



## **Ways to Help Girl Scout Daisies Get the Most Out of Day Camp**

At day camp, Girl Scout Daisies are just beginning to learn about their environment, develop their outdoor skills, and gain confidence in being outdoors. For some girls, it may also be the first time they have been away from their family for an extended period of time. Girl Scout Daisies are eager to try new things, but require a lot of assistance and patience. Their day at camp is long, but passes quickly with scheduled activities like crafts, swimming, nature, and songs.

When you work with Girl Scout Daisies at day camp, you should use the following ideas to help make a positive difference in their lives:

- Allow extra time. Whether it's preparing and eating meals, dressing for swimming, getting the campsite organized at the end of the day, or just walking to and from various activities located in different parts of camp, Girl Scout Daisies often need extra time. Remember, it's important for them to feel a sense of accomplishment; it's better for them to do something themselves and take a longer time doing it than if you do it for them to get it done quickly.
- Add variety. Girl Scout Daisies have short attention spans, so activities need to be short and varied. The girls especially enjoy activities where they can take an active role. If a girl finishes an activity early, have a backup activity ready. Use your PAs to play games with the girls, teach them a song, take them on a hike, etc.
- Be flexible. If an activity is too difficult, try to either simplify it or decide not to finish it at this time. If the girls feel too rushed, slow down and give them extra time to complete the activity. The next activity on their schedule can always be modified. Encourage the girls to participate in all camp activities; the girls may, however, choose to sit out or not take part in everything.
- Schedule rest times. Girl Scout Daisies tire quickly. Quiet time activities need to be scheduled throughout the day. There are quiet games the girls can play that give them time to rest. When walking around camp plan on taking a lot of rest and water breaks.
- Be prepared. Even the most organized and well-run day camps experience things that are not planned. During these times it is important to be positive and flexible. Be prepared for these unforeseen situations and have several activities you can call upon on short notice.
- Be a role model. You are a pivotal part of a successful day camp. Being your best at day camp ensures a rewarding and fun-filled week for everyone - a week that will become a wonderful memory for both you and the girls.