



Daisy Between Earth and Sky Activity Plan 2 The Firefly Award

Purpose: When girls have earned this award, they'll be able to recognize and develop their individual skills and educate and inspire others about one of them.

Planning Guides Link: Leadership

Activity Plan Length: 1.5 hours

Involve Family and Friends: Participation from family and friends can enrich your troop's Girl Scout experience, both for the girls and for you. Use the suggestions below to make it easier for you to connect with additional support.

- Before the meeting:
 - Send a note to families to find those with interest in or expertise with the topic. Ask them to lead or support an activity or two, or even lead the whole meeting.
 - Offer this activity plan as a starting place and point out that they may choose alternative activities using the *Customize It!* section as a guide. For example: If an activity plan directs girls to sit outside and observe animal habitats, you may choose to go to the zoo and learn about animal habitats there instead.
- At home:
 - Encourage families to ask questions about their girls' Journey activities. Some examples that work for any Journey include: What did you learn? What surprised you? What does it make you think of trying next?
- Throughout the year:
 - Suggest to families ways that girls can share or display their Girl Scout accomplishments. Possibilities include a bulletin board, a scrapbook, a special memories box or family sharing time.

Girls Take the Lead: Include girl leadership through long-term planning, short-term meeting prep and specific activities at meetings.

- Long Term Planning
 - If you use "Plan Your Daisy Year", share this with the girls at the start of the year. Have them ask friends and family to help out with specific meetings or activities. Let the girls brainstorm ways to make the plans their own, such as thinking of related field trip activities. If a girl has experience with a field trip, ask her to be assistant tour guide.
 - If you are adapting the "Plan Your Daisy Year", get the girls' input on which petal and Journeys to choose. Offer just a few choices in each category or timeframe to make decisions easier. Every girl should have at least one petal and Journey or journey she's excited about.
- Short Term Planning
 - Ask a family to help lead a Journey. Make sure they have access to activity plans and any resources you might have. Keep additional requested materials to a minimum.
 - Choose two helpers to stay after a meeting for 15 minutes. Give them each an activity to introduce and either instruct or help guide at the next meeting.
 - Before a meeting, ask everyone to vote on some aspect of the activity: draw posters or perform skits, open with a song or game, etc.

- Use a rotating list of helper tasks, called a 'kaper chart', to share responsibilities. Examples include acting as emcee of the meeting, leading an opening game, bringing a snack next meeting or taking attendance.
- At the Meeting
 - During the opening, have 1-2 girls share their answers to a get-to-know-you question.
 - Have girls fulfill their kaper chart responsibilities.
 - Try to find something in each activity that you can let girls decide or manage.

Customize It: If your group wants to expand work on this award or simply try different activities, go for it! There are many ways to complete this award, including: completing the activities as listed in the *Between Earth and Sky Journey*, completing this activity plan, attending a council-sponsored event or customizing activities. Pick the one(s) that work best for your group. Girls will know they have earned the Firefly Award if:

- They think about and talk about their own skills and the skills of their sister Daisies
- They choose a skill to teach others, either at home or in their community

Girls can continue their *Between Earth and Sky Journey* by earning the remaining awards: The Blue Bucket Award and The Clover Award.

Moving to Take Action: To complete the Daisy Between Earth and Sky Journey, girls plan and carry out a Take Action project that addresses the root cause of a community issue in a sustainable way. During the process, here are some things to think about.

- Girls should play an active part in determining the "what, where, when, how and why" of their project, but Girl Scout Daisies will need your support and guidance throughout the process.
- Help girls scale the project to a manageable size, so they can have a successful experience. Even if the project has a small scope, what they are doing is important.
- Take Action projects are different than community service projects. Take Action projects pick up where short-term community service projects leave off and are long-term solutions, rather than short-term ones.
- Consider contacting older Girl Scouts in your area to help with the Take Action project.
- It's up to the girls to find a Take Action project that they are passionate about, but to get started, here are a few ideas:
 - Family project: Girls work with their families to take care of the seeds and pull weeds in their own yards. Girls and their families explore the impact they can have on the local environment.
 - School project: Girls talk to their school and make posters encouraging people to take care of their seeds and pull weeds. The poster offers tips for protecting local vegetation.
 - Community project: Girls work with local officials to find ways to add local plants to urban spaces, such as sidewalk borders.

