

## JUNIOR CAMPER BADGE - MEETING 2

**Badge Purpose:** When girls have earned this badge, they will know how to have a great overnight camping trip at a campsite or cabin.

**Activity Plan Length:** 1.5 hours

Time	Activity	Materials Needed
15 minutes	Getting Started <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girls recite the Girl Scout Promise + Law.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Girl Scout Promise and Law poster
15 minutes	Interview an Experienced Camper <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girls ask an experienced camper for tips and advice on camping.</li> </ul>	None
20 minutes	Build a (Model) Campfire <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girls learn how to safely create a campfire.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Construction paper (green, brown, black, red, yellow, and orange) <input type="checkbox"/> White paper <input type="checkbox"/> Scissors <input type="checkbox"/> Tape <input type="checkbox"/> Markers <input type="checkbox"/> Crayons <input type="checkbox"/> Materials for “firewood”: pool noodles cut in thirds, brown craft paper, cardboard <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of “Fire/Building a Campfire”
15 minutes	Snack Chat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girls enjoy snack while discussing what they have learned.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Healthy snack
20 minutes	Fun Around the Campfire <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girls learn fun games to play around the campfire.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Flashlights (one for every two girls)
15 minutes	Wrapping Up	<input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Make New Friends song lyrics poster

### Getting Started

Time: 15 minutes

Materials Needed: (Optional) Girl Scout Promise and Law poster

Welcome everyone to the meeting, recite the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

### Activity #1: Interview an Experienced Camper

Time: 15 minutes



Badge Connection: Step 1 – Start planning your adventure

Prep Needed:

- Invite older Girl Scouts or parents with camping experience to the meeting to share their knowledge and answer questions. Encourage them to bring a few photos from their camping trips.
  - Prepare a list of questions for the speaker to answer or topics to discuss. Examples: How do they prepare for a camping trip? What do they bring? What is their favorite part of camping and why? What are their favorite camp foods or meals?
1. Explain the purpose of the activity and introduce the speaker.
  2. After the speaker shares, ask the girls what questions they have about camping.
  3. Thank the guest(s) and lead a round of applause.

## Activity #2: Build a (Model) Campfire

Time: 20 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 2 – Gain a new camping skill

Materials Needed: Construction paper (green, brown, black, red, yellow, and orange); white paper; scissors; tape; markers or crayons; materials for “firewood” (pool noodles cut in thirds, brown craft paper, cardboard); copies of “Fire/Building a Campfire”

Prep Needed:

- Gather and/or purchase supplies. If you divide the troop into smaller groups for this activity, prepare a set of supplies for each group.
  - Make copies of pages 6-7 of the Camper Badge from the *Girl's Guide to Girl Scouts*.
1. Explain the activity: “In this activity, we will pretend that Girl Scouts USA is sponsoring a contest to create a 2–3 minute video about how to build a campfire. The winning video will be used to train hundreds of Junior Girl Scouts across the nation. Videos will be judged on how well they cover all of the information on page seven of the Camper Badge in the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouts. This page explains how to safely create a campfire.”
  2. (Optional) Divide girls into groups.
  3. Distribute supplies to each group.
  4. Allow 10 minutes for girls to create and practice their presentations.
  5. Each group presents. Leaders determine how many of the five steps and safety tips were included in each presentation. The group that includes the most wins.
  6. Announce the winner.

## Activity #3: Snack Chat

Time: 15 minutes

Badge Connection: Questions link to multiple award steps

Materials Needed: Healthy snack

1. Provide a snack similar to one they would eat if they were camping, such as trail mix.
2. While enjoying the snack, here are some things for girls to talk about:
  - Has anyone ever been camping? If so, where did you go?
  - What do you think is the ideal length of time for a camping trip? Why?
  - How do you think Girl Scout camping was different 50 years ago? How was it similar?



## Activity #4: Fun Around the Campfire

Time: 20 minutes

Badge Connection: Head out on your trip – have some nighttime fun

Materials Needed: Flashlights (one for every two girls)

Prep Needed:

- This activity occurs outside after dark. Adjust your meeting time if needed to ensure it will be dark during this activity. Inform parents of new meeting time (if applicable).
  - Confirm flashlights are working. Replace batteries, if needed.
  - If you are not familiar with Girl Scout campfire songs and games, contact your service unit or Girl Scouts River Valleys for more information. If your guest speaker from Activity #1 is a Girl Scout, you could invite her to stay for the rest of the meeting and lead the songs. Be sure to discuss with her prior to the meeting.
  - Your local library may have copies of books of traditional Girl Scout songs such as *Sing Together* or *The Ditty Bag*, which include sheet music or CDs of Melinda Carroll's *Girl Scouts Greatest Hits*.
1. Move the winning pretend campfire from Activity #2 to the outdoor gathering spot. Add flashlights and turn them on to simulate the campfire.
  2. Sing campfire songs.
  3. Play games. Knowing some easy games that are safe for campfire spaces (no running!) is always a good idea; storytelling and guessing games are popular. Start a round of Telephone using some fun facts the girls learned today. Play Twenty Questions, try Charades, ask Girl Scout trivia questions or write a community story (going around the circle, everyone contributes one sentence at a time).

## Wrapping Up

Time: 15 minutes

Materials Needed: (Optional) Make New Friends song lyrics poster

Close the meeting by singing Make New Friends and doing a friendship circle.

## More to Explore

- Field Trip Ideas:
  - Learn about camping supplies and gear at a store that sells camping supplies.
  - Explore a state park or nature center.
  - Participate in one of the camping trips offered by Girl Scouts River Valleys.
- Speaker Ideas:
  - Camping expert from a store that sells camping supplies.
  - Parents of Girl Scouts who have camping experience.
  - Older Girl Scouts who have camping experience at a Girl Scout camp or wilderness camping.
  - Someone from a nature center such a naturalist.

