

girl scouts 
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Bridging & Ceremonies



Ceremonies in Girl Scouting

In Girl Scouting, you can find many reasons to plan a ceremony. Girl Scouting has several special days and traditions that help mark the passing of the year. Celebrating these special days helps foster a sense of belonging and historical understanding. Girls learn of the larger organization of which they are members. Best of all, a ceremony which the girls have planned and carried out is a creative expression of their ideals and aspirations.

Important Ceremonies in Girl Scouting

- **Bridging** welcomes girls into another level of Girl Scouting.
- **Candle Lighting** helps Girl Scouts think about the words and meaning of the Girl Scout Promise and Law. (Small, inexpensive flashlights may be substituted for candles, especially for younger girls.)
- **Court of Awards** gives recognition to girls who have accomplished something, such as completing a service project, helping someone, or earning awards.
- **Flag Ceremonies** are part of any program that honors the American flag.
- **Fly-Up** is a bridging ceremony for Girl Scout Brownies who are bridging to Girl Scout Juniors.
- **Girl Scouts' Own** is an inspirational, girl-planned program to express girls' deepest feelings about something.
- **Investiture** welcomes someone into Girl Scouting for the first time and pledges them to live by the Girl Scout Law.
- **Rededication** renews the Girl Scout Promise and Law for previously invested Girl Scouts.
- **Special Girl Scout Days** are four special days by Girl Scouts in the USA that are celebrated all across the nation. Girls often plan events or hold ceremonies to celebrate these days.
 - **February 22** — Thinking Day, the birthday of both Lord Baden-Powell and Lady Baden-Powell. Girl Scouts and Girl Guides all over the world celebrate this day in international friendship and world peace.
 - **March 12** — The Birthday of Girl Scouting in the USA. Girl Scout Week is the week that contains March 12. Girl Scout Sunday and Girl Scout Sabbath are in that week, too.
 - **April 22** — Girl Scout Leader's Day, when girls show their leaders how much they appreciate them.
 - **October 31** — Founder's Day, the birthday of Juliette Gordon Low.

Planning a Meaningful Ceremony

No matter what kind of ceremony you are having, good planning is essential so that the ceremony will be meaningful. Ceremonies should be simple and sincere. They should have significance and beauty. Good ceremonies have both a clear purpose and a theme that enriches the meaning and mood of the ceremony. Whatever the purpose or origin, ceremonies serve to reinforce values of Girl Scouting. They provide opportunities for girls to share their feelings and reflect on what they have accomplished individually and together.

Basically, a ceremony has three parts - the opening, the celebration, and the closing.

- The opening can be used to welcome guests, explain the purpose of the ceremony, and set the mood for the occasion. For example, it might be quiet, festive, or serious. You can begin a ceremony by reciting The Pledge of Allegiance and The Girl Scout Promise and Law.
- The celebration focuses on the purpose of the ceremony, the reason you have gathered people together. The focus might include presenting awards, singing songs, reading poems or choral readings, performing dramatics, or sharing a candle-lighting.
- The closing may summarize the ceremony. It might include forming a friendship circle, saying good-bye or thank-you to special guests, or singing a closing song.

In addition, the best ceremonies have a combination of the following elements:

- The girl participants each have personal qualities and characteristics which they can contribute to the nature of the ceremony. The role that each participant plays is important, and each girl should have the opportunity to express herself in some way during the ceremony.
- The purpose of a ceremony is its controlling idea. Why are you having this ceremony? State the purpose of the ceremony in the opening after you have welcomed your guests.
- The theme of a ceremony focuses on the purpose and how the purpose is developed. A theme can be expressed through readings, drama, skits, and songs, as well as in the invitations, decorations, setting, and refreshments.
- Mood and atmosphere establish the tone of the ceremony. Is it serious, reflective, lighthearted, or humorous? The mood and atmosphere can be developed through musical or literary selections, decorations, or candlelight.
- The setting is created by the time and place the ceremony is held, which should have an impact on the message delivered. The setting should fit the size of the group and accommodate the planned activities. Also, the setting should contribute to the mood and atmosphere that the girls wish to create.

Incorporating Girl Planning

Girl Scouting operates on the purpose that girls grow, learn, and have fun by making decisions, doing and discovering for themselves. That is why it is important that the girls do as much of the planning for ceremonies as possible. Ceremonies are opportunities for the girls, not the adults, to express themselves. Girls should give a part of making their own memories.

Planning should include the girls' ideas and input. Keep in mind that, at different levels, girls will have different abilities. As the girls get older, their responsibility for planning should expand. Don't worry about doing everything "right." Be flexible, let the girls make mistakes and learn from them. It is the volunteer's role to guide the group and provide an environment for creativity.

Personalizing a Ceremony

The Ceremonies that are remembered the most often have been personalized to express a clear purpose and theme, which gives continuity and cohesion to the ceremony. A theme can be expressed through symbolism, music, songs, stories, poetry, skits, dance or light.

Hints For Ceremonies

1. Devote sufficient time to planning the ceremony. Good ceremonies have a clear purpose and enrich the meaning and mood of the ceremony.
2. Use Ceremonies in Girl Scouting and the Ceremony Planner (included in hand-out) to help plan your ceremony.
3. Take safety precautions when using candles or fires, or when constructing bridges or platforms. Refer to Safety-Wise for specific advice.
4. Add personal elements to traditional ceremonies. Use favorite poems, songs, stories and sayings, or write something of your own.
5. Consider the role of colors and symbols that you might use in your ceremony.
6. Observe flag etiquette when doing flag ceremonies.

Common Themes

- Accepting Responsibility
- Cheerfulness
- Conservation
- Gifts of Girl Scouting
- Heritage
- Music
- Patriotism
- Service to Others
- Beauty
- Creative Arts
- Friendship
- Global Awareness
- Loyalty
- Nature
- Peace
- Women to Remember

Common Symbolism

- Archway—entering a different atmosphere or phase
- Bridge—a crossing over
- Color—different colors can express different emotions; ask the girls how they feel about different colors and choose a color scheme to enhance the ceremony
- Dove and Olive Branch—peace
- Eagle—courage and patriotism
- Feather—nature, personal growth
- Flag—the official banner of something
- Flowers and Herbs—for over 150 years, flowers have been represented feelings and sentiments; your local library and the Internet are good sources for dictionaries of the “language of flowers.”
- Friendship Circle—the unbroken chain of friendship with Girl Scouts and Girl Guides all over the world
- Handshake—hello, welcome
- Light—love, truth, hope, high ideals, a promise, or an individual; three candles represent the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise and ten candles stand for the ten parts of the Girl Scout Law
- Pebble—the largeness of the world
- Planting a tree—conservation, a living dedication to someone or something
- Quiet Sign—silence, remembrance
- Signing Your Name—your own identity, personal involvement, support, loyalty
- String—the human line binding all humanity
- Swaying From Side to Side—everyone agreeing to the same thought
- Trefoil—the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise
- Wishing Well—hopes and dreams

Meaningful Colors

Consider the role of colors that you might use in your ceremony. Different colors can express different emotions; ask the girls how they feel about different colors and choose a color scheme to enhance the ceremony.

