

Girl Scouts

girl scouts
river valleys

FALL/WINTER
2016-2017
PROGRAM GUIDE



Making an Impact with Malala – and other opportunities just for members

PG 17



Plan Your Girl Scout Year around this year's theme: **It's Your Planet – Love It!**

PG 7



100 Years of Girl Scouts Selling Cookies

PG 13

Contents

FALL/WINTER 2016-2017 PROGRAM GUIDE



^ 7



^ 10

11 >



^ 13

12 >



16 >



“Girl Scouting is not just knowing ... but doing ... not just doing, but being.”

Juliette Gordon Low



< 17

- 4 Mark Your Calendars:**
Our Girl Scout year at a glance
- 5 Basics of Journeys and Badges**
- 6 Building a Better World:**
Community service project ideas
- 7 Love Your Planet with River Valleys!**
This year's program theme
- 8 Fall/Winter Council Events:** A sampling of our upcoming events and how to register
- 10 Girl Scout Friendship Circle, Sign, Motto:** Try 'em out!
- 10 Back by Popular Demand:**
The Add-a-Friend Patch and how to earn it
- 11 Make It, Then S.W.A.P. It!** Create your own Upcycled Paper Beads to swap
- 12 Llama Tell You About Cookies:**
A preview of this year's cookie season
- 13 S'more Good News:** Did you hear about the new cookie?
- 14 Girl Scout Starter Kit:** Plus, tips from the Girl Scout Shop
- 15 Girl Scout Camps:** Not Just for Summer (Reserve a space at one of our camps September – May)
- 16 Gold Award Bootcamp:** Seniors and Ambassadors, an overnight retreat to help you earn the highest award
- 16 Hey Girl Scout Cadettes!** Ready for silver? We've got higher award workshops and webinars for you
- 17 Making an Impact with Malala:**
Exclusive opportunities for members
- 18 The Big Wide World of Girl Scouts:**
Where you fit in as a member
- 19 Spirit, Let's Hear It!** Wear your Girl Scout gear and uniform on October 26

Dear Girl Scouts,

Welcome back to another year of Girl Scouting! And, a big warm welcome to all our new Girl Scouts! We are thrilled to share the first issue of our bi-annual program guide with you to help you plan and make the most of your Girl Scout year (including activities, events, tips, discounts, traditions, and more!). There is plenty in store for 2017, and we can't wait to see the adventures and experiences it brings!

Whether you're learning skills while earning badges, impacting your community as you work on your Gold Award, or just starting out as a Daisy and gaining new friends, you are building a life filled with courage, confidence, and character, and making the world a better place, and we think that is pretty fantastic.

You'll notice something shiny and new this year – a program theme: It's Your Planet – Love it! We thought this would be a great way to help you plan and focus your Girl Scout year. On page 7 you can read about this year's theme and being green (we couldn't have asked for a more appropriate Girl Scout color!), and how you can incorporate it into the activities you'd like to do this year.

As you flip through the pages, we encourage you to take notes, scribble, doodle, and earmark, and use this guide as a reference in the coming months. And as always, give us a ring if you have questions.

Thank you for all you do as a member to support the River Valleys council and the Girl Scout Movement.

Yours in Girl Scouting,



Tisha Bolger

CEO

Girl Scouts River Valleys



2016

Mark Your Calendars

WHO'S READY FOR A FANTASTIC YEAR OF GIRL SCOUTING?!

October

Welcome to new and returning Girl Scouts! Our **new Girl Scout year** officially begins **October 1**.



Spirit Day, October 26: Wear your Girl Scout uniform and gear to school and around town to show your Girl Scout spirit!



October 1-23: Snacks + Magazines sale
Earn money for your troop activities.

Juliette Gordon Low's Birthday, October 31: Also known as Founder's Day.

"To put yourself in another's place requires real imagination, but by doing so each Girl Scout will be able to love among others happily."

Juliette Gordon Low

November

Join us on **Give to the Max Day, November 17**, to share how Girl Scouts build a better world through community service and higher award projects.



Girl Scouts make a stellar appearance with a **float in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade** (tune in to watch girls share the Girl Scout Way and how we're making the world a better place) on **November 24**.

December

Stop by your local Girl Scouts River Valleys retail shop during one of our **open houses** for discounts on gift merchandise, door prizes, and yummy winter treats like cider and cookies.

2017

January



Join us for **Girl Scouts River Valleys Annual Meeting** at Rosemount Community Center (all are welcome to attend!) on **January 28**. Look for more information on our website later in the fall.

Service unit cookie rallies
(Let's get fired up for our best cookie sale yet!)

February

Summer camp registration opens (watch for a sneak peak in your inbox to start picking your favorite sessions!)



Cookie Go Day
(it's go time!),
February 11

Cookie Season
February 11 - March 26

World Thinking Day, February 22:
Connect with your international Girl Scout sisters!



March

The **Girl Scout Birthday, March 12**, is the day in 1912 when Juliette Gordon Low officially registered the organization's first 18 girl members in Savannah, Georgia. **Girl Scout Week** goes from Sunday-Saturday, and always includes March 12th. This year, we're celebrating Girl Scouting's 105th birthday from **March 12-18**.

