



## SAMPLE: FIRST FOUR BROWNIE GIRL SCOUT MEETINGS

### Objective

The goal of your first four meetings is to familiarize the girls with what makes the Girl Scout experience special. Girls will also prepare for their investiture and rededication ceremony.

### Introduction

What follows are basic outlines for your first four Brownie 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. In preparation for the girls' investiture and rededication ceremony, the suggested activities relate to the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Note: A few of the beginning activities are repeats of activities found in the Daisy Sample Meetings – this is because Brownies are not much older than Daisies, and many of them may not have participated in Daisies. If some girls did go through Daisies and the activities are repeats, ask the returning Brownies to help lead those activities.

### Resources

Suggestions include but are not limited to the following:

- *Brownie Quest* Journey Book
- GSUSA's Journey 1 Girl Scout Brownie Page  
[http://www.girlscouts.org/program/journeys/your\\_world/brownie.asp](http://www.girlscouts.org/program/journeys/your_world/brownie.asp)
- Sheet music for the songs in the *Brownie Quest* Journey Book  
[http://www.girlscouts.org/program/journeys/your\\_world/brownie\\_sheet\\_music.pdf](http://www.girlscouts.org/program/journeys/your_world/brownie_sheet_music.pdf)
- The girls
- Your ideas
- Other adults in your troop
- The internet

### Helpful Hints

- Use weekly 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
- Depending on the day/time you meet, you may want to include a snack time
- Brownies have a short attention span – be sure to plan many activities during a meeting, and break longer activities into smaller sections



## MEETING ONE

**Theme:** Brownie Beginnings

### START-UP ACTIVITY

#### Name Tags

##### Materials

- trefoil-shaped nametags (see attached template); girls can cut them out themselves
- yarn (you could pre-cut it in 3-4' lengths, or have the girls cut it themselves)
- macaroni letters
- scissors, hole punches, glue

##### Instructions

- As the girls arrive, give each of them the required materials
- Instruct them to cut out the trefoil and punch two holes at the designated spots
- First, tie each end of a piece of yarn in one of the holes, to make a name tag necklace
- Next, on the back of the name tag, have the girls write the Girl Scout Promise (have a large display to help the girls with copying)
- Last, on the front of the name tag, each girl should spell her name with macaroni letters and glue it to the name tag.

### 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

- 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

#### Flag Ceremony

- Choose one girl to hold the flag (Color Bearer) and two for the Color Guard.
- Choose a fourth girl to be the Caller
- The rest of the troop should stand together in a horseshoe shape
- Color Bearer stand at the open end of the horseshoe, facing the troop, with a Color Guard on each side
- Caller says, "Girl Scouts, attention." Everyone stands at attention
- Caller says, "Girl Scouts, recite the Pledge of Allegiance."
- Caller says, "Girl Scouts, recite the Girl Scout Promise."
- The flag is then posted or put away, and the Caller says, "Girl Scouts, dismissed."



## BUSINESS

### Get-to-Know-You Game – Jump In, Jump Out

- Ask the girls to think about what they would like to do as Girl Scout Brownies.
- Girls form a circle with one girl in the center.
- All girls recite the following verse, while doing the actions:  
*Jump in, jump out, turn yourself about*  
*Jump in, jump out, introduce yourself*
- The girl in the middle says:  
*My name is \_\_\_\_\_!*
- Everyone else responds:  
*Yeah!*
- The girl in the middle says:  
*And I'd like to \_\_\_\_\_!* (say one thing she'd like to do as a Brownie)
- Everyone else responds:  
*Yeah!*
- The girl in the middle says:  
*And I'm gonna do it every day!*
- Everyone else responds:  
*Every day!*

Adult Responsibility – As the girls say the things they'd like to do as Brownies, write them down; keep a list of all of their ideas.

### Troop Agreement

With the girls, brainstorm a list of things to remember so that the troop can be safe and have fun at meetings. What are some things we can do to make sure everyone feels safe, comfortable, and welcome? Write these ideas down (if possible, use large paper so everyone can see). When the list feels complete, ask all the girls and adults to agree to follow these rules for all future meetings.

## ACTIVITIES

### Brownie Girl Scout Story

Read the Brownie Girl Scout story found in the *Brownie Quest* Journey Book.

