Working With Girl Scout Juniors
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Welcome

Welcome and congratulations on becoming a member of the unique and wonderful world of Girl Scouts!

Girl Scouts is the world’s preeminent organization dedicated solely to girls – all girls – where, in an accepting and nurturing environment girls build character and skills for success in the real world. In partnership with committed adults, such as you, girls develop qualities that will serve them all their lives – qualities such as leadership, strong values, social conscience, and conviction about their own worth.

The Girl Scout program is girl-driven reflecting the ever-changing needs and interests of today’s girls. In Girl Scouts, girls discover the fun, friendship and the power of girls together. As a Girl Scout volunteer you will help girls develop their full potential; relate to others with increasing understanding, skill, and respect; develop values to guide their actions and provide the foundation for sound decision-making; and contribute to the improvement of society through their abilities, leadership skills, and cooperation with others.
Section 1: Working With Girl Scout Juniors

Your Role as an Adult Volunteer

What does it mean to be a Girl Scout adult volunteer? That is something that you will discover, as you begin your experience helping girls build courage, confidence, and character through Girl Scouts. Working with girls can bring many joys, including developing a personal relationship with each girl in your troop, building new adult friendships through the sisterhood of Girl Scouts, receiving appreciation and thanks from parents and, most importantly, knowing that you are shaping the future by working with a girl today.

Leadership

◆ **Leadership is Building Relationships**
  Leadership comes through the relationship you will build with each girl. Leadership comes through communicating with parents and co-leaders. Leadership is understanding the needs and interests of the girls, and helping the girls design their own program opportunities based on those needs and interests.

◆ **Leadership is Knowing**
  Leadership is knowing that you cannot, and should not, know everything that the girls might want to learn. Leadership is knowing that you can explore and learn many things along with girls. Leadership is knowing where to go to find resources. Leadership is knowing that it is okay not to know and to seek assistance.

◆ **Leadership is Teaching**
  Leadership is teaching the girls that they can do and be anything – that they are decision makers. Leadership is teaching girls not only for the sake of knowing things, but for the sake of the development and growth of the girls. Leadership is teaching through being a good role model.

◆ **Leadership is Coaching**
  Your role is not to perform for the girls, or to be a teacher. Leadership is guiding and instructing. Leadership is advising and discussing. Leadership is working so that each girl can carry out responsibilities within the troop. Leadership is building the girls up and giving more and more responsibilities to the girls as they grow and develop.

◆ **Leadership is Belonging**
  Leadership is recognizing that you are a part of a troop/group and a team. Leadership is listening, providing suggestions, and contributing ideas. Leadership is sticking with the girls through good times and bad. Leadership is recognizing that you belong to a larger organization beyond the troop/group that will provide support and resources.
**Characteristics of Girl Scout Juniors**

Every Girl Scout is unique, with different needs, interests, and levels of development. Some girls may exhibit traits of slightly older girls, while others may still be developing certain characteristics of this grade level. When working with Girl Scout Juniors, it is important to keep in mind the difference in their emotional, social, physical, and intellectual characteristics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fourth Grader</th>
<th>Fifth Grader</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Emotional Characteristics</strong></td>
<td>Approaches life with more of a sense of adventure&lt;br&gt;Dramatizes things&lt;br&gt;Is demanding of family members&lt;br&gt;Is critical of herself&lt;br&gt;Is friendly&lt;br&gt;Has a vivid imagination&lt;br&gt;Feelings are easily hurt&lt;br&gt;May be bossy at times and impatient&lt;br&gt;Wants more responsibility</td>
<td>Appreciates her family, but tends to get angry with family members&lt;br&gt;Has passionate feelings for certain activities&lt;br_Listens to reason&lt;br&gt;Is easygoing&lt;br&gt;Stays away from responsibility&lt;br&gt;Tends to be humorous and happy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social Characteristics</strong></td>
<td>Begins to see the world no longer revolves around her&lt;br&gt;Develops close relationships with friends&lt;br&gt;Corrects parents if errors are made&lt;br&gt;Is open to the influence of others&lt;br&gt;Is affectionate at times, self-centered other times&lt;br&gt;Participates in organized activities</td>
<td>Feels close to family members&lt;br&gt;Does not like to be criticized&lt;br&gt;Is very talkative&lt;br&gt;Has intense friendships and is possessive about friends&lt;br&gt;Is very secretive&lt;br&gt;Wants to belong to a club or organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Physical Characteristics</strong></td>
<td>Has a high energy level&lt;br&gt;Needs to be active in her play&lt;br&gt;Is eager to learn new skills&lt;br&gt;Has a real problem with self-consciousness if develops to quick&lt;br&gt;Has a high level of physical activity&lt;br&gt;Displays variation in physical skills</td>
<td>Begins to physically change&lt;br&gt;May have frequent nightmares&lt;br&gt;Is not concerned about neatness&lt;br&gt;May have stomachaches, headaches and bite nails to relieve tension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intellectual Characteristics</strong></td>
<td>Begins to read well&lt;br&gt;Prefers silent reading&lt;br&gt;Can classify objects in groups by size, shape and color&lt;br&gt;Has an increased attention span&lt;br&gt;Can do more things in sequence&lt;br&gt;Begins to understand the relationships between cause and effect&lt;br&gt;Wants to make decisions and express opinions</td>
<td>Is very articulate&lt;br&gt;Begins to like and respect teachers&lt;br&gt;Is influenced by radio and television&lt;br&gt;Is interested in a variety of reading materials</td>
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Girl Scout Goals and Girl Scout Outcomes

Discover, Connect, and Take Action, which also are terms to describe the short-term outcomes. The Girl Scout outcomes come from these keys to leadership. Under each area are expectations, or indicators, of what the goal would look like.

Considering 4th and 5th grade girls, how would you know if girls are achieving each of the outcomes?

**Discover** - Girls will understand themselves and their values, and use their knowledge and skills to explore their world.
- Girls develop a strong sense of self.
- Girls develop positive values.
- Girls gain practical and healthy life skills.
- Girls seek challenges in the world.
- Girls develop critical thinking.

**Connect** - Girls will care about, inspire, and team with others locally and globally.
- Girls develop healthy relationships.
- Girls promote cooperation and team building.
- Girls can resolve conflicts.
- Girls advance diversity in a multicultural world.
- Girls feel connected to their communities, locally, and globally.

**Take Action** - Girls will act to make the world a better place.
- Girls can identify community needs.
- Girls are resourceful problem solvers.
- Girls advocate for themselves and others, locally, and globally.
- Girls educate and inspire others to act.

How Can I Use the Outcomes with My Troop?

**Step 1: Know the Outcomes**
Girl Scouting’s success is based on the achievement of the Outcomes. The greatest measure of Girl Scouts’ success is the degree to which individual members benefit or demonstrate personal and social development toward the Outcomes.

**Step 2: Ask the girls and yourself, —How do these activities, events, or plans, fit into the Outcomes?**
For example, the girls want to plan a camping trip with another troop. Will this activity fit into one of the Outcomes?

**Ask:**
- Will the girls understand themselves and others?
- Will the girls use their knowledge and skill to explore the world?
- Will the girls care about, inspire, and team with others locally and globally?
- Will the girls act to make the world a better place?
Step 3: If the activities, events, or plans fit into the Outcomes, do them! If they do not fit into the Outcomes, brainstorm new ideas, or find ways to alter plans to relate to at least one of the outcomes.