Girls can pass under a “rainbow” of colored streamers or balloons. Each color symbolizes a different aspect of Girl Scouting:

- Red—understanding one's self, including one's values, needs, emotions, and strengths. It represents the development of proper health, safety, and nutritional guidelines. It stands for building satisfying relationships with others, making and keeping friends, and sharing with family and the community.
- Also, red—fire. Fire is one of humanity's greatest blessings, but can also destroy. We can use fire for good or evil. We are kind and considerate or we hurt each other if our fires are uncontrollable.
- Orange—discovering how things operate; experimenting and developing creative abilities, inventing ways to cope with problems and deal with change, looking ahead to the future, and seeing the traditional and nontraditional roles of men and women.
- Yellow—becoming aware of the natural environment and developing skills and knowledge for living comfortably in that environment. It represents a respect for the balance of nature and a dedication to protecting and preserving the environment.
- Also, yellow—sunshine. As the sun warms us all, we in turn spread warmth and friendship to those we meet. This color reminds us to make Girl Scouting fun for the girls, but, at the same time, not to lose sight of the Girl Scout Promise and Law.
- Green—the Girl Scout Promise and Law. It means sharing in the special ways and days of Girl Scouting, wearing a uniform or the Girl Scout pin, meeting and working with the troop, developing self-potential, contributing to society, developing values, relating to others, and belonging to the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.
- Blue—discovering one's heritage and family customs, and finding out more about one's community and how to contribute to it. Blue represents a growth in an awareness of global issues and the basic needs of all people.
- Also, blue—our faith in each other, our loyalty to our beliefs, and our love of God, home, and country.
- Purple—the development of personal taste for various forms of art, expressing thoughts, feelings, and ideals through various art forms, and appreciating the artistic talents and contributions of others.
- White clouds—honesty in thought, word, and deed. The color represents honesty toward ourselves and others.

Bridging

Moving On to New Adventures

Bridging is an important transition in a Girl Scout's life. It's a defining moment when a girl becomes aware of her achievements and is ready for new adventures and responsibilities. Celebrating this change should be fun, personalized, and memorable for everyone involved. And most of all, it should be designed by the girls in true partnership with adults.

Bridging Award Activities

Although any girl who moves from one grade level to the next is technically “bridging,” each grade level has bridging awards that may be earned by doing bridging activities. The following chart lists awards that are automatically given when a girl bridges, as well as awards she has to earn.

Grade Level	Automatically Given	Must Be Earned
Girl Scout Daisies	Membership star with blue disc, Ending Certificate, Brownie Girl Scout pin (optional)	Bridge to Brownie Girl Scouts award
Girl Scout Brownies	Membership star with green disc, Brownie Girl Scout wings, Junior Girl Scout pin (optional)	Bridge to Junior Girl Scouts award
Girl Scout Juniors	Membership star with yellow disc	Bridge to Cadette Girl Scouts award
Girl Scout Cadettes	Membership star with white disc	Bridge to Senior Girl Scouts award
Girl Scout Seniors	Membership star with red disc	Bridge to Ambassador Girl Scouts award
Girl Scout Ambassadors	Membership star with blue disc	Bridge to Adult Girl Scouts Award

Bridging to Girl Scout Brownies

Even before there were Girl Scouts, there were Brownies—magical elves who did helpful things. Today, girls who become Brownies still help people by going on journeys like *Brownie Quest*, *WOW!*, *Wonders of Water*, or *A World of Girls* with their Girl Scout sisters.

Brownies have a lot of fun together! They sing the Brownie Smile song, sleep in tents, go on hikes, and tell stories around campfires under the stars. (Don't forget to make hot chocolate and S'mores!). They may visit museums or zoos, meet people who have interesting jobs, or exchange SWAPS (Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere) with new friends.

You'll learn more about what it's like to be a Brownie by earning your Bridge to Girl Scout Brownie Award. Plus, you'll be taking part in the great tradition of Girl Scout Bridging! As you grow up, you'll continue moving up as a Girl Scout with these special ceremonies.

Earning the Award

To earn the Bridge to Brownie Award, complete the two bridging steps. These steps will help you pass down something you learned as a Daisy Girl Scout and look forward to what's waiting for you at the next level.

Bridging Step One: Pass It On!

Inspire younger girls by sharing what it's like to be a Daisy.

Remember how excited you were about becoming a Daisy? There are younger girls who can't wait to follow in your footsteps! As you get ready to become a Brownie, spend time letting younger girls know what you've enjoyed about being a Daisy. Do at least one of the following activities when you get together— or do them all!

- Teach younger girls the Girl Scout Promise, then take them through the Girl Scout Law. Share a story about how you learned to put the Promise and Law into action.
- Tell the younger girls about Amazing Daisy, Lupe, Tula, and the other flower friends, then share a story about your favorite. Why is she your favorite? What did you learn from her about

making the world a better place? What did you learn about yourself? Help the younger girls color pictures of the flower friends to take home.

- Play a game together! Is there a special game you loved to play as a Daisy that you could teach the younger girls.
- With your Daisy sisters, make a little something you can give to the younger girls that shows them what Girl Scout Daisies are all about! Maybe a little "ticket" to Girl Scout Daisies? Or a picture of a flower friend with her line from the Girl Scout Law? Or a puppet. Or even a little message on a card. Whatever you make, be sure to explain what it means when you give it to the girls and offer them a great big welcome into Girl Scouts! Perhaps there's a song you can teach them too!

Bridging Step Two: Look Ahead! Find out What Girl Scout Brownies Do

Spend time with some Brownie sisters. After all, they know about the fun and adventures Brownies can have together! Do at least one of the following activities—or do them all if you want!

- Say the Girl Scout Promise together. Then find out if your Brownie friends have a favorite part of the Girl Scout Law. Were they friendly and helpful, or courageous and strong? Then, ask the Brownies if they can teach you a favorite game they learned to play as Brownies.
- Ask the Brownies to teach you their favorite Brownie song, then sing it together.
- Ask your Brownie friends to help you make special "tickets" into the world of Brownies. Your Brownie friends can write down the three things they had the most fun doing as Brownies, then help you decorate the tickets. Take your ticket home as a reminder of all the fun that is in store for you as a Brownie. Nice!
- Ask the Brownies to show you their journey awards and tell you what they did to earn them. How did they make the world a better place? What new friends can the Brownies introduce you to in their journeys?
- Start exploring how you and your Daisy sisters can help your community when you become Brownies. Ask the Brownies to help you decorate a box or jar that will become your "Take Action Idea Bank." Get ideas by asking the Brownies how you can help your community. Get more ideas by talking to an adult who works in the community such as at a firehouse, hospital, library, or mayor's office. You could even get ideas by walking around your neighborhood with an adult and looking for ways to help. For example, maybe you might see playground equipment that needs to be fixed. Write down all your ideas and put them in your idea bank. These ideas will be waiting for you when you become a Girl Scout Brownie!

