

HOW TO TALK ABOUT CAMP

Camp Talking Points for Girl Scout Volunteers

girl scouts
river valleys

INTRODUCTION AND GROUP SHARING

I am excited to be here to talk about camp! I would like to start out by sharing one of my favorite camp memories. *Share a camp memory—preferably one that shows the personal impact of your camp experience.* Does anyone else in the group want to share a favorite camp memory either as a girl, parent, or volunteer?

WHY GIRL SCOUT CAMP?

Girl Scouts has more than 100 years of experience providing unique summer camp adventures for girls. All our camps are accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA) indicating safe, high-quality programs that meet industry and government standards. As anyone who has been to camp will tell you, it is a truly special experience for many reasons:

- **Girl Scout Camp offers an all-girl, girl-led, inclusive environment**, where girls of all ages are encouraged to try new things and take the lead.
- **Camp experiences help girls grow.** At camp, girls make choices and meet challenges in a structured, supportive, supervised environment. In a recent study by the American Camp Association, more than 7 in 10 campers reported, “At camp, I did things I was afraid to do at first.”
- **Camp helps build social skills.** At camp, girls learn the value of cooperation and team building. Camp brings together people from different backgrounds; and coming to camp means joining a community where everyone agrees to cooperate and respect one another.
- **Make memories that last a lifetime.** 80% of Girl Scouts who have been to camp said it was their #1 most memorable outdoor activity in Girl Scouts.
- **Our incredible camp staff.** We hire camp staff from Minnesota and Wisconsin, the greater Midwest, and all over the world! Many of our staff are Girl Scout alums and want to share the experience with girls. All camp staff receive extensive training on skill building, developing a positive camper group, safety, songs, games, and fun!

WE HAVE FIVE AMAZING CAMP LOCATIONS

Each camp has different specialty areas, but all locations offer a safe, all-girl environment where girls make new friends, learn new skills, and have an amazing time!



Camp Elk River

Zimmerman, MN

Specializes in horseback riding and has a sand-bottom swimming pond.



Camp Lakamaga

Marine on St. Croix, MN

Specializes in waterfront activities like boating, swimming, & fishing.



Camp Northwoods

Mason, WI (One hour east of Duluth)

Specializes in horseback riding and outdoor adventures for older girls.



Camp Singing Hills

Waterville, MN

Main troop camp location. Specializes in outdoor skills and archery.



Camp Edith Mayo

Rochester, MN

Used for day camps, trainings, and programming with an outdoor focus.



TYPES OF CAMP SESSIONS

How long is a typical session? Summer camp opportunities range from weekends where a girl and her adult can share an overnight camp adventure, to 4-day/3-night, 6-day/5-night, and 13-day/12-night sessions.

What types of camps do you offer? Our camp programs are tailored for a variety of skills, abilities, and interests. We deliver fun and engaging camp activities including horseback riding, archery, boating, outdoor skills, STEM, wilderness trips, and log rolling.

FAMILY, RESIDENT, TROOP, AND DAY CAMP

The difference between troop and resident camp is with whom you attend. Essentially, resident camp means that you'll be having an individual camp experience and troop camp is attending with members of your troop!

Family Camp	Resident Camp	Troop Camp	Day Camp
At family camp, girls bring along an important adult in their life (mom, dad, aunt, uncle, etc.) and the pairs explore camp in an open-house format. Enjoy each other's company while swimming, boating, sitting around the campfire, and more!	Also known as overnight or sleep-away camp, this type of camp is a chance for a girl to explore nature and have an adventure either on her own or with a buddy. Try out a specialty camp like archery, horseback riding, or science or enjoy a classic summer camp experience with a little of everything.	A great opportunity for some or all girls from a Girl Scout troop to make memories with two or more adult volunteers, members, or troop leaders. (If you want to volunteer to lead a group of girls, make sure that you are comfortable outdoors!) Girls and adults that sign up together choose from a selection of camp activities, and our staff provides the expertise for an adventure you will remember for years to come.	These sessions are planned and led by Girl Scout volunteers. Some take place at our Girl Scout camps while other day camps take place at local parks. Girls attend by themselves or with a buddy. Each group of volunteers plan their day camp theme and activities to give it a local flair. To find out what is available, check with your local service unit. New for 2019: We now offer 2 weeks of staff-led day camp in August.
<i>Registration for family camp opens Feb 21, 2020.</i>	<i>Registration for 4-day camps opens Feb. 19 and Feb. 20 for 6-13+ day camps.</i>	<i>Registration for troop camp opens March 3, 2019.</i>	<i>Registration for staff-led day camp at Edith Mayo opens March 3, 2019.</i>

REGISTRATION WEEK

Girl Scouts River Valleys council is bringing back resident camp registration week again to avoid having all sessions open up on one day. Due the last year's success, they have decided this is the easiest and most exciting option moving forward! Here's a rundown of the days:

Wed. 2/19	4-day Resident Camp sessions
Thurs., 2/20	6- to 13 plus-day Resident Camp sessions
Fri., 2/21	Family Camp sessions
Tues., 3/3	Troop Camp and Edith Mayo Day Camp sessions

SHOW CAMP VIDEO

Camp.GirlScoutsRV.org/the-camp-experience

SING A CAMP SONG! (OPTIONAL)

Lead the group in a camp song sing-a-long. You choose the song or ask the group for a suggestion!