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience is intentionally designed to incorporate certain program processes to allow the Outcomes and mission to be accomplished. There are three key components, or program processes, used. They are:
1. Girl-Led - By the Girls For the Girls
2. Learning by Doing — Experiential Learning
3. Cooperative Learning

These three program processes are the primary way to achieve the Outcomes and outcomes. Throughout this home study, you will see how the processes are incorporated into your work with Girl Scout Juniors.
Girl Scout Leadership Experience with 9- and 10-Year Olds

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience is what makes Girl Scouts unique compared to any other youth serving organization. There are three program processes. These program processes are the key to achieving the outcomes, Girl Scout Mission and the Girl Scout Promise and Law. The three program processes are:

- Girl-Led – By the Girls, For the Girls
- Learning by Doing – Experiential Learning
- Cooperative Learning

Girl-Led – By the Girls, For the Girls:

Girls need to know that they can do anything – that being female does not limit their ability to achieve their dreams. Girl Scout Juniors need to learn that they can lead and make decisions. The girls are the doers, the planners, and the implementers of their activities. Give girls choices and help them learn good communication and decision-making skills. One way to enable the girls to develop those skills is by using the Girl Scout Junior Circle as your form of troop government. Girl/adult planning is the way to involve girls in making decisions. As a Girl Scout Junior adult volunteer, your role in the planning process is important, and helps girls succeed. As the girls grow from Girl Scout Juniors through their Girl Scout experience, your role in planning and implementing will change. As the girls grow older, they will have more responsibility for the troop.

Learning By Doing – Experiential Learning:

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience is designed to be experiential for girls. What does this mean? It means that the girls engage in an activity or experience, and then are given the opportunity to look back on it, and identify useful insights for the future. All you have to do is ask some questions or get them to reflect on what they have done.

Cooperative Learning:

Through cooperative learning, girls work together toward shared goals in an atmosphere of respect and collaboration that encourages the sharing of skills, knowledge, and learning. In general, girls prefer a collaborative leadership style, rather than the traditional, top-down, command and control" approach. The cooperative learning process gives girls the opportunity to develop leadership skills in a way that might feel most comfortable. Girl Scouting has some built-in methods:

- **Kapers** – Chore chart that ensures the work of the troop or an activity is done fairly. Girls work in pairs, or small groups, to do the chores of the troop/group.
- **The Buddy System** – Girls pair up with a “buddy” for field trips and activities. They are to stick with their buddy, and take care of their buddy. It is a safety procedure, and a great cooperative learning method.
- **Girl Adult Planning** – Girls and adults working together to set goals and make decisions for the troop.
- **Troop Government** – Girls work together through a democratic process in planning and decision making.
- **Sharing** – Girls work together to problem-solve share ideas, accomplish goals, discover, try new things, make decisions, and learn from one another.
Section 2: Girl Scout Junior Program

Girl/Adult Planning and Partnership

As a Girl Scout Junior adult volunteer, you will have a unique relationship with the girls in your troop. Girls in kindergarten and first grade are eager to take on responsibility. They often become attached to a friendly and caring adult. You will become a role model for your Girl Scout Juniors. Because of the age of the Girl Scout Junior, the girl/adult partnership is unique, and planning is very important for your success. You should prepare a general plan for your troop year and involve the girls in the decision-making.

Girl/Adult partnerships are unique, because the girls take the lead in deciding what activities they will do, making the plans for the activities and evaluating the activities. You may be asking yourself, “How does a Girl Scout Junior make plans and evaluate activities?” Planning with Girl Scout Juniors can be a four step process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step 1: Set a Goal.</th>
<th>Considering the girls’ interests and working with your other adult volunteers, set a goal for the troop. Ask the girls what they hope to accomplish. “What would you like to do this year?”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Step 2: Brainstorm Ideas.</td>
<td>Once you have set your goals for the year, brainstorm ways to meet your goals. This brainstorm list may include activities, field trips, and other program opportunities. Come up with a list that will allow the girls to choose from the options by voting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 3: Focus on the GSLE</td>
<td>GSLE stands for the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. For every program activity you have planned, you need to ask if it relates to the Outcomes: council goals, the mission and the program, and consider the program processes as you work with girls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 4: Gather Information.</td>
<td>Now that you have a list of ideas/activities for the year, you must gather information to ensure success in implementing the activities. Ask yourself: Are there safety requirements, admission fees, transportation, health concerns, etc., for the activities planned? Do we need to complete any additional forms?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 5: Focus on the Activity/Program.</td>
<td>For each activity, there will be some planning. In this step, you will need to establish timelines and budgets. Ask yourself: Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step 6: DO IT!</td>
<td>In this step, you implement the activity!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Step 7: Evaluate.</td>
<td>Evaluate the entire planning process, not just the final activity. Ask yourself and the girls: Did it work? Would you do it again? How could you improve it? How could you be more efficient in the planning? Was everyone involved? What did you learn?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Step 8: Pass It On.</td>
<td>Tell others about the activity. Share your success at service unit meetings. Talk about it with your parents. Call the local press. Celebrate and share the good news!</td>
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Troop Government

A key to successful planning with Girl Scout Juniors is to forge a girl/adult partnership. When girls are active planners and decision-makers, their competence and self-esteem grow. Research conducted by Girl Scouts of the USA has found Junior Girl Scouts who are encouraged to take the lead and be involved in troop decision-making are more likely to enjoy their Girl Scout program activities and stay with Girl Scouting longer.

It is important to listen to girls’ concerns in a non-judgmental way. Girl Scouting has a built-in structure that will help facilitate girl/adult planning. This structure is traditionally referred to as troop government. There are three models; the patrol system, the executive board (also called the steering committee) and the town meeting.

Three Models of Troop Government

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How it is Organized</th>
<th>Patrol</th>
<th>Executive Board</th>
<th>Town Meeting</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The troop divides into small groups called patrols (Good for medium to large troops)</td>
<td>One leadership team is elected to represent the entire troop. (Good for smaller troops)</td>
<td>The troop has no formal government. The entire troop participates directly in the decision-making process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How it Works</td>
<td>Patrons choose patrol names, patrol symbols, patrol leaders, and assistant patrol leaders. A kaper chart lists jobs and who does them.</td>
<td>The troop elects girls to the leadership team, which sometimes is called the steering committee. The team then elects its officers (President, Secretary, Treasurer). The number of officers varies with the project.</td>
<td>Troop business is discussed and determined by all girls in the troop. This system requires a moderator. The moderator guides troop discussions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How Long it Lasts</td>
<td>Members of the patrol should rotate the leadership jobs so that everyone has an opportunity.</td>
<td>The length of time in leadership position should be limited to give each girl the opportunity to lead</td>
<td>Rotate the moderator position so everyone gets a chance to lead.</td>
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Patrol System

The Patrol System is the most versatile of the systems of government. The troop is divided into smaller units called patrols. The ideal patrol size is about 5-8 girls. Each Patrol elects a Patrol Leader responsible for running their patrol meetings. An Assistant Patrol Leader is also a good idea in the event that the Patrol Leader cannot make a meeting. All troop business can be handled in these patrols. Attendance and dues can be recorded by the patrols. For any given outing, chores may be divided up with each patrol responsible for its own task.

