Girl Scout Brownie
Sample Meetings
(Created by Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois)

OBJECTIVE
The goal of your first four meetings is to encourage the girls and adults to get to know each other and to learn to function as a troop. Girls will be introduced to the three Brownie Journeys—Brownie Quest, Wonders of Water, and A World of Girls. Girls will also prepare for their investiture and rededication ceremony.

INTRODUCTION
What follows are basic outlines for your first four Girl Scout Brownie meetings. They are designed to help you get started, and can be changed or modified to fit the needs and interests of the girls. In preparation for the girls’ investiture and rededication ceremony, the suggested activities relate to the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Note: A few of the beginning activities are repeats of activities found in the Daisy Sample Meetings document. This is because Brownies are not much older than Daisies, and many of them may not have participated as Girl Scout Daisies. If some girls have already completed these activities, invite the girls to help lead the activities.

RESOURCES - Suggestions include but are not limited to the following:
- Brownie Quest Journey Book and Facilitator Guide
- Wonders of Water “W.O.W.” Journey Book and Facilitator Guide
- A World of Girls Journey Book and Facilitator Guide
- The Girls Guide to Girl Scouting for Girl Scout Brownies
- GSUSA’s Ceremony page www.girlscouts.org/program/gs_central/ceremonies
- The girls
- Your ideas
- Other adults in your troop
- The internet

HELPFUL HINTS
- Keep track of girls’ comments and ideas from throughout the meetings. They have good ideas!
- Work with the adults in your troop; get them involved.
- Depending on the day/time you meet, you may want to include a snack time.
- Brownies have a short attention span. Be sure to plan many activities during a meeting and break longer activities into smaller sections.
MEETING ONE

Theme: “Brownie Beginnings / Introduction to Brownie Quest”

PREPARE AHEAD
Name Tags
Other Needed Materials
- Heavy paper with the Girl Scout Promise lightly printed on the back (See the attached template.)
- Yarn (You could pre-cut it in 3-4-foot lengths or have the girls cut it themselves.)
- Fun foam letters, letter stickers, macaroni letters, etc.
- Scissors, hole punches, glue
- Other art supplies to decorate the name tag

AS GIRLS ARRIVE
As the girls arrive, give each of them the required materials to create their name tag. Instruct them to cut out the trefoil, punch the two holes and glue their name onto the tag using the materials supplied. Have the girls cut the yarn and help them (if needed) to tie the ends of the yarn together to form a name tag necklace. Once completed, they can wear the name tag.

OPENING
Introductions
- Introduce yourself and co-leader(s).
- Have each girl introduce herself—giving her name and listing a favorite something of hers (color, animal, ice cream, etc.)
- Have any adult(s) present introduce themselves as well.
- Show/instruct girls the location of the rest rooms, water fountain, and exits.
- Girls need to let the leader/adult know when leaving the meeting area to use the rest rooms/water fountain. Remember girls need a buddy (another girl) along.
- If the facility where you are meeting has any additional rules, share those with the girls.

Quiet Sign
The quiet sign is a way to silence a crowd without raising your voice. The sign is made by holding up the right hand with all five fingers extended. It refers to the original Fifth Law of Girl Scouting: A Girl Scout is courteous.
- Explain to the girls this is one of the motions the leaders will make when it is time to quiet down. When the leader raises her hand and the girls see the Quiet Sign, they should raise their hands as well and be quiet.
- “When the hand goes up, the mouth goes shut.”
- Explain why it’s important that the girls give their attention – important announcement, next instruction, too noisy, emergency, etc.

Flag Ceremony
- Choose one girl to be the Color Bearer to hold the flag and two girls for the Color Guard.
- The rest of the girls should stand to form a horseshoe.
• The Color Bearer stands at the open end of the horseshoe facing the troop, with the Color Guard on either side.
• Everyone stands at attention.
• The leader leads the Pledge of Allegiance with the girls.
• If the girls know the Girl Scout Promise, they can recite it at this time.

    *On my honor, I will try:
      To serve God and my country,
      To help people at all times,
      And to live by the Girl Scout Law*

Alternate Introduction Game - **Jump In, Jump Out**

• Ask the girls to think about what they would like to do as Girl Scout Brownies
• Girls form a circle with one girl in the center.
• All girls recite the following verse, while doing the actions:

    *Jump in, jump out, turn yourself about.*
    *Jump in, jump out, introduce yourself.*

• The girl in the middle says:

    *My name is ____________________!*  

• Everyone else responds:

    *Yeah!*  

• The girl in the middle says:

    *And I’d like to ____________________!* (She says one thing she’d like to do as a Brownie.)

• Everyone else responds:

    *Yeah!*  

• The girl in the middle says:

    *And I’m gonna do it every day!*  

• Everyone else responds:

    *Every day!*

**Adult Responsibility** – As the girls say the things they’d like to do as Brownies, write them down; keep a list of all of their ideas.

**ACTIVITY 1: Troop Agreement**

**Materials**
• Poster Board  
• Markers

With the girls, brainstorm a list of things to remember so that the troop can be safe and have fun at meetings. What are some things we can do to make sure everyone feels safe, comfortable, and welcome? Write these ideas down (if possible, using a large piece of paper so that everyone can see). When the list feels complete, ask all the girls and adults to agree to follow these rules for all future meetings.
ACTIVITY 2: For troops who are new Girl Scouts or as a refresher to returning Girl Scouts

Begin to Introduce the Girl Scout Program and Traditions

- Ask something like: “Who knows something about Girl Scouts?”
- Explain the program by saying something like, “Girl Scouts is all about making new friends and learning new things. You, the girls, get to choose what you want to do, plan it and do it.”
- Summarize the upcoming meetings by saying something like, “The next few times we meet, we will be doing fun activities so you can learn what a leader does. We will be trying different fun activities from books called Girl Scout Journeys—Brownie Quest, Wonders of Water W.O.W.!, and A World of Girls, then we will choose one to work on together.” If you have the books, share them with the girls.