Plan a Ceremony

Congratulations! You have earned your Bridge to Girl Scout Brownie Award. Celebrate with a favorite ceremony you learned on your Daisy journey—or make up a new one. Then proudly add your Bridging patch to your sash or vest! For more fun ideas, visit Bridging Ceremonies at www.girlscouts.org.

Bridging to Girl Scout Juniors

Get ready! Get excited! You are almost a Girl Scout Junior. What fun lies ahead?

When you fly up to Girl Scout Junior, you'll get to take part in cool new experiences, like going on an overnight at a science museum, working on a farm, attending a baseball game, visiting a wildlife preserve, making a robot, or trying new sports like archery. Now that you're older, little kids look up to you, so you may decide to do something for younger Girl Scouts—perhaps plan a Teddy Bear tea for Daisies!

As a Girl Scout Junior, you can choose to go on any (or all!) of three journeys: *Agent of Change*, *Get Moving!*, and *aMUSE*. On a journey, you and your Junior friends can team up to make a difference in the world. Every time you complete a journey, you'll earn three awards. And after you've finished one journey, you'll be able to earn your Girl Scout Bronze Award—one of Girl Scouting's highest awards.

Earning the Award

To earn the Bridge to Girl Scout Junior Award, complete two bridging steps. These steps will help you pass down something you learned to a younger Girl Scout and look forward to what's waiting for you at the next level.

Bridging Step One: Pass It On!

Share your talents and skills by teaching younger Girl Scouts something you learned to do as a Brownie.

Here are a few ideas to get you started (you only have to do one to complete the step).

- Teach a group of Girl Scout Daisies a song, game, or craft, especially one you loved doing on your Brownie journey. Share with your Daisy sisters your favorite parts of being a Brownie. Explain all they have to look forward to when they become Brownies. Inspire your Daisy sisters to climb the ladder of leadership!
- Help the Daisies create and decorate small books (you can make these easily by stapling blank pages between two pieces of construction paper). Make sure each Daisy writes her name on the cover of her book! Pass the books around and write messages to the Daisies, telling them what makes them special, why you're glad they're your sister Girl Scouts, and what they can look forward to as Brownies.
- Invite Daisies to attend one of your meetings to find out what being a Brownie is all about. Maybe you can demonstrate a cool skill you learned on an outdoor adventure. Or show them photos of your trip to the aquarium. Or teach them what you learned about taking care of your bicycle. When you are done, tell the girls all about Girl Scout Juniors and why you are excited to "fly up."

Bridging Step Two: Look Ahead!

Find out What Girl Scout Juniors Do

The best way to find out what it really means to be a Girl Scout Junior is to talk to girls who already are Juniors. To complete this step, get together with your Junior friends and do one or more of the following activities (choose whatever sounds like the most fun to you and other Brownies!).

- Ask your Junior friends what activities they loved doing as Juniors and why. Maybe they can tell you stories about their favorite memories of working as a team—and maybe you and your Brownie friends can tell your own stories about what you loved doing as Brownies. Maybe your Junior friends can teach you a game or a special Girl Scout activity. If any of the girls were also Girl Scout Brownies, ask them how being a Junior was different from being a Brownie.
- Talk to one or more of the Girl Scout Juniors who earned her Girl Scout Bronze Award. Wow! That's a big accomplishment. How did she choose her project? Who was on her team? What did she learn? Ask what advice she would give to someone who wants to earn her Bronze Award. Does hearing about a Junior's experience inspire you to go for the Bronze, too?

Plan a Ceremony

Congratulations! You've earned your Bridge to Girl Scout Junior Award! Celebrate with a favorite ceremony you learned on your Brownie journey—or make up a new one. Then add your

Bridging patch to your Junior sash or vest. Some girls receive their Brownie wings at this ceremony, too. For more ideas, visit Bridging Ceremonies at www.girlscouts.org.

Bridging to Girl Scout Cadettes

When you climb up to Girl Scout Cadette, get ready to lead! Organize a basketball league for girls in your Community, help plan a badge workshop for younger Girl Scouts, or volunteer with Habitat for Humanity.

Try a destination or getaway to California and visit a marine mammal center. Soak up the atmosphere at a majestic national park as you wander through the woods at Yosemite. Strap on your backpack and explore the Grand Canyon or hike the Appalachian Trail. It's up to you!

As a Girl Scout Cadette you can choose from three different Journeys: Explore the twists and turn of friendship in *aMAZE*; investigate what's really in the air with *Breathe*; or channel your creativity into an awesome project through *Media*.

You don't have to stop there. Once you've done a journey, you can embrace an issue you care deeply about and change your community for the better by completing a project to earn your Girl Scout Silver Award—the highest award a Cadette can earn.

If you like working with younger girls, you can help your Brownie sisters on their journey and earn the Leadership inAction award in the process.

Earning the Award

To earn the Bridge to Girl Scout Cadette Award, complete two bridging steps. These steps will help you pass down something you learned to a younger Girl Scout and look forward to what's waiting for you at the next level.

Bridging Step One: Pass It On!

Share your talents and skills by teaching younger Girl Scouts something you learned to do as a Junior.

As a Cadette, you'll have the power to create an amazing impact on the world around you! Here are some ideas for taking everything you've learned and energizing younger girls to jump up to Junior. Use one of these ideas to start you off, or come up with your own. You only have to do one to complete the step.

- Show your Brownie sisters why being a Junior is so great. Make short videos of everyone in your group speaking for one minute about your favorite memory from your time as a Junior and screen them for a group of Brownies. Don't forget to tell them why you can't wait to climb up to Cadette!
- Invite Brownies to attend one of your meetings and demonstrate a skill that will make them look forward to being a Girl Scout Junior. For example, you could show them photos from your group's favorite camping or canoe adventure and demonstrate how pack a backpack for a longer trip. Get them excited to spend time outdoors with their Girl Scout sisters!
- Invite girls your age who aren't Girl Scouts to join you in a fun activity—learning martial arts, sign language or building a parade float. If you're doing a Take Action project, ask your buddies to tag along! Maybe you'll inspire them to pitch in.
- Team up with the girls in your group that earned a Bronze Award and hold a question and answer session for interested Brownies. Describe how you chose your project, your planning process and how you overcame obstacles along the way. Inspire them to go for the Bronze too!