### Brownie Songs

Teach the girls one or both of the Brownie songs (Brownie Smile Song and/or Brownie Hiking Song). The words can be found on page 67 of the Journey Book, and they are also pasted here:



### **Brownie Smile Song**

*I've got something in my pocket.  
It belongs across my face,  
And I keep it very close at hand  
In a most convenient place.  
I'm sure you couldn't guess it  
If you guessed a long, long while.  
So I'll take it out and put it on –  
It's a great big Brownie Smile!*

### **Brownie Hiking Song**

*We are the happy Brownies.  
We are the busy elves.  
We love to help each other,  
And of course, we help ourselves.  
We wake up in the morning  
With a smile upon each face,  
And even if things don't go right  
We keep that smile in place.  
We're the happy Brownies!*

### **Journey Activities – The Discover Key**

The *Brownie Quest* Journey has four awards: The Discover Key, The Connect Key, The Take Action Key, and The Brownie Quest Award. Start working on The Discover Key tonight, so that each girl can receive a fully-earned recognition at the investiture and rededication ceremony. Please see the *Brownie Quest* Journey Book for specific activities.

### **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**

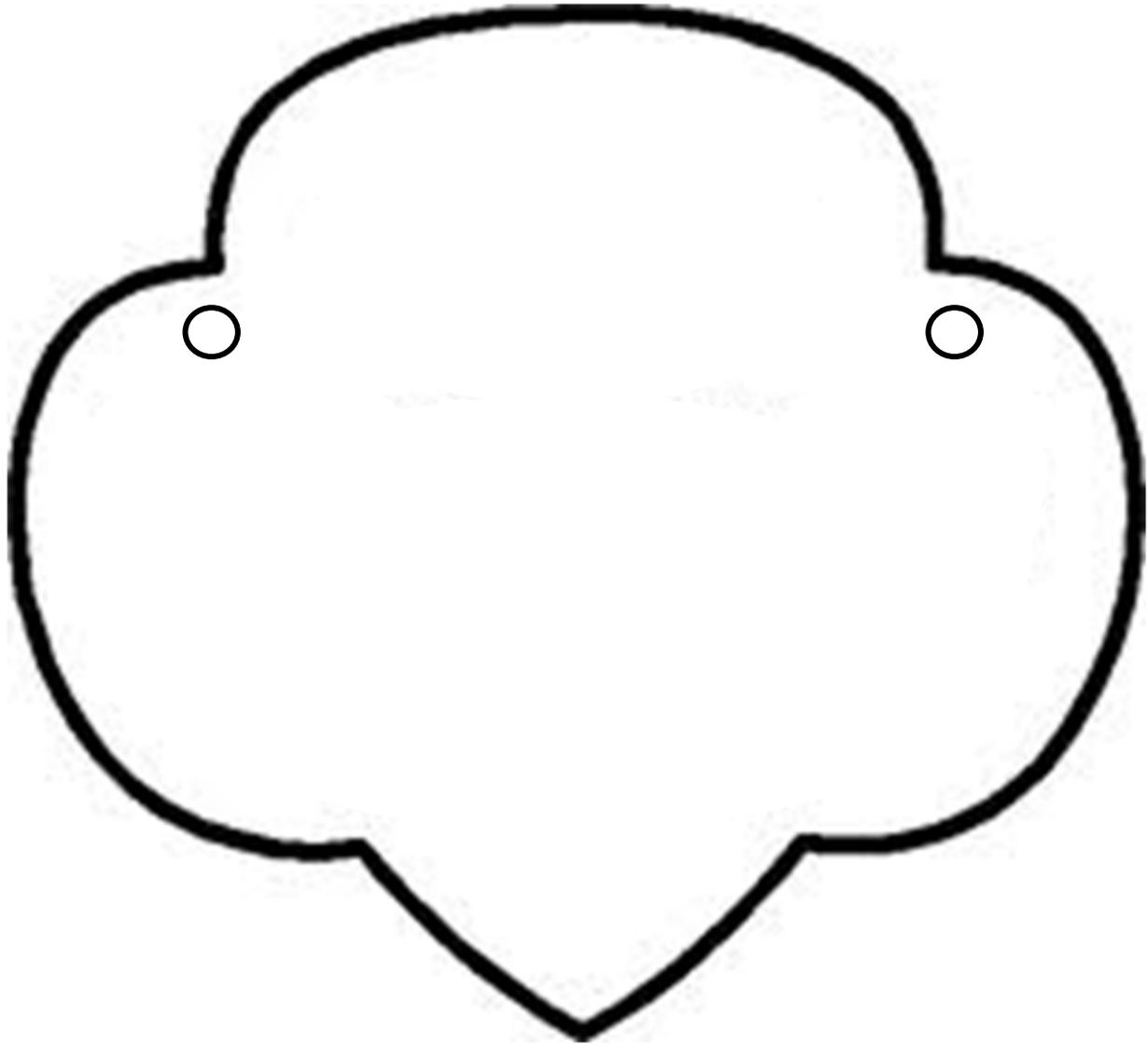
#### **Friendship Circle**

- Girls join hands to form a circle. Once they've formed a circle, they should rearrange their holds so that their arms are crossed right over left.



