

# BROWNIE BUGS BADGE – MEETING 1

**Badge Purpose:** When girls have earned this badge, they'll know all about bugs.

**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 and sing the Brownie Smile song.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Girl Scout Promise and Law poster <input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Brownie Smile song lyrics poster
15 minutes	Draw a Bug <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girls will draw a picture of a bug.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Book about bugs <input type="checkbox"/> Large paper or poster board <input type="checkbox"/> Coloring utensils
15 minutes	Crafty Bugs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girls will design and create a bug of their own.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Paper plates (one per girl) <input type="checkbox"/> Pipe cleaners <input type="checkbox"/> Glue <input type="checkbox"/> Googly eyes or pens <input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Glitter and other decorative items
15 minutes	Snack Chat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girls enjoy snack and have a discussion about bugs.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Healthy snack
15 minutes	Bugs in Action <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girls observe bugs in their natural habitats.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Bugs in Action worksheet (one per girl) <input type="checkbox"/> Pencils <input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Magnifying glasses
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 and (optional) Brownie Smile song lyrics poster

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

## Activity #1: Draw a Bug

Time: 15 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 1 – Draw a bug poster

Materials Needed: Book about bugs; large paper or poster board; coloring utensils

Prep Needed:

- Check your local library to find books or other resources about insects and bugs that's easy to share with girls.



1. Read a book to introduce girls to bugs and insects.
2. Individually or in small groups, ask girls to draw their favorite insect and include all they know about that insect (don't worry about whether or not the information is 100% correct; the idea is to get the girls thinking about bugs!)
3. Girls can include the following information on their posters:
  - Where the bug lives
  - How long it lives
  - What it eats
  - What is good about this bug
  - What is not so good about this bug
  - Its enemies

#### BOOK SUGGESTIONS:

- *Ultimate Bugopedia: The Most Complete Bug Reference Ever (National Geographic Kids)* by Darlyne Murawski and Nancy Honovich
- *Bugs Are Insects* by Anne Rockwell and Steve Jenkins
- *The Secret Lives of Backyard Bugs: Discover Amazing Butterflies, Moths, Spiders, Dragonflies, and Other Insects!* By Judy Burris and Wayne Richards
- *Big Book of Bugs* from DK Publishing

## Activity #2: Crafty Bugs

Time: 15 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 2 – Try a bug craft

Materials Needed: Paper plates (one per girl); pipe cleaners; glue; googly eyes or pens; (optional) glitter and other decorative items

1. Decorate a paper plate with markers or paint to make it look like the body of a spider or any other bug that girls want to create.
2. Draw eyes or make them by attaching googly eyes or covering dots of glue in glitter.
3. Cut pipe cleaners in half to make six, eight (or more!) legs.
4. Attach the legs to the plate, either by poking them through the paper plate or gluing them to the side.
5. Bend them to make the bug stand.

## Activity #3: Snack Chat

Time: 10 minutes

Badge Connection: Questions link to multiple badge steps

Materials Needed: Healthy snack

1. While enjoying a healthy snack, here are some things for girls to talk about:
  - What is your favorite bug?
  - If you were a bug, what would you be?
  - Can you list more than 10 bugs?
  - Tell some bug jokes!
    - What did one cockroach say to the other? *You bug me.*
    - What do you get when you cross a bee and a cow? *A hamburger.*
    - What do you get when you cross a pig with a centipede? *Bacon and legs.*
    - What goes snap, crackle, fizz? *A firefly with a short circuit.*
    - What creature is smarter than a talking parrot? *A spelling bee.*
    - What is the biggest ant in the world? *Ant-arctica.*



## Activity #4: Bugs in Action

Time: 20 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 3 – See bugs in action

Materials Needed: Bugs in Action worksheet (one per girl); pencils; (optional) magnifying glasses to look at bugs more closely

Prep Needed:

- Determine an outside area where girls can safely observe bugs. It can be a backyard, a local park, a school field, etc.
  - Print copies of the Bugs in Action worksheet (at the end of the activity plan).
1. Tell the girls that they will be heading outside to search for bugs. Walk to the designated outside area.
  2. Give each girl a pencil and Bugs in Action worksheet. Let them know that they will fill out each box to show what bugs that they observe.
  3. Have the girls look for three different bugs in the area. (For example, an ant carrying food, a beetle chewing on a leaf, and a roly-poly (sow bug) on a porch.)
  4. Have the girls identify the bugs and try to find out what they are doing and why.
  5. Have the girls share with one another the fun things they have learned.
    - What is cool about bugs?
    - What do bugs do?
    - What bugs are faster than others?

## 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:
  - Go to a zoo and look at a wide variety of bugs from around the world.
  - Visit museum with bugs.
  - Go to a botanical garden with a bug collection to learn about the relationship between bugs and plants.
- Speaker Ideas:
  - Have a bug expert come and talk to the girls about bugs.
  - Invite a farmer to talk about the role bugs play on their farm.



# BUGS IN ACTION

What is it?	Draw it!	What was it doing?	Where was it?

