

JUNIORS: IDEAS FOR THE FIRST FOUR MEETINGS

First Meeting

Objectives: To have everyone become acquainted and feel comfortable working together as a troop or group. To learn the principles underlying the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Supplies: dream container (coffee can or box), paper, pencils, attendance and dues record sheets, paper bags, markers, scissors, yarn, trash bag. Posters of the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Start-up activity: Make name tags, decorate the Dream Box

Opening: Read The Girl Scout Promise and Law (discuss), Sing “Make New Friends” and play the Name game .

Business: Record attendance; learn the Girl Scout Quiet sign, Discuss troop dues, care of the meeting place, good manners, and safety. Give girls a chance to put wishes in Dream Box. (refreshments could be served now)

Main Activity: Paper bag dramatics acting out the Girl Scout Law. Have the girls draw names for partners; assign each team a part of the law. Have each team create a skit portraying their part of the Law using paper bag characters.

Snack: girls help serve

Clean-up: Remember, Girl Scouts leave a place cleaner than they found it.

Closing: Friendship Circle, taps, do the Friendship squeeze

TAPS

Day is done, Gone the sun,
From the lakes,
from the hills,
from the sky.
All is well, safety rest,
God is nigh.

Second Meeting

Objectives: Decide on a form of government; begin ceremony planning

Supplies: Poster of the Promise and Law, attendance/dues records, paper, pencils, Dream Box, flags

Start-up activity: Make a “Friend Poster”

Opening: Sing “Make New Friends”, Learn the Girl Scout Sign, recite the Girl Scout Promise and Law

Business: Attendance and dues, discuss types of troop government, role play each, decide which to use. Show girls vest/sash, vote on which; show them the patches/pins, Discuss investiture and begin list of ideas (when, where, etc.) Allow girls to add to Dream Box.

Main Activity: Plan and practice a Flag Ceremony

Snack: girls help serve

Clean-up: Remember, Girl Scouts leave a place cleaner than they found it.

Closing: Friendship Circle, taps, do the Friendship squeeze

Third Meeting

Objectives: develop Kaper chart, finish ceremony plans, make invitations

Supplies: paper, markers, items for making invitations, attendance/dues records, small containers (sacks or butter tubs), dried beans, Dream Box, Promise/Law poster, print word to “Whene’er You Make a Promise”, sample invitations.

Start-up activity: Bean Game, put ideas in Dream Box

Opening: teach/sing “Whene’er You Make a Promise”, say the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Business: Attendance and dues. Explain Kaper Chart and assign duties. Finalize investiture plans, practice investiture.

Main Activity: Make investiture invitations.

Snack: girls help serve, refer to Kaper chart

Clean-up: refer to Kaper chart. Remember, Girl Scouts leave a place cleaner than they found it.

Girl Scout Together

Girl Scouts together, that is our song
Winding the old trails, rocky and long,
Learning our motto, living our creed,
Girl Scouts together in every good deed.

Closing: Friendship Circle, teach/sing “Girl Scouts Together”, do the Friendship squeeze
(Don’t forget to take home invitations!)

Fourth Meeting

Objectives: Values; practice ceremony.

Supplies: Make values check chart; gather materials for Ceremony.

Start-up activity: Values Check Chart

Business: Attendance/dues per Kaper chart, Review Investiture Ceremony plans

Main Activity: Practice entire Investiture Ceremony

Snack: girls help serve, refer to Kaper chart

Clean-up: refer to Kaper chart. Remember, Girl Scouts leave a place cleaner than they found it.

Closing: Friendship Circle, “Girl Scouts Together”

Resources for Juniors: Ideas For The First Four Meetings

Dream Box Decorate a container of your choice. Write “Troop #____ Dream Box”. You may also want to put “I really wish we could _____” on the outside. Cut small slips of plain paper. At the first meeting ask the girls to write at least 3 ideas each and put in box. Girls can add ideas any time they think of a new idea. Use the ideas as the basis for future troop plans.

Name Game Ask each girl to think of a food which begins with the same letter as her name. For example she might say “My name is Candace and I like cookies”. As the girls sit in a circle, the

leader begins “ My name is Sue and I like soup”, the next girl repeats the first and adds her own. This continues until everyone has given her name. The leader then tries to repeat all the names.

Paper bag Dramatics Divide the troop into small groups or pairs. Give each group a small sack containing “props” (small items such as paper clip, coin, sponge, key, etc.) On the outside of each sack write a different part of the Girl Scout Promise or Law. Give groups a few minutes to prepare. Begin the presentations in order ie ‘to serve God’, etc. Each group uses all the props to act out their portion of the Promise/Law.

Friendship Circle You and the girls criss-cross arms right over left and hold hands. Teach the girls a Girl Scout Song (follows). Finish with a Friendship squeeze. Everyone is silent while one person starts the squeeze, which travels around the circle and back to the person who started it. Everyone turns out of the circle.

Bean Game Ask someone to guess how many beans you are holding in you hand. If the guess is correct, give the beans in your hand to that person, if the guess is incorrect, you keep the beans.

Flag Ceremony (Flag Up)

"Girl Scouts, attention" *Everyone comes to attention, hats off, no talking.*

"Color Guard, attention."

"Color Guard, advance." *Flag Bearers move first (USA flag first), followed by Color Guard.*

"Girl Scouts, honor your flag." *Put your hand on your heart.*

"Color Guard, post the colors." *Flag Bearers put the flags in the stands. USA flag to flag's own right.*

"Girl Scouts, recite the Pledge of Allegiance."

"Girl Scouts, recite the Promise."

"Color Guard, dismissed." *Flag Bearers move out first, followed by Color Guard.*

(announcements if needed)

"Girl Scouts, Dismissed."

Flag Ceremony (Flag Down)

"Girl Scouts, attention" *Everyone comes to attention, hats off, no talking.*

"Color Guard, attention."

"Color Guard, advance." *Flag Bearers move first, followed by Color Guard.*

"Girl Scouts, honor your flag." *Put your hand on your heart.*

"Color Guard, retire the colors." *Flag Bearers pick up the colors.*

"Color Guard, dismissed." *Flag Bearers move out (USA flag first), followed by Color Guard.*

(announcements if needed)

"Girl Scouts, dismissed."

Terms

Color Bearer (flag bearer): person(s) who carry the flag; bearer(s) wear a red sash across the chest from the right shoulder tied on the left hip with a square knot.

Color Guard: the team that guards the flag, usually 4-6 girls; wears a red sash around the waist tied on left hip with a square knot.

Girl Scout-in-Charge: Girl Scout who announces (calls) each part.

Standard: the stand that supports the flag.

Make New Friends

Make new friends, but keep the old,

One is silver and the other's gold.

A circle is round, it has no end,

That's how long I want to be your friend

Whene'er You Make a Promise

Whene'er you make a promise

Consider well it's importance

And when made, engrave it upon your heart.