Girl Scout Sunday and Sabbath give girls an opportunity to attend their place of worship and be recognized as a Girl Scout on **March 12 and March 18**.

April

Girl Scout Leader's Day honors all the volunteers who work as leaders and mentors in partnership with girls. On this day, **April 22**, girls, their families, and communities find special ways to thank their adult Girl Scout volunteers.

Earth Day, April 22: As Girl Scouts, we know our actions can truly make a difference for the world, so let's celebrate how great this planet is and give it some love too! Check out our In the Loop blog (intheloop.girlscoutsv.org) for Earth Day service project ideas or connect with your service unit for local opportunities.



Higher Award Ceremonies:
We'll recognize the incredible work of our Gold and Silver Award earners.

July

We hope you'll be finding adventure and **fun in the great outdoors at a camp session, troop outing, or field trip.** Here in the Midwest, we know we have to make the most of our beautiful summers!

August

We're gearing up for the new year by forming new troops, recruiting volunteers and girls, and planning all the brilliant things in store for the **upcoming membership year** (like next year's program theme, events, trainings, and more!).



IN THE LOOP: A HELPFUL BLOG FOR TROOP LEADERS

May

Early Bird Registration begins
(Get in on Early Bird perks and a patch when you register for the upcoming membership year early!) We can't wait to share this year's bird mascot!

June

Summer camp begins! (WAHOO! Who's excited for next summer already?) We'll let you know when registration opens so you can pick your favorite camp sessions and secure your spot. We've got something for everybody, whether it's your first time at camp, or you're ready to set out on a wilderness trip!



September

Renew your membership and prep for another great Girl Scout year.



GIRL SCOUTS LOVE EARNING BADGES!

Girls earn badges (and proudly sport them on their uniforms!) as they build skills in a variety of areas like STEM and outdoor awareness to name a few. Badges help girls grow into well-rounded adults and take on real-life challenges and opportunities #likeagirlscout. Many badges also complement Journey activities.

Badges like First Aid, Digital Movie-maker, Scribe, Horseback Riding, Netiquette, Archery, Truth Seeker, Financing My Future, and more will no doubt have us all tagging #likeagirlscout when they nail these skills like a pro.

BECOMING LEADERS THROUGH JOURNEYS

Journeys teach Girl Scouts what it takes to be a leader. On Journeys throughout their Girl Scout experience, girls will learn the three keys to leadership: discovering, connecting, and taking action.

At each grade level, girls have three Journey paths filled with stories and activities, and they earn one to three awards on each path.

It's Your World – Change It! empowers girls to make lasting change in their community through inspiring Take Action projects.

★ **It's Your Planet – Love It!** teaches girls about the environment and how their conservation actions can make a difference.

It's Your Story – Tell It! gives girls the opportunity to tell their own story through creative approaches.



Building a Better World

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT IDEAS

After a hot and muggy summer, fall is finally here. As girls swap their dusty camp knapsacks for shiny new backpacks, we finally have some time to plan fun meetings and activities with our Girl Scout troops! And what better way to kick off your Girl Scout year and get your troop into the Girl Scout spirit than with a fall service project?

With the cold weather fast approaching, now is a great time to help organizations prepare for the long winter ahead. While we've listed a few tips to get you started, we all know that the best and most creative ideas come from our Girl Scouts themselves – so start a discussion about what kind of service projects interest your girls at your next meeting!

If your troop loves animals, get in contact with your local animal shelter to see if they need any help preparing for the winter, perhaps by making some warm blankets or welcome baskets, or collecting food for the cats and dogs that will be passing through on their way to their new homes.

If helping people is your troop's mission, what about running a food drive for your local food shelf, or a hat and mitten drive for a homeless shelter, to make sure no one is left out in the cold this winter? And remember, volunteering at the shelter is not just for Thanksgiving Day—these places provide warm meals to people in need 365 days a year, and are always looking for helpers!

Another great way to get involved in the community is to reach out to those around you who might not otherwise get a chance to enjoy this wonderful season. Girls will love leading a hot-apple-cider-and-crafting-social at the nursing home down the street or using their mighty Girl Scout muscles to rake leaves for their elderly neighbors. Older girls might enjoy organizing a fall-themed party for the children at a local community center.

Of course, make sure to get in touch with the organizations you hope to serve before you start planning your project, to make sure you're providing a service they actually need (and allow!).

If you want help coming up with more ideas or planning one of these service projects with your troop, you can always give us a call at 800-845-0787 – we'd be happy to brainstorm with you! Happy fall!

“Scouting rises within you and inspires you to put forth your best.”

Juliette Gordon Low

WE WANT TO SEE YOU BUILDING A BETTER WORLD! SHARE YOUR COMMUNITY SERVICE STORY AND PHOTOS ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE.

