

How to Plan Your Year For Girl Scout Daisy Leaders



Girl Scouts – North Carolina Coastal Pines
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A YEAR OF DAISY GIRL SCOUTS

YOU WILL NEED:

- *Daisy Leader Guide*
- *Daisy Activity Book*
- *Safety-Wise*

The books are available, one set per troop, from your Membership Director. Be sure that you have submitted your registration and that you have taken Getting Started and Leadership Essentials to help you get your troop up and running.

Remember to think like a Daisy. Not every meeting will be perfect, so just be flexible. Helpful hints are on page 15 of the *Daisy Leader Guide*.

MEETING IDEAS to get you started:

There are activities listed in the Girl Scout *Daisy Activity Book* that require no preparation:

- Take an alphabet hike, page 23
- Nature in action, page 24
- Cool ways to count, page 26
- Sound sense, page 36

SEPTEMBER:

- Attend local organizational meeting.
- Meet with your Service Unit Organizer to learn the size of your troop.
- PARENT MEETING – have your first parent meeting. Ideas for your parent meeting are located in the *Daisy Leader Guide*, pages 33-35 and are discussed at Getting Started. At the meeting you will need to let parents know what you expect from them (will they provide snacks for each meeting, baby sit your tag-a-longs, be at the meeting as an extra pair of hands) and what they can expect from you (a quality leadership experience that is differentiated by the grade level of each girl where she will become confident, courageous and strong and make the world a better place). Let them know where and when you will meet, and send around a sheet for them to sign up to assist the troop (Getting Started) or use the new Daisy Friends and Family Network materials in your adult guide. Your monthly leader meetings will also offer additional program activities both at the Service Unit and Council levels.

- Discuss a budget. Girls will have the opportunity to participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Sale Program to raise monies for their troop expenses, but there will probably be start-up fees to get you going. Keep in mind these early expenses, plus tax:
 - Girl Scout Daisy Pin \$1.50
 - Council Insignia set, \$4.00
 - Investiture Patches (optional), \$1.05.
- DAISY PETAL PROGRAM - Suggestions are listed on pages 22-23 of the Girl Scout *Daisy Leader Guide* and *Activity Book*. If you use the drawing activity on page 10 of the Leader Guide, have extra adults or older Girl Scouts help with this activity.
- Additional suggestions are listed below.

SOME IDEAS ON HELPING GIRL SCOUT DAISIES LEARN WHAT THE GIRL SCOUT LAW MEANS

HONEST AND FAIR

I will tell the truth, even if it might get my friends or me in trouble.

I will stick up for what is right, not for who is popular.

I will do my kaper chart chores, because not one should have to do my share.

FRIENDLY AND HELPFUL

I will do my kapers without having to be told twice.

I will offer to help someone, because I appreciated getting help when I need it.

I will pay attention to someone's problem, because I may have an idea that can help.

CONSIDERATE AND CARING

I will not scream at, hit, or treat people badly.

I will not leave someone out, because I feel sad when I'm left behind.

I will not say things to hurt someone's feelings, just because my "friends" think it's fun.

COURAGEOUS AND STRONG

I will have the courage to stick to the rules even when it might not seem cool.

I will be a friend, even when my friend is not popular.

I will try new things, even if I'm afraid, because I know my troop will help me.

RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT I SAY AND DO

I will talk out the problems I have with someone.

I will not talk bad about them.

If I hurt someone by my actions or words, I will do my best to fix it.
I will stay with the troop and always have a buddy without being told.
I will accept my punishments without complaining, if I do something I know is wrong.

RESPECT MYSELF AND OTHERS

I will not call other people names.
I will treat other people the way I want to be treated.
I will treat other people's stuff the way I want them to treat my stuff.
I will listen to others' opinions, and not interrupt. I may learn something new,
I will not do something I am uncomfortable with, just because a friend wants me to.

RESPECT AUTHORITY

I will listen to the adults. They are here to help me.
I will follow directions and rules. They were made to keep me safe.
I will follow the quiet sign. Otherwise I might miss something important.

USE RESOURCES WISELY

I will try not to waste water when brushing my teeth and showering.
I will recycle as often as I can to help save the earth and replace what I have taken.
I will share with others, not only in my troop, but with all people.

MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE

I will pick up trash when I see it.
I will not harm the environment - the air, land, water, and animals.
I will not pick on someone for being different. Being different is what makes us special!

BE A SISTER TO EVERY GIRL SCOUT

I will have a great time with my friends.
I will try to make every day a great memory for tomorrow.

OCTOBER – FIRST MEETING

For help in managing meetings, see page 55, *Girl Scout Daisy Leader Guide*.

- Start your meeting with everyone in a circle. This is your Daisy Ring. In your Daisy ring, introduce yourself and have the girls introduce themselves. Make troop rules, (e.g., no running, no mean words, respect authority, respect others etc.). Teach the Girl Scout quiet sign. (five

- fingers in the air). Introduce the Girl Scout Law. Explain they will earn petals for their tunics as they learn the meaning of the law.
- Teach "The Daisy Song" in the new adult facilitator guide for the Daisy Journey. (I'm a Girl Scout Daisy! Take a look at me. I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, happy as can be - We're having fun and sharing, each and every day. I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, Hip, Hip Hooray!)
 - Introduce the Kaper Chart. An example is located on page 52 of the Girl Scout *Daisy Leader Guide*. Assign jobs for hostess, craft helper, and cleanup. Everyone is expected to cleanup after themselves, and the girls assigned to cleanup will bring trash cans around and make sure tables are clean and chairs are pushed in. Picture charts work best at this age level.
 - Have a troop snack if the parents provide the snack.
 - Copy a picture from a coloring book. Have the girls color the picture. Have the girls crumple the picture into a ball. Now smooth out the picture. Note all the wrinkles left on the paper. Explain when you say something bad or mean it will always leave a mark on that person. Some marks don't show but others do. A Girl Scout's job is to be responsible and not say things that might hurt someone on the inside. Discuss what words hurt and what words are nice. Responsible for what I do is as simple as asking the girls to always wear their seat belts when in a car.
 - Make friendship pins with colored beads to trade with each other. Pin to shoelaces or the back of their tunics. Red- Friendship, Pink- Songs, White- Giggles, Blue- Games, Purple- Crafts, Yellow- Smiles, Green - Girl Scouts.
 - Teach TAPS
Day is done, gone the sun, from the lakes,(hands & arms pointing to the ground) from the hills,(arms out straight in front), from the sky, (arms above the head), all is well, (lower arms & cross right over left & grasp the hands of the person next to you on each side) safely rest, God is nigh. Keep holding & send the friendship squeeze around the circle. Have the girls cross their feet when they receive the squeeze. (This helps the leader keep track of who forgot to pass the squeeze on). When the squeeze returns to the Leader, say "Good Night Scouts."
 - It is a good idea, (although not mandatory) to start and end your meetings the same way so that the girls are given clues to what is happening. At the start – use the Girl Scout quiet sign and a simple flag ceremony. End with taps and a friendship circle. If all the parents are not there to pick the girls up, then play Daisy to Daisy game found on page 11 of your Girl Scout *Daisy Leaders Guide*.
 - Activities relate to the Blue Promise center and the Orange, Purple and Magenta petals.

OCTOBER – SECOND MEETING

OCTOBER 31 - JULIETTE GORDON LOW'S BIRTHDAY

- Start with your Girl Scout Daisy Ring. Have the girls say one nice thing about the girl sitting next to them. Review jobs assigned on the kaper chart. Review the quiet sign and how to respect others by not interrupting. Encourage the girls to raise their hands in the quiet sign when yours is raised. Tell the girls as the hand goes up, the lips go closed. Read about Juliette Low and try some of the activities from page 24-26 of Girl Scout *Daisy Leader Guide*.
- Play Daisy Says (like Simon Says)
- Have snack, if provided.
- Teach a flag ceremony
You will need 4-6 girls. One to call (stand next to the caller and tell her what to say), flag bearer and 2-4 girls to walk behind the flag bearer. The 3 girls are the color guard. Use a small 10" flag and have a tall bud vase to use as a flag holder.

Caller: Color Guard, advance. (The girls start at the back of the room and walk to the front of the room where the vase is on a table.)

Caller: Color Guard, post the colors. (The flag bearer places the flag in the vase. The Color Guard remains at the front of the room.)

Caller: We will now say the Pledge of Allegiance.

Caller: We will now say the Girl Scout Promise.

