

## JUNIOR DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHER BADGE – MEETING 1

**Badge Purpose:** When girls have earned this badge, they'll know how to use a camera to create one-of-a-kind photos.

**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</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Girl Scout Promise and Law poster
15 minutes	Camera Settings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girls learn about digital cameras from an expert</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Cameras with multiple shooting modes (one per girl) <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of the “Common Camera Settings” information sheet
30 minutes	Practice, Practice, Practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girls take photographs</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Digital cameras with multiple settings (one per girl)
15 minutes	Snack Chat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Girls enjoy a healthy snack while discussing what they have learned</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Healthy snack <input type="checkbox"/> Digital cameras with multiple settings (one per girl) <input type="checkbox"/> Computer <input type="checkbox"/> Data cable to transfer pictures from the camera to the computer <input type="checkbox"/> Flash drive (optional)
15 minutes	Wrapping Up	<input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Make New Friends lyrics poster

### Getting Started

Time: 15 minutes

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

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

### Activity #1: Camera Settings

Time: 15 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 1 – Learn about digital cameras from an expert

Materials Needed: Cameras with multiple shooting modes (one per girl), copies of the “Common Camera Settings” information sheet

Prep Needed:



- If possible, play around with camera settings so you can teach the girls and see how the settings work.
  - Print out copies of the “Common Camera Settings” information sheet.
1. One by one, go through the camera settings on the list.
  2. For each setting, have the girls take at least one picture with their cameras to see how the setting works. You will likely have to help them change the aperture and shutter size on aperture and shutter preferred modes.

## Activity #2: Practice, Practice, Practice

Time: 30 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 2 – Take a ton of photographs!

Materials Needed: Digital cameras with multiple settings (one per girl)

Prep Needed:

- If you plan to leave your meeting place to take pictures, check out the area before you go to ensure safety and good picture-taking opportunities.
1. Take a picture-taking journey within your meeting space or in the nearby neighborhood.
  2. Encourage girls to try new things by giving them challenges as you go. Some possibilities are:
    - Switch to a camera setting you haven’t tried yet for your next picture.
    - Turn to the shutter-preferred mode and take several pictures with several different shutter speeds.
    - Turn to the aperture-preferred mode and take several pictures with several different aperture sizes.
    - Try taking a portrait of one of your Girl Scout friends.
    - Take a landscape picture.
    - Try taking a macro (really close) picture.
    - Take a picture of something from a new angle.
    - Take a picture of a reflection.
    - Take a picture of a shadow.
    - Take a picture from inside something.
    - Take three completely different pictures of the same object.

## Activity #3: Snack Chat

Time: 15 minutes

Badge Connection: Questions link to multiple badge steps

Materials Needed: Healthy snack, digital cameras used in Activity #2, computer, data cable to transfer pictures from the camera to the computer, flash drive (optional)

1. While enjoying snack, here are some things for girls to talk about:
  - What did you take pictures of?
  - What do you think the best picture you took will be?
  - Has anyone ever used a film camera before? What is different about using those?
  - What was your favorite thing to take a picture of?
  - Has anyone used a camera before today? What do you like to take pictures of?
  - What different modes did you use on the camera? Did they work well or poorly?
  - What modes didn’t you try, but you wanted to try?
2. While the girls are eating their snack, have one or more adults (depending on the number of computers available) call each girl up one by one to download the pictures from her camera. Be sure to put all the photos in a folder with each girl’s name so you know who took each picture.
3. If you are using a public computer, download all the pictures onto a flash drive to take with you.



NOTE: If you will be doing the second activity plan for this badge, go through the girls' pictures after this meeting and choose five or six of each girl's best shots. Make sure that the file names match the girls' names. The girls will need to choose three pictures to edit in the next activity plan, and this will make their selection process quicker.

## 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 local camera or electronics store to look at the different types of digital cameras available.
  - Visit a photography studio to see how they work.
- Speaker Ideas:
  - Ask a professional photographer come talk to the group about his or her job. Some places to find them are newspapers, portrait studios or by searching for wedding or senior portrait photographers.
  - Have someone come in who uses a film camera to talk about the differences between digital and film.



# Common Camera Settings

Camera Setting	Symbol	How it works	Works best with
Automatic	Camera with “auto” written above it, usually in green 	Using its sensors, the camera chooses all the settings it “thinks” will take the best pictures.	This is good for cloudy days outside or bright lighting indoors.
Shutter priority	S or TV	This lets you decide how long the shutter is open (how long it takes to take the picture). The longer the shutter time, the more light will be let into the camera. This means the picture will be brighter and blurrier.	This mode is good if you (the photographer) are moving a lot, but you have to test and practice to get it right. This can also be good for “fun” shots with really long shutter speeds.
Aperture priority	A or Av	This mode lets you decide the size of the aperture (hole the picture is taken through). The bigger the hole, the more light gets in. The smaller the number, the larger the aperture (hole) will be.	This is good for taking portraits.
Manual	M	This mode allows the photographer to control all the different settings	This is best for photographers with a lot of practice and time.
Close up/macro	Flower 	This mode allows the camera to focus on objects that are very close to the lens and would normally be blurry.	This mode is for when you’re taking pictures of things that are really close to the camera. It is best when you have something to steady the camera and aren’t using flash.
Sports	Running man 	This mode uses very short shutter times combined with other settings to make fast moving subjects look clear.	This is good for sport or other situations when your subject is moving around a lot.
Landscape	Mountain 	This mode makes the camera have an “infinite” focus.	This allows you to focus on landscapes that are very far away.
Portrait	Woman in hat 	This mode makes the camera focus on objects close to the camera while objects far from the camera may be blurry.	This is good for taking pictures of people and objects close to the camera if you do not need the background to be clear.
Movie	Video camera 	This takes short videos.	This is good when a picture just isn’t enough.