YOU'RE MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE

We know you're working to make the world a better place, so to help you in that quest, here are a few ideas of where you can volunteer in our region. In small towns, big cities, and the 'burbs, there are plenty of people to help and causes to support. Have a volunteer opportunity you'd like to share with other Girl Scouts? Submit your idea to the Volunteer Opportunity form on our website.

Community Food Shelf

- Sort food items
- Help track inventory
- Help with distribution of items
- Contact your local food shelf to find out about more volunteer opportunities

Homeless Shelter

- Make and serve a meal
- Help with clean-up
- Visit with guests
- Contact a shelter to find out about specific help needed

Women/Children's Center

- Make and serve a meal
- Visit with guests
- Paint, refresh a room with new items
- Contact a shelter to find out about specific help needed

Nursing Homes and Senior Living Apartments

- Read to residents
- Play BINGO and other games
- Sing songs/carol

Social Services – Foster Children

- Put together care packages for children in transition

Hospitals

- Care packages for patients that include books, toys, coloring books, and activities for waiting rooms
- Build book shelves and provide books
- Contact local hospital to find out about their needs

Neighborhood Assistance

- Clean up parks
- Rake yards
- Clear brush from storm drains

CHECK OUT MORE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT GIRLSOUTSRV.ORG.



Love Your Planet with River Valleys!

JOIN YOUR GIRL SCOUT SISTERS across the council as we celebrate the earth and everything on it with this year's theme – It's Your Planet – Love it! From Journeys and badges to council-wide initiatives and shop swag, you can look forward to a Girl Scout year full of “going green.”

“It's Your Planet – Love It!” is one of three Journeys, the core program of Girl Scouts. Daisies start on this Journey with learning about nature by visiting parks, farms, and zoos, talking to experts, making origami butterflies, planting trees, or creating a garden. At each program grade level, girls build on their experiences and knowledge of the natural world and by the time they are Girl Scout Ambassadors, they'll be ambassadors for Mother Nature too! They'll be identifying global environmental issues and creating their own vision for change, addressing food and land-use issues, improving food delivery systems, fighting hunger in developing nations, or

rediscovering healthy eating traditions. We'd say that's quite a progression!

We'll be diving in and exploring leadership through this earth-friendly theme – and you'll have more opportunities to connect with other troops, enrich your Journeys, and make a difference for the planet in your own community! Check out The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting (available in our shops and comes in your starter kit) for more information on which badges we'll be focusing on this year. Stay connected on Facebook and our In the Loop blog – or stop by our council shops and service centers to see what's happening around you!



Fall/Winter Council Events

We've got plenty of Girl Scouting in store for the next couple months with events to help you earn badges, complete Journeys, make new friends, love our planet, and more! **For a complete list of River Valleys' council events and to sign up, visit our website at <http://www.girlscoutsv.org/events/> or give us a call at 800-845-0787.** Be sure to check the online event listing as we are adding new events throughout the year, and dates, times, and locations are subject to change.

It's Your Planet – Love it!

These Journey events are designed to help you complete the Journeys in the *It's Your Planet – Love It!* series. Work them into your yearly planning and mark it on your calendar! Be sure to register on our website, so we know you're coming. Then, get ready to oooh and ahhh at the wonders of our world!

WOW! Wonders of Water Journey

B

NOVEMBER 19, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM
OR 1:30 PM – 4:00 PM

The Grove at Inver Grove Heights Community Center

Water does so much for you! Can you return the favor? Follow the journey that a drop of water takes around our planet and learn why it's important to conserve this precious resource. Wow yourself and everyone else as you love water, save water, and share what you learn! That's a really big WOW!

Breathe Journey Weekend

C

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 7:00 PM -
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1:00 PM

Camp Elk River, Zimmerman, MN

We all want to breathe fresh, clean air, and "clear" the air around us. Work together toward your Aware, Alert, and Affirm Awards to learn how to improve the world's air quality. Did you know even just turning down the volume on the television can help?

Sow What? Journey Weekend

S A

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 7:00 PM -
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1:00 PM

Camp Elk River, Zimmerman, MN

Where does our food come from and how is a meal happy? What are challenges for local farmers? How about the world's seed bank; can you guess where it is? Discover answers and bond with your fellow Girl Scouts during this fun-packed weekend!

Get Moving Journey Overnight

J

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 7:00 PM –
SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 4:00 PM

OR FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 7:00 PM –
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 4:00 PM

Camp Lakamaga, Marine on St. Croix, MN

Become an Energy Science Investigator (how cool is that title?) by figuring out ways to reduce energy use, estimate your carbon footprint (warm up those math muscles!), and get ideas for your Take Action Project.

Favorites

Silver Award Workshop: Dream It, Achieve It!

C

OCTOBER 15, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Hopkins North Junior High, Hopkins, MN

If you can dream it, you can achieve it! Discover what it takes to earn your Silver Award, the highest award a Girl Scout Cadette can earn. Brainstorm with other girls and start planning how you'll make the world a better place.



