most of the girls in the troop want to do.

Suggestions for service projects that may be done at a troop meeting:

- Thank you cards for local civil servants or teachers
- Paint pictures or make window decorations for people in an assisted living facility
- Tray favors for Meals on Wheels or an assisted living facility
- Transplant small pansies or other flowers from flats into larger pots and give to others
- Clean your meeting place
- Plant flowers outside your meeting place

Notes:

By contacting local organizations, and explaining who you are and that you’re looking for your girls to help others, you may find Service Project ideas. This is a perfect opportunity for a troop adult to help. Remember to also ask other leaders in your town for suggestions.

# Daisy Meeting 2

## **Clean Up**

Keep your clean-up routine a smooth operation by making sure girls understand what needs to happen and have any adults encourage and guide girls in their efforts. You may wish to play music, or sing together while everyone is cleaning up.

## **Closing - *One Thing About You***

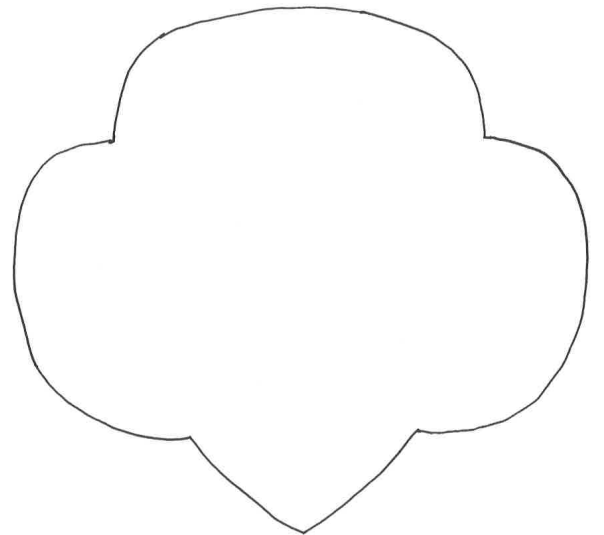
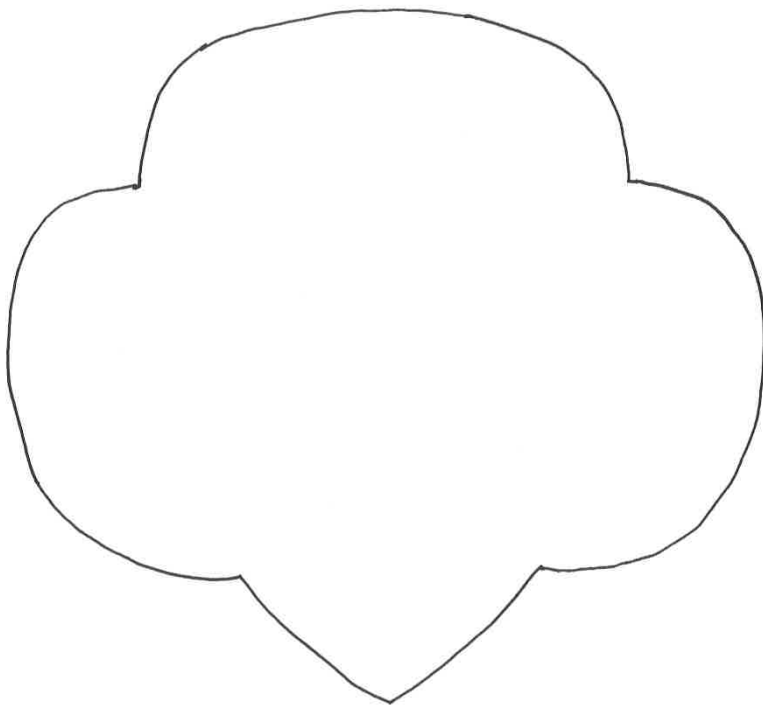
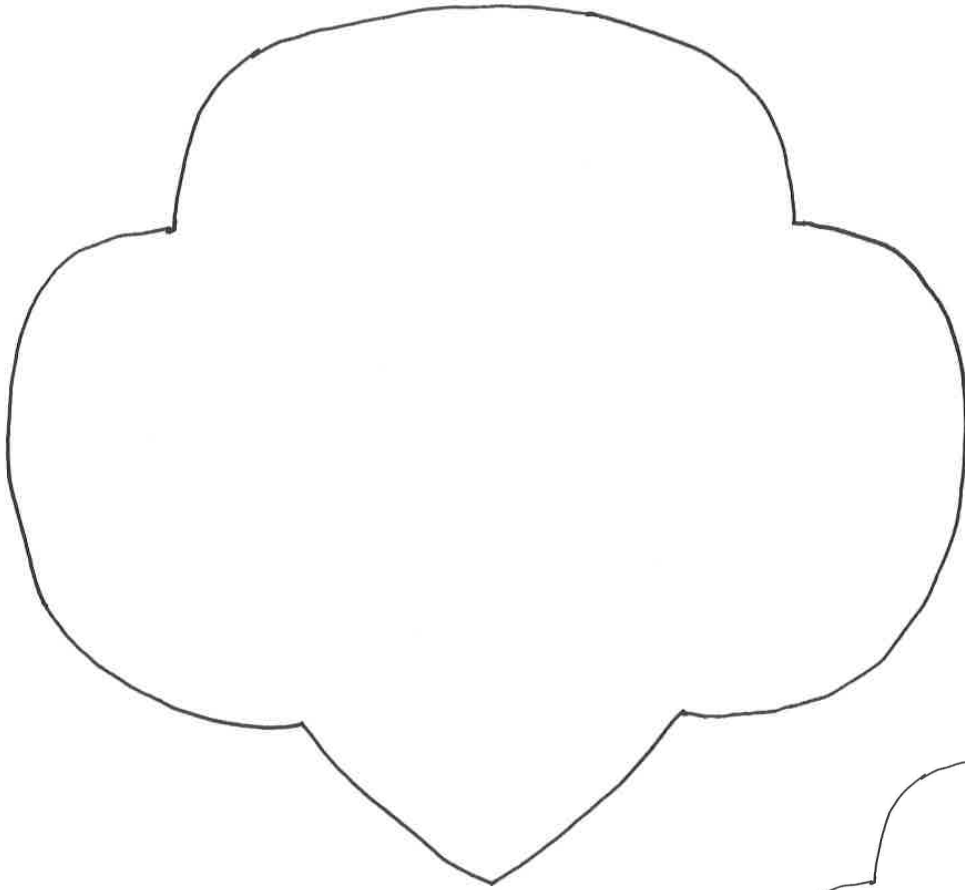
Give each girl a paper with another girl's name on it. After making sure that each girl knows whose name she is holding, ask them to say one positive thing about that person. "I liked the way you helped me clean up", "You have a dog", "you used lots of colors in your picture", etc...

