

# Short & Snappy Session - Bridging Ceremonies



## What is a Short & Snappy?

- Short training segment provided at a Service Unit Meeting
- Any interested volunteer may lead a Short & Snappy
- Trainings are 10-30 minutes in length

## Things to Remember

- Have participants sign the attendance sheet and keep for Service Unit records
- Stay within the allotted time
- If you don't know the answer, seek the correct answer from the appropriate support person

## Supplies Needed

- Short & Snappy Outline
- Girl Scout Bridging Guide
- Bridge
- Pins, certificates, candles, other decorations as needed

## What is a Bridging Ceremony?

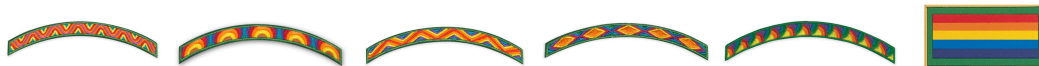
Ceremonies are tradition to Girl Scouts and provide an excellent opportunity to invite parents into the Girl Scout experience. Having a parent/guardian present when honoring girls not only enriches the girl's experience, but also encourages parents to become more involved in Girl Scouts.

A bridging ceremony happens when a Girl Scout is moving up to the next age level, from Daisies to Brownies, Brownies to Juniors, and so on. Bridging ceremonies are an important moment in a Girl Scouts' life. It is a moment to reflect and celebrate all she has achieved, and to prepare for her new responsibilities and the adventures she will have as she grows older. Bridging ceremonies can be done as a troop, Service Unit, or Council.

Most ceremonies include a flag ceremony, reciting the Girl Scout Promise and Law, crossing a bridge (makeshift or real), presenting awards, pins, and/or certificates, and doing the Girl Scout Handshake. In a Girl Scouts lifetime, she will only do a maximum of 6 bridging ceremonies, so make them special!

## What are the requirements to earn the Bridging Award?

The Bridging Award is an award that girls can earn prior to bridging to the next age level. Each age level is different in the requirements, but for each Bridging Award girls must complete 1 option from the Pass it On! options and one from the Look Ahead! options, which can be found in the Girl Scout Bridging Guide. Examples of the Bridging Awards can be found below.



Brownies bridging to Juniors have a unique patch they receive called Brownie Girl Scout Wings. All Brownies who bridge to Juniors receive their Wings during their bridging ceremony, also called the Fly Up Ceremony. This is a tradition that has followed since Brownies were called "Brown Owls."



# Short & Snappy Session - Bridging Ceremonies

## Daisy to Brownie Bridging Ceremony

### The Brownie Elf

#### Order of Events:

- Flag or opening ceremony
- Read or recite the Girl Scout Promise and Law
- Activity (see instructions/script)
  - Cross the bridge
  - Change tunic/vest from Daisy to Brownie
  - Join the Brownie Ring
  - Read the Brownie elf poem
  - Present Brownie pins
  - Tell new Brownies to do three “good turns”
  - Hand out certificates—use the Girl Scout Handshake
- Ending ceremony

#### Supplies:

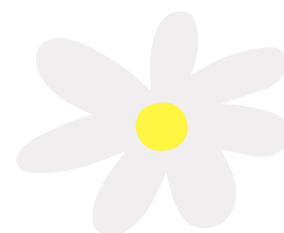
- Bridge, stepping stones or arch
- A mirror to represent a pond
- The Brownie sStory (page 18 of the Brownie Girl’s Guide to Girl Scouting)
- A Brownie troop

#### Preparation:

- Invite a Brownie Girl Scout troop, parents, or helpers to help. Inform them of the time and date of the ceremony and confirm their attendance.
- Read the Brownie Story from the Brownie Girl’s Guide to Girl Scouting to bridging girls two or three times before the ceremony, so girls will understand the meaning of the ceremony.
- This ceremony has several parts, make sure to tell the girls what to expect and practice!
- Review the Girl Scout handshake and the Girl Scout slogan: “Do a Good Turn Daily.”

#### Formation:

The Daisy troop should be lined up at the beginning of the bridge in their Daisy tunics/vests with one co-leader. Another co-leader/helper should be at the end of the bridge with new Brownie sashes/vests. If a Brownie troop is participating, they should be standing at the end of the bridge, waiting to welcome new Brownies into the Brownie Ring.



# Short & Snappy Session - Bridging Ceremonies

## Daisy to Brownie Bridging Ceremony Cont.

### Script

Cross the bridge and join the Brownie Ring:

Once a leader calls a Daisy Girl Scout's name, the Daisy goes across the bridge. She is met on the other side by a Brownie Girl Scout, leader, or helper who helps the Daisy take her Daisy vest/tunic off and put her Brownie vest/tunic on. Once finished, the new Brownie joins the Brownie Ring.

(While one leader is speaking, another leader or helper sets up the "pond".

Daisy leader: To prepare for bridging today, our troop read "The Brownie Story," a story about girls who went to a forest in search of "very helpful persons" called Brownies. There they met a wise old owl who told them that they could find the Brownie if they looked upon the magic pond and finished a magic rhyme. Now we, too, will perform a little magic. I'd like to call all new Brownies to stand around the magic pond and listen carefully while I read this poem.

Cross your little fingers, stand upon your toes,  
That's a bit of magic that every Brownie knows.  
Now we all are standing inside a forest glade,  
Listen very carefully; see the magic made.  
And tucked inside this great big wood,  
You'll find a pond that's pure and good.  
Then turn yourself around three times,  
Gaze into the pond; complete the rhyme.

One at a time, each new Brownie walks to the pond and is met by a leader or helper who turns her in a circle while another leader or helper says: Twist me and turn me and show me the elf, I looked in the water and saw...

New Brownie looks into the mirror and says: "Myself!"

Each new Brownie then goes to their leader or helper who places a Brownie pin upside down on her new vest. Then she returns to the Brownie Ring.

Leader: Congratulations to our new Brownie Girl Scouts! The Girl Scout slogan is "Do a Good Turn Daily." Go now and do three good turns for your family—one for each part of the Girl Scout Promise. When your good turns are done, have a member of your family turn your pin right side up

Want more bridging ideas? Check out the Bridging Guide found at  
[https://www.girlscouts.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gsusa/forms-and-documents/misc/19\\_MV\\_BridgingGuide\\_flyer\\_v2.pdf](https://www.girlscouts.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gsusa/forms-and-documents/misc/19_MV_BridgingGuide_flyer_v2.pdf)