In order for the troop to run smoothly and as a group, Patrol Leaders should come together periodically (at least once a month) to discuss troop issues and make group decisions. This is called the "Court of Honor". Each patrol gives their input to the Patrol Leader who presents their viewpoint at the Court of Honor. Also included in the Court of Honor are any other troop officers such as Secretary and Treasurer. The Patrol System can be very successful, but only if the girls are given skills with which to succeed.
Girl Scout Junior Resources

The Girl’s Guide to Girl Scouting

Girls at every grade level have a *Girl’s Guide to Girl Scouting*, which correlate with the leadership journeys. Through fun activities, girls can earn a variety of badges to build the skills and gain the confidence they will use to change the world. They can even develop and complete activities to make their own badge—a great way to explore a topic of personal interest. (In addition, girls who make their own badge will learn how to learn, an important skill to have in school, on the job, and in life!)

*The Girl’s Guide to Girl Scouting* is designed to complement the Journeys at each grade level. This means that each Skill-Building Badge Set (there are currently three; each is sold separately from *The Girl’s Guide to Girl Scouting*) is tied to one of the three Journeys (as you can see in the following chart). You will find that doing a Journey and the related badge set at the same time will make it easy to offer the entire National Program Portfolio—Journeys and badges—in a seamless way.

Inside *The Girl’s Guide to Girl Scouting* binder, you will discover three tabs: Handbook, Badges, and My Girl Scouts. The Handbook section consists of the Girl Scout Promise and Law, the Girl Scout Junior Adventure, Girl Scout history and traditions, Girl Scout Ceremonies, Girl Scout Junior uniform and special awards, the Bronze Award Guidelines, and the requirements to Bridge to Girl Scout Cadettes. Under the Badges section you will discover the Award Log, which lists all of the badges/awards that can be earned by a Girl Scout Junior. Also included are all of the requirement booklets for the Junior Badges. My Girl Scouts section is a scrapbook and includes activities and resources that can be used when working on the badges, an area for a journal and a place where the girls can write a letter to themselves to be read in the future.

Leadership Journeys and Awards

What is a Journey? A key part of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience is the Leadership Journey, a coordinated series of activities grouped around a theme. Along the Journey, girls will use the three leadership keys, Discover, Connect, and Take Action to make the world a better place. The activities included in the Journey guides may be done by troops/groups, by individually registered girls, or as part of larger program events. Each grade-level Journey series includes an adult guide and a corresponding girl book. The adult guide includes sample meeting sessions, activity ideas, and tips for successfully providing a strong leadership experience for girls.

“*It’s Your World – Change It!*” is the theme of the first Journey Leadership series and *Agent of Change* is the title of the Girl Scout Junior resource book. In this journey, there is a whole spiral of power waiting for Girl Scout Juniors. The journey is filled with ceremonies and circles, real-life heroines, and special new characters, including the fashion-savvy spider named Dez. Along the way, girls learn how their own power combines into team power and then moves out to become community power (kind of like how Dez weaves her web from the inside out). The journey’s centerpiece is a comic story of girl heroines who will
inspire the Juniors as they take action to improve their own community.

The Junior journey is filled with fun and friendship. From its start to its closing celebration, the girls will move from a deeper understanding of themselves to exploring how powerful they are as a team, to realizing the added strength they gain by reaching out in the wider community to take action with its members. Agent of Change offers girls a chance to earn three awards and record progress throughout the journey in their own “Award Tracker.”

Girl Scout Juniors may earn three awards that tie directly to the power theme and are presented after completing various activities during their Journey.

- **The Power of One Award** will allow girls to discover and share the powerful story of a forgotten woman or girl from around the world who mobilized others and made a difference, discover all the ways their own strengths and powers help them create change in the world, and discover what the Girl Scout Law and true “heroines” have in common.
- **The Power of Team Award** prepares girls to connect with their Girl Scout crew to create a “super girl” story in which the characters take one small situation they care about and strive for long-lasting community change. Girls will also make a team decision and write their team hopes for a Take Action Project that reaches into a community network to solve a problem together with community members.
- **The Power of Community** has girls take action on their plan, reach out, join others and get them involved, and start something that snowballs into a change in their world. Girls join in their Girl Scout Junior circle to reflect on what they accomplished and celebrate it.

**It’s Your Planet – Love It!** is the theme of the second Girl Scout Leadership Journey series and **GET MOVING!** is the Girl Scout Junior book. In this journey, Girl Scout Juniors build their skills as leaders who Energize, Investigate, and Innovate. They are allowed to explore their own energy, the energy in their places and spaces (buildings), and the energy of getting from here to there (transportation).

Juniors have a new comic story called “Vamos Ya!” to inspire their action; and Dez returns to add some wit to the journey as she tries to figure out life “off the grid.”

- **The Energize Award** is awarded to the girls who make an Energy Pledge, try at least two other Energize activities, and check out how others are tackling energy issues.
- **The Investigate Award** is earned as the Girl Scout Juniors learn about energy use in buildings, work with their families to make energy improvements, and investigate energy use in a community building.
- **The Innovate Award** is the third award the girls can earn by
identifying an energy issue in the community, research it, create a plan, and carry it out, all while reaching out to others to join in too.

"It’s Your Story – Tell It!" is the third Girl Scout Leadership Journey and focuses on the different roles girls can take on in the world. aMUSE helps the Girl Scout Juniors learn just how many roles are open to them in the world and the responsibilities those roles open for them. Whether they want to fly a plane, lead a rock band or win a gold medal, aMUSE helps girls take center stage and try out more roles than they ever thought possible, with a little help from Dez and the Muses. As they find out there is more to their story, girls may feel stronger, walk taller and gain confidence!

◆ Reach Out! Award – Juniors understand the many roles women and girls play in the world around them and the leadership skills used to play them.
◆ Speak Out! Award - Juniors are aware of how stereotypes could hold themselves, and others back from trying on roles, and they Take Action to help stop stereotypes.
◆ Try Out! Award - Juniors have the courage, and confidence, to try out new roles.
Since the early days, Girl Scouts has been a uniformed organization. Today, that tradition continues, with the uniform representing Girl Scouting’s trusted relationship between outward appearance and inward strengths and ideals.

Girls usually wear their Girl Scout uniform for the first time at the Investiture Ceremony. Girl Scouts may choose to wear uniforms at meetings or Girl Scout events to:

- Make them easily identifiable to each other and to the public
- Foster a feeling of unity among members
- Reinforce the sense of belonging to the Girl Scout Movement

Wearing a uniform is not a requirement to being a Girl Scout, but uniform pieces provide girls a place to display their Girl Scout pins and the insignia that they have earned.
**Girl Scout Junior Insignia and Earned Awards**

**Girl Scout Membership Pin**

This pin is worn by Girl Scout Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, Ambassadors, and Adult Girl Scout Members; and is presented during the Girl Scout Investiture Ceremony. It is worn on the Girl Scout Junior Insignia tab (on the bottom of the tab) on the left side of the uniform.

**World Trefoil Pin**

This pin signifies that all Girl Scouts are members of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS). It is presented after the girls have learned about the international aspects of Girl Scouting and Girl Guiding. Thinking Day is an ideal time for this ceremony. The pin is worn on the Insignia Tab above the Junior Membership Pin.