Bridging Step Two: Look Ahead!

Find out What Girl Scout Cadettes Do

As a Cadette, you'll set your sights on the world outside your local area. Find out what lies beyond your neighborhood. Make a list of all the places in you'd like to visit. But, there's no better way to find out what you have to look forward to than to talk with your Cadette sisters.

Use one of the ideas below to get you started, or come up with your own. You only have to do one to complete the step.

- Ask a Cadette to talk to you about her experiences so you know what you can expect. Does she have a favorite experience from her time as a Cadette? If she mentions a special activity or new skill she learned as a Cadette, ask her to teach you how to do it.
- Do you want to work on your Girl Scout Silver Award? Find the Cadettes that earned this honor and ask them for tips. Find out how they formed their teams, how they selected a project and what they learned along the way. If you have some ideas for your own project, be sure to ask them for advice.
- What journeys did Cadettes go on? What did they enjoy about the experience? Ask them how they helped their community and to share their best moments from their journey with you.

Plan a Ceremony

Congratulations! You've earned your Bridge to Girl Scout Cadette Award! Celebrate with a favorite ceremony you learned on your Junior journey—or make up a new one. Then add your Bridging patch to your Cadette sash or vest. For more ideas, visit Bridging Ceremonies at www.girlscouts.org.

Bridging to Girl Scout Seniors

Are you ready to embrace new adventures? Are you ready to say yes to new challenges? Then, step up to Girl Scout Seniors, where you'll find opportunities to do all that and more!

First up: Leadership—it's what Girl Scouts is all about! When you're a Senior, your opportunities to develop your leadership skills and strive for change in the real world will expand. You'll have a choice of three inspiring new journeys: *GirlTOPIA*, *Sow What?* and *Circles of Sisterhood*.

You can take on a larger role within the Girl Scouts as well. You could become a member of a teen board or represent your Council as a delegate to the National Council Session. You could even be selected to serve as a GSUSA National Girl Consultant.

Now that you're in high school, you can also be active in the Girl Scout Advocacy Network, a group that advocates for change on behalf of girls by promoting issues in Congress and state legislatures.

What else does the world of Girl Scouts Seniors offer? Lots of adventure! You can try all sorts of new experiences — mountain biking, doing yoga, rock climbing, volunteering at the Special Olympics or touring an art gallery.

If you yearn to travel, check out the international Girl Scout destinations tailored for Seniors and above. You could explore Belize, come face to face with a Beluga whale in the Arctic, jet to India or trek through the Amazon rainforest.

You're sure to meet other Girl Scout teens and make some new friends along the way!

Earning the Award

To earn the Bridge to Girl Scout Senior Award, complete two steps. In the process you'll pass down something you learned to a younger Girl Scout and look forward to what's waiting for you at the next level.

Bridging Step One: Pass It On!

Share your talents and skills by teaching younger Girl Scouts one thing you learned to do as a Cadette.

You're excited about what lies ahead for you as a Girl Scout Senior. But, before you move on, you have a chance to inspire all those Juniors excited about bridging to Cadette. Let them know how much fun is in store for them! What about younger girls who aren't Girl Scouts yet? Maybe your story will inspire them to join! And, don't forget the adults out there—in your community, at school or in the state legislature. Share with them how Girl Scouting helps girls.

Think about your most memorable moments as a Cadette and find a way to share them with others. Use one of these ideas to start you off, or come up with your own. You only have to do one to complete the step.

- Take a group of Juniors to your favorite local hiking spot, demonstrate something you've learned about outdoor safety and talk to them about Leave No Trace. Or, tell them about your group's most memorable adventure and teach them your favorite Girl Scout tradition. Inspire them to climb up to Cadette!
- Did you earn a Silver Award? Make a PowerPoint Presentation or build a Web site and talk a group of Juniors through your project. Be sure to let them know how you or your team got through the tough times and how much fun you had along the way!
- Organize a workshop for your community center, library or local council using what you've learned on a journey. Invite Juniors to the presentation. Make sure you save some time so they can ask you questions and so you can tell them about all the great things waiting for them if they become Cadettes.

Bridging Step Two: Look Ahead!

Find out What Girl Scout Seniors Do

Go straight to the source! Ask your friends in your local area or go online and connect with Seniors around the country to learn what you can do when you step up to Senior. Use one of the suggestions below, or come up with your own. You only have to do one to complete the step. Here's some ideas to get you started:

- As a Senior, you can take part in all global travel opportunities offered by the Girl Scouts. Find out through your local council if any Seniors in your area have traveled internationally or to a national conference. Ask them the best way to learn more about the opportunities Girl Scouts can offer, across the country and around the world. Learn more about the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts and forums at the four World Centers or take a look at GSUSA resources such as *The Girl Scout Guide to Global Travel*.
- Plan a weekend or overnight trip with some Seniors and ask them to take you their favorite canoeing, horseback riding or surfing spot. Make sure you find out what they have enjoyed most about being Seniors and ask them to share their favorite Girl Scout traditions!
- If you're interested in earning your Gold Award, connect with Seniors already working on a project—whether online, on the phone or in person—and get some advice on how to choose from among all your great ideas. You've probably got a lot by now!
- Find out about council and national delegate opportunities for Girl Scouts. What does it take to represent your council as a national delegate? How do you become a member of your council board? Can you serve on a girl advisory team?

Plan a Ceremony

Congratulations! You've earned your Bridge to Girl Scout Senior Award! Celebrate with a favorite ceremony or invent a new one. Then add your Bridging patch to your sash or vest. For more ideas, visit Bridging Ceremonies at www.girlscouts.org.

Do you have a lot to give? Do you want your voice to be heard? Are you excited to get involved with people and causes you care about? Girl Scout Ambassadors is for you!

Ambassador is the highest level a girl can attain in Girl Scouts. As a Girl Scout Senior, you began exploring the wider world. When you become an Ambassador, you'll be ready to soar! Think of all your future holds and how being an Ambassador can set you on your way!

Are you planning to go to college? You can find out about life there by spending the night on a campus or attending a workshop run by Campus Girl Scouts. Or, take a Collegiate Challenge destination, an event designed just for Ambassadors.

If you're interested in politics, learn how to lobby your elected officials and then visit your state capital—or even federal representatives—and urge them to act on an issue you care about!

Want to see the world? You can plan a trip to one of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts World Centers or go on a destinations trip with other Girl Scouts.

Use all the confidence you've developed as a Girl Scout to really challenge yourself physically. Try kickboxing, SCUBA diving, a high adventure challenge course—or go on a Survivor Encampment to see if you've got what it takes to survive in the wild!

You'll have three new journeys to choose from—*Your Voice, Your World; Justice; and Bliss*—and new journey awards to earn.