- One girl starts the circle by making a silent wish, then squeezing the hand of the girl on her right.
- Each girl squeezes the next girl's hand in turn, until the squeeze "gets back" to the first girl.
- The girl who began the squeeze can say, "Goodbye Brownie Girl Scouts."
- Remind the girls when the next meeting is.
- The circle breaks and the girls find their adults.

**NAME TAG TEMPLATE**





## MEETING TWO

**Theme:** Working Together

### START-UP ACTIVITY

#### Kaper Chart Markers

Depending on the type of kaper chart you decide to use, have the girls make an appropriate name markers to go with it. An example of a kaper chart is attached, as well as “name tiles” to accompany it.

If you choose to use the example kaper chart and its name tiles:

Materials

- Brownie Elf Name Tiles (see attached template)
- crayons/markers/colored pencils

Instructions

- As the girls arrive, give each of them a Brownie Elf Name Tile.
- Have the girls color the Brownie Elf as they see fit. (You should print a large Brownie Elf in color, so they could color it to match).
- Have each girl write her name on the line.

Note: You will want to use the kaper chart for the whole troop year, so make sure it is functional and will last. For instance, if you decide to use the example kaper chart, you might like to laminate the chart and the individual name tiles, and use Velcro for attachment/re-attachment. Remember, the example kaper chart is just that – an example. You may use whatever will work best for your troop.

### OPENING

Use the **Quiet Sign** to get the girls’ attention.

Hold the **Flag Ceremony**.

### BUSINESS

#### Investiture and Rededication Ceremony

Decide on a date for the ceremony. Start to brainstorm ideas for the ceremony.

#### What is an Investiture Ceremony?

An investiture ceremony welcomes new members, girls or adults, into the Girl Scout family for the first time. Girls will receive their Daisy Pin at this time.

#### What is a Rededication Ceremony?

A rededication ceremony is an opportunity for girls and adults to renew their commitment to the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

#### Ideas for the Ceremony

- How can we let people know about the ceremony? (invitations)
- How can we decorate for the ceremony?
- What should we do at the ceremony?

### **Kaper Chart**

Introduce a troop kaper chart, so that you may begin using it as soon as possible.

- What are kapers?
  - Kapers are the small jobs that must be done at every meeting.
  - A Kaper Chart helps us keep track of all the jobs, so that the meetings run smoothly.
- Discuss ways the girls can help the troop
  - flag ceremonies (Color Bearer and Color Guard)
  - activities (supply monitor and trash collector)
  - sweeper
  - snack helper
  - closing (squeeze starter), etc.
- Explain that when everyone helps at meetings, we are fulfilling the Girl Scout Promise – “I will try... to help people at all times.”
- Everyone will get a chance to do all the jobs at one point or another.
  - The Name Tiles they made earlier will be posted at different jobs at the beginning of each meeting.
  - Doing kapers is fun!

### **ACTIVITIES**

#### **3-D Trefoils**

##### Materials

- Trefoil pattern (see attached template)
- Cardstock or construction paper in three different shades of green – each girl should receive one piece in each color (so each girl gets three pieces total)
- Ribbon, pre-cut into pieces about 6-8” long
- Pencils
- Scissors
- Glue sticks

##### Instructions

- The girls should trace the trefoil pattern on all three sheets of green paper and cut them out.
- The girls should write their names on the point of each of her cut-out trefoils.
- Fold two of the trefoils in half from top to bottom, creating a crease
- Take the two folded trefoils – using the crease as a guide, glue half of one trefoil to half of the other
- Glue a piece of ribbon in the center of the third (unfolded) trefoil, letting it extend a few inches above the top (this will be for hanging)
- Place the third trefoil on the table, ribbon side up. Apply glue to the entire surface.
- Place the two glued-together trefoils on top of, so that the ribbon is inside and only exposed at the top. If you’d like, make a loop in the ribbon, for hanging.
- Allow glue to dry.

#### **Girl Scout Handshake**

Teach girls how to do the Girl Scout handshake.