**Girl Scout Junior Badges**

Girl Scout Brownies can pick badges that sound fun, interesting, or give them the chance to build a skill that will be useful on their Journey. Each badge book explains the purpose and steps of each badge, along with choices for how the girls would like to complete the badge and tips on what to do before they start.

**Financial Literacy Badges**

These leaves are earned when Girl Scout Juniors participate in Council Sponsored Fall Product Sales program and learn how to use money.

**Cookie Business Badges**

Girl Scout Juniors can earn these badges when they participate in the Cookie Program and use the skills that they learned earning their Financial Literacy Leaves.

**Safety Award**

The Safety Award is earned when Girl Scout Juniors learn how to stay safe during their Junior adventures.

**My Promise, My Faith**

Girl Scout Juniors earn this pin (one for each year) by examining the Girl Scout Law and how it applies to their faith.
Leadership Journey Awards

Each Girl Scout Journey program has three awards that correspond with the theme of the Leadership Journey. They are the awards that Girl Scout Juniors can earn by completing the various activities throughout the Journey book.

The Junior Journey Summit Award

Upon completion of all three Girl Scout Junior Leadership Journeys, the girls will earn this very special award.

Membership Star

Every Girl Scout receives a gold membership star at the end of each troop year to signify the completion of one year of Girl Scouting. Additionally, the girls receive a colored disc that fits behind the star. Each grade level has a specific color disc. The Girl Scout Junior disc is yellow.

Participation Patches

What could be more fun than working with Daisies or Brownies? You can earn your Junior Aide award by making and completing a plan to guide Girl Scout Daisies or Brownies on one of their Journeys.

Bridging to Girl Scout Cadette Award

Awarded to fifth grade Girl Scout Juniors who have completed the bridging steps listed in the Girl’s Guide to Girl Scouting. The award is presented to the girls during the Bridging to Girl Scout Cadettes ceremony held at the year of the year.

NOTE: This is an optional award. Fifth grade Girl Scout Juniors do not need to earn the “Bridge to Girl Scout Cadettes Award” to be considered Girl Scout Cadettes once they move to the 5th grade.

Participation Patches

Girl Scouts often receive patches for participating in an activity, event, or special program (also called fun patches). These events are usually one day programs that the council or service area sponsors. Participation patches are placed on the back of the vest or sash.

All Girl Scout Junior insignia and awards may be purchased at Girl Scouts of Silver Sage office or online at www.girlscouts-ssc.org
Girl Scout Bronze Award

The Girl Scout Bronze Award is a leadership adventure and the highest honor a Girl Scout Junior can achieve. As you and your team plan and complete your project, you'll develop more confidence, meet new people, and have the kind of fun that happens when you work with other Girl Scouts to make a difference.

When you go for the Bronze Award, you represent what Girl Scouts can achieve in their communities; and you want to do that in a way that is fun for you and everyone else involved.

History

The Girl Scout Bronze Award was created by a troop of Girl Scout Juniors from an individual council and introduced at Girl Scouts of the USA’s 2001 National Meeting of Presidents and Executive Directors in Savannah, Georgia.

The Girl Scout Bronze Award, the highest honor a Girl Scout Junior can earn, requires her to learn the leadership and planning skills necessary to follow through on a project that makes a positive impact on her community. Girls may work on the award individually or in a group. A Girl Scout Junior does not need to earn the Bronze award in order to be able to earn the Girl Scout Silver award; however, in order to earn the Bronze Award all of the requirements for the Bronze award must be met before leaving the Girl Scout Junior level.

Benefits

- Working towards this award demonstrates her commitment to helping others, improving her community and the world, and becoming the best she can be.
- Earning the Bronze Award serves as a foundation to earn the Silver and Gold Awards (but is not required).
- Younger girls will look up to girls that have earned the Bronze Award.
- Make the world a better place.
- Girls are invited to participate in leadership opportunities.

To earn the award, your girls will pick a project that they care about and that will make a lasting difference in the world. As they complete the project, they will meet new people who can offer them information and advice. This is called networking and it is a great skill to have as a leader. It can also help the girls as they start thinking about life during high school. Staying in touch with people they meet as they earn their Girl Scout Bronze Award may help them as they prepare for high school and earning their Silver Award.

By working on the Bronze Award, the girls will develop lots of self-confidence and their accomplishment will let others know how much they are capable of doing.

The Guidelines for the Girl Scout Bronze Award can be found in the handbook section of the Junior Girl’s Guide to Girl Scouting or the website at http://www.girlscouts-ssc.org.
Creating a Quality Experience

Girl Scouting’s promise to girls is stated in the mission: Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Girls engage in activities that help them Discover themselves and their values, Connect with others, and Take Action to make the world a better place.

A quality Girl Scout Leadership Experience includes going on a Leadership Journey, earning badges, taking field trips, selling Cookies and Fall Products, and enjoying Girl Scout traditions. Together with the girls and families in your troop, you will take part in activities and challenges where girls play an active part in planning and doing, learn by doing, and work together toward shared goals.

Girl Scout Meeting Tips

First-time Girl Scouts

If girls are meeting each other for the first time, advisors may need to plan and structure the first and possibly the second gathering. Most often, the first gathering will be focused on activities that are FUN to the girls and include team-building and getting to know one another activities. The next meeting will often involve idea sharing and planning and kick-off how the girls themselves see their meetings and what will work for the girls, advisors and parents.

Girl Scouts who have already been in a troop

If the girls have been a troop/group for a long time, the first meeting for them will be the discussing how the girls see themselves in their new role as a Girl Scout Junior and what type of meetings/gatherings will work for the girls, advisor, and parents.

Whether first-time or long-time Girl Scouts, the girls are encouraged to “think outside of the box” regarding their meetings. Deciding on the formats themselves is an essential activity for a girl that encourages cooperative learning and learning by doing.

Advisors – guide the planning by asking the girls:

- How often can we truly get together?
- What format and places will work best – bi-weekly evenings? Meeting at a coffee shop? Saturday mornings? Monthly sleepovers?
- What do the girls want to accomplish when gathering?
- How can the Girl Scout program support the girls in their lives and other activities?

Meeting Plans Outline

As stated earlier in the workbook the troop leaders plan the meetings where girls play an active part in figuring out the what, where, when, how and why of their activities. Age
appropriate, girl-led experiences are built into the sample meeting plans to make it easy for you.

Each meeting runs roughly 60-90 minutes. You do not have to squeeze or stretch activities to fit a particular time. Meetings can be customized and adjusted to match the needs and desires of your troop/group.

**Running the Meetings**

1. **Go with the flow.**
   - Be open to possibilities that make the meetings feasible for everyone.
   - Priorities shift as girls get older. Girls who choose another activity over a Girl Scout activity are not necessarily telling you that the troop is not important to them. They are learning to prioritize among several options during their pre-adolescent years. Be accepting and positive when they are unable to attend a troop event.
   - Have a meeting plan and agenda.
   - Allow girls time to socialize.
   - Have an opening, a symbolic gesture that the meeting has started.
   - Help the girls conduct and record the business of the meeting.
   - Have a meeting closing – again, a symbolic gesture that the meeting is over.