Girl Scout Way Day

D B J C S A

OCTOBER 29, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM
North Star Museum, St. Paul, MN

OCTOBER 29, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM
Camp Elk River, Zimmerman, MN

Join your Girl Scout sisters of all ages to learn about the history of Girl Scouting, continue traditions like S.W.A.P.S., celebrate our founder's birthday, sing songs around the campfire, and enjoy a s'more – invented by Girl Scouts just like you! Our mobile retail shop will also be at the event. To guarantee we bring what you need, preorders can be placed by emailing retailservices@girlscoutsv.org.

aMaze! Journey Weekend

C

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 7:00 PM -
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1:00 PM

Camp Elk River, Zimmerman, MN

Join other Cadettes in the maze of friendship and discover how to create peace together.

Musician Badge Day

J

NOVEMBER 5, 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

The Works, Bloomington, MN

Join us at The Works, a hands-on science and engineering museum, to explore the science behind music from a single sound vibration to an entire orchestra. Then, make your own musical instrument and perform a concert!

Website Designer Badge Day

S A

NOVEMBER 12, 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

Microsoft Store at Mall of America, Bloomington, MN

View the world from the seat of a blogger or web designer, and you'll find the story in everything. Build yourself a safe space online where you can show readers what moves you and share stories with friends. Become a blogger and complete the steps for the Website Designer badge!

Inside Government with Minnesota Women Lawyers

J

NOVEMBER 12, 9:15 AM – 12:30 PM

Thomson Reuters, Eagan, MN

Get an exclusive inside look at how government works as you meet women serving in all levels of law and government. Participate in a mock criminal trial, meet a female police officer and a court reporter who will demonstrate the gadgets and gear they use on the job, as well as a judge, prosecutor, and public defender (all fearless women!).

“Right is right even if no one else does it.”

Juliette Gordon Low

Household Elf Badge Day

B

NOVEMBER 12, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Como Zoo and Conservatory, St. Paul, MN

At the Conservatory, they like to keep things green and show others how to do the same. Step into a world of earth-friendly cleaners, water-saving techniques, energy-saving tips and all things recycled. Meet some of Como's animal and plant ambassadors and learn how you can help by using your new green skills.

Wacky Inventors

B J

DECEMBER 3, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
OR 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Hopkins North Jr. High, Hopkins, MN

Dive into the world of simple machines and robotics. Build your own Rube Goldberg machine using everyday objects, Legos, gears, and pulleys.

Gardener Badge Day

J

DECEMBER 3, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Como Zoo and Conservatory, St. Paul, MN

From tropical fruits to native flowers, the gardeners at the Conservatory grow it all and want to share their secrets with you. Explore healing gardens, flower gardens, and gardens full of tasty treats. Go behind-the-scenes of the Conservatory— it's where all the magic happens!

Events for Daisies

During the fall and winter, it's best for Girl Scout Daisies to focus on getting to know one another and the world of Girl Scouts. Try out Girl Scout Way Day to participate in traditions, meet other Daisies, and learn from older girls and experienced troops.

Then, save some time in the spring for Daisy Journey events and others Daisies are sure to love!

Digital Photographer Badge Day

J

DECEMBER 10, 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Microsoft Store at Mall of America, Bloomington, MN

It seems like almost every gadget can take a digital photograph, from phones to laptops to, of course, digital cameras. But do you know how to get the most out of your digital device, and what it takes to capture a winning photo? You will if you earn this badge at your local Microsoft store!

Book Artist Badge Day

C

DECEMBER 10, 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM
OR 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Minnesota Center for Book Arts, Minneapolis, MN

Don't just write the book—create it! Learn traditional Western bookbinding techniques and make your own book by hand. Take a tour of the studios and speak with professional book artists to round-off your Book Artist badge-earning experience.



Gold Award Overnight Retreat

S A

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 7:00 PM -
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 4:00 PM

Camp Elk River, Zimmerman, MN

Ready to take your skills to the next level with the highest award in Girl Scouts? We're ready to help you succeed! Get the inside scoop on what it takes to earn your Gold Award from staff and expert volunteers, and bond with fellow Girl Scout sisters who are on the same journey as you.

Senses Badge Day

B

JANUARY 7, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Como Zoo and Conservatory, St. Paul, MN

Let the plants and animals (like snakes and chinchillas!) of Como Park Zoo and Conservatory guide you on a journey of the senses! We will explore all five senses through a series of games and activities while learning more about amazing creatures of the natural world.



You Snow Girl

D B J C S A

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM,
Camp Singing Hills, Waterville, MN

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM,
Camp Lakamaga, Marine on St. Croix, MN

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM,
Camp Elk River, Zimmerman, MN

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM,
Camp Lakamaga, Marine on St. Croix, MN

Celebrate the season in our winter wonderland at camp. Cross country ski, snowshoe, make snow sculptures, track animals, and create winter crafts. Gather 'round the bonfire for s'mores and head inside for a cup of hot cocoa or cider when you are ready to relax a bit. Families and troops are encouraged to attend.

Winter Wonderland Weekend

D B J C S A

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 7:00 PM -
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 10:00 AM

Camp Elk River, Zimmerman, MN

Try out your skills at winter survival, cross-country skiing, broomball, snowshoeing, night hikes and more. Then come inside to get cozy and warm up with a mug of hot cocoa.

