

BRIDGE TO GIRL SCOUT BROWNIE ACTIVITY PLAN

Award Purpose: When girls complete a bridging ceremony, they will have celebrated their achievements and prepared for new adventures and responsibilities while learning to be a sister to every Girl Scout.

Activity Plan Length: 1 Hour

Time	Activity	Materials Needed
5 minutes	Getting Started <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls recite the Girl Scout Promise + Law 	<input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Girl Scout Promise and Law poster
10 minutes	Activity #1: Daisy Flower Garden <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls share which Daisy Pedals mean the most to them 	<input type="checkbox"/> Dixie cups or small flowerpots <input type="checkbox"/> Paper flowers (see template below) <input type="checkbox"/> Pipe cleaners
15 minutes	Activity #2: Brownie Story <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read the Brownie story for an interactive story time 	<input type="checkbox"/> Story Script (below)
15 minutes	Activity #3: Bridge to Brownies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Daisies bridge to Brownies 	<input type="checkbox"/> Blue paper, painted cardboard or a mirror to represent the “pond” <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge or steppingstones (see Additional Resources below for ideas) <input type="checkbox"/> Daisy Membership Star pins and disks for each girl <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge to Brownie Girl Scouts award for each girl
20 minutes	Wrapping Up and Refreshments	<input type="checkbox"/> Light refreshments (cookies or cupcakes, punch or lemonade) <input type="checkbox"/> Optional: Make New Friends printed on poster board



Getting Started

Time: 15 minutes

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

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

Activity #1: Daisy Flower Garden

Time: 10 minutes

Award Connection: Bridge to Brownie Award Step 1

Materials Needed:

- Dixie cups or small flowerpots
- Paper flowers (see template below)
- Pipe cleaners

Prep Needed:

- Cut out flowers and have girls color them prior to ceremony
 - Glue or tape paper flowers to pipe cleaners
 - Instruct the girls that you will be asking them to share how they can be a sister to every Girl Scout. Ask them each to come up with one thing they could do to be a sister to other Girl Scouts.
1. The flowers represent each Daisy Petal the girls have earned for learning the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Prior to the ceremony, have each girl choose which petal she would like to talk about and memorize what it means.
 2. At the ceremony, have girls stand in a row, holding the flower she chose to speak about.
 3. Starting with the flower representing the Girl Scout Promise and then going through in order of the Girl Scout Law, have each girl share what her flower represents.
 4. One by one, as the girls finish speaking, they place their flower in one of the flower pots or paper cups. By the end, girls and families will see the Daisy Flower Garden and know all about what the girls learned during their time as Daisies.
 5. The final flower should represent being a sister to every Girl Scout. Explain that this is the last petal that the girls will earn today. Explain that being there are over 10 million Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world. Being a sister means incorporating all the other skills we've talked about. Have each girl talk again and share one way she can be a sister to other Girl Scouts.



Activity #2: Brownie Story

Time: 15 minutes

Badge Connection: Bridge to Brownie Award Step 2

Materials Needed:

- Story Script

Prep Needed:

- None

1. Divide girls and adults into 6 groups. Assign each group a word with corresponding sound/motion.

Word Sound/Motion

Girl(s)	Giggle with hands in front mouth
Granny	Says “Oh, my!” both hands on check
Brownies	Stand, make Girl Scout Sign, and say “Be Prepared!”
House	Stand with arms over head, say “Come in!”
Owl	Bend arms and flap hands, say “Whoo-Whoo!”
Forest	Stand and sway arms up and fingers moving, softly moaning

2. Read the Brownie Story. Allow pauses for each group to do their sound/motion.
Once upon a time, there were two little **girls** who lived in England with their **Granny** and their father.
The **girls** played all day while the **Granny** and Father had to work very hard. One day, **Granny** told the **girls** about the **Brownies**, who used to do things to help around the **house**. They are gone now, she said, but we were always so much happier when they helped. The **girls** wanted to know where the **Brownies** had gone and how to get them to come back. **Granny** said, “Only the wise old **owl** knows!”

That night, when everyone else was asleep, one of the **girls** ran out of the **house** into the magic **forest**.

There she found the wise old **owl**. “Please,” said the **girl**, where can I find the **Brownies** to come and live with us?” The **owl** said, “I know where two live—right in your **house**!” The little **girl** was very surprised! “Tell me how to find them!” she begged. He told her to go to the pond in the magic **forest**, turn around three times and say, “Twist me and turn me and show me the elf...I looked in the water and



saw ...!" The wise old **owl** said, "When you finish the rhyme, you will see the **Brownie** in the magic pond."

The **girl** went to the pond in the magic **forest** and did as she had been told. She went back to the **forest** and found the wise old **owl** and said, "Something must be wrong! I did all you told me to do and I only saw myself! And I am not a **Brownie**!" "Are you sure?" asked the **owl**. "To be a **Brownie**, you must be ready to help those around you, make friends wherever you can, and every day try to discover something new." "I'd like to be a **Brownie**," said the **girl**. Then go home and try, the wise old **owl** said kindly. He touched her hand with his feathers, and suddenly she was back in her **house**, in her own bed.

Quietly, she works up her sister, told her all that had happened. Together the **girls** tiptoed into the kitchen and began to clean the **house**. In the morning, when **Granny** and Father saw the **house**, they wanted to know what had happened. "Who did this?" asked **Granny** and Father. The **girls** danced around and shouted, "It's the **Brownies**!" And from that day on, theirs was a very happy **house** near the **forest**, all because of the **Brownies**!