2. **Get the word out.**
   - Be sure that girls and parents know when and where the meetings will be held.
   - Keep the lines of communication moving between meetings. Reminder cards, email, text messages, newsletters or a phone chain are all effective ways to communicate with girls and their families. Try using a social networking site, such as Facebook, to set up a private group where the girls can communicate with each other.

3. **Be aware.**
   - Get copies of schedules from the girls’ schools and plan around sports events, band and chorus activities, exam schedules, etc. Try to attend some of their games and/or performances – the girls will appreciate your involvement.
   - Know which of the girls have extracurricular activities, jobs, etc. Plan around those calendars, too.
   - Talk with girls’ parents and find out their plans for family vacations, church meetings, etc., that the girls might forget to mention.

4. **Be pro-active.**
   - Plan troop activities well in advance. The girls and their families will know what is happening and can make plans accordingly.
   - Get troop reservations in early for scheduled events. By doing this you will increase the likelihood of the girls being able to participate, and girls have time to put them on their calendars and work other schedules into troop activities.
Materials for First Gathering

- **Name tags (if needed)** – Set out something unique for making nametags. Paper scissors, scrapbooking materials, fabric, magazines, cloth, markers, etc. Have the girls design the nametags and use as needed.

- **Refreshments** – Have something for them to eat and drink. After the first gathering, girls can decide if snacks are needed and how they should be provided.

- **Troop Box** – Have a sturdy cardboard or plastic box, preferably with handles, to carry the items you will regularly need at troop/group meetings. They may be obtained by purchasing them with funds donated by the parents, by having each family donate certain items, or by securing a sponsor willing to provide items. They will be kept in the troop box and taken to every meeting. File folders for each girl can serve as a “mailbox” for important information and forms needing completion.

- **First Aid Kit** – The First Aid kit should be on hand at every meeting and outing. Check with the *Safety Activity Checkpoints* for a list of suggested items for the First Aid kit.


- **Materials for on-the-spot activities** – This will depend on the grade level and maturity of the girls. Construction paper, markers, pencils, scissors, crayons, and glue are options, but so are teen magazines, news magazines, age appropriate novels, etc., that can encourage on the spot discussions during “down time.” Discuss with the girls what they would like to have available for them.

- **American and/or Troop flag** – These are optional items.

Components of a Girl Scout Junior Meeting

There is no one right way to hold a Girl Scout Junior meeting. The method you use depends on what works best for both the girls and the volunteers. As you get to know the girls, you will learn how to guide them in the activities that meet their interests and abilities. Girl Scout Junior meetings are usually 60 – 90 minutes long and include:

- **Pre-Meeting or Start-Up Activity (5 – 10 minutes)**
  As the girls arrive at the meeting place, have a quiet activity set up for them (puzzles, drawing, word games, or just let them visit with each other. Remember, it is good for them to giggle and have fun. You want them to become good friends. **Hint:** if you make this part fun, the girls will tend to be on time.

- **Snack Time (10 minutes/optional)**
  After school troops may want to have a snack right away to give the girls a break from the school day. Evening troops may want to have the snack toward the end of the meeting. You may want to include a snack time during your meetings depending on the time your troop meets. It is a good idea to have an official troop snack container. A five-pound coffee can that the girls have decorated is a good start! You
can write the number of finger-foods needed for snack on the lid with a permanent marker. The snack container also serves as a reminder to the troop member and her parent/guardian that she is in charge of the snack for the next meeting.

❖ **Opening (5 – 10 minutes)**

This officially calls the meeting to order. Calling a troop to order for Girl Scout Juniors vary. For Daisies there is the Daisy Circle. For Brownies, there is the Brownie Ring. Troop Leaders should decide what they will use to represent their meetings coming to order. If needed, use the quiet sign to call the meeting or order and recite the Girl Scout Promise and the Pledge of Allegiance. This is also a good time to teach a new game or song. Girls can also share their interests, feelings, and daily experiences while in the Girl Scout Junior Circle. Be sure this is voluntary. Each girl should be assured of an opportunity to speak.

❖ **Business Meeting (5 – 10 minutes)**

With the assistance of an adult, ask one of the girls to take attendance. Welcome new girls, brainstorm ideas, make plans, and vote on decisions. Collect any forms such as permission slips or other items that the girls may be returning. Discuss the activity planned for the meeting; why you are doing it, what you want the girls to learn from it, and how it will be done.

❖ **Activity/Exploration (15 – 20 minutes)**

Try to plan activities that can be completed in one meeting, such as an activity from one of the Girl Scout Junior Journey books or a petal activity from their Girl’s Guide to Girl Scouting. If a project cannot be completed in one meeting, divide it into two or three short steps that can be completed at individual meetings. This will give girls a sense of completion and accomplishment after each meeting.

❖ **Clean-up (5 – 10 minutes)**

Make sure to give girls advance notice for clean-up time so that they have time to complete their projects. Think of ways to make clean-up time fun. For instance, you might play some familiar music and try to clean-up before the music ends.

❖ **Closing (3 – 5 minutes)**

Call the girls to the Friendship Circle for any reminders and last minute discussion. Other closing activities could be saying goodbye in other languages or singing a goodbye song. Invite any parents that may have arrived early to join in. Following the closing, the girls are dismissed.
**Objective**
The goal of your first four Junior Girl Scout meetings is to renew old friendships and to forge new ones. Returning girls and adults will welcome new members. The troop will establish a pattern of girl/adult partnership which will carry through the year. Girls will also plan for their investiture and rededication ceremony.

**Introduction**
What follows are basic outlines for your first four Junior Girl Scout meetings. They are designed to help you get started, and can be changed or modified to fit the needs and interests of the girls.

**Resources**
Suggestions include but are not limited to the following:
- *Agent of Change* Journey Book
- GSUSA’s Journey 1 Girl Scout Junior Page
- [http://www.girlscouts.org/program/journeys/your_world/junior.asp](http://www.girlscouts.org/program/journeys/your_world/junior.asp)
- Junior Facilitator Set
- The girls
- Your ideas
- Other adults in your troop
- The internet

**Helpful Hints**
- Use themes to help organize your activities
- Keep track of girls’ comments and ideas from throughout the meetings – they have good ideas!
- Work with the adults in your troop; get them involved
- As girls progress through Girl Scouting, they are to take a more active role in making decisions. Junior Girl Scouts are able to grab hold of this concept when deciding on the troop’s future.
Meeting 1

Theme: Getting to Know Each Other

START-UP ACTIVITY
Jumpin’ Jivin’ Junior Books (part 1)

Materials
- White paper
- Pencils, pens, colored pencils, markers
  - Anything else fun with which to decorate the pages

Instructions
- As the girls arrive, give them each several sheets of white paper
- Fold the sheets in half, forming a book
- The girls should chat with each other, finding out interesting things about each other (favorite shows, pets, siblings, hobbies, etc)
- As they chat, they should write down what they learn about each other on the pages
- They can also collect signatures, quotes, etc
- These books will be used in other activities in other meetings, so make sure they leave some pages blank

OPENING
Introductions
- Introduce yourself and your co-leaders
- Have each girl introduce herself – name, grade, favorite something (animal, ice cream, color, etc)
- Have any adults who are present introduce themselves as well

Quiet Sign
Most girls should just need a reminder of the Quiet Sign.
- When the leader raises her hand (either regularly, or with the Girl Scout symbol), it is a sign that she needs the group’s quiet attention.
- When the girls see the leader’s Quiet Sign, they should raise their hands as well, and be quiet.
- “When the hand goes up, the mouth goes shut.”
- Explain why it’s important that the girls give their attention – important announcement, next instruction, too noisy, emergency, etc

How to Open Troop Meetings
This is the first decision your troop will make for the year. You could start with a traditional Flag Ceremony and recite the Girl Scout Promise, or a few returning members could lead the group in a favorite opening activity from previous years. Or you could do something completely new and/or different. It’s up to you and the girls.
Make New Friends Song
Teach the girls the following song. If they know it, teach them to sing it in a round.