Cake-a-maga

D B J C S A

MARCH 18, 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Camp Lakamaga, Marine on St. Croix, MN

Learn about maple syruping and enjoy an all-you-can-eat pancake and sausage breakfast. Identify a maple tree without its leaves, see the tapping equipment, and compare different types of syrup. Troops, families and community members are welcome.

First Aid Badge Day

B J C S A

MARCH 19, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Camp Lakamaga, Marine on St. Croix, MN

Be prepared- it's our motto! Learn how to care for simple injuries, respond to emergencies, and build your own first aid kit!



Girl Scout Friendship Circle

To represent sisterhood and an unbroken friendship among Girl Scouts, the Friendship Circle is formed! It is often used as a closing ceremony for meetings and campfires and involves everyone gathering in a circle. Each girl crosses her right arm over her left and holds hands with the person on each side. Everyone then makes a silent wish as the leader begins to squeeze the hand of the person next to her and one by one, each girl continues to pass the squeeze until it travels around the circle back to the leader!

GIRL SCOUT SONG

Girl Scouts are all about sing-along songs! Here's a favorite song among Girl Scouts that you can learn (or teach a new Girl Scout!).

MAKE NEW FRIENDS

Make new friends,
but keep the old.
One is silver,
the other is gold.

A circle is round,
it has no end.
That's how long
I will be your friend.

A fire burns bright,
it warms the heart.
We've been friends
from the very start.

You have one hand,
I have the other.
Put them together,
we have each other.

Silver is precious,
Gold is too.
I am precious,
and so are you.

You help me,
and I'll help you,
and together
we will see it through.

The sky is blue.
The earth is green.
I can help
to keep it clean.

Across the land,
across the sea,
friends forever
we will always be.



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND: The Add-a-Friend Patch!

No one knows more about the awesomeness of Girl Scouting than the girls themselves! When girls spread the word about the fun and adventure to be had in Girl Scouts, they help to add more sisters to the Girl Scout family.

We want to thank you for being a super-spokesgirl with an Add-a-Friend patch. The Add-a-Friend patch program runs November through December. Visit our website to learn more and to sign up!



Girl Scout Sign



When saying the Girl Scout Promise, use your hand to form the Girl Scout Sign. With the right hand, use the thumb to hold down the pinky finger, leaving the three middle fingers raised to represent the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise.

Girl Scout Motto

The Girl Scout motto is "**Be prepared.**" The 1947 *Girl Scout Handbook* explained the motto this way: "A Girl Scout is ready to help out wherever she is needed. Willingness to serve is not enough; you must know how to do the job well, even in an emergency." The same ideas still ring true today!

**"Ours is a circle of friendships
united by ideals."**

Juliette Gordon Low

Make It, Then S.W.A.P. It!

A FAVORITE TRADITION OF GIRL SCOUTS ALL OVER THE WORLD IS S.W.A.P.S.: Special-Whatchamacallits-Affectionately-Pinned-Somewhere. Love your planet this year by making these upcycled S.W.A.P.S. from whatever you find in your recycling bin!

Make a bunch and bring them to events, meetings, and camp to swap them with your Girl Scout sisters. When you've collected a handful, string them together to make a one-of-a-kind bracelet or necklace to remind you of all the new friends you've made!



MATERIALS:

- Recycled paper (newspaper, magazines, junk mail, fancy napkins, etc.)
- Scissors
- Glue or Mod Podge
- Wax paper
- Toothpick
- Safety pins (optional)



Upcycled Paper Bead S.W.A.P.S.

STEPS:

1



Cut the paper into long triangular strips; the width should be no wider than the length of your pin.

2



Starting two inches from the wider end, apply a small amount of glue on the backside of the paper to the top of the triangle.

3



Tightly roll the paper around your toothpick, all the way to the end.

4



Smooth a small amount of glue over the finished bead, and slide off the toothpick.

5



Place the finished bead on wax paper to dry. If you'd like to make it pinnable, slide the dry bead onto a large safety pin.

6



Print your name and/or troop number on a slip of paper and add it to the pin.

7 Get S.W.A.P.P.I.N.G!



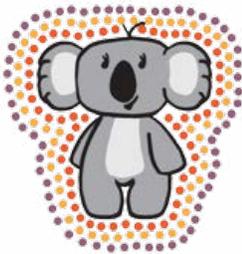
Llama tell you about cookies

There are so many exciting things to share about cookies for 2017!

Before we cover what's new with the program, let's spend a couple of minutes on what hasn't changed. The Girl Scout Cookie Program is still the largest girl-led business in the world. Girls learn all sorts of wonderful skills such as how to handle money, make good conversation, set goals, and work as a team. Girls also earn money for their troop, and all proceeds from the sale stay local and are reinvested back into Girl Scouting. Wow—that's a lot!

Mark your calendars today for when cookies go on sale from February 11–March 26, 2017.

In the meantime, be sure to ask your troop leader when your cookie planning meeting will be and keep a look out for coming announcements on great cookie contests.



