



Junior End-of-Year Celebration Activity Plan

Purpose: When girls participate in their end of year celebration meeting, they will be able to look back on the accomplishments they have achieved and will know how to live the Girl Scout Way.

Planning Guides Link: Celebrating Success, Global Citizenship and Girl Scout Sisterhood

Award Link: Junior Girl Scout Way Badge

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 or expertise in the topic. Ask them to lead or support a specific activity/activities, or to lead the meeting.
 - Offer this activity plan as a starting place; 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' badge activities. Some examples that work for any badge include: *What did you learn? What surprised you? What does it make you think of trying next?*
- Throughout the Year:
 - Suggest to the girls and their families ways that they may 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 Junior 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 Junior Year", get the girls' input on which badges to choose. Offer just a few choices in each category or timeframe to make decisions easier. Every girl should have at least one badge or journey she's excited about.
- Short Term Planning
 - Ask a family to help lead a badge. 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 badge, or simply try different activities, go for it! There are many ways to earn this award, including: completing the activities as listed in the *Junior Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting*, completing the Junior Girl Scout Way activity plan; or customizing activities to your preference. Pick the one(s) that work best for your group. Girls will know they have earned the award if:

- They can enjoy Girl Scout traditions together and share in the sisterhood.
- They can live the Girl Scout Promise and Law.
- They can discuss ideas for how they can make a difference in their community.

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.
- Invite parent/guardians to join girls for the last portion of the celebration.

Resources

- You will want to have access to tables, chairs, and an open space for this meeting.
- This activity plan has been adapted from the *Junior Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting and the Junior Girl Scout Way' activity plan*, which can be used for additional information and activities.

Getting Started

Time Allotment: 20 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 1—Enjoy Girl Scout traditions; Step 2—Celebrate the Girl Scout birthday

Prep Needed:

- Gather materials and supplies
- Place materials out on a table prior to meeting and cover with a towel or sheet.

Materials Needed:

- Various items related to Juliette Gordon Low (daisy, rubber worm or fishing lure, pearl necklace, books, teabag, rice, white glove, tomato can, fish, British flag, pumpkin or other Halloween item. See activity for more options.)
- Sheet or medium-large towel
- Paper
- Writing utensils
- 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. Play one of Juliette Gordon Low's favorite games, "Kim's Game", to teach the girls about Juliette and start the excitement of the celebration. Kim's Game is a memory game Lord Baden Powell, founder of Boy Scouts, used to train his troops:
 - Place the items on the table and cover with towel. Remove the towel and instruct the girls to try and memorize all the items. Replace the towel back over the items after 1 minute. Now, instruct the girls to write down as many items as they can remember.
 - When girls are finished writing, have each girl say one item they remember then remove that item from under the towel. Then, ask the girls if they know how this item relates to Juliette Gordon Low. If they are unsure, use the descriptions below to guide you.
 - Tomato can: having nothing else on hand to put her honor pins in, Juliette grabbed an empty tomato can and carried the pins to a meeting in it.
 - Paper daisy: Juliette was called Daisy
 - Rubber worm: Juliette loved fishing; in fact she would go out with the men after a formal dinner. It was not unusual for her to go fishing in her evening dress.
 - White glove: Juliette could be found cleaning the house in her evening wear.
 - Pearl necklace: Juliette sold her pearls to fund the first years of Girl Scouting. She solely supported the Girl Scouts in the United States for several years.
 - Rice: It was a piece of rice thrown for good luck that was the cause of Juliette being partially deaf in her one good ear. It lodged itself in the ear drum.
 - Teabag: Juliette lived in a time when tea was served regularly.

- Book: Juliette loved telling stories and wrote several stories herself. She could often be found telling ghost stories around the campfire.
 - Fish: Juliette was one of a very few people ever outside the United Kingdom to be awarded the Silver Fish (the highest award a Girl Guide can be honored with).
 - Cast iron trivet: Juliette forged the iron gates at the “Birthplace” in Savannah, Georgia with her own hands.
 - A card with the word “Bonjour”: At boarding school, Juliette learned French.
 - Jungle Book: Juliette was friends with Rudyard Kipling.
 - Battleship: There was a ship named for her during World War 2.
 - Pumpkin: Juliette was born on October 31, 1860.
 - Paint brush: Juliette was very good at painting.
 - Turkey: Claiming decapitation was inhumane, Juliette chloroformed the Thanksgiving turkey. Its feathers were plucked and put in the icebox (refrigerator). The next day when the icebox was opened to prepare it for dinner, it jumped out and scared the cook.
 - British Flag: Juliette loved spending time in England and Scotland. She had troops in both places at one time before coming to start Girl Scouts in the United States.
 - A picture of Lord and Lady Baden Powell: These were friends of Juliette’s. Lord Baden Powell founded Boy Scouts and led Juliette to be interested in Girl Guides. They were known as the World Chief Scout and the World Chief Guide.
4. Alternative activity: The game can be played in teams. Explain how each item relates to Juliette Gordon Low. After you explain each item, divide your troop into two teams. Instruct one team to close their eyes and have the other team take and hide some of the items. After the items are hidden, instruct the first team to open their eyes and take turns identifying what items are missing. Then, have the teams switch roles so the other team gets to guess. If girls can also identify the significance of the item, they get extra points. Team with the most points wins.

Activity #1: Time Machine

Time Allotment: 25 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 3—Share sisterhood

Prep Needed:

- Gather materials and supplies.