Tips and Tools

- Check out ways to stay safe using Safety-Wise at <http://gsrv.gs/safetywise>.
- Ensure that your activities are accessible to everyone. Ask in advance if any special accommodations need to be made. If you have questions regarding specific adaptations, please contact River Valleys at 800-845-0787.
- Meet together in a circle because everyone feels included in a circle.

Resources

- This activity plan has been adapted from the *It's Your Planet—Love It! Between Earth and Sky*, which can be used for additional information and activities.

Getting Started

Time Allotment: 15 minutes

Materials Needed:

- Optional: Girl Scout Promise and Law printed out on poster board

Steps:

1. Welcome everyone to the meeting.
2. Recite the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Use repeat-after-me or say it as a group if girls know it by heart.

Girl Scout Promise	Girl Scout Law
<i>On my honor, I will try:</i> To serve God and my country, To help people at all times, And to live by the Girl Scout Law.	<i>I will do my best to be</i> honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do, <i>and to</i> respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

3. Sing the Girl Scout Daisy Song. Use repeat-after-me or sing as a group if girls know it by heart.

Girl Scout Daisy Song
I'm a Girl Scout Daisy! Take a look at me. I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, happy as can be. We're having fun and sharing each and every day. I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, Hip, Hip, Hooray!
I'm a Girl Scout Daisy! Take a look at me. I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, happy as can be. I'm going on a journey, with friends along the way. I'm a Girl Scout Daisy, Hip, Hip, Hooray!

Activity #1: A Circle of Skills

Journey Connection: Session 4—Closing Ceremony: I think your special skill is...

Time Allotment: 10 minutes

Steps:

1. Ask the girls to form a Daisy Circle.
2. Go around the circle and have everyone name a special skill that the girl to her right has. Take turns going around the circle until everyone has had a chance to share.
3. Here are a few examples if girls get stuck:
 - I think Annie is great at drawing.
 - I think Nina is kind to everyone.
 - I think Isabelle is good at following directions.
 - I think Katie is good at the monkey bars.

Activity #2: Seed Art

Journey Connection: Session 4—So Many Seeds

Time Allotment: 15 minutes

Prep Needed:

- Gather materials and supplies.

Materials Needed:

- Various seeds
- Cups or trays (to place seeds in)
- Construction paper
- Writing utensils
- Glue (not glue sticks)
- Optional: Computer and internet access

Steps:

1. Explain to the girls that today they will learn a new skill. Gather the girls to look at the seeds. Discuss what types of seeds they are and notice the different shapes, sizes, colors, etc.
2. Some artists make art out of seeds! This style is called Crop Art. Today, girls get to make their own seed art.
3. Ask girls to think of their favorite outdoor place. Prompt them to keep in mind colors, shapes, textures, and smells. To get the girls going, have them finish this sentence: My favorite outdoor place I've been to is _____.
4. Now that girls have identified their favorite outdoor place, they can create a picture or design of that place by gluing seeds onto their paper. For example, if a girl's lake cabin is her favorite outdoor place, she might glue seeds to her paper in the shape of trees and a lake.
5. Girls will use their seed art at the end of this activity plan, as they start thinking about potential Take Action project ideas.
6. Optional: Go online to look up "seed art" and view images of artwork made from seeds.

Activity #3: Our Active Skills

Journey Connection: Session 6—Opening Ceremony: Making the most of our special skills

Petal Connection: Courageous and Strong (Red Petal)

Time Allotment: 15 minutes

Prep Needed:

- Gather materials and supplies.