Caller: Color Guard, retreat.

- Teach I'M A LITTLE DAISY (tune - I'm A Little Teapot)

I'm a little Daisy, dressed in blue.

I am a Girl Scout, you are, too.

When I go to meetings, I sing and shout.

I love being a Daisy Girl Scout!

MOTIONS: I'm a little Daisy - hands together, at side of face, head tilted
dressed in blue - hands pick up hem of uniform smock

I am a Girl Scout - make a 3-fingered sign

you are too - point to neighbor

When I go to meetings - hands out, palms up

I sing and shout - hands cup around mouth
I love being a - point to heart
Daisy Girl Scout - clap 3 times, once on each word.

- Make pine cone bird feeders
Purchase a reusable tablecloth to cover your table. Attach a wire to the pinecone so it can be hung on a tree. "Butter" your pinecones in peanut butter and roll in birdseed. To cut down on the mess, place the birdseed in pie pans. Discuss with the girls what birds need to have to survive the winter. If you have time, select a no prep activity from the Girl Scout *Daisy Activity Book*.
- End the meeting with Taps and a Friendship Squeeze.

This meeting applies toward Blue Promise Center, Orange, Magenta, Green and Rose Petals

NOVEMBER – FIRST MEETING

- Have the girls check the kaper chart and start with a flag ceremony.
- In the Girl Scout Daisy Ring, start to plan your investiture ceremony. Ask Girl Scout Juniors, Cadettes or Seniors to assist your Daisies with this task.. Most of these young women love to work with younger girls (and do they know Games & Songs!) It is important to have the girls participate in a ceremony several times prior to doing it.

Questions to ask the Girl Scout Daisies: who are we going to invite? When will it be? Where will it be? Are we going to have a snack afterwards? What will we have? Who will make it? (Their answers will be MY MOM. Just remember to check with MY MOM before accepting the commitment!)

An investiture ceremony usually consists of a brief welcome by the leader, then an opening flag ceremony, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The girls then make their formal Girl Scout Promise and recite the Girl Scout Law. It's OK to have the girls repeat after you one line at a time. Then present each girl with her Daisy Pin (investiture patch if you have chosen this option) and Blue Promise Center. If you followed this outline, at this time they have also earned the purple and magenta petals. Next have the girls sing a song and end presenting the new Girl Scout Daisies of Troop #, or make a large daisy center of yellow construction paper. Write the troop number on the center. Make a petal of white construction paper for each girl. Write her name on the petal. The center can be attached to a bulletin

board. (If one is not available at your meeting place, make one by covering heavy cardboard with construction paper or material.)

Begin the ceremony with the "Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag." As each girl comes forward to attach her petal to the center, welcome her to Girl Scout Daisy Troop # _ with a hug. If a new girl joins at a later date, her petal may be added.

- Practice your ceremony. Then review troop rules and the quiet sign. Also review the Promise and Law. Discuss what the word "fair" means.
- Follow up by making invitations to the investiture ceremony. Pass out 1 crayon or marker to each girl except one. Give the last girl a whole box of crayons to use. Before the girls start to color ask them if this is fair? Why can't I give one girl a whole box to use herself? Pass out the rest of your crayons and let the girls decorate their invitations. Make sure they add their names to the invitation. On the invitation, ask for a canned good to be brought to the ceremony. Have a basket to collect the donations. Explain to the girls about donating food to others less fortunate.
- Have snack if provided. Reinforce fair by giving 1 girl double snacks. Again ask if the girls feel this is fair.
- Make a Thanksgiving craft: Indian Bead Necklace - cover the table with your reusable cloth and put out 30" lanyard or "spaghetti string," fall color "pony beads" (approximately 10 beads), fall-colored feathers and glue. String beads onto the spaghetti string. Show the girls how to tie a square knot at the ends of the string (right over left & left over right). Dip the end of feather into glue and slide into a bead.

Sing I'm a Little Daisy or the Girl Scout Daisy Song. Let the girls choose. Sing Taps and Play Daisy to Daisy if time allows.

This meeting applies toward Blue Promise Center Purple and Light Blue Petals

NOVEMBER SECOND MEETING

- Assign kapers.
- Practice investiture ceremony.
- In your Girl Scout Daisy ring, explain how everyone is being courageous when saying the Girl Scout Promise in front of their invited guests. Remind them to watch for the quiet sign so the ceremony can start.

