

Brownie Quest Activity Plan 1 **Discover Key**

Purpose: When girls have earned this award, they'll see how they can use their skills and values in Girl Scouts, with their family and in the world around them.

Planning Guides Link: Leadership

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 award or simply try different activities, go for it! There are many ways to complete this award, including: completing the activities as listed in the *Brownie Quest* Journey, completing this activity plan, 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 Discover Key if:

- They can list things they are good at and like about themselves
- They understand what it means to be a Girl Scout and the values of the Girl Scout Law
- They talk about Girl Scout values with their family

Girls can continue their Brownie Quest journey by earning the remaining awards: Connect Key, Take Action, Key, and Brownie Quest Award.

Resources

- This activity plan has been adapted from *It's Your World—Change It! Brownie Quest*, 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 |
|---|---|
| <p><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.</p> | <p><i>I will do my best to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do, and to respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.</i></p> |

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: All About Me Poster

Journey Connection: Session 1—Ball Toss: Discovering Our Special Talents and Qualities
 Time Allotment: 25 minutes
 Prep Needed:

- Gather materials and supplies.

Materials Needed:

- Large paper
- Coloring utensils

Steps:

1. Have each girl create a poster of herself. Girls can use pictures, words or symbols to describe themselves and their special qualities and talents.
2. As girls finish their posters, ask them to share their poster with at least one other girl.

Activity #2: All About My Values

Journey Connection: Session 1—Going ELF: The Search to Discover the Values of the Girl Scout Law
Law Time Allotment: 10 minutes Prep Needed:

- Gather materials and supplies.
- Write each of the ten parts of the Girl Scout Law on a paper plate. Cut out squares of colored paper to represent different parts of the Law according to the chart below, and place them on the matching plates.

| Girl Scout Law | Color |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Honest and Fair | Light blue |
| Friendly and Helpful | Yellow |
| Considerate and Caring | Light green |
| Courageous and Strong | Red |
| Responsible for What I Say and Do | Orange |
| Respect Myself and Others | Dark purple |
| Respect Authority | Dark pink |
| Use Resources Wisely | Green |
| Make the World a Better Place | Light pink |
| Be a Sister to Every Girl Scout | Light purple |

Materials Needed:

- Construction paper
- Paper plates (10)
- Scissors
- Tape
- All About Me posters from Activity #1

Steps:

1. Re-read the Girl Scout Law.
2. Using the colored squares of paper, have girls choose the three or four parts of the law that they think are the most important. Ask them to attach the paper squares to their posters.

Activity #3: Snack Chat

Journey Connection: Questions link to Brownie Quest—Session One Time Allotment: 15 minutes

Steps:

1. While enjoying a healthy snack of your choice, here are some things to talk about.
 - Did you learn anything new about someone today? What did you learn?
 - What is something that you are really good at?
 - What can you do to make your friends and family happy?
 - What do you do to help take care of your home?
 - What do you do when your friends have a problem?
 - What is something you really like to do?
 - How do you take good care of yourself?

Activity #4: Family Stars

Journey Connection: Session 1—Send It Home Time Allotment: 10 minutes Prep Needed:

- Gather materials and supplies.
- Trace one large star onto a sheet of paper for the girls to cut out (one per girl).

Materials Needed:

- Paper with pre-traced stars
- Scissors
- Coloring utensils

Steps:

1. Hand out the sheets of paper with pre-traced stars.
2. Have girls decorate their stars and cut them out.
3. Explain the take home activity:
 - Take your star home and show it to your family.
 - Talk with them about the Girl Scout Law and your favorite parts.
 - Ask them what part of the law is most important to your entire family.
 - On the blank side of your star, write the part of the law your family chose and give examples of how your family members live out those values. You can use picture or words.
 - Remember to bring your star back the next time we meet.

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 a 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:
 - Go to a library and use book characters to talk about special qualities, talents and values
- Speaker Ideas:
 - Invite family members to your meeting to do the activities with you.



Family Follow-Up Email

Use the email on the next page as a template to let families know what you 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 discovering our unique qualities and talents on our way to earning the Brownie Quest Discover Key. We also learned about the values in the Girl Scout Law.

Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do, and to respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

We had fun:

- Getting to know ourselves and one another by making All About Me Posters
- Using the posters to show what parts of the Girl Scout Law matter most to us
- Creating a Family Star for us to fill out together at home

Continue the fun at home:

- Fill out the Family Star with your girl.*
 - Talk about the values of the Girl Scout Law and which parts are most important to your family.
 - Help your Girl Scout write the line from the Law that is most important to your family in the middle of the star, and list examples of ways each family member lives out this value.
- Talk to your Girl Scout about what she sees as her special qualities and talents.*
- Look at the *Brownie Quest* Journey book and read about the adventures of Campbell, Jamila and Alejandra as they meet the Brownie Elf.

*Please complete these steps to help your Girl Scout earn the Brownie Quest Discover Key.

Thank you for bringing your Brownie to Girl Scouts!