Materials Needed:

- Optional: Jump rope, basketball, etc. for demonstrating skills

Steps:

1. Gather the girls to sit as a group. Explain to the girls that now they will each have a chance to share one of their own skills with the group. The skill they share must be an example of a way to be active. Ideas:
 - Hop on one foot
 - Dribble a basketball
 - Run really fast
 - Skip
 - Jump rope
2. Give each girl the opportunity to stand up in front of the group and share her skill.
3. As each girl shares her skill, have the rest of the group stand up and try it along with her. It is fun to teach or share our skills with friends!

Activity #4: Moving to Take Action and Snack Chat

Journey Connection: Questions link to *Between Earth and Sky*

Time Allotment: 20 minutes

Steps:

1. While enjoying a healthy snack of your choice, here are some things to talk about:
 - What special skills do you have?

- How could you use your skills – what you say and do - to help someone or something? How could you put your skills to use in taking care of the Earth and protecting it?
- At our next meeting, we will carry out a project that helps protect a natural treasure where we live.
 - What kinds of natural treasures exist where we live?
 - Look at the seed art that we created today, showing some of our favorite outdoor places and things. These things are just some of the natural treasures where we live. What ones do you think are the most important?
 - Is there a local treasure we could work to preserve and protect? What is it, and how could we do it? (See examples listed in the background information above.)

Wrapping Up

Time Allotment: 15 minutes

Materials Needed:

- Optional: Make New Friends printed on poster board

Steps:

1. Instruct girls to get into a Friendship Circle. Have girls stand in a circle and cross their right arms over their left, holding hands with the person on each side of them.
2. Sing "Make New Friends."

Make New Friends		
Verse One	Verse Two	Verse Three
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.	You have one hand, I have the other. Put them together, We have each other.

3. After the song, ask everyone to be quiet.
4. Assign one girl to start the friendship squeeze by gently squeezing her neighbor's hand with her right hand. Then, that girl squeezes with her right hand. One by one, each girl passes the squeeze until it travels around the circle. When the squeeze returns to the girl who started, she says "Goodbye Sister Girl Scouts" and the girls unwrap and face outward instead of inward.
5. Optional: Have girls make a wish after their hand has been squeezed and before they pass the squeeze along. Girls can also put their right foot out into the circle when they receive the friendship squeeze, so that everyone can see it travel along the circle.

More to Explore

- Field Trip Ideas:
 - Go to a farm or garden center to learn about seeds.
 - Learn a new skill at a council-sponsored event. Check out www.GirlScoutsRV.org for an event listing.
 - Go on a natural treasure hike and explore the natural treasures in your area. This could help girls come up with ideas for their Take Action projects.
- Speaker Ideas:
 - Invite a crop artist to talk to your girls about making art with seeds.
 - Invite family members or friends to share their special skills and talents with the troop.

Suggestions

Do you have any suggestions to improve this activity plan? Do you have ideas for other possible petal and Journey-earning activities? Please email troopsupport@girlscoutsrv.org.

Family Follow-Up Email

Use the email below as a template to let families know what you did at the meeting today. Feel free to add additional information, including:

- When and where you will be meeting next
- What activities you will do at the next meeting
- Family help or assistance that is needed
- Supplies or materials that girls will need to bring to the next meeting
- Reminders about important dates and upcoming activities

Hello Girl Scout Families:

We had a wonderful time today discovering our feelings and we are on our way to earning the Firefly Award.

We had fun:

- Discovering our own skills and the skills of our sister Daisies
- Learning about seeds and making our own seed art

Continue the fun at home:

- Have your Girl Scout share her seed art creation and describe how she made it.*
- Have your Girl Scout share a special skill she has with her family.*
- Share your special skills and talents with your Girl Scout.
- Explore a new skill or talent together.
- Look at the *Between Earth and Sky* Journey Book and read about the adventures of the flower friends.

*Please complete one of these steps to help your Girl Scout earn the Firefly Award.

Thank you for bringing your Daisy to Girl Scouts!