Psst...have you heard about Snacks + Magazines?

October 1 marks the start of the Snacks + Magazines program where girls sell (wait for it) snacks and magazines. This extremely quick and easy sale can help girls and troops get ready for the upcoming year by being a test-run for cookies and earning money

for the troop. Plus, girls can earn a cookie cart, custom koala patch, and more great rewards. Talk to your troop leader today about signing up for this program, or visit our website at GirlScoutsRV.org/snacks-magazines for more information.

NOW FOR WHAT'S NEW THIS YEAR:



2017 MARKS 100 years of Girl Scouts selling cookies

YUM!
Girl Scout S'Mores™
A delicious new cookie-GIRL SCOUT S'MORES

Our **NEW MASCOT** Lulu the llama and her little sister Lola



S'more Good News

We are excited to announce our continuing partnership with Cub! This partnership allows girls and their troops to sign up for one of the more than 4,500 warm, indoor cookie booths at Cub during the sale.



Thank you Cub for being a strong supporter of the Girl Scout community.

BIG NEWS! Did you know that there will be a new cookie this year? Girl Scout S'mores will be a delicious sweet addition to the lineup. Can't wait to try the new cookie? Here's some fun mix and match alternatives to the traditional chocolate, graham cracker, and marshmallow cookies. Stop by your local Cub store to pick up supplies to make your own s'mores and share the creations with us on Facebook.

S'more Recipes

Pick one or more ingredient in each category, and get s'more-ing!

CHOCOLATE

- Nutella
- White chocolate
- Peanut butter
- Lemon pie filling
- Andes mints

GRAHAM CRACKER

- Crescent rolls
- Vanilla wafer cookies
- Mini waffles
- Ritz crackers
- Pretzels

MARSHMALLOW

- Ice cream (any flavor)
- Halloween Peeps
- Banana
- Vanilla pudding
- Marshmallow creme



Well before Girl Scout Cookies were produced by licensed bakers to sell nationally, Girl Scouts baked and sold cookies on their own. Our girls were entrepreneurs going as far back as 1917!

In 2017, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the first known instance of Girl Scouts selling cookies and learning the basic skills they need to be leaders in business and sales, manage their personal and family finances, and gain self-sufficiency and confidence handling money.

As part of the celebration, we need your help in looking back at this rich history in photos. **Submit vintage and recent photos of you and your girls selling cookies on our website form or Facebook page**, and we'll share them on social media and in various other places as we honor this incredible tradition this year!

Dear Girl Scout Shop,

I'm busy getting my daughter ready for her first year of Girl Scouts. Do I need to purchase a uniform?

Signed,

New Girl Scout Dad



DEAR NEW GIRL SCOUT DAD,

CONGRATULATIONS! Girl Scouts wear uniforms in ceremonies, when officially representing Girl Scouts, when selling cookies, and when they want to share their Girl Scout pride. When girls wear their uniforms, it helps them feel more a part of Girl Scouts (kind of like a baseball uniform or a dance costume). They love having a place to put the badges they earn, and you'll love seeing how proud she looks when she puts it on! Uniforms are not required for Girl Scouts, but we do highly recommend investing in one.

If you have any other questions, the experts in our shops can help; they know all about Journey books, fun patches, and will be happy to tell you about monthly deals too. Make sure you are receiving emails from us so that your daughter will get a free patch and a discount when she visits the shop during her birthday month!

Sincerely,
The Girl Scout Shop

Get your year started right with a **starter kit!**

Our starter kits pull together the basics that Girl Scouts need in a fun tote bag.

EACH KIT CONTAINS:

- ✔ Girl Scout Sash, Vest, or Tunic
- ✔ American flag patch, Council ID set, membership pin, insignia tab, World Association Pin, and troop number patches
- ✔ The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting
- ✔ One Journey book

IN ADDITION TO YOUR GIRL SCOUT ESSENTIALS, YOUR STARTER KIT COMES WITH A FREE "LOVE" CINCH BAG AND \$2 OFF OUR "GSRV LOVE" TEE.





**RESERVE A SPACE
AT CAMP AT
CAMP.GIRLSOUTSRV.ORG.**

GIRL SCOUT CAMPS: *Not Just for Summer*

You may have spent some time at camp this past summer – we hope you did! Whether it was staff-led, troop, or resident camp, a volunteer-led day camp, or just a weekend with your girls, River Valleys’ camps are the perfect place to connect with nature and learn new skills in a safe and unique environment. While there are many summer camp options to choose from (and we know they’re all awesome!), did you know that you and your girls can rent or reserve camp facilities during the off-season? River Valleys has a variety of cabins, platform tents, program centers, dining halls, kitchens, bunk rooms, and yurts (that’s right, YURTS!) to choose from!

If you’re looking for an affordable place to hold a fun overnight where your girls can try their hand at Gaga Ball, practice those campfire cooking skills, and let the trees

whisper them to sleep (by the way, there’s a word for that, it’s “psithurism”) check out camps Lakamaga, Elk River, Singing Hills, and Northwoods on the River Valleys online reservation site to see options, amenities, locations, and availability for September through May. Many of our buildings and sleeping spaces are heated, so don’t rule out those winter months!