Sing *Taps* and do Friendship Squeeze

## **Looking forward to next meeting....**

If not secured already, ask adults for help prepping for, doing and delivering the Service Project.

## Trefoil Templates - for Meeting 2



# Daisy Meeting 3

## AT A GLANCE

### Notes:

- Opening Ceremony:  
Girl Scout Promise & Juliette  
Gordon Low Action Story
- Kim's Game
- Service Project
- Snack (optional)
- Promise Center Activity
- Plan Investiture Ceremony
- Closing: helping others makes me feel..., Taps

### MATERIALS

- Flat Juliette paper doll, crayons & tape
- Items for Kim's Game (or print photos)
- Towel to cover Kim's game items
- Service Project Supplies (as determined by your project) Or if making sun catchers as suggested here: clear contact paper, dark construction paper, tissue paper shapes or dried colorful leaves, or dried flowers/grasses, scissors, yarn.
- Snack (optional)
- Girl Scout Promise Poster
- Marker & large paper

### PREPARE AHEAD

- Copy Flat Juliette and outfit outlines.
- Gather items listed in Kim's Game, or print out photos and cut apart.
- Collect or ensure other adult has collected materials for Service Project.
- Print out Promise reminder cards for girls to take home.
- Copy ceremony planning guide on large paper.



# Daisy Meeting 3

## Start Up

On table, place Flat Juliette paper doll, and an outfit outline, which is precut to fit the doll. Provide crayons and tape for the project. While waiting for all the girls to arrive, girls decorate the doll and outfit. Paper dolls were a favorite activity of Juliette Gordon Low.

## Opening

Begin opening with flag and the Girl Scout Promise. Tell girls a bit about Juliette Gordon Low, or "Daisy" as most people called her. Next explain that as you read the following story about the start of Girl Scouts, girls should make certain movements or sounds when they hear certain words. It is best for girls to stand for this activity.

*Juliette Gordon Low Action Story:*

*Actions:*

Little Girls -	Stand and giggle
Juliette Low -	Curtsy and say, "Be my friend"
Georgia -	Wave and say, "Hi, y'all!"
Horses -	Stamp your feet and say, "Neighhhhhhh."
Lord Baden-Powell -	Bow formally and say, "How d'ya do?"
London -	Sing, "London Bridge is Falling Down"
Boy Scouts -	Make Scout sign and say "Be prepared."
Girl Scouts -	Make Scout sign and say "On My Honor"

*Story:*

Once upon a time there was a little girl named Juliette Low who lived in Georgia and loved to ride horses. After she grew up, she went to London where she met Lord Baden-Powell who founded the Boy Scouts. She was fascinated by the work he was doing. She studied with him awhile and decided to found a troop of Girl Scouts for the little girls who liked to ride horses in Georgia. So Juliette Low said good-bye to the Boy Scouts in London and came home with the ideas that Lord Baden-Powell gave her. She formed a group of little girls, who liked to ride horses and be together, into a troop of Girl Scouts. And they loved it so much that the idea spread and now there are Girl Scout troops all over the world.

