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Brownie My Great Day Badge Activity Plan 2

Purpose: When girls have earned this badge, they'll know how to stay organized and have a great day every day!

Planning Guides Link: Healthy Living and Creativity

Fun Patch Link: Organize

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' 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 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 Brownie 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 Brownie 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 *Brownie Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting*, completing two of these activity plans, 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 award if:

- they can start their day out right by learning a new routine
- they learn ways to stay organized at school or home
- they can make homework time a breeze
- they can plan ahead
- they can help others get organized

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.

Resources

- This activity plan has been adapted from the Brownie Skill-Building Badge set for the *It's Your Planet—Love it!* My Great Day Badge, 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 Brownie Smile Song. Use repeat-after-me or sing as a group if girls know it by heart.

The Brownie Smile Song
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!

Activity #1: Make a Calendar Book

Badge Connection: Step 4—Plan ahead

Time Allotment: 20 minutes

Prep Needed:

- Gather materials and supplies.
- Make copies of the blank calendar template for each girl.

Materials Needed:

- Calendar template (1-12 for each girl, depending on what type of calendar you will make)
- Coloring utensils
- Scissors
- Glue
- Construction paper
- Hole punch
- Yarn or string
- Optional: a current calendar for referencing dates

Steps:

1. Explain to the girls that keeping a calendar is a great way to stay organized and plan ahead.
2. Have each girl create her own calendar book.
3. Direct girls to cut out the calendar template and glue it onto construction paper.
4. They can then write the name of the month at the top of the page and fill in the dates. Girls can create a calendar for just one month, the school year or the full calendar year. List birthdays, holidays, Girl Scout meetings and other important events on the calendar.
5. Next, have girls decorate the calendar book. They can draw pictures or make fun borders around each month. Girls may also create a cover if they wish.
6. To complete the calendar book, hole punch the corner of each page and attach the pages together with yarn or string.

Activity #2: Organization Review

Badge Connection: Various badge steps

Time Allotment: 5 minutes

Steps:

1. Spend a few minutes reviewing ways to stay organized. Ideas include:
 - Start your day by setting an alarm clock.
 - Set out your clothes the night before.
 - Make your bed every morning.
 - Pack your lunch the night before.
 - Make and label bins for your toys.
 - Organize your clothes.
 - Create a homework space.
 - Make a homework schedule.
 - Make a list for shopping trips or outings.
 - Keep a calendar.

Activity #3: The Organization Rap

Badge Connection: Step 5—Help others get organized

Time Allotment: 25 minutes

Steps:

1. Now that the girls are experts at staying organized, they should share their knowledge with others! To do this, they will create a rap, skit or poem to share the organization tips they have learned.
2. Divide the large group into smaller groups of three to five girls each.
3. Each group will decide if they want to create a rap, skit or poem. Girls should spend 15-20 minutes creating their rap, skit or poem.
4. Have each group share their rap, skit or poem with the entire troop. Encourage girls to share their organization tips with family and friends, too.

Activity #4: Snack Chat

Badge Connection: Questions link to multiple badge steps

Time Allotment: 10 minutes

Steps:

1. While enjoying snack, here are some things for girls to discuss:
 - How do you remember special events and birthdays?
 - Does your family keep a family calendar? If so, what activities or events do you keep track of?
 - If you made the grocery list for your next shopping trip, what would you include?
 - What are your favorite ways to stay organized?

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:
 - Visit the library and find books on staying organized.
 - Visit a community place (like a school or recreation center) and offer to organize supply closets.
- Speaker Ideas:
 - Invite an organizational expert to discuss ways to stay organized.

Suggestions

Do you have any suggestions to improve this activity plan? Do you have ideas for other possible badge-earning activities? Please email troopsupport@girlscoutsv.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 learning about staying organized and have earned the My Great Day Badge.

We had fun:

- making our own creative calendars
- reviewing organizational tips and tricks
- creating our own organization raps, skits, and poems

Continue the fun at home:

- Help your Girl Scout plan ahead by keeping her calendar up to date.
- Create lists together to use on shopping trips or outings.
- Look through the *Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* with your Brownie to find other activities you could try at home.

Thank you for bringing your Brownie to Girl Scouts!

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