- Do Girl Scout symbol with right hand
- Shake hands with left hand





### **Trefoil Autograph**

This activity combines the 3-D Trefoils you made earlier with practicing the Girl Scout handshake. Each girl should have her 3-D Trefoil to participate. Each girl should take her trefoil, introduce herself to another girl in the troop, share a Girl Scout handshake, and have their “new friend” sign her trefoil. The girls should continue to introduce themselves and shake hands with everyone in the troop, including the leader(s), until everyone has signed everyone’s trefoils. Let the girls visit with each other until it is time for clean-up.

### **Journey Activity – The Discover Key**

Please see the *Brownie Quest Journey Book* for specific activities.

### **CLEAN-UP**

If the Kaper Chart is ready, use it to lead clean-up. If not, tidy up the area in the same manner as the last meeting.

### **CLOSING**

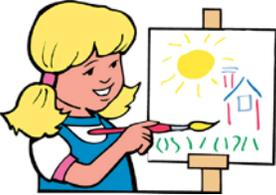
#### **Friendship Circle**

### BROWIE ELF NAME TILE TEMPLATE

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 <hr data-bbox="240 1575 730 1579"/>	 <hr data-bbox="873 1575 1364 1579"/>

## KAPER CHART EXAMPLE

BROWNIE TROOP 12345  
KAPER CHART

<p>Meeting Starter</p> 	<p>Pledge Leader</p> 	<p>Clean-Up Helpers</p> 
<p>Craft Helpers</p> 	<p>Snack Helper</p> 	<p>Promise Leader</p> 
<p>Color Bearer &amp; Color Guards</p> 	<p>Quiet Sign-er</p> 	<p>Squeeze Starter</p> 

Many more Kaper Chart ideas can be found on the internet.  
A simple Google search will yield dozens of results.

## MEETING THREE

**Theme:** The Girl Scout Law

### START-UP ACTIVITY

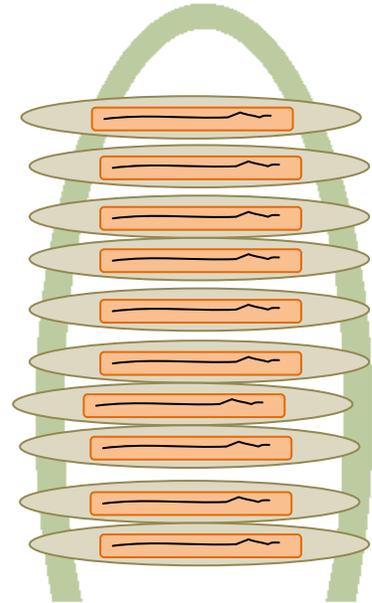
Girl Scout Law Door Hanger

Materials

- Ribbon
- Popsicle sticks – 14 for each girl
- Ribbon – cut into lengths about 2-3 feet long
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Cardstock with the Girl Scout law printed on it (see attached template), one set for each girl

Instructions

- As the girls arrive, give them the required materials.
- Cut out the cardstock strips.
- Glue one strip to the Popsicle sticks.
- Lay the ribbon in an upside down U shape.
- In order from top to bottom, glue Popsicle sticks to ribbon.
- Allow the glue to dry.
- The girls should take them home and hang them on a door, so they can see them daily.



### OPENING

Use the **Quiet Sign** to get the girls' attention.

Hold the **Flag Ceremony**.

### BUSINESS

#### Girl Scout Law

Using the door hangers they girls just made, review the Girl Scout Law. Talk about each of the lines and what they mean in their lives.

#### Beginning to Plan the Investiture and Rededication Ceremony

- Talk about who to invite and how to invite them.
- Discuss decorations, refreshments, and set-up.
- Brainstorm about songs, games, and activities to include.

### ACTIVITIES

#### Journey Activity – The Discover Key

Please see the *Brownie Quest* Journey Book for specific activities.

**Girl Scout Hopscotch** (adapted from *Let's Play Games for Girls ages 5-11*, GSUSA 2005)

**Materials**

- 2 or more players
- Chalk
- Markers for each player (stones, buttons, etc)

