

Webster Girl Scouts
"Brownies"



JUMP INTO

JOURNEYS!



GIRL SCOUTS

JUMP INTO JOURNEYS

Activity Guide - Brownies

General Instructions:

This *Jump Into Journeys* Activity Guide is designed to give you and your troop a taste of the activities offered in the Journeys for your grade level. Journeys are the core of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE) and provide girls with a national experience - something they have in common with Girl Scouts everywhere.

Journeys are designed to foster the use of the three learning processes: Girl Led, Learning by Doing, and Cooperative Learning. Each Journey offers girls a new adventure, allowing them to Discover, Connect, and Take Action with fun activities, discussions, projects, and more while building skills they need to become a leader in their own lives and community.

Jump Into Journeys patch program provides Leaders and Girls the opportunity to:

1. Learn about Journeys and the GSLE.
2. Sample each Journey through the activities in this Guide.
3. Pick a Journey to explore all the way through.

How do you get your patch?

When your troop finishes the patch program:

1. Go to our website webstergirlscouts.org
 - Click "Programs"
 - Click "*Jump Into Journeys*"
2. Click the "Get My Patch" link
3. Fill out the form and submit it to the Service Unit Manager, Christine Osadciw, cosadciw@gmail.com to receive your patches



Step 1: Educate Yourself

For your troop (or individual girl) to earn the *Jump Into Journeys* patch:

1. Review the interactive Journey maps at <http://girlscouts.org/program/journeys/maps.asp>
2. Explore the Journey descriptions at <http://www.girlscouts.org/program/journeys/>
3. Read through this Guide to familiarize yourself with the activities and gather the materials needed to complete them.
4. Foster the Girl Led, Learning by Doing, and Cooperative Learning processes with your troop as you sample the Journeys.

Step 2: Explore the Journeys

Each activity in this section introduces one of the three Journeys for the girls' level. To earn the patch, girls must complete all three activities. Each activity will take approximately 10 minutes; with about 5 minutes transition period in between. Girls should have ample time to sample each Journey in a single, one-hour meeting.



It's Your World – Change It! Brownie Quest

Discovering Our Special Talents

Materials for this activity: Ball, poster board or chart paper, and markers or crayons

In this game, girls discover and name some of their special talents or qualities, and then discover and appreciate what other girls bring to the Brownie Circle. Plus, they can release a little energy.

1. Begin by gathering the girls into a circle . Explain to the girls that they are part of a Girl Scout Sisterhood: “When we join in a Girl Scout Brownie Circle, we’re making connections with girls all over the world standing in Brownie Circles just like this one. Imagine 500,000 girls doing the same thing– you are part of this amazing sisterhood! “
2. Then say: “So we can discover (one of the three steps to the keys to leadership) all the skills and talents each of us brings to this circle by playing a discovery game.”
3. You start by saying your name and one special quality you bring to the circle.
4. Then toss the ball and instruct the girl who catches it to say her name and tell one special skill or talent or quality she can bring to the circle.
5. That girl then tosses the ball to another girl and so on until everyone has a chance to speak. Ask a Brownie friend or another adult to record what the girls say on a large star you sketched onto poster board or chart paper labeled “Discovering Ourselves”.

Once everyone has had a few turns tossing and catching, wind down by summarizing the qualities and talents the girls bring to their GS Brownie Circle.

Consider ending this activity with a **friendship squeeze**. Ask the girls to silently appreciate the qualities of the girl next to them as they pass along the squeeze. Have everyone cross their right hand over their left and hold hands. As the leader, you start by squeezing the hand of the girl next to you. Explain that the girls should gently squeeze the hand of the girl next to them, passing the squeeze around the circle. It ends when the squeeze gets back to you.





It's Your Planet – Love It! WOW! Wonders of Water

Favorite Water Activities

Materials for this activity: markers or crayons, poster board or large piece of butcher paper

This activity will introduce the WOW! Wonders of Water journey to the Brownies. Have the girls gather in a circle and ask them to share what their favorite water activity is. You can also share what your own favorite water activity is, whether it's slip and slide on your front lawn on a hot summer day or ice skating on a frozen pond or ice rink in the winter. If a girl gets stuck for an answer, encourage her to think of simple, enjoyable uses of water.

The Brownies' answers may surprise you- and inspire ideas for activities and field trips all along the WOW Journey.

Starting a Team WOW Map

When all of the girls have shared their favorite water activities, invite them to draw or write them on the paper or poster that will be their Team WOW Map.



It's Your Story – Tell It! A World of Girls

Feel the Power of your Tiny Globe!

Materials for this activity: Globe activity sheets (attached), colored pencils, markers, or crayons

Explain to the girls that confidence can be like an imaginary little world globe they can hold in their hand that will always keep them strong and feeling great about themselves. For example, you might say: “Imagine that when you hold this tiny world globe in your hand, it’s easier to believe in yourself and your ability to do extraordinary things! Your globe is a special symbol of the wide world of girls to which you belong!” Then ask:

- Do you ever think, “I just can’t do it” or “Maybe I shouldn’t even try”? We all think these things sometimes, but this little globe in your hand can be a reminder of all the strength and skills you have inside you!
- Let’s think about what keeps you feeling good and strong (things like your family, your friends, learning about yourself and new people and places, trying new activities, knowing everyone is special in her own way). Now, with pictures or words, let’s each of us put all of the things that make us feel good and strong inside our globes.

Once the girls have filled their globes, ask them to share what keeps them feeling strong. Ask: Do other girls have something in their globes that might keep you strong, too? Put it in your globe! Take this globe home and hang it in a special place. Whenever you look at it, remember all the strength and skills you have inside you. With these strengths and skills, you can always do extraordinary things—even without a tiny globe in your hand!

Step 3: Pick a Journey

Materials for this activity: worksheet with pictures (attached) representing each Journey (cut these to separate them), tape, two stickers for each girl (use left-over stickers from other projects).

Explain to the girls that each of the activities provided a taste of a different Girl Scout Brownie Journey and that they must now decide on which Journey they want to take first. Most troops/groups are able to complete at least two and many explore all three Journeys before bridging to the next program level.

1. Show the girls each image and tell them which activity matches the picture.
2. Tape the pictures up in different parts of the room.
3. Explain the voting process to the girls:
 - a. Each girl has two votes, which she may use any way she wants – she may choose to put a sticker on the two activities she liked the best or she may put both stickers on one activity. Encourage the girls to vote as they choose and to try not to be influenced by their friends.
 - b. Count up the number of votes for each Journey. The Journey with the most votes will be the first Journey the girls undertake.
 - c. Explain to the girls that they will have the opportunity to choose their next Journey when they have finished the first one.

Additional Resources:

- ❖ Skills Badge sets designed specifically to support your Journey.
- ❖ Girls Guide to Girl Scouting
- ❖ Check Events page on the GSWNY.org website for Journey-related workshops and events – and for additional training courses for adult volunteers
- ❖ Search the web to see what activities other troops/groups are doing for your Journey
- ❖ Explore your community to find ways to customize your Journey.



Adapted from materials from Girl Scouts of N. Cal.