River Valleys also has two year-round options for a more urban camp experience: Camp Lockeslea and Sagata Troop House both offer overnight rentals and free troop meeting time-slots.

They both have indoor fireplaces and outdoor fire rings, as well as indoor bathrooms and kitchens. These two facilities are open for reservations during the summer while our other camps are holding summer camp. Both are a great option for getting your troop together for a summer outing! Girls could choose to work on one of the new Art in the Outdoors badges, go on a hike, play games, or just hang out!

Our new online system, Doubleknot, makes reserving part or all of a camp easy to do right from home. If you have questions about booking a facility or just want to chat about options, give us a call at 800-845-0787, or **learn more on our camp website at Camp.GirlScoutsRV.org.**



Some Girl Scout Lingo

Fun Patch

Fun patches are extra keepsakes for girls to wear on their sashes or vests (although not on the front, as they are not official like badges or other awards), and commemorate Girl Scout celebrations, special events, friendships, cookies, and so much more. You can pick them up at our shops and often at Girl Scout partner events.

Quiet Sign

Have you been at a recent troop meeting or Girl Scout event and saw someone raise their hand in the air? That’s the Girl Scout Quiet Sign! It is your cue to raise your hand too and listen for directions or next steps. It is an impressive way to get a group’s attention...and works every time!



Trefoil

The trefoil is recognized around the world and is the international symbol of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts. Did you know that each leaf represents the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise?



You Say “Overnight Retreat!” We Say “We’re In!” – Gold Award Bootcamp

Ready to take your skills to the next level with the highest award in Girl Scouts? We’re ready to help you succeed! Senior and Ambassador girls will join River Valleys staff for this fun retreat where we’ll explore all things Gold Award, including the first steps of your project. You’ll leave with tons of ideas and the knowledge to begin your proposal, as well as a great support system of Girl Scout sisters who are on a similar journey as you.

You’ll learn the ins and outs of earning the Gold Award from staff and expert volunteers, who will

help you brainstorm possible projects, trouble shoot potential road blocks, and consider community contacts you may want to work with. As with all things Girl Scouts, there will be tons of fun too! The first retreat will be held at Camp Elk River in December, just in time for girls to start working on their proposals during their winter break. The retreat will be packed with activities throughout the weekend – group games, a slumber party, and more!

To learn more and register for this retreat, visit the events page on our website, or give us a call!



HEY GIRL SCOUT CADETTES!

We’ve got something for you too, as you work toward your Silver Award, or just want to learn more about higher awards. Attend our monthly Silver Award webinars (from the comfort of your home or meeting place), to get the scoop on how to earn your Silver Award, brainstorm ideas for projects, get some handy resources, and receive guidance and support from fellow Girl Scouts.

To register for the webinars, visit the events page on our website:
<http://www.girlscoutsrv.org/events/>.





Making an Impact with Malala

As a River Valleys Girl Scout, you have the “in” on tons of cool council programs! From carpentry workshops to learning the ways of book making, we’re all about giving girls opportunities to try new things.

One of our favorite events last year was a chance to see Malala Yousafzai speak at the Target Center – it was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience, with a special Girl Scouts connection!

Malala embodies all of the things we value at Girl Scouts. She was the youngest person ever to receive a Nobel Peace Prize after turning a horrific attack by the Taliban into a platform to advocate for the right of every child to go to school.

“There are people who want to change the world too. You just have to join hands.”

– River Valleys Girl Scout

In July, we offered discounted tickets to see Malala speak and answer questions. Girl Scout members were invited to a pre-show all about girls’ education, where girls made new friends while playing Education Bingo, making bookmarks, and taking photos to share why they stand with Malala. Girls and families also wrote postcards to thank teachers and others who inspired and supported them to learn.

More than 250 Girl Scouts and their families joined in the activities. It was great to see so many generations participating – Daisies, Ambassadors, mothers, grandmothers, and sisters – all sharing what their education has made possible and reflecting on other communities that may not have access to these opportunities.

After the pre-show, Girl Scouts made their way to listen to Malala speak. A candid, personable, and inspiring speaker, Malala spent time talking directly to young girls in the audience. She encouraged girls to make real change in their communities and around the world. As Malala explained, “When you educate a girl, you empower her.”



GET IN ON THESE MEMBERSHIP PERKS!

An Evening with Malala is a perfect example of the access to discounted tickets and great events provided to Girl Scout members and their families. We connect you with the exciting, big name acts that are happening about town, and in addition to discounts, we often hold exclusive Girl Scout programming before or after the show where girls meet the actors, the athletes, or even get to have special behind the scenes access or time on the court! Girls also receive an exclusive patch to commemorate their experience. A few exciting events coming up this year include an evening showcasing our very own USA gymnastics team, Cirque du Soleil, Disney on Ice, women’s athletics events, Lynx and Twins games, and more! **Sign up at GirlScoutsRV.org.**



The Big Wide World of Girl Scouts

Whether you are new to Girl Scouts or a life-long member, the structure of Girl Scouts and where you, as a member, fit into the bigger picture can be a bit confusing. So, we've broken it down for you here.