## Activity 1 - Kim's Game

Juliette was friends with Lord Baden-Powell who started the Boy Scouts in England. Lord Baden Powell had been in the military, and used this memory game with his soldiers. After all the items are put out on the table/floor, they'll be covered up and we'll work together to remember all the items. As you pull them out when a girl remembers it, ask if anyone can remember how it is linked to Daisy.

Notes:

Page 12 of the Girl's Guide has a short piece about Juliette Gordon Low.

# Daisy Meeting 3

## **Activity 1 - Kim's Game, cont...**

As you lay the items out on the table/floor, have a second adult read about the item. Make sure the girls see and know the name for each item.

### **Items-**

#### **Map of Georgia**

Juliette was born in Savannah, Georgia

#### **Pumpkin**

Juliette Gordon Low was born on October 31, 1860 – Halloween

#### **Daisy Flower**

Juliette's Uncle took one look at her and said, "she looks like a Daisy" and this nickname stuck with Juliette for the rest of her life.

#### **Horse**

Daisy loved animals and had a horse named Fire.

#### **Book**

Juliette loved to tell stories. She wrote many stories herself, and she told them around the campfire.

#### **Colored pencil and brush**

Juliette loved to draw and paint. She loved it so much she created a children's magazine with all of the pictures and articles done by children.

#### **Boat**

Juliette and Willie (her husband) loved adventure, so they decided to move to England.

#### **Glove**

In the olden days, women wore white gloves when they dressed up for dinners and parties. Juliette could be found cleaning her house in her evening wear/gown.

#### **# 5 and #2**

Juliette was 52 years old when she started Girl Scouts in the USA.

#### **Girl Scout Pin**

Juliette started the first troop on March 12, 1912.

#### **Tomato Soup Can**

Having nothing else on hand to put her honor pins in, Juliette grabbed an empty tomato soup can and carried the pins to a meeting in it.

# Daisy Meeting 3

## **Activity 1, *Kim's Game, cont...***

### **Fish**

Juliette was one of a very few people outside of the United Kingdom/ England to be awarded the Silver Fish.

### **Pearls**

Juliette needed money to help Girl Scouting grow. She sold the pearl necklace that Willie had given to her as a wedding present.

## **Activity 2**

Service Project - follow your own ideas to make these sun catchers for teachers, assisted-living residents or another group of people who might need their days brightened.

Here are the basics of making a sun catcher. Depending on the season, use different items to sandwich between the clear contact paper. You can also cut the construction paper frame into different shapes - hearts, circles, snowflakes, trefoils, etc... Daisies may need adult help cutting the shape. You may draw the cutting line for the girls.

- Fold a piece of construction paper in half and draw 1/2 of a shape on the fold, being sure not to reach the edge of the paper. This will make the opening in the center of the piece - where the sun will shine through. You may wish to trim the edges of the shape as well - be sure to leave a frame of at least 2 inches around the whole piece.
- Cut two pieces of clear contact paper that will cover the opening, but not extend past the construction paper frame.
- Peel the paper backing off of one sheet of contact paper. Tape it to the back of the construction paper, with the sticky side facing away from the paper.
- Place translucent leaves, paper, flowers, grasses, etc.. on the sticky part of the contact paper.
- When it is all arranged, peel the backing off of the second piece of contact paper. Carefully lay it on top of the other contact, with sticky sides facing each other. Smooth out any bumps. Bubbles can be popped with a pin and smoothed out.
- Attach yarn for hanging.

## **Activity 3 - *Snack (optional)***

Notes:

# Daisy Meeting 3

## **Activity 4 - Girl Scout Promise**

This activity is geared to help girls learn and understand the Girl Scout Promise. When written, the Girl Scout Promise has the word *God* in it. When girls say the Girl Scout Promise, they may substitute this word according to their own beliefs.

When a girl can recite the Promise and can talk about what the Promise means to her, she has earned the Promise Center, which is worn on the front of her tunic/vest, as the center of her Daisy Petals.

Ask the girls to say the Girl Scout Promise with you. Break the promise into parts and lead a discussion with the girls.

*On my Honor I will try ....* Trying is so important. We don't always succeed, but that is ok. When you keep trying that is great. Was there ever a time you tried over and over again to do something, and then succeeded?

*To serve God and my country...* If you participate in a religion, how does your faith ask you to behave? What can we do to help our country?

*To help people at all times...* Why is this so important? What would happen if people only helped when they felt like it rather whenever people needed help? Can you tell us ways that you help people?

*And to live by the Girl Scout Law...* Is it easy to live by the Girl Scout Law? Is it doable? Can little things we do make a difference?

Recite the Promise again, this time letting the girls say it on their own.