Plus, you can earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, Girl Scouting's most prestigious award. You might even become one of the Girl Scout Young Women of Distinction, a national honor bestowed upon those who earn the Gold Award and do something really extraordinary.

Earning the Award

Are you ready to soar to Ambassador? Complete the two bridging steps to earn your Bridge to Girl Scout Ambassador Award.

Bridging Step One: Pass It On!

Share your talents and skills by teaching younger Girl Scouts one thing you learned to do as a Senior.

Whether you started Girl Scouts as a Daisy or joined as a Senior, you've learned a lot to get here! It's time to inspire others with what you know. Use one of these ideas to start you off, or come up with your own. You only have to do one to complete the step.

- Just as you're looking ahead to what it means to be an Ambassador, Girl Scout Cadettes are right behind you, ready and eager to take their next big step up the leadership ladder! Inspire them by giving them a glimpse of life as a Senior. Invite them on a camp-out, overnight trip, or other fun event and talk about your experiences. You can even continue the conversation on Facebook or by email, if you want.
- Take something you've learned in Girl Scouts and share it with others. Did you travel on a destination? Hold a slide show for Cadettes. Did you complete a Take Action project through

one of the journeys? Blog about it. Did you attend the Girl Scout National Convention? Report back to your council.

Bridging Step Two: Look Ahead!

Find out what Girl Scout Ambassadors Do

Explore what it's like to be an Ambassador. What's the best way to do that? Connect with girls who are already there! Girls who have attained the highest level will be happy to share their experiences and give you a leg up in framing your next step. Here are ideas for making your get-together fun and inspiring. Or, come up with your own. You only need to do one to complete the step.

- Invite Ambassadors to around table. Start with some tasty snacks and a few "getting to know you" games. Ask your Ambassador sisters about their achievements and challenges. Find out about their most surprising, funny or moving moments as Girl Scouts. Get their tips on how to make the most of your Ambassador experience!
- Meet with Girl Scout Ambassadors online by establishing a Wiki community. Or, start a Facebook, Google or Yahoo! group. Tap the widest network you can to find out how others chose their Gold Award projects, how they connected with mentors, what outdoor adventures and trips they went on, or anything else that interests you. Start a list of what you would like to do as an Ambassador!
- Find out about how Girl Scouting in the United States and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girls Scouts strive to effect change around the world. Look into Girl Scout destinations, travel to the World Centers, WAGGGS conferences and other opportunities and forums open to Ambassadors. If you've already traveled through the Girl Scouts, reflect on how your experience might help promote social change.
- Join a council event, camping trip, overnight or Take Action project that involves Ambassadors. See what you can learn about expanding your current interests as you move into your next step in Girl Scouting. For example, if you were totally jazzed by the Senior Sow What? Journey, develop a Gold Award project promoting locally grown food and healthy food production for the planet as you travel the Ambassador Justice Journey.

Plan a Ceremony

Congratulations! You've earned your Bridge to Girl Scout Ambassador Award! Celebrate with a favorite ceremony—or make up a new one. Then add your Bridging patch to your sash or vest. For more ideas, visit Bridging Ceremonies at www.girlscouts.org.

Bridging to Girl Scout Ambassadors

- Take something you've learned in Girl Scouts and share it with others. Did you travel on a destination? Hold a slide show for Cadettes. Did you complete a Take Action project through one of the journeys? Blog about it. Did you attend the Girl Scout National Convention? Report back to your council.

Bridging Step Two: Look Ahead!

Find out what Girl Scout Ambassadors Do

Explore what it's like to be an Ambassador. What's the best way to do that? Connect with girls who are already there! Girls who have attained the highest level will be happy to share their experiences and give you a leg up in framing your next step. Here are ideas for making your get-together fun and inspiring. Or, come up with your own. You only need to do one to complete the step.

- Invite Ambassadors to around table. Start with some tasty snacks and a few "getting to know you" games. Ask your Ambassador sisters about their achievements and challenges. Find out about their most surprising, funny or moving moments as Girl Scouts. Get their tips on how to make the most of your Ambassador experience!
- Meet with Girl Scout Ambassadors online by establishing a Wiki community. Or, start a Facebook, Google or Yahoo! group. Tap the widest network you can to find out how others chose their Gold Award projects, how they connected with mentors, what outdoor adventures and trips they went on, or anything else that interests you. Start a list of what you would like to do as an Ambassador!
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Bridging to Girl Scout Adult

Your moment is here! As a graduating Girl Scout Ambassador, it's time to embrace what you've learned in Girl Scouting, honor how that will forever be a part of who you are, and step into the world as a young woman of courage, confidence and character. It's time to begin your adult journey.

When you become a Girl Scout adult, you join nearly one million Girl Scouts—across the country and around the world—who volunteer their time and inspire girls to become leaders. You're also linked to an astounding 10 million global sisters through the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts and 50 million Girl Scout alumnae! Whether you want to build your resume, blaze a particular career path or make new friends based on a shared Girl Scout experience, you've got a worldwide sisterhood to add richness and fun for the rest of your life!

You'll find many different ways to stay connected to Girl Scouts, the organization that helped you grow into the young woman you are today. If you're heading to college, consider joining Campus Girl Scouts, a great way to make friends and earn service learning credits.

Girls love to connect with young adults, so you're in a perfect position to influence and inspire those younger than you. You can volunteer to guide a troop, help girls earn badges by teaching a skill such as photography or rock climbing, mentor Girl Scouts as they do a leadership journey, help out at a day camp or work with girls as they participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Program.

Love to travel? Think about chaperoning girls as they visit Aerospace Camp, ride horses in the Appalachian Mountains, or celebrate world culture at Mexico's Our Cabaña. You can become a camp counselor, represent GSUSA at national and international events, raise funds for your council or serve on the board of directors. Above all, you can give back to Girl Scouts, by sharing your experiences, listening to the girls, and inspiring them to dream big!

Don't forget to share future plans with your Girl Scout council. They would love to hear from you!

Earning the Award

Are you ready to cross the bridge to Girl Scout Adult? Complete two bridging steps to earn your Bridge to Girl Scout Adult Award, the last award you can earn as a girl member.

Bridging Step One: Pass It On!

Share your talents and skills by teaching younger Girl Scouts one thing you learned to do as an Ambassador.

