



Objective

To provide tips and ideas for working with a multi-level troop.

Length

20 minutes

Materials Needed

Pencils, paper, copies of the information to share section for each group.

Information to Share (spend 10 minutes on this section)

Many leaders have multi-level troops, with girls ranging across the different age levels. Sometimes it can be difficult to coordinate activities where all the age levels are engaged. This Short and Snappy looks at examples of badge requirements and activities that can be incorporated across age-levels.

Start by comparing badges for different age levels. Girl Scout badges follow specific themes that continue across the age levels. For example, the Artist theme includes the following badges: Painting for Brownies; Drawing for Juniors; Comic Artist for Cadettes; Collage for Seniors; and Photographer for Ambassadors.

Many badge requirements within a theme can be carried out in such a way where girls from different age levels can either work together, alongside each other, or present or teach to one another, in order to meet their age level's requirements. Your starting point is to look at the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting for each age level, and see what girls must do to earn their badge.

Let's look at the Girl Scout Way badge:

Step 1: Music - Have a Songfest.

- The Brownie requirement for this step is to learn three new songs.
- The Junior requirement for this step is to make up a song about why you love Girl Scouting, and then to share your song with others.
- The Cadette requirement for this step is to teach a group new songs.
- The Senior requirement for this step is to record Girl Scout alumni singing traditional Girl Scout songs, then learn the songs and teach them to a group of younger girls.
- The Ambassador requirement is to decide on a message to spread through song, choose songs that spread that message, and then teach them to younger girls, sharing the history of each song.

Step 2: Juliette Low's Birthday/Girl Scout Birthday/Girl Scout Week/World Thinking Day

- The Brownie requirement for this step is to celebrate Juliette Gordon Low's birthday by throwing a party, making birthday cards, or writing birthday messages.
- The Junior requirement for this step is to read about Juliette Gordon Low, and put together a story, play, or mural about being a Girl Scout with "Daisy." Then present your project to others.
- The Cadette requirement for this step is to create and present a project (creative writing, art, or drama) that presents ways that Girl Scouting has made the world a better place throughout its history.
- The Senior requirement for this step is to help a younger age level celebrate their special Girl Scout celebration by assisting them in achieving their step for this badge.

Information to Share (continued)

- The Ambassador requirement for this step is to study women leaders in areas relevant to World Thinking Day, and then help younger Girl Scouts plan an event that honors those leaders and educates about leadership qualities.

Step 3: Share sisterhood

- The Brownie requirement for this step is to make a team artwork project that shows sisterhood between the girls in your group.
- The Junior requirement for this step is to create a time capsule with another group of Juniors, with items that show Girl Scout values.
- The Cadette requirement for this step is to plan and carry out an activity that supports women (such as holding a breast cancer awareness event or volunteering at a women's shelter).
- The Senior requirement for this step is to study and define the Girl Scout Law by writing comments and examples of how they can live by the law in their own lives for each line of the GS Law. Then they should share their lists with younger girls.
- The Ambassador requirement for this step is to invite a guest speaker to talk to your group about issues that affect women and girls globally (such as economic empowerment or access to education or health services).

Step 4: Leave a place better than you found it

- The Brownie requirement for this step is to come up with a specific plan on how to leave either their home, meeting place, or classroom better than they found it, and to carry out that plan for a week.
- The Junior requirement for this step is to create a walking tour for your community, and provide it in a pamphlet to the town visitor's bureau.
- The Cadette requirement for this step is to leave camp better than you found it by clearing a hiking trail, clearing an invasive species, or working on camp maintenance projects.
- The Senior requirement for this step is to work with local artists and younger Girl Scouts to plan and execute a mural or large scale art project for your community.
- The Ambassador Requirement for this step is to choose a social issue, research it, and come up with at least 10 ways that you as an individual can improve the systems that create or contribute to the issue.

Step 5: Enjoy Girl Scout Traditions

- The Brownie requirement for this step is to find a friend or family member who was a Girl Scout when they were a girl. Then learn about the differences and similarities between then and now.
- The Junior requirement for this step is to find an adult who was a Girl Scout at the Junior age and ask her to share her favorite Girl Scout tradition with you.
- The Cadette requirement for this step is to make a tradition "to-do" list by thinking of everything they want to do in Girl Scouts and then find older Girl Scouts who have done those things and discuss the process of making it happen. Then come up with a list of things to make their plans happen.
- The Senior requirement for this step is to watch The Golden Eaglet video from 1918, discuss differences between Girl Scouts then and now, and then create a promotional presentation or movie to show others.
- The Ambassador Requirement for this step is to pick a Girl Scout tradition that has exemplified your Girl Scout experience and share it with/teach it to younger girls.

Activity (spend 10 minutes on this section)

1. Break up into smaller groups. Give each group a copy of the "Information to Share" section.
2. Ask each group to pick 2-3 age levels, and write up a plan for how to incorporate the 5 Girl Scout Way badge requirements for each of their chosen age levels into multi-level meeting plans.
3. Have each group share what their ideas with the larger group.