Also discuss that some people do not have enough food to eat and may go to bed hungry. The food collected at the investiture ceremony will be donated to people in need of food.

- Make a Girl Scout Sign
Use 2 sheets of construction paper in 2 different colors, pencils or markers, scissors and glue. Each girl should trace her hand with one of the pieces of paper and cut it out. Then glue the hand onto the second sheet of construction paper. Bend down the thumb and pinky to form the Girl Scout sign, apply glue to hold. Or use the pattern from www.makingfriends.com. Ask a mom to make computer labels with the Girl Scout Promise and the date. Apply label to the bottom of the sheet of construction paper.
- Have your investiture ceremony and relax!!! Remember this is fun. Anything that goes wrong will just add to the memory. Make sure someone takes pictures. Remember to check with parents before sharing any pictures used for a website or newspaper. There are situations where girls cannot have their picture placed in a public forum.

DAISY INVESTITURE CEREMONY

Welcome parents and guests at the door.

Leader: Welcome to the Troop Investiture Ceremony. The girls will join their sisters in Girl Scouts today. Please stand and honor the flag of your country.

Color Guard, advance.

Color Guard, post the colors.

Please join us and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Color Guard, retreat.

Leader: Please be seated

Will the Girl Scout Daisies of Troop _____ please stand. Raise your Girl Scout sign and repeat after me: On my honor, I will try, To do my duty, to God and my country, to help people at all times and to live by the Girl Scout Law.

A Girl Scout is...

1. Honest and Fair
2. Friendly and Helpful
3. Considerate and Caring
4. Courageous and Strong

5. Responsible for what I say and do and a Girl Scout will
6. Respect myself and others
7. Respect authority
8. Use resources wisely
9. Make the world a better place
10. and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

You are now ready to receive your Girl Scout Daisy Pin, the Blue Promise Center and the magenta, purple and orange petals for learning about respect for yourself and others, that you are responsible for what you say and do, and for respecting authority.

Leader: the girls will now sing a song they've selected

Thank you for attending and please join us for refreshments.

This meeting & ceremony are related to the red and spring green petals.

DECEMBER: ONLY ONE MEETING (due to the holiday)

- Check the Kaper Chart and start you meeting with a flag ceremony.
- Exercise! (Girls are full of energy at this time of the year) Let the girls take turns playing follow the leader. They learned courage at their court of awards, now teach them to have strong bodies. Each leader should do a simple exercise like jumping jacks, leap frog, duck walk, etc. Make an obstacle course. Suggestions are in your Girl Scout *Daisy Leader Guide* on page 76, or Daisies Move and Dance on page 45.
- In your Girl Scout Daisy Ring, discuss how to be friendly and helpful. Use role playing found on page 22 of the Girl Scout *Daisy Leader Guide*. Also, what holiday does each girl celebrate? Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa or another one. If your troop celebrates only one holiday, show how Girl Scouts may celebrate holidays in other troops.
- Snack if provided.
- Candle Favors - Kwanzaa craft
Use toilet paper tubes and red, green or black construction paper (traditional Kwanzaa colors) with white, orange and yellow tissue paper, scissors, glue, assorted small candies or trinkets. Cover the tube with construction paper of choice and glue in place. (Use clothespins to hold the paper in place while

- drying.) Place candies and/or trinkets in the center of a 10" square of tissue paper. Bring corners together and twist. Place into cardboard tube.
- Icicles Ornaments – Winter Craft
3 clear 6mm faceted beads, 3 clear 8mm faceted beads, 3 clear 10mm faceted beads, 6" silver tinsel stem, ornament hangers, tacky glue.
Dip the tip of the tinsel stem in glue. Slide the beads from the clean tip and just touch the glue. Add the beads in order from smallest to largest. Bend over leftover stem and add an ornament hanger. Plan to make several as they are quick and easy.
 - Kisses for Mom & Dad - Hanukkah or Christmas Craft
Use baby food jars or any container. Cut strips of paper to fit around the jar. Print a label or write on the paper: When you need a kiss, just open the jar and take one. Love, _____. Let the girls decorate the papers. Glue the paper around the jar. Now have the girls blow kisses into the jar (or add Hershey kisses) and close the lid. Wrap your jar using a large red napkin. Place the jar in the center of the napkin and gather the corners. Tie a ribbon around the napkin to complete the present.
 - Sing Taps - say “goodbye” and tell the girls you will see them next year!