As a Girl Scout Ambassador bridging to Adult, you've no doubt felt a lot of inspiration. Dig deep and find a way to share your knowledge, skills, enthusiasm and spirit. To complete this step, donate your time to a special project within Girl Scouts, your community or the world. Use one of the ideas below, or come up with your own. Here's some ways to get started:

- Spend some time with Seniors bridging to Ambassador and share your favorite parts of your Ambassador journeys—your Take Action projects, trips, outings, friendships, and leadership lessons learned. As you help Seniors define what leadership means to them, reflect on how others helped you along the way!
- fitness clinic or dance class. Teach them rock climbing, graphic design, cooking, karate, or another special skill you've learned as a Girl Scout.
- Volunteer time helping your council, a community group or a global organization. Work on the council Website, join a community beautification project in your town, or create a flier promoting an international relief effort. Your actions will show others what you've learned from being a Girl Scout. As Gandhi said, "Be the change you wish to see in the world."

Bridging Step Two: Look Ahead!

Find out What Girl Scout Adults Do

More than 900,000 adults empower girls to become leaders through Girl Scouting. Talk to Girl Scout Adults and find out what inspires them. Reflect on how Girl Scouting has influenced your life. Use one of these suggestions, or come up with your own. You only have to do one to complete the step. Here's some ways to start:

- Get together with a Girl Scout adult or group you admire. This doesn't have to be formal. You can start a conversation at a pizza party, walk on the beach, movie night or camping trip. Ask about the endurance of the Girl Scout legacy or the highlights of volunteering. What do they embrace about being adults in Girl Scouting.
- Hold an appreciation breakfast or lunch for Girl Scout Adults who have supported you! Share your memories, photos or even a poem to tell them how much their help meant to you.
- Create a slideshow of your best moments in Girl Scouts. Add some music and gather your friends, family and the Girl Scout Adults who influenced you to share your walk down memory lane!

Plan a Ceremony

Congratulations! You've earned your Bridge to Girl Scout Adult Award! Celebrate with a favorite ceremony you've learned in your time as a Girl Scout.

Once you have bridged, you may register as an adult. A special lifetime membership, at a reduced cost, is offered to registered Girl Scout Ambassadors at the time of their high school

graduation, provided they apply for lifetime membership before their current annual membership expires.

Ceremony Planner

- Type of ceremony
- Purpose or theme
- Date of ceremony
- Time of ceremony
- Length of Ceremony
- Do invitations need to be made?
- Who will attend?
- How will the ceremony begin?
- What songs, poems and quotations will be included?
- What will the main section consist of?
- Who will do what?
- Who will do what?
- Who will do what?
- Where will people stand or sit? Is special setup needed? (Make a sketch if necessary).
- How will it end?
- Who will record the ceremony for the troop scrapbook?
- What decorations or props do you need?
- What, if any, refreshments will be served?
- Who will bring them? What quantities do you need?
- Items to budget for:
- Cost:
- When will a rehearsal be scheduled for the ceremony?

Bridging Ceremonies

Bridging ceremonies usually take place at the beginning or end of the Girl Scout year and can have three parts:

- Opening: guests are welcomed and the tone is set
 - MainSection: the ceremony is explained and the girls celebrate moving from one level to the next
 - Closing: girls can participate in friendship circles and thank their guests
- Each of the ceremony's parts offers plenty of room for the girls' creativity and individuality. And whether the ceremony includes an actual bridge or a symbolic one, or if it includes props like candles, flowers, or flags, it should always focus on paying tribute to the girls as they move forward.

Creating a Bridge and Other Props

The bridge that takes Girl Scouts into the next program grade level can be represented in many ways. Some parks have small bridges over streams that would be appropriate for an outdoor ceremony. The bridge can be a natural or homemade bridge that girls walk over. It can be an arch that girls walk under, steps they ascend and descend, or stepping stones (real or constructed) that they walk over. The bridge can even be represented by simply walking from one side of the room to the other. Several ideas for creating a bridge or other props for a bridging ceremony are listed below.

- Girls can join a circle or horseshoe made up of girls in the next age level.
- Girls can cross over a stage area or over a bridge constructed with movable steps.

- To create a “bridge,” overturn a folding card table so the legs face up. Attach streamers from the floor to one leg, across to the opposite leg, and back to the ground. Repeat on the other side to form the “sides” of the bridge.
- To create a “stream” with “stepping stones” for younger girls, paint a blue stream and several stepping stones on a large, flat piece of cardboard. Label the stepping stone with past troop activities, parts of the Girl Scout Law, or the girls’ personal thoughts about joining the next level of Girl Scouting.
- To create a “stream” with “stepping stones” for older girls, lay several different types of blue-colored fabric on the floor to form a “stream.” Place several stepping stones (purchased or made) on top of the fabric for the girls to walk on as they cross over.
- To create a reflecting “pond,” lay a large mirror on the ground, surrounded by daisies.
- To create an “oven” for baking a batch of Brownies, cut a door on opposite sides of an upside-down, large cardboard box. Decorate the “front door” to look like an oven, with knobs, buttons, and a door handle. Daisies enter through the back door and exit, as Brownies, out the front of the oven.
- To create a “nest,” paint a large nest on a tree branch on one side of a cardboard refrigerator box laid horizontally. Make the nest big enough to cover the entire cardboard piece. Brace the “nest” on the ends so it will stand up.
- To create “wings,” cut out a basic wing outline out of heavy paper. Wings should be four to six feet long and about one foot wide. Each girl paints both sides of her wings. After the paint is dry, cover the underside of the wings in clear contact paper. (This will add strength to the wings and keep paint from rubbing off on clothing.) Make loops for the upper arms out of a 15-inch piece of heavy-duty tape. Make similar loops for the wrists out of a nine-inch piece of heavy-duty tape. Center and attach loops to the underside (contact paper side) of the wings. At the ceremony, girls can adjust tape loops as needed. Tape the top of the wings to the center back of the girls’ uniform or vest.

Sample Bridging Ceremonies

Bridging to Brownies

Opening: Form a circle. Recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Explain why you are having this ceremony.

Leader Reads Aloud:

D is for your namesake, our founder, “Daisy Low”

A stands for Action-oriented first graders

I is for being Inquisitive about the world

S is for the Sweethearts that you are

Y is for being the Youngest Girl Scouts

As each girl’s name is called they will be presented with a daisy, an Ending Certificate, Membership Star and blue disc before they walk across the Bridge. A Brownie will greet them at the other side. The girls will exchange the Girl Scout Handshake. The leader will present them with the Brownie Girl Scout pin.

Close: Sing “The Brownie Smile Song”

Flying Up to Juniors

(Brownie troop sits in a ring and the Junior troop forms a horseshoe with the open end facing the audience. A bridge or cardboard stepping stones should be between the two troops)

Opening: Leader says, "This is the last time you will be together as Girl Scout Brownies, because the time has come to fly up to Girl Scout Juniors. Before you do, please sing "The Brownie Smile Song" once more.

Both troops repeat the Girl Scout Promise and Law together.