Activity #3: Bridge to Brownies

Time: 15 minutes

Award Connection: Bridge to Brownie Award Step 3

Materials Needed:

- Blue paper, painted cardboard or a mirror to represent the "pond"
- Bridge or steppingstones (see Additional Resources below for ideas)
- Daisy Membership Star pins and disks for each girl
- Bridge to Brownie Girl Scouts award for each girl

Prep Needed:

- Gather materials and supplies
- Set up pond and bridge area before ceremony

1. If you have a Brownie troop in attendance, invite them to stand in a semi-circle on one side of the bridge/pond area.
2. Ask the Daisies to line up in front of the pond and see themselves as new Brownies. Explain that they will now join girls from all around the world, who will be their Brownie sisters.
3. One at a time, each girl turns around three times, while repeating the verse:



- “Twist me and turn me and show me an elf.
 - I looked in the water and saw_____!”
 - As she looks into the pond, she completes the rhyme by saying, “Myself.”
4. The girl then walks over to join the Brownie semi-circle, where she receives the Bridge to Brownie Girl Scouts Award and her Membership Star pin and disc. After each girl bridges, share what Brownies are called in a different country (shown below). Continue until all girls have bridged. You can repeat names or only say a name for every other girl if you do not have enough Brownie names.

“In [country], our Brownie sisters are called [name]!”

Country	Name
Tanzania	Viangza
Romania	Flower
Turkey	Yyldyz Yzci (Star)
Bangladesh	Yellow Bird
Greece	Pouli (Bird)
Mexico	Hadita (Family)

Activity #4: Wrapping Up and Refreshments

Time: 20 minutes

Materials Needed:

- Light refreshments (cookies or cupcakes, punch or lemonade)
- Optional: The Brownie Smile Song printed on poster board

Prep Needed:

- Set up refreshments before ceremony
1. Instruct girls to get into a Friendship Circle and invite their guests to join them. Have girls and guests stand in a circle and cross their right arms over their left, holding hands with the person on each side of them.
 2. Tell the group that rather than singing the “Make New Friends” Song, you will be learning a new song just for Brownie Girl Scouts! Sing the Brownie Smile Song. Use repeat-after-me. If there is a Brownie troop in attendance, invite them to lead the song.

The Brownie Smile Song
<p>I've got something in my pocket It belongs across my face I keep it very close at hand In a most convenient place I'm sure you wouldn't guess it If you guessed a long, long while So, I'll take it out and put it on It's a great big Brownie Smile!</p>



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. To honor our Girl Scout sisters and guests, the squeeze will be passed slowly. When you receive the squeeze, say something that is different between you and one of your sisters/daughters/friends and why you like that about them. Then pass the squeeze on.
5. 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.
6. Invite girls and their guests to enjoy light refreshments to celebrate!

More to Explore

- Field Trip Ideas
 - Hold your ceremony outdoors in a park with a real bridge or archway
 - Join with other bridging Daisy troops to have a larger ceremony
- Speaker Ideas
 - Invite a Brownie Girl Scout or Leader to speak at your ceremony

Email to Families

As Girl Scouts transition from one program level to the next, it is helpful to share with families what they can look forward to in the coming year. Bridging to a new program level means new traditions to explore, new skills to try, and new memories to create. Below is an email template you can use to share the importance of Girl Scouts with your families and encourage them to continue participating in all the amazing troop experiences you will have next year.

Hello, Troop [#####] families!

We had a wonderful time today celebrating the girls' accomplishments as Daisy Girl Scouts and bridging to Brownie Girl Scouts. Bridging is an important part of the Girl Scout experience! It allows girls to reflect and take pause for all their accomplishments and lessons learned during their time as a Daisy. It may seem like just a fun tradition, but it is so much more than that! Bridging is a powerful tool to help girls reflect on the value of their Girl Scouting experience. There is so much growth in a year and by celebrating the growth as a Girl Scout Daisy, it signifies all the incredible work your Girl Scout has done in challenging herself, taking risks, and supporting her troop and community!

As we move onto the next year of Girl Scouts, here's some exciting things to look forward to as Brownies!

The Benefits of being a Brownie Girl Scout:

- Develops a strong sense of self
- Seeks challenges and learns from the setbacks
- Develops healthy and lasting friendships



- Grows community problem-solving skills
- Embraces positive values

What's next as a Brownie Girl Scout:

- Look through the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting with your new Brownie to find other activities you can try at home or review our [planning guide online](#).
- The badge opportunities for Brownies expand even more in the themes of STEM, Outdoors, Entrepreneurship, and Life Skills. Explore all the exciting options on the [Badge Explorer Site](#).
- **Include anything special your troop has planned for the coming year.**

In this section, share any additional information for your Girl Scout troop families.

Thank you for bringing your new Brownie to Girl Scouts! We look forward to another great year of Girl Scouts!

Sincerely,

[Your name, contact information] and [your co-leader(s) name and contact information]

Additional Resources

- The River Valleys shop has bridging kits for purchase. Each girl's kit includes a bridging patch, a membership star and disk for this year, a Girl Scout pencil, a bridging certificate and a skill-building set of badge requirements for the next level. To purchase a kit, visit a [River Valleys Shop or shop online](#).
- Small, portable bridges are available for checkout through Girl Scout service centers. Call River Valleys' 800-845-0787 number and ask to reserve one for your ceremony or [reserve online](#).
- For additional bridging ceremony ideas, check out River Valleys' Pinterest page: <http://pinterest.com/girlscoutsrv/girl-scout-celebrations/>
- For additional information on Bridging and other Girl Scout Ceremonies, see the [Ceremonies, Traditions, and Celebrations article](#).