These activities relate to the yellow, green, rose and red petals.

Please remember these are only suggestions. Ask the girls what they want to do. Always try to offer 2 options and let the girls select what they like. They may want more physical activities or they may prefer crafts.

JANUARY – FIRST MEETING - HAPPY NEW YEAR!

- Use the kaper chart to assign tasks.
- Start your meeting with a flag ceremony and the Girl Scout Promise and Law.
- In your Girl Scout Daisy ring, review troop rules. Ask the girls about their holidays and the fun things they did. You might ask what their favorite memory is.
- Have the girls vote on the type of troop activities they enjoy. They may prefer to play more games or do more crafts. Great craft sites are: www.theideabox.com and www.makingfriends.com. Talk about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ask the girls what they know about him. Ask them why they think there is a day in his honor. Ask them how this applies to the purple petal they earned? Is it fair to treat others meanly because they may look different? In what ways are the girls the same or different? (eye color, hair color, even various skin tones). Compare skin to a white sheet of paper

and a black sheet of paper. Are we really white & black? Remind girls we are all the same because we are Girl Scouts! They can color the picture Daisy Girl Scouts Around the World from the Girl Scout *Daisy Activity Book* on pages 18-19.

- Snack if provided.
- Crafts: Make coffee filter butterflies to illustrate diversity and pluralism. They will all be the same because they are all butterflies and they will all be different colored patterns as individual as each girl. Directions for this craft are located in the Girl Scout *Daisy Leader Guide* on page 80. In addition to black, use red, blue and yellow washable markers and scribble over the whole filter. Then drip or spray **lightly** with water to blend the colors. Cover your table with your reusable tablecloth and place newspapers under the filters to soak up the excess water. Play a quick game or use a no prep activity while waiting for the filters to dry. Let the girls choose what they want to do. When the filters are dry, pinch the center of the filter to form a bowtie shape and place in the clothespin. Repeat with second filter. Add eyes and antennae.
- Sing Taps

These activities relate to the purple, light blue & violet petals

JANUARY - SECOND MEETING

- Use the kaper chart to assign tasks.
- Start your meeting with a flag ceremony.
- In your Girl Scout Daisy ring, discuss what friendly and helpful mean. Ask what are some activities the girls might do to show that they are friendly and helpful? Prompt with questions like: How would you feel if you had no family to visit? How about visiting a nursing home? Explain that many of these people don't get many visitors and they will be helping to bring cheer to someone in need. The craft might be to decorate placemats to give the residents and or bags for a Meals on Wheels program.
- Craft: Decorate placemats for the residents. You can usually find white paper placemats in craft stores, or ask a local restaurant to donate some. Plain brown paper bags can be found in craft and grocery stores. Check with your local Meals on Wheels for acceptable decorations. Stickers, markers and crayon drawings are usually OK. If time permits, have the girls color some pictures to go along with their placemats.
- Snack if provided.
- Borrow a *Girl Scout Brownie Leader Guide* and play a game from the Games Around the World Try-It. Teach the girls a new game to play.

- Sing Taps

These activities relate to the yellow and spring green petals and meet one requirement for bridging.

FEBRUARY – FIRST MEETING

- Use the kaper chart to assign tasks.
- Start you meeting with a flag ceremony if the girls enjoy doing it.
- In your Girl Scout Daisy Ring, discuss what honest means. Use activities listed on page 22 of the Girl Scout *Daisy Leaders Guide*.
- Snack if provided.
- Play a game, sing a song or use a no prep activity.
- Make valentines for retirement community and family.
Valentine Mice: Cut a heart from construction paper. Fold along the center of the heart. This makes the mouse body. Glue along the top edge. Add a small flat sucker into the body and the sucker stick becomes the tail.
- Sing Taps

These activities relate to the yellow, light blue, and spring green petals.

