



girl scouts
of wisconsin
southeast



First Four Meetings

For New Girl Scout Daisy Troop Leaders

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First Four Meeting Examples

To help you get started with your Girl Scout Daisy troop, you'll find examples of how you and the girls can structure your first four meetings. Each example follows a typical troop-meeting format, and each incorporates the *Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden* Journey book. If you're using *Between Earth and Sky*, you may be able, with a bit of creativity, to adapt these meetings to include that series of Journey books.

Prior to your meetings with girls, be sure to let each girl's parent or guardian know where to get a copy of her own Journey book. It is important that each girl have her own book, so she can write and color in it.

In the adult guide that accompanies *Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden*, you'll find six flexible, customizable sample Journey mini-sessions. You and the girls may decide to do all six of these sample mini-sessions during one or two troop meetings (and that's perfectly okay), or you may decide to extend the sample mini-sessions over several troop meetings, which is what the enclosed example meetings reflect. Given that all your meetings will be girl-led, however, your meetings will probably go in a different direction than these examples, but these are a great place to start.



Ready to get started?

Grab the girl books and adult guide for *Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden* and get ready to have fun with your Girl Scout Daisies!

Six Parts of a Troop Meeting

Pre-Meeting Start-Up

Start-up activities are self-directed. Girls can do them alone or in pairs with minimal supervision. This gives leaders a chance to meet the girls and parents as they arrive. Remember for each part of your meeting to be sure things are appropriate for your grade level.

Opening

Opening activities should help the girls focus on the meeting and begin interacting as a group. Some suitable opening activities include:

- A simple flag ceremony;
- Girl Scout songs like the “Brownie Smile Song” or “Make New Friends;” or
- Setting time aside for sharing are some suggestions for suitable opening activities.

Business

Troop business might include announcements, taking attendance, collecting dues or fees, planning for trips or activities, or making a new kaper chart. A kaper is a special Girl Scout word for “chore.” A kaper chart is a simple way to rotate responsibilities. With kapers and all-troop business, girls can get to try out a variety of skills.

Activity

The activity is just that—the activity! It might be the new leadership Journey you are working on, the badge you are going to complete, a guest speaker, or a community service project. When choosing an activity, it is important to look at it from the girls’ perspective. Is the activity suitable for your meeting place? Will the activity need to be adapted? Will there be enough materials for all of the girls? Will you be able to clean up any messes?

Clean Up

The girls assigned to clean up should have their names on the kaper chart. This assignment should be rotated among all of the girls in the troop. It should never be used as a disciplinary tool, as the girls need to know that cleaning up is a responsibility shared by all. It is not a punishment.



Closing

In the closing, emphasize what the girls have accomplished that day and what activities they can look forward to in the future. Good closing activities include:

- Gathering in the friendship circle and doing the friendship squeeze;
- Reciting the Promise and the Law. Girls can even take turns discussing the parts of the Promise and Law or describing something that they have done that exemplifies them; or
- Stating one personal goal that each girl would like to accomplish before the next meeting.

After the closing, be sure that you know how each girl will get home and that each girl is met by a parent or guardian.

Note: It is often easier to plan a meeting if you have a set goal or a special theme. For example, if the girls have expressed an interest in learning about safety, your activity for the meeting might be to practice fire safety procedures. You could extend this theme to your next meeting by arranging for a field trip to the fire house, arranging for a guest speaker from a child abuse agency, or creating a first aid kit with the girls. Working from a written plan is often easier and more effective than improvising. The worksheet on the next page will help you plan your meeting.

Troop #: _____

Girl Scout Meeting on: _____

	What We Will Do	Who Will Do It	What We Need	Notes
Pre-Meeting Start-Up				
Opening				
Business				
Activities				
Clean Up				
Closing				

Girl Scout Daisies: Sample Meeting 1 (60 minutes)

Goal: To get to know one another, learn basic Girl Scout values, and sample the Daisy story.

Supplies needed:

Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden, girls' books and adult guide

Crayons and/or colored pencils

An "It" and "Other" can

The Girl Scout Promise on large easel paper

Snack or treat

Pre-meeting: Lay out the crayons/pencils.

