

All About Girl Scouts

What Do Girl Scouts Do?

Girl Scouts is all about cooperation, learning by doing, and trying new things! Every Girl Scout's experience is unique, but these are the activities that we encourage everyone to include in their Girl Scout year.



Earn at least 4 badges or other awards.

From cooking to cyber security, we have a badge that will interest every girl!

Go on at least one field trip.

Our troops visit museums, planetariums, organic farms, and more!

Participate in at least one overnight.

(Brownie Girl Scouts & older, grades 2-12) Whether it's a night at camp or an overnight at the Mall of America, these are the events girls request most!

Take part in at least one community service project.

From visiting the elderly to making dog biscuits for an animal shelter, Girl Scouts love to make the world a better place.

Enjoy at least one outdoor outing.

Snowshoeing, horseback riding, hiking—we want every girl to get outdoors and explore nature.

Participate in the world-famous cookie program.

It's more than just selling cookies—girls learn to set goals, practice money management, and develop skills to run their own business!

Attend a family event!

Girl Scouts love it when their family is involved. Many Girl Scout events include fun for the whole family.

Explore at least one STEM activity.

From making slime to building robots, our Girl Scouts love to try out STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math) activities.

Learn about at least one Girl Scout tradition.

Simple traditions such as flag ceremonies or Girl Scout holidays help girls understand that they are part of a worldwide sisterhood.



Frequently Asked Questions

What costs are involved?

Finances are never a barrier in Girl Scouting. For those who may need financial assistance, it is available to cover the cost of membership dues, troop dues (for first year members), and a sash or tunic. Girl membership is \$30. New troops typically charge additional dues of \$5-25 per girl to help cover early troop costs. Suggested uniform pieces cost approximately \$40. After the first year, most troop activity costs are covered by funds raised through the Girl Scout Cookie Program. To request financial assistance for your membership, just register online and choose Request Aid on the payment screen or call 888.747.6945.

How can parents/caregivers get involved?

Many parents/caregivers volunteer with their Girl Scout troop and find that it is a great way to spend quality time with their girls. We are always looking for volunteers to step forward to help lead a troop, and girls feel a sense of pride when they can say their mom or dad is a Girl Scout leader. Other parents/caregivers assist the troop as field trip drivers, meeting helpers, or troop cookie coordinators. Visit gsnwgl.org/volunteer to learn more about volunteering with us!

What supplies do we need to get started?

At your first troop meeting, the troop leader will share what is needed. Most girls will want a uniform to proudly display their earned badges. These can be purchased through our online shop or retail stores, and financial aid can cover these expenses. Other supplies, like scissors and markers, will be purchased with troop dues or donated by families. Visit girlscoutshop.com/GSNWGL for shop information.

Who is my daughter's troop leader? How do I get in touch with them?

Girl Scout Troop Leaders are volunteers who have been through our background check process. The leader usually holds a parent meeting prior to or during the first troop meeting. Upon registering, you will be asked to provide your phone number and email address so council staff and your troop leader can get in touch with you. If you don't hear from a troop leader within 10 days of registration, please contact the council by calling 888.747.6945 or emailing info@gsnwgl.org.

When, where, and how often will the troop meet?

Every troop is different, but most troops meet twice a month after school or in the evening. Your troop leader will find the best time and location for the troop and touch base with you on the details.

How do we sign up?

Visit gsnwgl.org/join or call 888.747.6945 to get started! Both girls and adults can register as Girl Scout members. If you are registering online, enter your zip code, radius, and grade level, and you will see some available troop options in your area. If you don't see one that looks like the perfect fit, email info@gsnwgl.org and a staff person will get in touch with you to find an option that works for you.



Can we start a new troop?

Yes! Don't see a troop that works for you? Want to start something new? Parents/Caregivers are always welcome to form new troops. We have lots of resources and training to help you get started! Call or email us today at 888.747.6945 or info@gsnwgl.org.

What happens in a Girl Scout Troop meeting?

Every troop meeting is different, because they are girl-led! Here is an example of a typical troop meeting.

Opening: The girls open their meeting by reciting the Girl Scout Promise and Law and participating in an ice-breaker or teambuilding game.

Business: Girls divide up any meeting responsibilities and vote on upcoming activities, such as what badges they will work on next month.

Activity: This is the main part of the meeting, where the girls work on earning a badge or sharing an experience. Examples might include working together to make first aid kits to earn the Daisy Safety Award, painting pumpkins for veteran's home residents, having a guest such as a therapy dog visit, or going for a walk in nature to earn the Eco Learner Badge.

Clean Up: Girl Scouts always leave a place better than they found it. The girls will learn to share responsibility and divide simple meeting chores.

Closing: Troops often end with a troop tradition, such as a song, story, or making a wish for the world.



Girls are ready to go, and they can't do it without you!
Sign up to become a Girl Scout volunteer today.