Make new friends, but keep the old.
One is silver and the other gold.
A circle’s round. It has no end.
That’s how long I want to be your friend.

BUSINESS

Get-to-Know-You Game – Link

Materials: room to move around

Instructions
- Set Up: one girl stands at one end of the area while the rest of the girls stand in a line or a bunch opposite her
- The girl standing by herself will introduce herself and say something unique about herself (i.e. “My name is Bethany and I play soccer,” or “My name is Taneesha and I have a little sister.”)
- If someone in the group has that “unique something” in common with the first girl, she will yell, “LINK!” and run to join arms with the first girl. It is okay if multiple people have that “unique something” in common, but only one girl can link arms at a time.
- The girl who linked will stay “linked” with the first girl as she introduces herself and says something unique about herself. Again, if someone shares that “unique something,” she will yell, “LINK!” and run to join arms with the second girl.
- Keep repeating these steps until all the girls have introduced themselves and linked arms with each other.
- The last girl will have to say things about herself until she has something in common with the first girl – they will link arms so that the group forms a circle.
- Moral of the Story – no matter where you came from, whether this is your first year in Girl Scouts or your 50th, if you had friends in the troop or are new to the group, you have at least one thing in common with at least one other person here; we are all linked together. We will work together this year to achieve goals and form relationships. This was just our first step!

Troop Government
Discuss troop government options and select a form of troop government. Use the Agent of Change Journey Book and the Junior Facilitator Set for reference. If appropriate, elect officers.

ACTIVITIES

Brainstorming
Talk about what the girls would like to do during the Girl Scout year. Bring resources for the girls’ reference: copies of the Agent of Change Journey Book, service project ideas, Junior badge materials, council patch programs, etc. If the troop is large, assign a committee to look over different resources and report back to the group with recommendations. Discuss and keep track of the ideas (perhaps use a large piece of paper for all to see). Vote on one activity to start the year.
Girl Scout Law Relay

Materials
- Large index cards with one part of the Girl Scout Law written on each card (10 cards total) – make a couple sets
- Space to move around
- Space to assemble the cards – a table top or a wall (use masking tape) or a bulletin board (with push pins)
- Designate a starting line

Instructions
- Mix the cards up within each set; place them face down at the starting line
- Divide the troop up into two or three teams
- The first girl picks up a card and runs it to the assembly area for her team. She places the card there, and runs back to her team.
- Next player takes a card, runs up, places it in the proper place (in relation to the first card), runs back.
- Each girl in turns adds another card until all the cards have made it to the assembly area. If a girl feels a card is in the incorrect spot, she can change it during her turn.
- The first team to construct the Girl Scout Law in the correct sequence wins the game.

CLEAN-UP
Girl Scouts always leave the place looking better than how they found it. Ask each girl to be responsible for her own place and her own supplies. Or, you could assign easy kapers (sweeping, collecting trash, pushing in chairs, etc).

CLOSING
How to Close Troop Meetings
As a troop, decide how you would like to close troop meetings (just like you did with opening troop meetings). You could do a traditional Friendship Circle, or you could ask a few of the returning members to lead the group in a favorite closing activity from previous years. Or you could do something completely different! Whatever you choose today should work for the rest of the troop year.
Meeting 2

Theme: Getting Started

START-UP ACTIVITY
Jumpin’ Jivin’ Junior Books (part 2)

Materials
- The books the girls started at the last meeting
- Pens, pencils, colored pencils, markers, crayons, etc.
- Fun decorations for the pages
- Magazines
- Glue

Instructions
- As they arrive, give the girls their books from the first meeting.
- Write the Girl Scout Promise on one of the blank pages.
- Write the Girl Scout Law on another of the blank pages.
- Have the girls make visual representations of how they follow the Promise and Law. They could draw pictures, write sentences, or use magazines to make a collage... be creative!

OPENING
Open the meeting based on your decision from the last meeting.

BUSINESS
Troop Dues
- Using the troop government system you decided upon at the last meeting, start a discussion about troop dues. The following questions should be helpful:
  - What are troop dues?
  - What will we need money for? (Remind them of their ideas for activities)
  - How much money will we need to do those things?
  - How else can we build our troop treasury?
  - What is a reasonable amount to collect at each meeting?
  - How can the girls earn their dues?

ACTIVITIES
Kaper Chart
With the girls, discuss responsibility and how the girls can participate in planning and conducting troop meetings. Introduce a Kaper Chart (if you already have one made, great; if not, work with the girls to develop it and have it ready for the next meeting). A Kaper Chart for Junior meetings could include Opening Leader, Closing Leader, Attendance Taker, Dues Collector, Song Leader, and (of course), clean up kapers. Talk together about what jobs would be appropriate for this troop and decide how to make the Kaper Chart.
Journey Activities – The Power of One Award
The Agent of Change Journey has three awards: The Power of One Award, The Power of Team Award, and The Power of Community Award. Start working on The Power of One Award tonight, so that each girl can receive a fully-earned recognition at the investiture and rededication ceremony. Please see the Agent of Change Journey Book for specific activities.

CLEAN-UP
Based on your earlier discussion, clean up your area.

CLOSING
Close the meeting based on your decision from the last meeting.

Kaper Chart Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample 1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meeting Date</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Troop 1234 Kaper Chart</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kaper</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refreshments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean-up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Meeting 3

Theme: Junior Girl Scouts

START-UP ACTIVITY
Jumpin’ Jivin’ Junior Books (part 3)

Materials
◆ The books the girls started at the last meeting
◆ Pens, pencils, colored pencils, markers, crayons, etc.
◆ Fun decorations
◆ Magazines
◆ Glue
◆ Colored construction paper
◆ Camera

Instructions
◆ As they arrive, give the girls their books from the first meeting.
◆ Use the construction paper to make a cover for the Junior books.
◆ Use the decorations and magazines, etc to make the cover unique and creative.
◆ Adult Responsibility: Regarding the camera – take a group picture! Try to have the photo developed and a copy printed for each girl. Bring this to the next meeting.

OPENING
Open the meeting based on your decision from the first meeting.

BUSINESS
Investiture and Rededication Ceremony
It is time to start thinking about this ceremony. Explain to the girls what it is and what it involves.
◆ Decide on decorations (you should make them at the next meeting)
◆ Discuss who to invite and what the invitations should include
◆ Brainstorm about songs, games, activities, or poems to include

Ceremony Invitations
Materials
◆ Paper
◆ Pencils, colored pencils, markers, etc
◆ Other materials appropriate for invitations (stickers, stencils, etc)

Instructions
◆ Have the girls make invitations for the ceremony you’re planning
◆ Allow the girls to make several each

ACTIVITIES
Journey Activity – The Power of One Award
Please see the Agent of Change Journey Book for specific activities
**Junior Smile Song**
I've got something in my pocket That's what I used to say We spent our time so aimlessly At home, at school, at play. Now every day is special We're searching, who am I? We can only find that out If you let us have a try!