Arrival activity: Girls color and decorate their Color Me! pages (page 8, 10, and 12 of the girls' book), which have pictures of the garden girls—Chandra, Cora, and Campbell. Your group may require the help of an adult or older girl.

Snack/treat: Have girls serve a healthy snack here; if preferred, you and the girls may opt to have a treat toward the end of your meeting.

Opening: Use 1-2-3 Hello: You and the girls join hands in a circle. The group moves on the count of one toward the inside of the circle while holding hands. The leader says, "Hello, Girl Scout Daisies." The group quickly goes back out, and then repeats enthusiastically for two and three. (Note: You can also do 1-2-3 Goodbye.) Have the girls sit in a circle. Let them know this is their Girl Scout Daisy Circle.

Another opening option is to teach and sing (or say) "Sandy's Song" for Girl Scout Daisies (page 5 of the girls' book and page 75 of the adult guide).

Business: Take care of introductions and Girl Scout basics: You and other volunteers introduce yourselves.

Ask the girls say their name and one thing about themselves they want all the girls to know. Give them an example: "Hi, my name is Amy, and I like to sing."

Introduce the Girl Scout Promise (page 37 in the adult guide).

Introduce the girls to Juliette Low, the first Girl Scout Daisy (page 6 in the girls' book).

Activity 1: *Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden.* Ask girls to share their colored pictures of the arrival activity of the garden girls: Cora, Campbell, and Chandra. Ask them, "Look at the pictures, what can we tell about them?" For example, "Look at Cora. She likes music." Ask them who likes music in the Girl Scout troop. Let them know these garden friends will be with us throughout our journey through the Daisy flower garden. Read Chapter 1 in the girls' book (pages 17–19).

Activity 2: "It" and "Other" cans. Give each girl a wide craft stick to decorate and help her put her name on. Also provide two cans (such as coffee cans) that girls can help decorate. When the cans and sticks are complete, you have an easy way to get girls to help with any chores related to meetings. When a helper is needed in a meeting, a stick is drawn from the "It" can, and the name draw is the helper. After the task is finished, the stick goes in the "Other" can, until all sticks have been drawn from the "It" can.

Clean-up: You may want to draw a name from the "It" can and let this girl be the leader of the clean-up. At the same time, encourage all the girls to be part of the clean-up process.

Closing: Get in the Friendship Circle (page 45 in the adult guide)



Girl Scout Daisies: Sample Meeting 2 (60 minutes)

Goal: Girls begin to plant, while developing their ability to see that throughout the world, people and plants have unique identities.

Supplies needed:

Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden, girls' books and adult guide

Seeds for basil, leaf lettuce, or citrus; gardening container for each pair of girls; a lightweight watering can

Girl Scout Promise and Law on two sheets of easel paper

Crayons

Snack or treat

Pre-meeting: Lay out the materials they need to complete the All About Me activity.

Arrival activity: Girls draw and color their picture for All About Me.

Snack/treat: Tip: Tap into your troop committee to organize and supply a healthy treat.

Opening: Form a Girl Scout Daisy Circle. Welcome the girls and ask if anyone knows how to say "hello" in another language. Tell them that Cora, one of the garden friends in the Journey books, speaks Spanish. Say "hola" (page 50 in the adult guide) and teach the girls how to say this word. Then recite the Girl Scout Promise together. Option: Have them share their All About Me pictures. Ask whether they would like to create a poster with all these pictures on it.

Business: Still sitting in the Girl Scout Daisy Circle, take care of any unfinished business. This is also a good time to start talking about the ceremony in which they will receive their Girl Scout Daisy pin.

Finally, teach them the Girl Scout Sign (page 25 in the adult guide).

Activity 1: Create their Own Garden (page 42 of the adult guide).

Activity 2: Girl Scout Daisy Circle, Garden Style game (page 44 of the adult guide). *Note:* Be sensitive to different abilities of girls and make adaptations, as needed

Clean-up: You may want to draw a name from the "It" can and let this girl be the leader of the clean-up. At the same time, encourage all the girls to be part of the clean-up process.

Closing: In the Girl Scout Daisy Circle, encourage them to share their Journey books with their family members. Have them look at page 11 in the girls' guide and suggest that they have someone help them with this page. Then close with a Friendship Circle.