FEBRUARY – SECOND MEETING: THINKING DAY is February 22

- Use the kaper chart to assign tasks.
- Start you meeting with a flag ceremony.
- In your Girl Scout Daisy Ring, ask the girls what they have enjoyed about Girl Scouting. What would like to do? Take a field trip? Where? (post office, grocery store, playground, fire station, McDonald’s or other free attraction.) A checklist for field trips is on page 57 of your Girl Scout *Daisy Leader Guide*.
- This is a special meeting. On February 22nd, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world celebrate Thinking Day. (See page 26 Girl Scout *Daisy Leader Guide*.) All Girl Scouts are part of WAGGGS - the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. The WAGGGS pin has a blue background and gold trefoil with stars. Go to www.girlscouts.org or www.worldthinkingday.org to find out more and get some great ideas for special activities the girls might enjoy.
- Play an international game found in the *Girl Scout Brownie Try-it Book*.
- Snack if provided.

- Craft idea – Cut out and enlarge a color picture of the WAGGGS pin. Make a copy of the outline for each girl on plain paper. Have the girls color their own WAGGGS pin as you explain each of the parts. Next make friendship pins using silver and gold beads. Swap pins with each other. Invite a Girl Scout Brownie troop to help celebrate with you.
- Teach - Make New Friends song and play Daisy Says.
- Sing Taps in a Friendship Circle

These activities relate to the violet petal and fulfill 1 requirement of bridging (a Brownie Try-It activity)

MARCH – FIRST MEETING - HAPPY BIRTHDAY, GIRL SCOUTS! MARCH 12

- Use the kaper chart to assign tasks.
- Start you meeting with a flag ceremony.
- In your Girl Scout Daisy ring, plan your Court Of Awards. Do the girls want to have a flag ceremony, a snack, or sing a song? Let the girls choose. Have them keep in mind honest & fair. Is it fair to have the same girls always leading the flag ceremony and other activities? The ceremony should include the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Ask the girls if they would like their guests to recite the Family Promise (below). Be prepared - this discussion may take a while. Each girl could also explain one part of the WAGGGS Pin. WAGGGS pin parts are explained on page 38 of the Girl Scout *Daisy Leader Guide*.
- Make invitations as a craft so the girls can invite their families. See page 47 of the Girl Scout *Daisy Leader Guide* for some examples.
- Have copies of the Family Promise available for your guests

FAMILY PROMISE

On my honor I will
 share my daughter's new interest
 give her opportunities to practice her skills at home
 show appreciation to the Girl Scout Promise and Law
 attend the troop events to which I am invited
 support Girl Scouting by working for and contributing to activities
 and funds that make Girl Scouting possible in our community.

- Also inform the girls about Girl Scout Sunday/Sabbath. This is usually celebrated during the week of March 12, the founding day of Girl Scouts. This can be done as a troop activity or girls can participate at their

individual places of worship.

Religious awards are not earned until the Brownie grade level. Religious awards are to be earned through each girl's place of worship. They are not meant to be a troop activity. Participation patches are available for purchase.

- Snack if provided, such as individual cupcakes with a birthday candle to celebrate the start of Girl Scouts in the USA on March 12.
- Play a game or try the activities on sound found on pages 70-71 of the Girl Scout *Daisy Leader Guide*.
- Practice what the girls have selected for their Court of Awards. Plan on saying a few words to the parents and friends on what the girls did to earn their petals.
- Sing Taps

This meeting reinforces the Promise center, light blue, purple and magenta petals

MARCH – SECOND MEETING - BE YOUR BEST DAY, MARCH 13

- Check the Kaper Chart
- Practice for your Court of Awards, if needed.
- In your Girl Scout Daisy Ring, remind the girls about being courageous when speaking in front of others. Make plans to meet with a Girl Scout Brownie troop if you have not already interacted with a Brownie Troop. Plan with the girls which bridging activities they want to complete. The activities are listed on pages 62-64 of the Girl Scout *Daisy Leader's Guide*. This is optional, but it is required if you are awarding the Bridge to Brownies Rainbow patch as this is an earned award. At least one activity from each step needs to be completed but you can do more than one activity if the girls want to. Also note that girls do not have to earn the "bridge" to move up to the Girl Scout Brownie grade level.
- Play a game of their choice or use a no prep activity.
- Have your Court of Awards. Pass out Family Promise.

The girls have earned the rest of their Daisy Petals.