Explain that now that the girls understand the Girl Scout Promise, you'll plan an Investiture Ceremony for next meeting.

## **Activity 5 - Plan a Ceremony**

Using the outline for a simple ceremony, ask the girls to give their ideas to complete the plan. These are some things to consider:

Name of Ceremony: Investiture and Rededication

Purpose: Welcoming new girls & adults into Girl Scouts and ask returning Girl Scouts pledge to continue to keep the Girl Scout Promise.

Date & Time:

Location:

How will it begin? (circle, walk into the room, flag?)

What song, poem or story do we want to tell?

# Daisy Meeting 3

## **Activity 5, Plan a Ceremony, cont...**

Will awards or pins be presented to the girls?

Who will do each part?

How will it end?

Do we want decorations or props - if so, who will bring them?

What is most important is that the girls actively plan *their* ceremony. Do your best to follow their plans and make them a reality.

## **Closing**

Ask girls to complete this sentence... "today I feel...."

Sing Taps and do the friendship Squeeze

## **Looking Ahead to Next Meeting**

Let families know that next meeting the girls will have the ceremony they've planned and will be receiving their Daisy Promise Center (and any other pins or petals you might want to give-membership, WAGGS)

## **Clean Up**

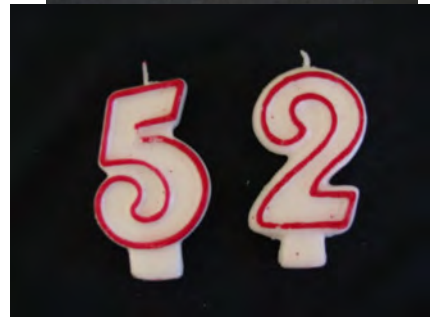
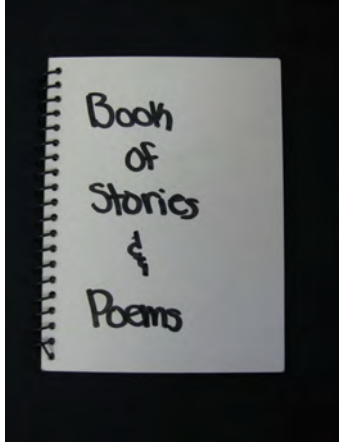
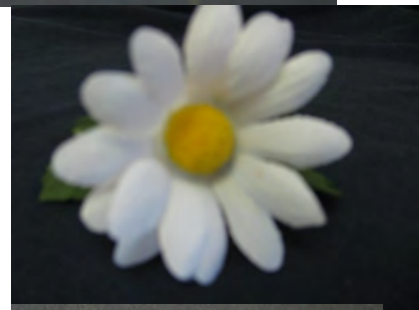
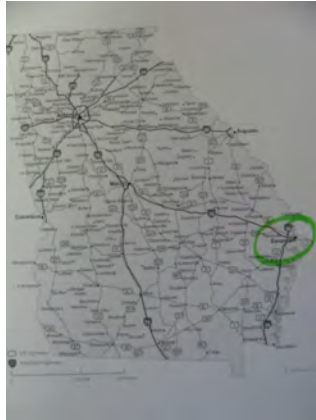
Notes:

Using a large sheet of paper and markers to write the girls' plans shows them a tool for organizing as well as a connection between written and spoken words!

For the closing: Remember that it is ok if a girl either can't think of a comment to make or doesn't feel like sharing right now. For situations like this, make it a troop practice to accept "I'll pass" as an answer. Sometimes a girl will think of something to say by the end of the activity- other times maybe not...and that is ok!

# Daisy Meeting 3

(items for Kim's Game)



# Daisy Meeting 4

## AT A GLANCE

- Opening Ceremony:
  - Flower Friends & the Girl Scout Law
  - Voting for Journey
  - Investiture Ceremony
  - Closing: one word
- Review the Troop Agreement
- Loop the Hoop Game
- Snack (optional)
- Intro Daisy Journey choices

## MATERIALS

- Multi-colored dried beans in small zip-up plastic bags
- Paper plates
- Flower Friends poster - cover with clear contact paper.
- Petal patches with tape loop on the back
- Troop agreement poster
- Hula hoop
- Snack (optional)
- Daisy Journey Books-
  - *Daisy Flower Garden*
  - *3 Cheers for Animals*
  - *Between Earth and Sky*
- Talking stick (a stick or even a wooden spoon-plain or decorated)

## PREPARE AHEAD

- To make the Flower Friend poster (found in the Journey adult guide) more durable, cover it with clear contact paper. Alternatively using clear tape, put tape around the edges of the poster and tape over each of the Flower Friends. This will allow girls to tape the petals near its corresponding Friend.
- Undo a set of patches and put masking tape loops on the back. Place them at the bottom of the poster, on a covered section.
- Borrow the three Journey Books. Ask at your Service Unit meeting or email leaders in town to see if they have old copies you could borrow.
- Read through the books or go to the flip books on the [www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org) site to get an idea of each Journey's topic.
- Find a stick to use as a talking stick - it should be no larger than a wooden spoon, which is another choice. If desired, decorate with troop number, a bead for each girl, feathers etc..
- Gather materials as needed for the ceremony.
- Remind families to arrive early for pick-up so that they'll be on time for the Investiture/Rededication ceremony.