Girl Scout Daisies: Sample Meeting 3 (60 minutes)

Goal: Create initial plans and invitation for their Investiture Ceremony.

Supplies needed:

Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden, girls' books and adult guide

Crayons or slim markers

Girl Scout Promise on large easel paper

Invitations to the Investiture Ceremony that they can personalize/decorate

Girl Scout Daisy Pin

Snack or treat

Pre-meeting: Set up the arrival activity and organize the supplies for making the invitations.

Arrival activity: Color the Me and My World picture with help, if needed.

Snack/treat: Check with the girls to determine whether they want to continue to have their treat at the beginning of the meeting or the end.

Opening and business: In the Girl Scout Daisy Circle, begin with the 1-2-3 Hello game. Let a girl lead it. Then recite the Girl Scout Promise. Take attendance (or select a girl to take attendance) and discuss any old or future business. Show them the Girl Scout Daisy Pin. Ask them what a ceremony is. Let them know that soon they will have a ceremony where the new Girl Scout Daisies receive this pin and the returning Girl Scout Daisies rededicate their pins. Give the girls some suggestions on things they might want to include in this ceremony. Let the girls decide from these and their suggestions what they would like to include for their ceremony, for example, saying the Promise and singing "Sandy's Song" for Daisies.

Activity 1: Color their Investiture Ceremony invitations.

Activity 2: Water plants with their plant buddies, and then sit in a Girl Scout Daisy circle to discuss the progress of their plants.



Activity 3: If it is nice outside, try Outdoor Sights (page 46 of the adult guide). If you cannot go outside, play Daisy to Daisy, an active game in which girls are paired together but the pairs do not start off the game together. One girl (or an adult) is designated to be the "caller." The caller yells out body parts, such as "knee to knee." The girls run to their partners and put their knees together. Then the caller yells, "Daisy to Daisy," the girls run and find a new partner. The person left out becomes the "caller," and the game begins again!

Clean-up: You may want to draw a name from the "It" can and let this girl be the leader of the clean-up. At the same time, encourage all the girls to be part of the clean-up process.

Closing: Form a Friendship Circle (see page 25 of the adult guide). Try singing together "Good Night, Daisies" to the tune of "Good Night, Ladies."
Good night, Daisies.

Good night, Daisies.

Goodnight, Daisies.

We're sad to see you go.

Do the Friendship Squeeze and tell them you will see them next week.

Girl Scout Daisies: Sample Meeting 4 (60 minutes)

Goal: Girls discover how Girl Scout values are part of their daily lives. Girls also learn a basic flag ceremony.

Supplies needed:

Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden, girls' books and adult guide

A small flag

Large piece of paper and markers and crayons

Snack or treat

Pre-meeting: On a large space lay out the paper, markers, and crayons.

Arrival activity: Invite the girls to decorate a welcome poster for their parents for their Investiture Ceremony the following week.

Snack/treat: Encourage healthy treats.

Opening: Form a Girl Scout Daisy Circle. Draw a name out of the "It" can, and let this girl hold the flag. Demonstrate to the girls how every girl is to stand with her hand over her heart. Recite the Pledge of Allegiance, which girls may not yet know. (That is okay.) Teach the Girl Scout Sign and recite the Promise.

Business: Practice their Investiture Ceremony opening: flag, Promise, Sign, song...whatever they have agreed on.

Activity 1: Water plants with planting partners.

Activity 2: Have a garden story time. Have the girls sit in their Girl Scout Daisy Circle and read Chapter 2 in *Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden* (pages 23–30 in the girls' book). Then try the questions on page 52 of the adult guide.

Activity 3: Garden Scamper game (page 53 of the adult guide).

Clean-up: You may want to draw a name from the "It" can and let this girl be the leader of the clean-up. At the same time, encourage all the girls to be part of the clean-up process. Suggest to the girls that Daisies leave a place cleaner than they found it. How can they do that?

Closing: Form a Girl Scout Daisy Circle. Draw a name out of the "It" can, and let that girl decide how she would like to close the Girl Scout Daisy meeting. Remind the girls that next week they will have their Investiture Ceremony.

