

Short and Snappy – Investitures and Rededications

Objective: To explain the meaning behind Girl Scout ceremonies and introduce two specific ceremonies: Investiture and Rededication.

Length: 25 minutes

Materials Needed: Short and Snappy Handout (candles, pins, or other props are optional)

Information to Share (spend 10 minutes on this section)

Girl Scouts have ceremonies for just about every occasion!

- **Ceremonies are traditional to Girl Scouts:**
Recognizing and practicing our traditions helps foster a sense of belonging and historical understanding among girls. It reminds of that being part of the Girl Scout organization means something special; it means sisterhood; it means pluralism and inclusion; and it means living by the Promise and Law.
- **Ceremonies make things special:**
Whether it is earning a badge, completing a sleepover, or respecting the Flag, ceremonies make occasions feel special and important. They provide meaning and honor to what we do, how we live, and what we accomplish.
- **Ceremonies get parents involved:**
Ceremonies provide an excellent opportunity to invite parents into the Girl Scout experience. Having a parent, guardian, or family member present when honoring girls and the scouting tradition not only enriches the girl's experience, but also encourages parents to be more involved in scouting. It allows parents to see what the organization means to their daughter and to the world.
- **Ceremonies make girls feel proud:**
Whether earning an award, bridging to the next level, or reflecting over a meaningful "Scouts' Own" ceremony, girls are honored through ceremonies. They are the stars at center stage, receiving the attention and respect that they deserve.
- **Ceremonies provide an opportunity for girls to express themselves:**
Ceremonies should be planned by and with girls, and therefore reflect girl expression. This helps girls to explore their talents and creative abilities while building self-confidence and team work skills.

Investiture is an important ceremony that welcomes new members, girls or adults, into the Girl Scout family for the first time.

- Girls receive their Girl Scout, Brownie Girl Scout, or Daisy Girl Scout pin at this time.
- Investitures are often held at the beginning of the Girl Scout year to welcome new members, in conjunction with a rededication ceremony for existing members; however, an investiture may be held to honor an individual girl whenever she joins Girl Scouts.

Rededication Ceremonies are an opportunity for girls and adults to renew their commitment to the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

- They are often held annually at the beginning of the troop year, in conjunction with an Investiture ceremony for new girls and adults.

Activity (spend 15 minutes on this section)

Using the script below, conduct this Adult Rededication/Investiture ceremony with all those at your Community Meeting.

Adult/Volunteer Girl Scout Investiture/Rededication

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 1: A girl can move to a new town and have "instant friendships" with girls she might never have met.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 2: Parents will experience that special pride when they listen to their daughter say the Girl Scout Promise.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 3: Bright eyes will become a little brighter with excitement as the kindling finally catches on her first campfire.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 4: Nervous giggles will emit from tents as girls try to fall asleep on their first night of camp.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 5: Voices will be heard as the girls sing loud and strong their favorite Girl Scout songs.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 6: Lifelong friendships may be made between the girls in your troops, providing support & love throughout their lives.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 7: Curiosity will be sparked and maybe a career chosen because of a girl's experiences in Girl Scouting.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 8: You will hear the squeals of laughter as the girls put on their first campfire skits.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 9: Strong bodies will be made through sports and adventurous activities.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 10: Strong minds will be made because the girls had a safe place to make decisions.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 11: Our future leaders will be developed, strong and decisive.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 12: The community and the world will be cleaner because a girl has learned the importance of caring for her environment.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 13: The community and the world will be richer because a girl has learned to give service to someone less fortunate than herself.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 14: Your girls will develop great confidence in themselves and each other, building strong relationships.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 15: The world will be a more peaceful place as we all learn to accept and revel in our differences.

All participants say together: "Because I said yes"

Speaker 16: A parent will find a gold trefoil carefully tucked away in a drawer as their daughter packs to leave home for her first adventures as a young adult.

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Activity (continued)

All participants say together: “Because I said yes”

Speaker 17: A young woman will contact Girl Scouts one day and say “I had so much fun when I was a Girl Scout, I’d like to try being a leader”

All participants say together: “Because I said yes”

Speaker 18: We welcome all the new volunteers we have among us tonight with open arms into the sisterhood of Girl Scouting. Here you will never be without good friends and good times.

(If investiture): Please step forward to receive your pins. Thank you for saying “Yes”.

Call out the names, etc. of each person as they are pinned.

Explain that the pin is upside down because the new leader should go home and do a good deed. When completed, the new leader can turn the pin right side up.

Lead Speaker: And to all the returning volunteers – Thank goodness you are still here! We knew that we would be in for another year of laughter and friendship. Let’s keep our newest members in our thoughts and make them feel welcome. Let’s support each other and our girls throughout the coming year. The Girl Promise and Law are shared by every member of Girl Scouting. The Girl Scout promise is the way Girl Scouts agree to act every day toward one another and other people, and the Girl Scout Law outlines a way to act towards one another and the world. Please join me in saying the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Everyone stands, gives the Girl Scout sign and recites the Girl Scout Promise and Law together. Leader Speaker: Please welcome your neighbor with the Girl Scout handshake. (Give the Girl Scout sign with the right hand and shake hands with the left hand.)