**Set-Up**

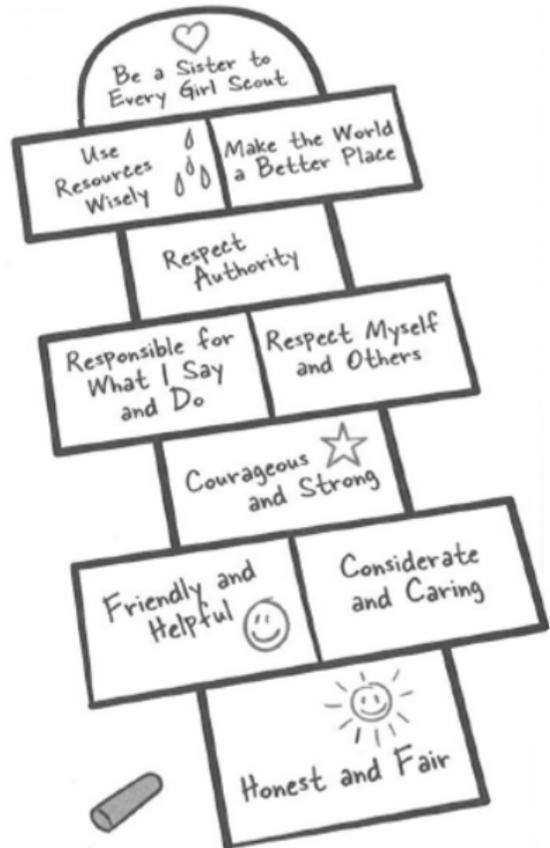
- Using chalk in an outdoor space, reproduce the hopscotch template. Draw it so that it's approximately 3'x8'.
- Write the words of the Girl Scout Law within each square.
- Designate a starting line, with distance determined by players' age and abilities.

**Instructions**

- From behind the starting line, the first player aims her marker for the first square, "honest and fair."
- If the marker lands in the correct square, she hops over that square, and all the way through the hopscotch board. If she makes it through the board (turning around at the top), on the return trip, she picks up her marker from the first square. On her next turn, she aims for the next square, "friendly and helpful."
- If a player misses her toss, steps on a line, or lands with two feet, her turn ends. On her next turn, she begins with the square where she left off. (She does not need to start from the beginning).
- The winner is the first player to go through the board successfully.

**Variations**

- For groups with more than three or four players, divide the group into even teams and create one hopscotch board per team.
- Allow younger or physically challenged players to hop with two feet.
- Use a buddy system – one girl tosses and another girl hops.



**CLEAN-UP**

Use the Kaper Chart to tidy up the area.

**CLOSING**

**Friendship Circle**



## GIRL SCOUT LAW DOOR HANGER CUT-OUTS TEMPLATE

GIRL'S NAME

TROOP #

### **THE GIRL SCOUT LAW**

*I WILL DO MY BEST TO BE...*

HONEST AND FAIR

FRIENDLY AND HELPFUL

CONSIDERATE AND CARING

COURAGEOUS AND STRONG

RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT I SAY AND DO

AND TO RESPECT MYSELF AND OTHERS

RESPECT AUTHORITY

USE RESOURCES WISELY

MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE

AND BE A SISTER TO EVERY GIRL SCOUT



## MEETING FOUR

**Theme:** Getting Ready for the Investiture and Rededication Ceremony

### START-UP ACTIVITY

#### Ceremony Decorations

Materials

- Anything you think the girls would like to use to decorate the meeting space for the ceremony
- Examples: paper chains, paper flowers, etc. (the internet has many craft ideas!)

Instructions

- As the girls arrive, give them the appropriate materials and have them make the craft.
- Make sure they know they're making decorations for the ceremony.

### OPENING

Use the **Quiet Sign** to get the girls' attention.

Hold the **Flag Ceremony**.

### 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. For Brownies, voting on ideas can sometimes lead to hurt feelings, so try to include as many ideas as possible.

- 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 Brownie song(s) and/or play Brownie game(s)
  - Recognition
    - Leader explains to guests that the girls have been learning about the Girl Scout Promise and Law, and explains the *Brownie Quest Journey*
    - Leader presents each girl with her first recognition, The Discover Key
  - Investiture and Rededication
    - New Brownies will receive their Brownie Girl Scout pin; Girl Scout handshake
    - Returning Brownies will receive their (optional) rededication patch; Girl Scout handshake
  - Refreshments
  - Clean-Up
  - Closing Friendship Circle; invite guests to join

#### Practice the Ceremony

Do a quick "dry run" of the ceremony, so that everyone is familiar with how the ceremony will work.



## ACTIVITIES

### Ceremony Invitations

#### Materials

- heavy paper with pre-printed invitation information
- coloring implements
- anything else to decorate the invitations (stickers, glitter, etc)

#### Instructions

- Have the girls make invitations for the ceremony.
- Have each girl make several invitations.
- *Have a large display of what/when/where for them to copy into the invitation.*
- Provide examples of invitations you've already made, so that have a better idea.

## CLEAN-UP

Use the Kaper Chart to tidy up the area.

## CLOSING

### Friendship Circle