Materials Needed:

- Photos from Girl Scout meetings or field trips
- Magazines
- Construction paper
- Markers
- Glue or tape
- Scissors
- Stickers
- Small or medium-sized sealable plastic tote or large Ziploc plastic bag

Steps:

1. Talk to the girls about all of the things they have done over the last year. This could include badges, Journeys, field trips, service projects, selling cookies, and other fun activities.
2. Ask the girls to share some of the memories they have from the year.
3. After everyone has had a chance to share, tell the girls that they are now going to gather their favorite memories and create a time capsule of the year.
4. Instruct girls to choose two or three photos of the troop and to place it on a piece of construction paper and write down their favorite memories of that particular experience. If photos are unavailable, have girls cut images from magazines or draw their own pictures of their favorite experiences.
5. After girls have completed their favorite memories, have a discussion about the activities, Journeys, badges, awards, and service projects they would like to try next year. Following the discussion, have girls write down the top five items they want to achieve.

6. After everyone has completed their list, place all the items into a sealable container and explain that they will have the chance to open their time capsule at their end of year celebration next year to reflect on all of the great things they were able to accomplish as a Junior.

Activity #2: Girl Awards

Time Allotment: 20 minutes

Prep Needed:

- Gather materials and supplies.

Materials Needed:

- Certificates for each girl
- Any badges still needed to hand out
- Membership star disc and pin
- Optional: photo slideshow of the year (computer, projector, screen)

Steps:

1. Take a few minutes to share with guests all of the things girls did this year as a troop. Optional: before the ceremony, ask girls to think of something they would like to talk about, such as their favorite thing they did.
2. Recognize each girl for her accomplishments and contributions to the troop.
3. Optional: consider having individual unique awards, such as:
 1. Dez Award (to the girl who is the biggest help during meetings)
 2. Energizer Award (to the girl who brings energy to the troop)
 3. Stand Your Ground Award (to the girl who isn't afraid to voice her opinions)
 4. SHero Award (to the girl who overcame obstacles or fears)
 5. Blossom Award (to the girl who has most improved)
 6. Pinpoint Award (to the girl who keeps everyone focused and on task)
 7. Sparkler Award (to the girl who gets others excited, has new ideas, etc.)
 8. Miss Independent (to the girl who has earned badges on her own)
 9. Most Girl Scout Spirit
 10. Most Adventurous
 11. Most Creative/Artistic
 12. Team Player Award
 13. Cookie Awards
 - o Goal Getter Award (to the girl who set a cookie goal and reached it)
 - o Money Manager Award (to the girl who handled money effectively during cookies)
 - o Top Seller Award
 - o Best Customer Service Award

Wrapping Up and Refreshments

Time Allotment: 25 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 1-Match songs to an occasion; Step 2-Celebrate the Girl Scout Birthday

Prep Needed:

- Set up refreshments before celebration
- Make copies of the Girl Scouting poem listed in the activity. You can also assign each girl a line or two of the poem to recite, or they can choose to recite the line they like best.

Materials Needed:

- Light refreshments (cookies, cake, or cupcakes, punch or lemonade)
- Optional: Make New Friends printed on poster board, birthday candles, and matches.

Steps:

1. Have the girls take turns and recite the poem below for the group. Optional: As girls recite the poem, you can light a candle representing each line and then have the girls blow them out once the poem is completed.

G—is for the Gracious way we all proclaim our birth
 I—represents the Ideas we share and those we'd like unearthed
 R—is for the Respect we have for every race and creed
 L—is for our Loyalty to promises we heed

S—is for Sincerity of deed and word and mind
 C—is for the Countless ways in which these are combined
 O – is for Obligation that we owe to fellow man
 U—means that it's You who must be first to lend a hand
 T—is for the Teamwork which has evidenced our growth
 I—is for Integrity which backs the Girl Scout oath
 N—is for the Noble way we remember days of old
 G—is for the Grateful thanks for efforts toward our goal

It all began with a spark of light,
 And Juliette led the way.
 In each of us her ideas shine bright,
 'Cause we live the Girl Scout Way.

2. After completing the Girl Scouting poem, instruct girls to get into a Friendship Circle and invite all of 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.
3. 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.

4. After the song, ask everyone to be quiet.
5. 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.
6. 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
 - Hold your celebration at a local park or picnic shelter.
 - Have an overnight campout celebration in the backyard.
- Speaker Ideas
 - Invite an older Girl Scout to share what they enjoyed about being a Junior and what they have to look forward in their second year.

Suggestions

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

Family Follow-Up Email

Use the email below as a template to let families know what girls 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 celebrating our accomplishments and traditions and we earned the Junior Girl Scout Way Badge.

We had fun:

- Playing a favorite game of Juliette Gordon Low, the founder of Girl Scouts.
- Reflecting on the activities we did this year, including badges and field trips.
- Recognizing one another for our accomplishments and contributions throughout the year.

Continue the fun at home:

- Ask your girl to share her favorite memories or activities as a Junior Girl Scout.
- Look through the *Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* with your Junior Girl Scout to find other activities you can try at home.
- Encourage your Girl Scout to tell a new friend about the Girl Scout sisterhood and the fun activities she's done in Girl Scouts.

Thank you for bringing your girl to Girl Scouts!

This Certificate of Achievement is presented to:



Girl

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to Troop _____ on today _____.

Signature

Signature

