

### BRIDGE TO GIRL SCOUT AMBASSADOR ACTIVITY PLAN

**Award Purpose:** After you've earned this Award, you'll have shared the skills you've learned as a Senior with others and explored what's in store for you as a Girl Scout Ambassador.

### **Activity Plan Length: 1.5 Hours**

Time	Activity	Materials Needed
15 minutes	Getting Started	<ul> <li>(Optional) Girl</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Girls recite the Girl Scout</li> </ul>	Scout Promise and
	Promise + Law	Law poster
20 minutes	Activity #1: Pass it On	<ul><li>None</li></ul>
	<ul> <li>Share your talents and skills by</li> </ul>	
	teaching younger Girl Scouts	
	something you learned to do as a	
	Senior.	
20 minutes	Activity #2: Look Ahead	<ul><li>None</li></ul>
35 minutes	Celebrate & Wrapping Up	<ul> <li>(Optional) Make</li> </ul>
		New Friends Lyrics
		<ul> <li>Light Refreshments</li> </ul>

Getting Started

minutes

Time: 15

Time: 20 Minutes

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

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

# Step #1: Pass It On!

Award Connection: Step 1 - Pass It On!

Materials Needed: None

1. Whether you started as a Girl Scout Daisy or joined as a Senior, you've learned a lot to get to this step—kudos to you! Now's your chance to inspire other girls with your unique

experiences and the skills you've picked up along the way. Choose one idea to complete this step or come up with one on your own!

- Did you earn your Gold Award? Share your project with a Cadette or Senior troop and tell them about your experience working on it. What did you learn? Did you run into any obstacles along the way? How did you handle those?
- Make a slideshow of all the fun things you did in Girl Scouts as a Senior. Share it with family, friends, or younger girls.

Time: 20

Time: 35 Minutes

• Did you hit the open road with your troop this year? Or maybe you went on a *Destinations* trip? Blog about the highlights and your favorite memories!

## Step #2: Look Ahead!

Minutes

Award Connection: Step 2 - Look Ahead!

Materials Needed: None

- 1. Ambassador is the highest level a girl can attain in Girl Scouting—are you ready to explore what it's like to be one?
- 2. Find out what this next level of Girl Scouting has in store for you. Here are a few ideas to get started. (You only need to do one to complete this step.)
  - Have a roundtable discussion with Ambassadors. Find out what their favorite
    activities were and what new skills they learned. Ask them to share their funniest
    memories and some challenges they might have faced.
  - Haven't had a chance to travel yet, but want to explore the greater world around you? Connect with an older girl who traveled through *destinations* to hear more about her experience.
  - Interested in flexing those leadership skills? Now that you're an Ambassador, you can apply to be on the Girl Leadership Board. The GLB serves as a voice, leader, and advocate for the 30,000 girls in the River Valleys council. Talk to the current members of the board to hear more about their experience serving as girl leaders.

# Step #3: Wrap Up & Celebrate!

#### Materials Needed:

- Light refreshments (cookies or cupcakes, punch or lemonade)
- Optional: Make New Friends 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. Sing "Make New Friends."
- 3. Congratulations! You've earned your Bridge to Girl Scout Ambassador Award! Celebrate with a favorite ceremony (or invent a new one)!
- 4. Invite girls and their guests to enjoy light refreshments to celebrate!

## **More to Explore**

- Field Trip Ideas:
  - o Hold your ceremony outdoors in a park with a real bridge or archway
  - o Join with other bridging Senior troops to have a larger ceremony
- Speaker Ideas:
  - o Invite an Ambassador 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 end of our second year as Girl Scout Seniors! 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 Senior. 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 per program level, 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 Ambassadors!

The benefits of being an Ambassador 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 an Ambassador:

• Look through the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting with your new Ambassador to find other activities you can try at home or review our planning guide online.

- The badge opportunities for Ambassadors expand even more in the themes of STEM, Outdoors, Entrepreneurship, and Life Skills. Explore all the exciting options on the <u>Badge</u> Explorer Site.
- As an Ambassador, there are numerous leadership opportunities beyond the troop to join including, the <u>Girl Leadership Board</u>, <u>leadership camp sessions</u>, and <u>the Gold Award</u>.
- 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 Ambassador 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 petal requirements for the next level. To purchase a kit, visit a <u>River Valleys Shop or shop online.</u>
- 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 <u>reserve</u> online.
- For additional bridging ceremony ideas, check out River Valleys' Pinterest page: <a href="http://pinterest.com/girlscoutsrv/girl-scout-celebrations/">http://pinterest.com/girlscoutsrv/girl-scout-celebrations/</a>
- For additional information on Bridging and other Girl Scout Ceremonies, see the <u>Ceremonies</u>, <u>Tradition</u>, <u>and Celebrations article</u>.
- River Valleys Girl Leadership Board