## Notes:

If you do not have a Flower Friend poster, You can add pictures of the Flower Friends to the Girl Scout Law written on a large paper, or use the fold-out poster in the *Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting*.

Ask for help! Whether you enjoy crafts or not, asking a family member to create the talking stick helps engage adults, show that their help is needed and welcome! For many, this would be a fun way to begin helping. For the ceremony, ask families to help bring certain items from the girls' list, music, etc...

# Daisy Meeting 4

## Notes:

Save these seeds for a later art or seed dissection project. Seeds can be glued to cardboard to make a picture. After being soaked overnight and using toothpicks and magnifying lenses, girls can open the bean seed to see the start of the new plant inside. Be a scientist! Ask girls to record/draw what they see inside.

## Start Up

As girls arrive, invite them to a table or open area. Give each girl a bag of beans and a paper plate. Explain that even though these seeds all look different, they would grow into bean plants - many different types of bean plants. Encourage girls to count, sort the beans by size or color, or create temporary artwork by making designs with the beads. If desired, girls could work together to create larger pictures on the tabletop. Remind girls that the beans should stay on the work area and to return them to the bags when done.

## Opening

As the girls recite the Girl Scout Law, pause at each line of the Law, allowing time for girls to tape the petal next to the Flower Friend. Remind girls that all Girl Scouts try their best to do the things mentioned in the Law. What would the world be like if people all treated each other and cared for the world like in the Girl Scout Law?

## Business

Remind girls of the troop agreement they made. Ask if anyone remembers any of the items on the list.

Discuss with the girls that just like the Flower Friends are Friends, the girls in the troop are Friends too. While friends don't always agree, or like the exact same things, we understand that that is ok. In our troop we'll do our best to behave this way (as in the agreement), so we all know what to expect from each other, and enjoy spending time with each other.

## Activity 1 - Loop the Hoop game

*Loop the Hoop!* Team-building game. Have girls stand in a circle, holding hands. The goal of this game is to pass the hula hoop around the circle.

Ask girls to hold hands and put two girls' arms through the hula hoop, hanging by their clasped hands. The rules for the game are-you must always hold hands! The hoop must go around the circle.

Let the girls try this one time. At the end, ask what things seemed to work best? Come to an agreement of what methods the group will try, and see if the hoop passes around faster this time. Debrief with the group - how did it feel when it was working? was there ever a time that things didn't go well? what happened then? As much as possible relate this to working together as a troop. Something like..."when the hoop got stuck on her ponytail, the girls next to her raised their arms higher to untangle it". "Can you remember a time when someone helped you when you were a bit stuck?"

## Activity 2 - Snack (optional)



# Daisy Meeting 4

## Activity 3 - Introduce Journey Choices

Gather the girls together and ask them to sit comfortably. Have on hand the three Journey books and the talking stick.

Explain that the stick will be used later to help girls take turns talking.

Who remembers the Daisy Flower Friends? They are characters in each of these three Journey books. The books have stories that can be read out loud, girls can make murals of the story or even turn them into puppet shows.

Today, we're going to decide which Journey, we want to work on together. At the end of each journey we'll do a Take Action Project - something we decide to do to help others. The topic of the project - what it is - will depend on the journey we choose. As we work on and complete the Journey, there are awards that the girls will have earned.

Are there any questions?

Ok, lets hear a little about each Journey so that we can discuss and then vote on which one we'll use.

Show the girls each book and give a little bit of info on each one.

### *Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden*

In this Journey, we meet the Flower Friends and hear how they are related to flowers in different parts of the world. As we get to know the different Flower Friends, we learn what part of the Girl Scout Law they represent. We'll also learn about gardening and will begin to grow some plants. Can you guess what our Take Action Project might be about? (encouraging others to practice a part of the GS Law)

### *Between Earth and Sky*

The Flower Friends travel across country exploring their natural world. They learn about getting along well and the many things that they can do. This Take Action Project would be us sharing how to do something we know how to do- it could be related to nature, and taking care of our Earth.

### *3 Cheers for Animals*

There are so many ways to tell stories! This Journey is full of different stories. While we'll learn how to take care of animals, we'll also learn what we need to do to be healthy. What might we be sharing/teaching others in our take action project? (responsible pet ownership, importance of wild animals, how we can be healthier...)