APRIL – ONLY ONE MEETING (due to Easter holiday)

- Play "animal charades" from Animal Try-It in the Girl Scout *Brownie Try-It Book*. Participate in a neighborhood service project or collect items for

Goodwill or other service groups. Another service project could be to dye Easter eggs for Meals on Wheels or a retirement center and make baskets from the bottoms of 2-liter bottles to encourage recycling.

Alternate Craft: Easter egg bunny. Trace egg shapes onto brown construction paper. Have the girls cut out the bunnies. Glue a cotton ball to the large end of the egg. Use 2 small wooden ice-cream spoons as the ears and glue to the small end of the egg. The spoons should line up at the bowl of the spoon and the handles separate into the 2 ears. Add eyes and a nose with a marker. Break 2 wooden toothpicks into 4 pieces. Glue to each side of the nose as whiskers.

- Snack if provided.
- Play a game of choice.
- Sing Taps.

MAY – FIRST MEETING

- In your Girl Scout Daisy Ring, complete plans for your bridging ceremony. Remember you will need a time, a place, song or skit, food is optional.
- Check your Girl Scout *Daisy Leader's Guide*, pages 62-64, and review what steps the girls completed to earn their bridging rainbow. All girls will fly up to Girl Scout Brownies but only the girls that completed the bridging requirements will receive the bridging rainbow patch. Once a girl becomes a Girl Scout Brownie, she cannot earn this award. When you decide to bridge, ask your membership director for the Girl Scout *Brownie Leader's Guide* and the *Girl Scout Brownie Handbook*. You will find a story that tells what a Girl Scout Brownie is and why they are special.
- Make Bridging invitations.
Materials: sponges, non-toxic acrylic paint, pie pans or plastic plates, paint shirt or plastic to protect clothes.
Cut out trefoil shapes from sponges (a paper trefoil shape is attached to all new Girl Scout uniforms). Dip sponges in paint and stamp onto construction paper. Fold paper and print invitation information on the inside.
- Play favorite games, sing songs.

You might want to teach the girls the Brownie Smile Song:
I've got something in my pocket that belongs across my face,
I keep it very close to me in a most convenient place.
I bet you could not guess it if you guessed a long, long time,
So I'll take it out and put it on,
It's a great big Brownie smile.

Second and little known verse

I have something in my pocket, I found behind a log,
My leader said to put it back, but I want to keep this frog!
It's cool, and green and slimy, and it wiggles in my hand,
I also have a wooly-worm, and pocket full of sand!

- Ask the girls to share what their favorite things in Girl Scout Daisies were – a song, a trip, a celebration or craft? Share your favorite things with them.

BROWNIE POND BRIDGING CEREMONY

Props Needed: Brownie Girl Scout "Pond" (can be constructed from a piece of cardboard covered with foil and border with greenery, or use a mirror and border with greenery, or use a real one!) Girl Scout Brownie Pins for each new member. They can be placed on the floor by the pond. Lay pond on the floor in the middle of the ceremony area. All the girls stand or sit around the "pond" and then the leader says the magic words;

Cross your little fingers, stand upon your toes
That's a bit of magic every Brownie knows
Now we all are standing in a forest glade
Listen very carefully, see what the magic has made

If the new Brownies have been sent outside, the girls knock on the door and the leader with the troop asks: "Who comes to the Brownie woods?"

Brownies-to-be: "We do."

Leader: "What do you want?"

Brownies-to-be: "We want to be Girl Scout Brownies."

The leader may ask why, and the girls may give their own reasons (help prepare them before the ceremony if you plan on asking). Then they enter and gather around the pond. At this point you may have a simple dramatization of the Brownie Story by the older Brownies or the leader may tell or read the story to the girls.

Leader: Who comes first (or next) to the Magic Pond

Co-Leader: (Reads girls' names, one by one, alphabetically)

Leader: Turns girls, one by one, while saying:

"Twist me and turn me and show me the elf

I looked in the water and saw _____ "

Girl: "Myself!"

Leader pins on Brownie Pin upside down and gives the girl the Girl Scout handshake and welcomes her to Brownie Girl Scouting. You may also present year pins and bridging rainbows at this time. The Girl Scout Brownie Pin gets put right side up after the Girl Scout Brownie does her first good deed. (Usually serving her guests)

JUNE MEETING - Summer Fun Days

Talk about the county's day camp opportunities and the council's resident camp opportunities.