**CLEAN-UP**
Use the Kaper Chart to clean up.

**CLOSING**
Close the meeting based on your decision from the first meeting.

**Games for Girl Scout Juniors**

**Name Train**
Form a circle. One becomes “locomotive.” Locomotive “chugs” around inside of circle and stops at a person. “Hi! I’m Alice.” “I’m Kathy,” Locomotive exalts the group to cheer 5 times “Kathy! Kathy! Kathy! Kathy! Kathy!” Kathy puts hands on hips of Alice and off they go to get another “car.” “Hi! I’m Alice.” “I’m Gracie.” Locomotive chants name with group 5 times. Gracie holds Kathy’s hips and Alice now becomes “caboose” and Kathy is locomotive. Locomotive chugs around and the next person becomes the caboose after every cheer until all are part of the train.

**Fox and Squirrel**
(You will need one small foam ball and 2 large foam balls) Stand in a circle. Start by passing a small foam ball, the “squirrel,” around the circle. As you pass it to the next person say “squirrel.” Next begin passing 2 larger foam balls, the “foxes,” in either direction around the circle. As you pass these, say “fox.” The object of the game is to capture the squirrel (i.e. tag the person holding the “squirrel”) with one or both “foxes.” The “squirrel” can fly (the “foxes” cannot), so you can toss it across the circle to get away from the “foxes.” “Foxes” can go either direction around the circle and can change directions. Be careful NOT to be caught holding the “squirrel” when the “fox” is passed to you!

**Junior-to-Junior (same as People-to-People)**
Designate one girl as the “caller” and have all other girls pair up and stand side-by-side. When the caller shouts “Junior-to-Junior,” the girls run to find a new partner to stand next to. The odd person out becomes the new “caller.” To change it up a little, the “caller” can call different body parts like hand-to-hand or foot-to-foot and the girls will have to find a new partner and touch the body parts that the “caller” names.

**Giggling Gertie**

**Equipment:** A handkerchief

A circle is formed. One player is selected to be in the center. She laughs and tosses a handkerchief into the air. The group starts laughing. All players continue to laugh as long as the handkerchief is in the air. The instant it touches the floor, all faces must become expressionless. Anyone caught smiling is out. Play until only four or five girls are left.
Meeting 4

Theme: Getting Ready for the Investiture and Rededication Ceremony

START-UP ACTIVITY
Jumpin’ Jivin’ Junior Books (part 4)

Materials
- The books the girls started at the last meeting
- Pens, pencils, colored pencils, markers, crayons, etc.
- Glue
- The copies of the group photo

Instructions
- As the girls arrive, give them their books.
- Also give each of them a copy of the group photo.
- Glue the photo onto a blank page. Somewhere near the photo, have the girls write the names of all the girls in their troop (in the photo), and the troop number and date.
- Let them decorate it as they see fit.

OPENING
Open the meeting based on your decision from the first meeting.

BUSINESS
Planning the Investiture and Rededication Ceremony

Explain that you’ll use this meeting to get ready for the investiture and rededication ceremony. Help everyone understand that every idea is a good idea.

- Choose songs, games, or other activities to use at the ceremony. Remind the girls of the songs they’ve learned at meetings already.
- Choose a snack to serve at the ceremony. Simple refreshments should be served at the ceremony’s end. Teach the girls that they will serve their guests before they serve themselves.
- Explain what will happen at the ceremony.
- Flag Ceremony with Pledge of Allegiance and Girl Scout Promise
- Sing Junior song(s) and/or play Junior game(s) or read/recite Junior poem(s)
- Recognition
  - Leader explains to guests that the girls have been learning about the Girl Scout Promise and Law, and explains the Agent of Change Journey
  - Leader presents each girl with her first recognition, The Power of One Award
- Investiture and Rededication
  - New Juniors will receive their Junior Girl Scout pin; Girl Scout handshake
  - Returning Juniors will receive their (optional) rededication patch; Girl Scout handshake
- Refreshments
- Clean-Up
- Closing Activity; invite guests to join

CLEAN-UP Use the Kaper Chart to clean up.

CLOSING Close the meeting based on your decision from the first meeting
Ceremony Planning Guide

What is the purpose or reason for the ceremony?

- Investiture and/or Rededication?
- Bridging Ceremony?
- Court of Awards?
- Founder’s Day (Juliette Low’s Birthday)?
- Girl Scout Birthday?
- Girl Scout Sunday?
- Scout’s Own?
- Thinking Day?

Where will the ceremony be held and who will reserve the site?

- Indoors or outdoors?
- Someone’s home?
- At the Meeting Place?
- School?
- Church?
- Camp?

Who should we invite?

- Troop members only?
- Parents and friends?
- Sister troop or other troops?
- Sponsors?

How will we begin or open the ceremony?

- Flag ceremony?
- Welcome and introductions?
- Leader will ask girls to come forward and take their place?
- Song or poem?
- Invocation or inspirational thought?
- Walk quietly to the place the ceremony will be held?

What will the main section of the ceremony consist of?

- Recite Girl Scout Promise and Law?
- Candle-lighting ceremony?
- Girl Scout Songs?
- Court of Awards?
- Recognition of parent helpers?
- Short Story?
- Presentation of the World Trefoil pin?
- Bridging ceremony?

How will we conclude the ceremony?

- Recite Girl Scout Promise?
- Friendship Circle and squeeze?
- Invite guests to enjoy refreshments?
- Sing Taps or other song?
- Retire the flag?
- Leave the ceremony area?

What kind of equipment or materials will we need for the ceremony?

- Candles, candle holders, and matches?
- A bridge or stepping stones?
- Mirror or foil for pond and greenery?
- Flags and flag stands?
- Decorations
- World Trefoil Pin or other ceremony board?
- Pins or other earned awards for girls?
- Recognitions for adults and/or sponsors?
- Refreshments?
- Paper goods and/or Serving items

Samples of Investiture/Rededication Ceremonies can be found at www.scoutingweb.com
Meeting 5: Girl Planning

Meeting at a Glance

Theme: Girls work together to decide what the rest of their Girl Scout year will look like.

Materials:
- Nametags
- Pen and sign-in/sign-out sheet
- Kaper chart
- Girl Scout Junior Journeys
- Construction paper strips (at least 5 per girl)
- Scissors (if the strips are not pre-cut)
- 1 large star or Trefoil symbol with your troop number printed on it
- 1 large newsprint
- Stapler and staples
- Crayons and markers

Prepare Ahead:
- Review your Junior GGGS and Journeys
- Make enough copies of the paper strips so each girl will have at least five
- Make a copy of the Trefoil emblem and cut it out
- Gather other supplies or equipment needed

Start Up Activity

- Allow the girls to arrive first to help you set out materials needed for the first activity. Once they are done, let them play a game of their choosing

Opening

- The girl who was assigned the kaper to lead opening ceremony chooses the opening ceremony
- Junior Circle – Begin each week with the Girl Scout Promise and Law; collect dues, take attendance, etc.

