

BROWNIE CABIN CAMPER BADGE – MEETING 1

Badge Purpose: When girls have earned this badge, they'll know how to plan a camping trip and stay overnight in a cabin with their friends or family.

Activity Plan Length: 1.25 - 1.5 hours

Time	Activity	Materials Needed
15 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
15 minutes	Where to Camp? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls brainstorm camping areas they'd like to visit. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Chart or large sheet of paper and tape <input type="checkbox"/> Marker
15 minutes	What Do We Need? And Why Do We Need It? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls will learn about camping gear and its different uses. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Camping gear (varies depending on your troop needs, but items such as sleeping bags/pads, backpacks, headlamps/lanterns, hiking boots, first aid kit, pots and pans, etc.)
15 minutes	Snack Chat + Meal Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls prepare a no-cook meal. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Pita pockets <input type="checkbox"/> Deli meat <input type="checkbox"/> Hummus, shredded cheese and/or salsa <input type="checkbox"/> Cut-up veggies (like peppers, shredded carrots, cucumbers, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Paper <input type="checkbox"/> Writing utensil
15 minutes	Wrapping Up	<input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Make New Friends lyrics poster

Note to Adult/Leaders

Girls will need to go camping (either in a cabin or tent) in order to earn this badge. Make proper arrangements and be sure to follow all Safety-Wise guidelines and Safety Activity Checkpoints when camping with your troop.

Getting Started

Time: 15 minutes



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

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

Activity #1: Where to Camp?

Time: 15 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 1 – Help plan your camping trip

Materials Needed: Chart or large sheet of paper and tape; marker

1. Camping is so fun! There are so many places to check out and explore—how will you decide? Tell girls that today, they'll work as a group to figure out where they'll head out for their camping adventure.
2. Say, we can help narrow down our choices by prioritizing our needs and wants. That means figuring out which parts of the camping trip are most important to us, and which ones we can live without. For example, maybe our troop decides that we all need an indoor bathroom, but we don't *have to* be near the lake.
3. On the chart or large piece of paper taped to the wall, draw a line down the middle. On one side of the paper, write, "Must have!" and on the other side, write, "Would be nice."
4. Ask girls to brainstorm some ideas about needs and wants for a campsite. If girls have never gone camping before, you might want to bring some books with images of campsites (or people camping) to give them a general idea of what camping entails. Bring a variety of images to help jog their imaginations.
5. After girls have finished brainstorming, say that they'll now rank their needs and wants—that way, they can narrow their options down even more.
6. As you go through each need and want, ask girls to vote:
 - Thumbs up: Yay!
 - Thumbs sideways: Meh
 - Thumbs down: Nope
7. Use girls' input to find and reserve a cabin or camping site. Note: If girls' input is not feasible for the season, budget, or girls' progression level, let girls know that they'll start with a cabin or site that might not need all of their desired criteria, but you'll keep this information for a future camping trip.

Activity #2: What Do We Need? And Why Do We Need It?

Time: 15 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 2 – Learn about camping gear

Materials Needed: Camping gear (varies depending on your troop needs, but items such as sleeping bags/pads, backpacks, headlamps/lanterns, hiking boots, first aid kit, pots and pans, etc.)

Prep Needed:

- Place the gear around the perimeter of the room.
1. Tell girls, the Girl Scout motto is "Be prepared!" This is especially true when you're camping because you can't just run home or out to the store if you forget something important.
 2. Say, you might wonder, "Why do we need to bring so much stuff with us? What's it for anyway?"
 3. Tell girls that they'll be playing a game to familiarize themselves with basic camping gear.
 4. Explain that you've scattered some camping gear around the room. You're going to call out a description of a piece of equipment, and girls will have to walk over to the item what they think best fits that description. For example, if you wanted out, "You use me to stay warm at night when you're sleeping," girls should walk over to the tent or to the sleeping bags. There may be multiple answers for each description, because some items might be multiuse.
 5. Call out the following descriptions, and add your own for specific gear that you'll be bringing based on your troop's needs, the location, season, etc.:
 - You use me to make food! (Camp stove, pots and pans, swiss army knife, etc.)
 - You use me when it's dark and you can't see! (Headlamps, lanterns, flashlights, etc.)
 - You use me to make sure the food you brought stays cold! (Cooler)



- You use me when you have a cut, scrape, or other injuries! (First aid kit)
- You use me to protect you from the rain! (Tent, raincoat or poncho)

Activity #3: Snack Chat + Meal Planning

Time: 15 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 3 – Prepare a camp meal

Materials Needed: Pita pockets; deli meat; hummus, shredded cheese and/or salsa; cut-up veggies (like peppers, shredded carrots, cucumbers, etc.); paper; writing utensil

1. It's fun to make meals on camping trips, but camp cooking is a little different than cooking at home. When you're at camp, you might be tired from a long hike, and the last thing you want to do is wait another hour until food is ready! This is where no-cook meals come in handy.
2. Tell girls that today, they'll make a no-cook meal that they can enjoy when they go camping. Allow girls time to assemble their pita sandwiches.
3. Optional: You can also show girls how you can bring ingredients that can be adapted from multiple meals. For example, you can stuff a pita pocket with shredded cheese and salsa, wrap it in foil, and cook on a grill or over a campfire to make a quesadilla.
4. Ask girls to think of other no-cook meals they can make on their camping trip. Jot these down on a sheet of paper as possibilities for your upcoming camping trip.

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:
 - Visit a camping or outdoor gear store and compare the different types of gear you can get at different price ranges.
 - Take a hike at a local or regional park and practice your trail marking skills.
- Speaker Ideas:
 - Invite your service unit's Outdoor Champion to a troop meeting to teach girls some outdoor skills.
 - Invite an older Girl Scout to your meeting to talk about the different styles of building a campfire.