Brownie Leader: You have earned your golden wings and are now ready to fly up to Girl Scout Juniors. We have many memories together...(leader names several of the things the Brownie troop has done together). I would now like for each fly up to name the one thing that you will remember about being a Brownie. (each gets a turn to do so)

Leader: "As I call each fly up name, please come forward to receive your Brownie Wings. Wear them proudly." As each comes forward the leader pins them and they cross the Bridge or walk across the stepping stones. They are greeted by a Girl Scout Junior on the other side and exchange the Girl Scout handshake and together they enter the Horse- shoe.

Junior Leader: "Welcome to Girl Scout Juniors. Your Brownie troop leader and I would like to present you with your Membership Star and disc." (Call each one by name and pin them)

Close: Sing "Make New Friends"

Bridging to Cadettes

Junior troop forms a horseshoe and the Cadettes form a horseshoe by placing the Troop Scribe on one end, the Patrol Leaders in the bend of the horseshoe, and the Cadette Leader on the other end. Something symbolic of a bridge is placed between them. The girls should choose this symbol.

Junior Leader: (announces each girl by name)

"I present _____, who is anxious to accept the challenge of living as a Girl Scout Cadette."

The girl comes to the leader, gives the Girl Scout Sign and Handshake and moves across the bridge. At the other end the Cadette Leader greets her.

Cadette Leader: "Welcome, to Cadette Girl Scouts. Please recite the Girl Scout Promise."

New Cadette recites the Promise and moves to the Cadette horseshoe formation. Each Junior goes through this process.

Close: A candlelight ceremony that the girls plan completes the Bridging.

Multi-Grade Level Ceremony

HAIL AND FAREWELL: This ceremony involves every grade level of Girl Scouting, from Girl Scout Daisies through graduating Girl Scouts. (See "Formations for Bridging Ceremonies" on back cover of this booklet.)

Girl Scout Daisy Leader: Farewell, girls. Go join the ring.

There, Brownie Girl Scouts plan most everything.

Daisies leave their circle and cross the bridge. Girl Scouts Brownies meet them at the other end and present the girls with the Bridge to Girl Scout Brownies Award and Brownie pin before joining the other Brownies.

Girl Scout Brownie Leader: Now it's time to say good-bye. Break the ring and out you fly.

Brownies leave their ring and cross the bridge. Juniors meet them at the other end and present the girls with the Bridge to Junior Award, Brownie Wings, and Girl Scout pin before joining the other Junior.

Girl Scout Junior Leader: As we say, "Welcome to you,"
We have to say good-bye, too.

The time has come for some to cross.

The Cadette group's gain is our loss.

Junior Girl Scouts leave their horseshoe and cross the bridge. Cadette members meet them at the other end and present the girls with the rainbow bar award and Cadette membership pin before joining the other Cadette members.

Adapt to include Cadette, Senior and Ambassador grade levels.

Bridging to Seniors

Opening: Cadette Leader: "Tonight you have come to move on to the greatest challenge of your life— being a Senior Girl Scout. It will be your obligation to prepare the way for those who are following behind you; Daisies, Brownies, Juniors and Cadettes will watch you and begin to be formed into the Girl Scouts they will become because they will watch you. Leader reads aloud. "Are you 'ready to face forward and climb upward on every path'?"

Cadettes respond: "We are."

Leader: "Then you are ready to take the Senior Girl Scout pledge. There are eight parts to this pledge. You are challenged to uphold the highest ideals of womanhood as expressed in the Promise and Law. Do you accept this challenge?"

Cadette One: Comes forward to light the first candle and says, "I am ready to uphold the highest ideals of womanhood expressed in the Promise and Law."

Leader: "You are challenged to be thoughtful and considerate and assume your share of responsibility in the activities of your troop. Do you accept this challenge?"

Cadette Two: Comes forward to light the second candle and says, "I accept the challenge to be thoughtful and considerate. I will assume my share of responsibility in my troop."

Leader: "You are challenged to become a better citizen of your community and to prepare yourself for the duties and responsibilities of adult citizenship in a democracy. Do you accept that challenge?"

Cadette Three: Comes forward to light the third candle and says, "I accept the challenge to become a better part of my community. I will be ready to assume the duties and responsibilities of adulthood in our democracy."

Leader: "You are challenged to accept the responsibility to volunteer your services wherever and whenever needed. Do you accept this challenge?"

Cadette Four: Comes forward to light the fourth candle and says, "I accept the challenge to volunteer my service whenever and wherever I am needed."

Leader: "You are challenged to keep yourself healthy and the world around you as safe as possible. Do you accept the challenge?"

Cadette Five: Comes forward to light the fifth candle and says, “I accept the challenge to keep myself as healthy as possible and to keep the world around me safe.”

Leader: “You are challenged to seek new knowledge and the skill to use it. Do you accept this challenge?”

Cadette Six: Comes forward and lights the sixth candle and says, “I accept the challenge to seek new knowledge and the skill to use it.”

Leader: “You are challenged to increase your knowledge and understanding of the peoples of the world toward the goal of peace. Do you accept the challenge?”

Cadette Seven: Comes forward and lights the seventh candle and says, “I accept the goal of peace as my goal and I will seek to increase my knowledge and understanding of the peoples of the world.”

Leader: “You are challenged to prepare yourself for the future. Do you accept this challenge?”

Cadette Eight: Comes forward and lights the eighth candle and says, “I accept the challenge to prepare myself for the future.”

Closing/Leader: You have just begun your Senior journey to the Gold Award and to a world of Wider Opportunities. Please accept this key as a symbol of the many doors you may unlock with this key during your Senior Girl Scout days. Welcome to Senior Girl Scouts.

Flag Ceremonies

Honoring the American Flag

A flag ceremony is a way of showing love and respect for one's country. Flag ceremonies may be used for:

- Opening or closing meetings
- Opening or closing special events
- Beginning or closing a day
- Honoring a special occasion or special person
- Retiring a worn flag

Flag ceremonies may take place in meeting rooms, in outdoor settings, in large auditoriums, on stage, even on horseback. All flag ceremonies share one thing in common—respect for the flag.

Flag Ceremony Guidelines

Keep it simple. Emphasis should be on respect for the flag rather than on the commands or techniques. Ask these questions when planning:

1. Who will carry the flag?
2. Who will be the color guards?
3. Who will give the directions for the ceremony?
4. What song will be sung? Who will sound the pitch and start the song?
5. Will a poem or quotation be included? Who will say or read it?
6. After the Pledge of Allegiance, will the Promise and the Law be said?
7. In what order will the parts of the ceremony take place?
8. When will the group practice?
9. Where will the flags be placed at the end of the ceremony?

Terms Used in a Flag Ceremony

The color bearer (or flag bearer) is the person who carries the flag. There is one color bearer for each flag used in the ceremony.

The color guard is a team that guards the flags. Any even number of guards may be used, but usually four or six girls are sufficient.