Business

- Review kaper responsibilities for this meeting, and assign kapers for next meeting

Activity

- Troop Activity Chain: Today, girls will be deciding the direction they would like the troop to progress in. Are they interested in more Journeys? Field Trips? Selling Cookies? Fall Product? Do they want to go camping? Do they want to help others (community service)? Arts and crafts? Learn to canoe? **The choices are endless and they should help decide where to go from here.**
- Before the activity chain is completed, it may be useful to brainstorm a list of activities that the girls can choose from in addition to thinking of a new idea. This will help them feel more confident in the activity and complete the next part successfully. Brainstorming and writing ideas on a whiteboard, newsprint, or chalk board can help with spelling issues. Girls at this age are really concerned with spelling things correctly.
- Once you have completed the group brainstorming, give each girl several activity strips to complete. Tell girls to write an activity that they would like to do during
the troop year on each strip. Have girls decorate the strips. The leader can also make activity strips. After about 20 minutes, tell girls it is time to make the troop activity chain. The leader should staple the first strip, forming a circle, to the trefoil. Insert the second strip through the first and staple it into a circle. Continue to add strips forming a chain until all have been attached.

Now call girls back to the Junior Circle. Take the activity chain and spread it around the circle. Let girls read the activity strips in front of them out loud (it does not have to be the girl’s strips).

After all the activity strips have been read, talk about the activities that were mentioned most often. Have the girls choose several activities that they would like to do most. When would they like to do them? Look through the GGGS and Journeys to see which badges/patches these activities relate to.

Let girls look at some of the projects available; is there one that they would really like to try? Add the ones that interest them to the troop goal list. Help girls prioritize the list into the top 5 (five) activities. Talk about when during the year the girls would like to do the activities.

Explain to girls that this troop goal list will become the “map” for their Girl Scout Junior year. You will be able to help them plan and do activities towards the goals they have developed. Assure them that they can re-do the goals at any time.

Refer to the goals when planning your next troop meeting and throughout the year. The Council Calendar may list activities that relate to your troop’s list. Now that you have your troop goals, you can lead the girls in the direction needed to accomplish them.

**Clean-up**

- ALL girls should participate! Remind the girls of kapers and how working together to leave the site better than you found it.

**Closing**

- Announce any final reminders or comments, conduct the friendship squeeze
- Assign kapers for next week.
- Allow the girl assigned to this kaper to lead the closing ceremony
- End with the friendship circle and squeeze.
Meeting 6: Girl Scout Junior Journeys and the Bronze Award

Meeting at a Glance

Theme: Girls learn about other Leadership Journeys and the Bronze Award.

Toward the Award:

Materials:
- Kaper chart
- It’s Your World – Change It! Agent of Change book set
- Crayons, markers
- Bandanas

Prepare Ahead:
- Learn a new game

Start Up Activity

- Ask the girls what they thought of the meeting about World Thinking Day; and ideas on how they can celebrate it next year.

Opening

- Gather and greet each other with the Girl Scout handshake.
- Say the Girl Scout Promise.
- Take turns saying one thing about one of your Junior friends that is different from you (i.e., color of your hair) and why you like it. Then say one thing you have in common (i.e., like to read or eat ice cream).
- Sing “Make New Friends” and ask the girls if they have a song they would like to teach the group.

Business

- In the Girl Scout Junior Circle, review rules and assign kapers.
- “Today we are going to learn about Girl Scout Leadership Journeys and choose an activity for our troop.

Activity

- Work with girls to create an obstacle course(s) and decide what they have to do as they pass through the course (with or without using materials around them). For example, bunny hop five times, crawl, use a spoon to move items from one spot to another, do five jumping jacks, toss something into a basket, walk a line, etc. Make sure everyone gets to try the obstacle course.
- Create a new obstacle course to go through blindfolded. Agree on a rule (i.e., using only their voice to lead their partner through or no talking and only leading). Girls take turns leading a blindfolded partner through the obstacle course.
- Discuss the Journey activities you have been doing already.
Explain that an important part of a Leadership Journey is taking action. Girl Scouts take action by identifying community needs and educating and inspiring others to act.

Have the girls read through the Bronze Award Guidelines and discuss how they would like to go about earning their Bronze Awards.

Clean-up

All girls should participate! Remind girls of kapers and work together to leave the site better than you found it.

Closing

Form a Junior Circle and ask the girls what they liked about the Leadership Journey and the Bronze Award. Ask the girls to go home and think about projects that mean something to them and changes in the community they would like to see.

Explain what will happen at the next meeting.

Form a Friendship Circle, sing, “Junior Smile Song,” and do a friendship squeeze.

Listed below are a few ideas the girls can research for their projects:

- The Elderly
- The Poor
- Parks
- Drug abuse
- Unemployment
- Buildings
- People with Disabilities and services for them
- Hunger
- Playgrounds
- Babies
- Hospitals
- Adults
- Lakes/Rivers
- Recreation
- The Lonely
- Pollution
- Families in need
- Cancer
- The Environment
- Camps
- Veterans
- Homelessness
- Shelters for battered women
- Alcohol abuse
- Churches
- Mental health
- Children’s Health issues
## Girl Scout Junior Troop Meeting Planning Form

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>MATERIALS NEEDED</th>
<th>PERSONAL RESPONSIBLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5 – 10 min.</td>
<td>Pre-Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 min.</td>
<td>Opening</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 min.</td>
<td>Business</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Topic:___________</td>
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<td>20 min.</td>
<td>Exploration</td>
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<td>10 min.</td>
<td>Clean-up</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 min.</td>
<td>Closing</td>
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<tr>
<td>BADGE</td>
<td>STEPS</td>
<td>DATE COMPLETED</td>
<td>DATE RECEIVED</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Legacy Badges</strong></td>
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<td>Drawing</td>
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<td>Practice with Purpose</td>
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<td>Inside Government</td>
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<td>Junior Girl Scout Way</td>
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<td><strong>Cookie Business Badges</strong></td>
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<td>Cookie CEO</td>
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<td>Customer Insights</td>
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<td><strong>Badge Set: Agent of Change</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Badge Set: Get Moving</strong></td>
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<td>Playing the Past</td>
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<td>Social Butterfly</td>
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**Bronze Award:** The Bronze Award is the highest award that a Girl Scout Junior can earn. It requires completing a Journey and a Bronze Take Action Project of approximately 20 hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BRIDGE TO CADETTE GIRL SCOUT</th>
<th>EXPLANATION</th>
<th>DATE COMPLETED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Step 1: Pass It On!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Step 2: Look Ahead!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Step 3: Plan Your Bridging Ceremony</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNIOR GIRL SCOUTS – BEYOND THE BADGES RECOGNITION</th>
<th>DATE(S) RECEIVED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>My Promise, My Faith Year 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>My Promise, My Faith Year 2</td>
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<td>Safety Award Year 1</td>
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<td>Safety Award Year 2</td>
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<td>Junior Aide Award</td>
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<td>Journey Summit Award</td>
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<td>Girl Scout Bronze Award</td>
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<td>World Association Pin</td>
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<td>Membership Star (One for each year, yellow disc)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Bird Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Five Star Troop Award</td>
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<td>Girl Scout Cookie Sale Activity Pin</td>
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