

Girl Scout Brownies – Grades 2 & 3

Enhancing the Leadership Experience



The **Girl Scout Leadership Experience** can be infused into everything we do by linking the Activities to Outcomes (Intended Benefits) and emphasizing effective experiential Processes through our Girl-Adult Partnership.

Examples are provided below to create a Discover, Connect, Take Action project by linking several of the activities that are part of earning these awards:

ECO-EXPLORER

HER STORY

Use these example sets as they are, modify the content, or link your own set of activities together according to a theme. The possibilities are endless. Engage your girls in planning. They are ready at this age to start taking a more active role in decision-making.

ECO-EXPLORER

Found in: Brownie Try-Its, page 102

Discover:

- Activity #1 -- Exploring Nature
- Activity #3 -- Make a Habitat

Connect:

- Activity #5 -- Speak Up for Animals

Take Action:

- Activity #6 -- Helping Wildlife

HER STORY

Found in: Brownie Try-Its, page 106

Discover:

- Activity #3 -- Create Tales

Connect:

- Activity #2 – Talk to Women
- Activity #4 – A Ceremony to Honor Women

Take Action:

- Activity #6 – Help in Your Community

ECO-EXPLORER

	Activity	Benefits (Outcomes)
DISCOVER Eco-Explorer	Activity #1 -- Exploring Nature Girls go on a nature walk with a checklist of things to identify in nature.	Build self-esteem (<u>strong sense of self</u>) by helping girls discover their interests and practice skills they may be good at.
	Activity #3 -- Make a Habitat Girls make habitats out of shoeboxes.	This helps girls develop their creative (<u>resourceful</u>) <u>problem-solving skills</u> . This is especially true when girls learn from each other while doing the activity in a group setting, or when they share with each other.

Partnership Tips

As part of the Hands-on process, ask Reflection questions such as:

- What did you learn?
- What was your favorite part of the activity?

Help girls draw their own conclusions and connections by discussing their experiences whether in a large group or in pairs (reporting back to a large group).

CONNECT Eco-Explorer	Activity	Benefits (Outcomes)
	Activity #5 -- Speak Up for Animals Girl research and put on a show to educate others about endangered species.	By creating a show that raises environmental awareness, girls practice important leadership skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they <u>expand their knowledge</u> • <u>cooperate and build teams</u> • <u>advocate for others</u> • <u>educate and inspire others to act responsibly.</u> In the process, they gain confidence in their abilities to <u>make a difference in the world.</u>

Partnership Tips

Girls at this age are more confident about their own abilities. They may want to pick an animal together and research in pairs, then compare notes. The Cooperative Learning process lets girls work together toward shared goals (with a little help from you).

TAKE ACTION Eco-Explorer	Activity	Benefits (Outcomes)
	Activity #6 -- Helping Wildlife Girls pick an activity from a list of options that help wild animals.	This activity helps girls expand their knowledge about the world. If girls enjoy and are inspired by their experience, they will <u>seek further challenges</u> and become more <u>resourceful</u> and <u>confident in their abilities.</u>

Partnership Tips

Help girls think of ways they can help wild animals. As their adult partner, assist girls in brainstorming the possibilities and let them choose the kind of animal they want to help and how.

Letting girls think of and choose from their own ideas is a great way to make sure the activity is Girl-Led.

HER STORY

DISCOVER Her Story	Activity	Benefits (Outcomes)
	Activity #3 -- Create Tales Girls recreate a story or fairy tale to reflect what the roles of today's women would be.	Girls start to hone their <u>critical thinking skills</u> when engaged in analyzing or comparing different viewpoints (historically or personally).

Partnership Tips

Girls' ability to reflect upon and react to the world around them grows greatly at this age. Encourage Reflection and let them begin to draw their own conclusions and connections by reflecting upon the stories they have read as a group.

To make this a great leadership activity, use it as an opportunity to engage girls in a discussion about gender stereotyping and how this may affect their view of themselves as leaders.

CONNECT Her Story	Activity	Benefits (Outcomes)
	<p>Activity #2 -- Talk to Women Girls ask five women for their thoughts on what are the most important issues facing women.</p>	<p>This is a great way for girls to develop an awareness of issues facing women – realizing that “you’re not alone” often contributes to girls’ development of positive gender identity (crucial for a healthy, <u>strong sense of self</u>).</p> <p>Through this discussion, girls can begin to feel that they are part of a larger community of women, giving them an increased <u>feeling of connectedness</u> to their communities.</p> <p>By stressing recognition and respect for voices of women from different backgrounds, and sharing those voices with others, girls begin to <u>advance diversity</u>.</p>
	<p>Activity #4 -- A Ceremony to Honor Women Girls plan a ceremony to honor women in their communities.</p>	<p>This activity fosters girls’ growing feelings that they are <u>connected to their community</u>, helping them build supportive social networks that are crucial to their leadership development.</p> <p>There are also a lot of <u>cooperation and teambuilding</u> skills required to successfully accomplish this task – such as group decision-making, accountability to shared goals, etc.</p>

Partnership Tips

Girls at this age have lots of ideas, and a hard time keeping track of them all.

Using the Girl-Led process, act as their adult partner by helping the girls think of questions to ask women or which women they will honor – but let the girls choose what they will do.

TAKE ACTION Her Story	Activity	Benefits (Outcomes)
	Activity #5 -- Help in Your Community Girls carry out a service project that helps women and children.	When girls are involved in devising and implementing a Take Action project, they'll learn to <u>identify community needs</u> and become more <u>resourceful problem solvers</u> . When encouraged to share their successes and challenges with others, girls will also learn skills to effectively <u>educate and (hopefully) inspire others to act</u> .

Partnership Tips

Group activities are important for girls at this age. The Cooperative learning process lets girls work together toward shared goals. They like to socialize while they work, and even learn better that way.

The more Girl-Led the activity is, the stronger the leadership outcomes.