Members

Members are both girls and adults like you, who are joined together in the pursuit of building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

Troops

Troops are the most common way girls participate in Girl Scouts. Troops are led by volunteers (often parents, friends, or family members). The average troop size is 8-10 girls, but we've got troops of 20 and more! Troops allow girls to work as a team and build lasting friendships. Girls work with their troops on skill building, leadership, and service projects while having fun with their friends.

Girl Scouts River Valleys

Girl Scouts River Valleys (as we fondly call "GSRV," "River Valleys," or "council") is **one of the 112 councils and serves 32,000 girls in southern Minnesota, western Wisconsin, and a single (yet important!) county in Iowa.** Our work is supported by more than 11,000 volunteers. River Valleys provides training and resources for volunteers, programming for girls (including camp, events like Girl Scout Way Day, Wacky Inventors, Cake-a-maga, and more!), scores discounts for our members, fundraises for Girl Scouts, runs the retail shops and service centers, and manages the product programs (Cookies and Snacks + Magazines), and much more.
We're here for YOU!

Service Units

Girl Scouts River Valleys is made up of more than 150 service units. **Service units are led by experienced and dedicated volunteers who support and serve girls.** Service unit volunteers are super helpful and often have so much Girl Scout knowledge to share! So, be sure to connect with your service unit to learn about events they host in your area, get tips, and build your local Girl Scout network!

Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.

Girl Scouts of the USA (commonly referred to as GSUSA) is the National Organization to which Girl Scouts River Valleys belongs. Originally founded by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912, GSUSA now serves 2.7 million girls and adults. GSUSA is comprised of 112 Girl Scout councils in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

W.A.G.G.S

W.A.G.G.S. or the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts is a **146-member international organization whose mission is "to inspire girls and young women to reach their fullest potential as responsible citizens of the world.** Girl Scouts of the USA is a member. Girl Scouting is a world-wide movement! We even have a day to celebrate and connect with your international sisters: World Thinking Day is on February 22, 2017.



River Valleys' website is a trove of treasures!

INSIDER TIP: Use the search bar to find things like field trip opportunities, events, badges, awards, forms, and more!



See Us in Person

Stop by to chat with staff, pick up resources, or shop at our retail stores.

Saint Paul Service Center
400 Robert St S
St. Paul, MN 55107

Brooklyn Center Service Center
5601 Brooklyn Blvd
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429

Rochester Service Center
90 14th St SW #500
Rochester, MN 55902

Burnsville Satellite Shop
Wood Park Office Building
1000 E 146th St Suite 119
Burnsville, MN 55337

Chanhassen Satellite Shop
Klein Bank Building
600 W 78th St Suite 10D
Chanhassen, MN 55317

Mankato Satellite Shop
1751 North Victory Dr, Suite 400
Mankato, MN 56001

Check out our Mobile Shop: a cost-efficient and nimble way to serve more communities.

The mobile shop makes stops in Marshall, Redwood Falls, Northfield, Hutchinson, Windom, Owatonna, and Winona, and offers program-related and council-branded merchandise, along with an assortment of fun gift items.

CALL US AT: 800-845-0787

EMAIL US AT: girlscouts@girlscoutsrv.org

FIND MORE AT: girlscoutsrv.org

Spirit, Let's Hear It!

Cue the cheer... We've got spirit, yes we do, we've got spirit, how about you?! **Girl Scout Spirit Day, this year on October 26**, is a day of sisterhood and celebration that started at River Valleys in 2013. It's an opportunity for girls to show their enthusiasm for Girl Scouts by wearing their uniform, pins, and other Girl Scout gear to school and around town, and for leaders, volunteers, staff, and parents to take lots of adorable pictures (and share on social media - don't forget to tag us @girlscoutsrv)!

For leaders looking to add girls to their troops, Girl Scout Spirit Day is an excellent time to spread the word about troop meetings to potential new Girl Scouts and their families.

Let's show the world a thing or two about how great Girl Scouts really is! Wear it loud and proud, sisters. Submit your Spirit Day photos via a form on our website, and we'll send you a girl-designed patch for sharing what Girl Scout spirit means to you!

FIND THE OBJECT



- ANSWERS:
1 \ PG 13
2 \ PG 9
3 \ PG 6
4 \ PG 10
5 \ PG 3
6 \ PG 15
7 \ PG 4
8 \ PG 16



**Girl Scouts of Minnesota
and Wisconsin River Valleys**
400 Robert Street South
St. Paul, MN 55107



THE GIRL SCOUT PROMISE

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God* and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

**Members may substitute for the word God in accordance with their own spiritual beliefs.*

THE GIRL SCOUT LAW

I will do my best to be
honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong, and
responsible for what I say and do,
and to
respect myself and others,
respect authority,
use resources wisely,
make the world a better place, and
be a sister to every Girl Scout.