Once the girls have heard a little about the Journeys, and have looked through the books, ask for questions. Answer as best as you can. If a girl asks what they'd actually do for a project, reply something like, "that

Notes:

On the GSUSA website there are some helpful "flipbooks" versions of the Journeys.

go to:

[www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org)

Click on:

Our Program

Select: Journeys

Click on:

Journey Flip-

books, then the

book you want

to look at.

Also:

Remember that

GSOFCCT offers

Adult work-

shops geared

towards the

Journeys. Check

out the

Volunteer tab of

[gsofct.org](http://gsofct.org) for

more info and

dates.

# Daisy Meeting 4

## Notes:

Be sure to take advantage of the notes to families in the Journey Adult Guides.

*Between Earth and Sky* - pages 33-35, *Daisy*

*Flower Garden* - pages 16-17, and *3 Cheers for Animals* - see page 16 for info or go directly to [www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org), click on the Our Program tab, then Select Journeys, and then It's Your Story, Tell it!, and finally Daisies. The parent letter will be in a green box on the right of the page.

## **Activity 3 - Introduce Journey Choices, Cont...**

Will be up to the girls in the troop to decide. We wouldn't know until we learned a bit from the Journey."

Next, ask if anyone would like to advocate or tell why they'd like to do a particular Journey? Give the girl the talking stick and explain that the stick only can be with them a short time - since others will want to talk too.

Remind others that only the girl with the stick can speak right now - our job is to listen.

After girls have given their reasons for doing each Journey, it is time to vote! Explain that when voting, the group goes along with the thing that most people vote for. Remember, we all think differently and that is ok, but in order for us to work together, we need to choose one Journey. No worries though - there will be lots of other decisions to make along the way! Have girls put their heads down so that they can vote in private. Remind the girls of the three Journeys. Ask girls to raise their hand for the ONE Journey they want to do. Record the votes and share the results when the girls put their heads up.

## **Activity 4 - Investiture & Rededication Ceremony**

Hold the Ceremony as the girls planned. Remember a "perfect" ceremony is not the goal... having the girls put their plan into action is! It is all a learning experience.

At the end, let the families know that the girls have chosen the \_\_\_\_\_ Journey, and give a little info about it. Let the families know that you'll be sending out information on ways they can help the girls with the Journey. The more support and networking, the better!

## **Closing**

Ask girls (and families) to say one word that tells how they feel right now.

## **Looking Ahead to Next Meeting**

Remind families that you'll be sending out ways that they can help with the Journey- it could be locating a field trip, planning an activity, finding a speaker, etc...

At the next meeting, we'll do things that we usually do, but also begin doing the Journey.

Consider playing music as the girls clean-up. Can everyone be done when the song ends?

# Daisy Meeting 5

## AT A GLANCE

- Opening:
  - Since I last saw you...
  - Review Kapers
  - Business: Pick a petal
- Journey activity
- Snack (optional)
- Games
- Closing:

### Notes:

While these games are suitable to play indoors, for a change of pace, if the weather and location permits take the girls outdoors to play.

## MATERIALS

- Sturdy paper with one bean seed glued near the bottom on the page - (1 per girl)
- Crayons
- "Since I last saw you" idea list
- Kaper chart
- *Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting*
- Snack (optional)
- Plastic Spoons (1 per girl)
- Cotton balls 10-20
- Journey activity supplies- see list above activity- dependent on which Journey.
- Adult book pages 31 & 32
- Clay pot & saucer - 1 set per girl, and one larger one for troop.
- Paintbrushes & acrylic paint
- Paper plates for palettes
- Table cover & paper towels
- Water dishes
- Optional - super glue
- *Daisy Flower Garden*
- Drawing paper
- Crayons or markers
- Small containers for seedlings (yogurt cups, egg carton, etc)
- Plates to put under the pots to catch water.
- Vegetable seeds - basil, leaf lettuce, salad greens, or any other quick sprouting plants
- Potting soil
- Optional - plastic spoons or wooden sticks & permanent marker to label plants
- water

### *Earth & Sky*

- Girls book page 5
- Adult book pages 44-46
- Blue bucket and index cards or a poster board with a blue bucket drawn on the bottom.
- Dark, bold marker

### *3 Cheers for Animals*

- Girl's book page 5

## PREPARE AHEAD

- For each girl, glue a bean seed to a piece of paper and let it dry.
- Print out or write a list of "Since I last saw you" ideas.
- Check-in with any family adults who replied to the "help with the Journey note". Make sure they're all set if helping at this meeting.

# Daisy Meeting 5

## Start Up

On the start up table, leave crayons and the bean seed papers. After welcoming each girl, challenge her to use her imagination and draw what might sprout from the seed at the bottom of her paper. It could be anything: a regular flower, a tree, a plant that becomes a vehicle, a person, anything! If girls seem to be done quickly, ask them to show what might be around the plant - perhaps desert or jungle plants, a pot of soil, a garden, etc...

## Opening

"Since I last saw you"- a lot can happen between meetings. Clear the space around your Daisy circle so that girls can walk to a "Yes" or "No" side of the space as needed.

