

# **JUNIOR GIRL SCOUTS**

## **IDEAS FOR THE FIRST FOUR MEETINGS**

### **JUNIOR GIRL SCOUTS MEETING #1**

Prior to the first meeting leader/co-leaders should read junior Leaders' Guide, pages 6-7, pages 32-37, and pages 50-53.

**The goals for the first meetings are:**

1. To have everyone become acquainted and feel comfortable working together as a troop or group.
2. To feel a part of the Girl Scout family and learn the ways of Girl Scouting.

**First Meeting Objectives:** To learn the principles underlying the Girl Scout Promise and Law and to learn the Juliette Low story.

**Supplies:** Junior Girl Scout Handbook, paper, pencils.

**Start-up Activity:** As girls arrive, assign them to work in pairs. Ask them to do the Who Am I Now activity on pages 42-43 of the Junior Handbook or the What's in a Name? activity on page 54 of the Junior Leaders' Guide.

**Opening:** Say the Girl Scout Promise while standing in a circle. Ask each pair to share something they learned about their partner from the start-up activity. Leader and co-leaders could do the activity also and share something about themselves with the girls.

**Business:** Discuss the routine troop/group responsibilities and the parts of a meeting (pages 36-37 Leaders' Guide) and help the girls make a kaper chart (planning worksheet) for attendance taking, dues collecting, cleaning up, and serving refreshments if girls want refreshments. The Kaper Chart can be changed at the end of each meeting or at every other meeting to rotate jobs among the girls. Brainstorm ideas for things the girls might want to do during the year. Have them look through the handbook and junior Badge book for ideas. Write all their ideas down to use for discussion at a future meeting.

**Main Activity:** Have the girls take a close look at the Girl Scout Promise and Law on page 6 of the Junior Handbook. Do one of the activities on page 7 of the Junior Girl Scout Handbook. Ask if

anyone can recite the Law from memory. Tell the girls that they should all learn the Law for their investiture-rededication ceremony during the fourth meeting.

**Second Activity:** Read and discuss Girl Scout Basics, "A Letter from Daisy Low", and How Girl Scouting came to the United States on pages 2-4 in the Junior Girl Scout Handbook. Tell the girls that they could begin to think of some ways of celebrating Juliette Low's birthday, October 31. Autograph books were very popular with girls during Juliette's youth. You might suggest making autograph books at the next meeting.

**Closing:** Sing a song in the friendship circle. Start the friendship squeeze. See page 9 of Junior Girl Scout Handbook.

## **JUNIOR GIRL SCOUTS MEETING #2**

Prior to the second meeting, leaders/co-leaders should read Junior Leaders' Guide, page 33, and Junior Handbook, pages 12 and 13.

**Second Meeting Objectives:** To form a troop government; to begin planning an investiture-rededication ceremony.

**Supplies:** Junior Girl Scout Handbook, paper, pencils, leather, vinyl or wallpaper scraps for autograph books.

**Start-up Activity:** Girls make covers for autograph books. Each girl writes a poem to herself about being a friend. Girls could look at Junior Handbook 66-67 for ideas and the What Kind of Friend Are You? Test on page 67.

**Opening:** Have the girls say the Girl Scout Promise and Law and offer Girl Scout handshake and sign to each other. Junior Girl Scout Handbook, pages 9. Each girl could share a poem or a thought about friendship.

**Activity:** Before the troop government meets, get general ideas from the total group about ceremony activities. Guide and advise the girls when necessary, but let them make decisions. Some ideas are writing and singing original songs and poems; reading special words, sayings, or poems, putting on a skit; lighting candles; and, of course, saying the Girl Scout Promise and Law. After the girls have decided what they want to do, they can make a plan of action. Use the ceremonies ideas

and worksheet on page 12-13 of the Junior Girl Scout Handbook. Do a worksheet for the ceremony the troop decides on.

**Closing:** Practice songs or poetry to be used during investiture-rededication ceremony.

## **JUNIOR GIRL SCOUTS MEETING #3**

Prior to the third meeting, troop leaders/co-leaders should meet to discuss ideas the girls want to do during the year. Compile the girls' lists into one sheet of paper or newsprint. Leave plenty of space between each item for writing more ideas. This is the troop "Dream" list.

Prior to the third meeting leader and co-leaders should re-read pages 32-35 and pages 24-25 of Junior Leaders' Guide.

**Third Meeting Objectives:** To continue planning and rehearsing for the following weeks investiture-rededication and make invitations.

**Supplies:** Art materials and paper.

**Start-up Activity:** As the girls arrive, ask them to look at the Dream list and pick one or two ideas they would most like to do. Have them write down what they think it would take to make the "Dream" come true. Examples: How much money would it take, do we need to learn skills in order to do it, when would be the best time of year to do it, etc. Encourage girls to work in groups and ask each other questions.

**Opening:** Ask each girl to share her "Dream" and why she thinks the troop would enjoy doing this. Leaders should share their dreams, also, but don't do it in such a way that it discourages the girls' dream.

**Business:** Vote on favorite dreams. Prioritize the Dream List and decide what steps should be taken first to reach a selected dream. Discuss troop dues, product sales, or other ways to meet the costs – if dream is expensive. Decide who might be able to help. Use the Managing Money Section of the Junior Handbook, pages 26-30, if costs are involved in the girls' plans. Introduce the Safety-Wise book to the girls and help them look up the safety procedures that are necessary for specific

activities, such as horseback riding or overnight camping or other activities they want to do.

- Main Activity:** Review plans for following week's investiture-rededication ceremony. Make a list of all responsibilities and review ceremony worksheet or create a Kaper Chart for the ceremony.
- Second Activity:** With the art materials available, girls can make invitations for their families to attend the investiture-rededication. They can decorate the invitations with drawings, magazine pictures, stickers.
- Closing:** Form a friendship circle and start the friendship squeeze. Share hugs.

## **JUNIOR GIRL SCOUTS MEETING #4**

**Fourth Meeting Objectives:** To greet families and friends, and to hold an investiture-rededication ceremony,

- Supplies:** Refreshments, tablecloth, flowers, Girl Scout pins for those being invested.
- Opening:** Welcome invited guests. Sing a song that all can join in.
- Main Activity:** Investiture – skits, poems, recitation, or any activity girls have planned. Recite the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Present girls with their pins.
- Closing:** Remarks by the leader, perhaps stating the Dreams for the year and soliciting help from parents and friends. Refreshments.

See Junior Leaders Guide, page 53, for ideas to encourage involvement of parents and guardians and the tips for Planning and Conducting a Parent Meeting in this packet. You may also want to use the Parent Guide and the Parent Interest checklist.