The Girl Scout in-charge (or caller) is a designated Girl Scout who announces or calls each part of the ceremony.

Retiring a Worn American Flag

Retiring an American Flag is a special ceremony that ends with burning the flag and disposing of the ashes in a respectful manner. For further information, check with *Let's Celebrate! Girl Scout Ceremonies* or your council training or program staff.

Possible Commands for a Flag Ceremony

"Girl Scouts, attention." Used to announce that the flag ceremony is to begin.

"Color guard advance." This signals the color guard to advance with the flags, or advance to pick up the flags.

"Color Guard, post the colors." This directs the color guard to place the flag in flag standards, or to attach the grommets to a flag pole rope.

"Color guard, honor your flag." The color guard salutes the American flag.

"Please join us in saying the Pledge of Allegiance." (Followed by an appropriate song, quotation or poem, if so desired.)

OR

"Color guard, honor your flag." The color guard salutes the American flag.

"Color guard, retire the colors." This asks the color guard to remove the flag from standards, or to lower the flag, detach from the rope, and fold prior to being dismissed.

"Color guard, dismissed." The color guard leaves in formation, with or without the flag. "Girl Scouts dismissed." Girls may leave in formation or be at ease where they have been standing.

Handling the American Flag

The display of the American Flag is governed by law to ensure that it will be treated with the respect due the flag of a great nation. This is known as the Flag Code. Some of the rules most useful for Girl Scouts are:

- The American Flag should be placed in the center, and higher, when displayed with a group of state, local, or organizational flags flown from staffs. It may also be positioned to the right of other flags (if you were to hold the flag while facing your audience, your right side would be the flag's own right).
- "When displayed from a staff in a church or public auditorium, the flag of the United States of America should hold the position of superior prominence, in advance of the audience, and in the position of honor at the clergyman's or speaker's right as he faces the audience. Any other flag so displayed should be placed on the left of the clergyman or speaker or to the right of the audience." *
- The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered slowly with dignity.

- The flag should never be allowed to touch anything beneath it, nor should it ever be carried flat or horizontally—always aloft and free.
- Never use the flag as a cover or place anything on top of it.
- No disrespect of any kind should be shown to the flag of the United States. It should be kept clean.
- The flag, when carried in a procession with other flags, should be either on the march- ing right or, if there is a line of other flags, in front of the center of that line.
- When you display the flag on a wall or in a window where people see it from the street, it should be displayed flat with the blue part at the top and on the flag's own right (which is the observer's left).
- When displayed after dark, the flag should be illuminated.

*From the U.S. Flag Code.

Investiture Ceremonies

Sample Brownie Investiture

Magic pond - mirror, all sit in a circle. New girls and leaders join together at the pond. The leader reads the Brownie Story (Brownie Leader's Guide pages 79-83.) You may also tell a shortened version.

Leader: "Who has come to the Brownie Woods?"

New Girls: "We have!" or "I have!"

Leader: "Why have you come?"

New Girls: "To be Brownies."

Leader: "Who comes first?"

Co-Leader: (Girl's Name) , "Twist me and turn me and show me the elf, | looked in the water and saw." Turn the girl around three times.

Girl: "MYSELF!"

Repeat until all girls have been "twisted and turned." Leads entire troop in saying the Promise together.

Leader: Pin on Brownie pin upside down and say: "|am pinning this on upside down. When you have done a good deed, your mother or father will turn it right side up for you."

Co-Leader: "We're glad to have you, (Girl's Name)

Sample Investiture #1

All stand in a circle. New girls come forward to leaders.

Leader: "Today you girls have met the requirements of age; have paid your National Registration, and are ready to be invested as members of the largest organization for girls in the world,"

Co-Leader: "By repeating the Promise and understanding the meaning of it and our ten part Law you become members of the Girl Scouts of the USA, one of the member countries of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts."

Girls say the Promise together.

Co-Leader: "Welcome to Troop # !

Sample Investiture #2

New and old girls stand in a horseshoe. Table has ten candies set upon it.

Ten girls each lighting one candle and stating one part of the ten parts of the Law. Girls go in order of the ten parts; they may find it easier to use cue cards (index cards.)

Leader: "Today our new girl(s) is/are ready to make her/their Promise for the first time and be invested as member(s) of Troop # _____. "

Co-Leader: "Are you ready to say your Promise? Can you tell us what it means?"
New girl explains the Promise.

Co-Leader: "Can you tell us what the Law means?" New girls answer.

Leader: "Will the new girls now make their Promise?" New girls say Promise.

Leader pins trefoil pin on each girl and shakes her hand.

Leader: "Welcome to Troop #. ; Welcome to Girl Scouting!"

Sample Rededication Ceremony

All sit in a circle, with a table in the middle with ten candles. You may find it helpful to use 3x5 index cards for girls' parts. If there are not enough girls in the troop to do all the parts, the leader may read the questions and the girls read the answers while lighting the candles.

1st Girl: "Let us repeat together the Promise." (All Stand, when finished be seated.)

2nd Girl: Lighting 1st Candle - "I will do my best to be honest."

3rd Girl: "What is honest? It is to be truthful in everything you say and do."

4th Girl: Lighting 2nd Candle - "I will do my best to be fair."

5th Girl: "What is fair? It is treating other people the way you want to be treated."

6th Girl: Lighting 3rd Candle - "I will do my best to help where I am needed."

7th Girl: "What is helping where you are needed? It is finding out what others need, and doing what you can to show them that you care."

8th Girl: Lighting 4th Candle - "I will do my best to be cheerful."

9th Girl: "What is being cheerful? It is looking for the bright side, even on gloomy and un- happy days."

10th Girl: Lighting 10th Candle — "I will do my best to be friendly and considerate."

11th Girl: "What is being friendly and considerate? It is to be thoughtful of others. It is being the kind of friend you would like to have."

12th Girl: Lighting 6th Candle - "I will do my best to be a sister to every Girl Scout,"

13th Girl: "What does it mean to be a sister? It means to think of all Girl Scouts every- where, not as strangers, but as friends you haven't met."

14th Girl: Lighting 7th Candle - "I will do my best to respect authority."

15th Girl: "What does it mean to respect authority? It means to listen to people who are responsible for us and follow their directions."

16th Girl: Lighting 8th Candle - "I will do my best to use resources wisely."

17th Girl: "How can we use resources wisely? We can learn not to waste what we have."

18th Girl: Lighting 9th Candle - "I will do my best to protect and improve the world around me"

19th Girl: "What does - it mean to protect and improve the world around me? It means to help preserve the world around us and to help make it a better place."

20th Girl: Lighting 10th Candle - "I will do my best to show respect for myself and others through my words and actions."

21st Girl: "What does it mean to show respect for myself and others? It means to do your very best in the way that you treat others."