When you read a "Since I last saw you" statement, girls will walk either to the Yes or No side of their space. Suggested lines include...

Since I last saw you:

I rode in a bus

I rode a horse

I went to bed really late

I drank milk

I went to the grocery store

I played outside

I went to a friend's house

I ate pizza

I sang a song

I held a paintbrush

I did a chore at home

I listened to story

Use the Kaper Chart to remind girls of their jobs today.

## Business

Explain that while we're starting the \_\_\_\_\_ Journey today, we're still going to be doing a variety of things. Our next decision as a troop is to decide what Girl Scout Law petal we want to earn.

Remind girls of the petals that they can earn - show them the fold out in the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting.

Does anyone want to advocate for a certain petal? If so, give her time to speak to the group. Take a vote on which one- this might take some narrowing down. If it is close to a tie, let the girls know that "we can work on one and then the other!"

# Daisy Meeting 5

## Activity 1 - Snack (optional)

As girls are eating, remind them that the food they are putting into their bodies is energy going into their bodies. Who can guess a way energy leaves your body? (walking, talking, running, playing, etc...)

## Activity 2 - Journey Activity

Between Earth and Sky, Activity 2A

Remind girls that in this Journey, the Flower Friends go on a trip. Through the Journey story, we'll follow them.

Have you ever known anyone who has gone on a trip? How did you feel when they left? What did you say to them? All around the world, in many languages, people say "Have a good trip!" It's a polite and nice thing to say. Even if you were sad that someone was going away, you still want them to have a good trip, right?

As we go along this Journey, we'll hear and talk about ways to be nice and get along well with others.

Read, or summarize page 5 of the girls book. Use this as a way to get girls talking about their experiences. See page 45 for some bulleted questions to ask the girls. Remember- it is ok to say, "I'll pass". If girls are antsy, why not ask them to act out where they like to go in their neighborhood- what do they do at the store, park, friend's house, etc...

### Role-Play

Read or summarize the situation on the bottom of page 45 in the Adult Guide (a friend and you want to do different things).

Explain that when people want to do different things, and neither one wants to give in, that is a *conflict*.

Ask the girls to role play what they might do in the situation (do one, then the other thing, do something altogether different, this time your choice, next time mine,...) See page 46 for more details.

Explain that the role playing they just did shows *compromise*. It was an agreement they came to. Can the girls think of times in their lives when they've compromised or maybe should have?

On the blue bucket poster (or on index cards) add words that help us get along better- help solve conflicts. Let the girls know that they'll make a collection of words to help get along better with people.

Notes:

Who remembers which flower represents being friendly? Sunny the Sunflower!

Why not...  
Snack on sunflower seeds, make a Sunflower SWAP from a brown pom pom and yellow craft foam petals, Talk about what types of animals might eat sunflower seeds (birds, squirrels, etc...), plant a sunflower seed, make up a group poem or song about sunflowers, all these things help girls explore sunflowers and what Sunny stands for.

# Daisy Meeting 5

## Activity 2 - Journey Activity, cont.

### 3 Cheers for Animals, Activity 2B

Read or summarize page 5 of the girls book. Invite girls to look at the Pictures - what animals can they see here?

Build a discussion about animals. Remind the girls to take their turn talking and listening. Ask about animals the girls have seen in nature, Have they ever cared for animals at their house? What did they do? Does anyone care for a pet - if so, what is entailed? What is the most unusual animal they've ever seen? If the girls enjoy using it, bring out the talking stick for this discussion.

Show the girls the patch for this Journey - it is a garden, with a bird bath, a tulip, and a robin. Today, we're going to make bird baths - one for the troop and one for each girl to take home or give away. Birds use birdbaths for drinking as well as bathing.

Using acrylic paint, decorate the outsides of the clay pot and saucer. Show girls how the bird bath is created by turning over the pot, and placing the saucer on top. These can be left separate or joined together by an adult with super glue or some other waterproof glue.

Use a larger version - maybe a plastic one to make a bird bath for the troop. You'll use this as a container to collect words and thoughts throughout the Journey.

After painting, release some energy by playing animal charades. Whisper an animal in each girl's ear. When you say "the sun is rising and the animals are waking up.....go", the girls act like the animal and look for their match. Be sure to give two girls the same animal. You can make this hard by naming animals that move in similar ways (grasshoppers, bunnies, and kangaroos) or easier (grasshopper, snake, elephant).

### Daisy Flower Garden, Activity 2C

Tell the girls that today, we'll be "meeting" three characters in the Journey. When meeting new people, it is fun to find out some things about them - maybe where they live, what they like to do and even what they like to eat. Read the introductions on pages 7, 8, 10, and 12 of the girl's book. At the end of each introduction, ask girls to introduce themselves including a description of where they live. If a girl is unsure, you may want to ask another type of question - such as is there a favorite outdoor space to go? What do you do there? (see page 40 of an adult guide)

Invite the girls to draw a *self portrait*, showing a bit about themselves in the background - an outdoor place they like to go to, things around their neighborhood etc... Girls may use pages 9-13 or a separate paper.

# Daisy Meeting 5

## Activity 2 - Journey Activity, cont.

*Daisy Flower Garden, Activity 2C Continued...*

Next, read the first part of the story with the characters Cora, Chandra and Campbell. You may want to ask girls to close their eyes to imagine what is going on in the story or show them the pictures. Note: the story is short, from pages 17 - 19, about 2 full pages of text.

Ask if anyone has a garden near their home. Is there anything that makes it seem special, like in the story?

Tell the girls that today they'll plant some seeds to start a small portable garden with basil, leaf lettuce or other greens (or other quick growing plants that will grow indoors).

Ask the girls to work together to put in the soil, place the seeds, gently cover them with more soil, and lastly water the plants. Explain that the seeds will take a while to open up and begin to grow. Take guesses as to what the mini-garden will look like next time you meet!

If desired, plant not only a troop mini-garden, but use extra seeds and plastic cups such as recycled yogurt containers or sections of an egg carton for individual plants that girls may take home.

### **Activity 3 - Cotton Ball Relay & Who's the Leader?**

*Cotton Ball Relay:*

If there are less than 8 girls, make one line and time each round encouraging girls to move faster each time. If 8 or more girls, form two lines. The girls in the line should be zig zag spaced along the line, facing each other.

Give each girl a spoon and make a pile of cotton balls at one end. The goal is to move the cotton balls from spoon to spoon until they reach the other end of the line and are put in a pile there. If a cotton ball falls, a supervising adult or girl must return it to the beginning of the line.

Notes:

It is best to read through the story before meeting with the girls so that your delivery is smooth and you know what happens in the story. This will make it easier for you to guide discussions. You may also ask another adult or older girl to read the story.

When choosing containers for the individual plants, be sure to poke a drainage hole, and to remind families to place the plant on a dish at home.

# Daisy Meeting 5

## **Activity 3 - *Who's the Leader?, cont...***

### *Who's the Leader?*

Start this game with all the girls but one standing in a circle, facing each other. The girl not in the circle is the "Guesser". After directions are given, the guesser will go out of sight and earshot of the group. One person is chosen to be "It". Everyone except the Guesser should know who is "It". The guesser makes a motion that everyone in the circle can do. She changes her motions often. As soon as the other girls see the motion, they follow along with It. It is best if they do not stare directly at It, as this will tip off the guesser. The guesser is called back to the circle and stands in the middle. She has three tries to guess who is the leader. If she is correct, she comes back to the circle, and It becomes the guesser. If she can't choose, It becomes the guesser. A new It is chosen after It leaves the area.

### **Closing**

What was one thing that you liked doing today at Girl Scouts?

### **Looking ahead to next meeting**

Ask if anyone remembers the name of the petal they will work on at the next meeting.

Remind the girls (and adults) if there is anything that girls should be gathering, watching for, or bring with them next time for the Journey activity.

### **Clean-up**



# Daisy Meetings, continuing on...

Continue to plan meetings with the same schedule:

Set Up, Opening, Business, Activities, optional Snack, Closing and Clean up. This continuity, along with the expectations of the troop agreement, kaper charts, and family involvement, will make for a happier experience. Stick to the schedule, but be flexible when great things happen - a rainbow outside your meeting space, an ant parade to explore, a great conversation about feelings. All are important!

Include the girls in planning - what do they like to do? As you get to know the group dynamics it will get easier to "switch up" activities - that is stay in the theme of the topic, but tailor it to the girls. Do they love to pretend? Why not make puppets to tell and retell the Journey story? If girls are particularly shy or hesitant to talk, encourage girls to have group discussions, but maybe give a prop to help them along - "tell us about your picture of you in the garden". Give them opportunities to decide and plan - while they may start up slowly, or think too big at first - you're there to guide them along.

Make things hands on- get busy doing things rather than just talking. Seek and create opportunities for the girls to work together. It could be as simple as three girls setting the table for snack together!

When it comes to the Journey, remember that the goal is for the girls to learn enough about the main topic to decide on a Take Action Project. The *process* of a take action project - identifying an issue, coming up with ideas, narrowing it down to one, planning and implementing is what is most important., not what the project looks like at the end. While you'll want to complete the activities that directly support the awards, you don't need to do them in order, go by the sample sessions, or do everything in the book. You can stay on the topic, and change-up an activity! Use your resources wisely and enhance the girls experience.

Having some issues in the troop? Take a look in the Adult Guide. On the page titled National Leadership Outcomes, you'll find activities linked to different outcomes. Do any of the activities support challenges you may have? If so, read the directions and side bars in the Adult Guide for tips, phrases and ideas.