ACTIVITY 3: For troops who are new Girl Scouts or as a refresher to returning Girl Scouts

Girl Scout Promise

- Ask the following questions:
  - What is a promise?
  - Why is it important to keep our promises?
  - What if we forget?
  - What do the words, “I will try” mean?
- Teach the Girl Scout symbol (right hand, three fingers)
- Teach the Girl Scout Promise:

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On my honor, I will try:
To serve God and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law
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ACTIVITY 4: Introducing Brownie Quest Journey

Materials

*Brownie Quest* Girl and Facilitator Books

Brownie Girl Scout Story

Ask one or more of the girls to read the Brownie Girl Scout story found on Page 8 of the *Brownie Quest* journey book.

ACTIVITY 5: Awards Along the Quest

Refer to pages 8-9 of the *Brownie Quest* Facilitator Guide to show the girls which awards they will earn as they complete their journey.
ACTIVITY 6: Loop the Hoop - This activity will help the girls begin to work as a team.

Materials
- Brownie Quest Facilitator Guide—Instructions on Page 60-61.
- Hula Hoop (one for every 8-10 girls)

After the girls have completed the game, ask them a few of the guiding questions found on Page 60 of the Facilitator Guide.

CLEAN-UP

Girl Scouts always leave the place looking better than how they found it. Ask each girl to be responsible for her own place and her own supplies. Or you could assign easy kapers (sweeping, collecting trash, pushing in chairs, etc.).

CLOSING

Friendship Circle
- Girls form a circle and, with their arms crossed right over left, join hands.
- One girl starts the circle by making a silent wish, then squeezing the hand of the girl on her right.
- Each girl squeezes the next girl’s hand in turn until the squeeze “gets back” to the first girl.
- The girl who began the squeeze can say, “Goodbye, Brownie Girl Scouts.”
- Remind the girls:
  - To hang their Promises where they can see them and to practice saying the words and to bring their nametag back to the next meeting.
  - When the next meeting is.
- The circle breaks and the girls find their adults.
On my honor,
I will try:
To serve God and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the
Girl Scout Law
MEETING TWO

Theme: “W.O.W.! – Wonders of Water Journey Introduction”

OPENING

Use the Quiet Sign to get the girls’ attention. Welcome them to the second meeting.

Flag Ceremony

Hold a Flag Ceremony in the same manner as the last meeting, including the Girl Scout Promise after the Pledge of Allegiance.

Activity 1: Investiture and Rededication Ceremony

Ceremonies help Girl Scouts mark special events throughout the year. An Investiture Ceremony welcomes new members, girls or adults, into the Girl Scout family for the first time. Girls receive their Girl Scout and Girl Scout Brownie pins at this time. A Rededication Ceremony is an opportunity for girls and adults to renew their commitment to the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Begin to discuss the following with the girls:
- What is the date, time and location for the ceremony?
- How can we let people know about the ceremony?
- How can we decorate for the ceremony?
- What should we do at the ceremony?

You may refer to the Girls Guide to Girl Scouting and GSUSA’s website at http://www.girlscouts.org/program/basics/traditions/ceremonies/ for additional ideas.

Activity 2: Introducing WOW! Wonders of Water Journey

Supplies Needed
- Wonders of Water Journey girl and facilitator books
- Brownie Water Droplets (2 for each girl)
- Map or globe
- Tape
- Scissors
- Pens or pencils

Say something like, “In the Wonders of Water Journey you will explore the many uses of water.” Read ‘Favorite Water Activities’ on Page 43 of the Adult Guide. Have the girls share their favorite water activities with each other and why they love doing them. Then have each girl cut out a water droplet and write down her favorite water activity and where she would love to do that activity. Maybe she’d love to swim in the ocean in Australia, drink tea with the Queen in London, or splash with an elephant in Africa. Have them tape their water droplet to a map or globe. Tell them that if they chose the W.O.W. Journey, they’ll continue to add to their Team W.O.W. Map as they discover lots about water.
The *W.O.W.!* Journey focuses on both loving water and saving water. Using Page 45 of the Adult Guide and Page 24 of the Girl Book, work together to read “The Blue Planet.” Then talk about the questions in the “Protecting Water” activity to get Brownies thinking about conserving water.

Now look at Page 29 of the Girl Book and check out the “Loving Water” section, where girls can read about ways to conserve water. Have each girl cut out a water droplet and write down her water promise, a way in which she promises to help conserve water.

**CLEAN-UP**

Girl Scouts always leave the place looking better than how they found it. Ask each girl to be responsible for her own place and her own supplies. Or, you could assign easy kapers (sweeping, collecting trash, pushing in chairs, etc.).

**CLOSING**

**Friendship Circle**

- Girls form a circle and, with their arms crossed right over left, join hands.
- One girl starts the circle by making a silent wish, then squeezing the hand of the girl on her right.
- Each girl squeezes the next girl’s hand in turn until the squeeze “gets back” to the first girl.
- The girl who began the squeeze can say, “Goodbye, Brownie Girl Scouts.”
- Remind the girls:
  - To hang their Promises where they can see them and to practice saying the words and to bring their nametag back to the next meeting.
  - When the next meeting is.
- The circle breaks and the girls find their adults.
MEETING THREE

Theme: “A World of Girls Journey Introduction”

PREPARE AHEAD

Materials
- Kaper Chart – see sample template
- Crayons, markers, pencils, etc.
- *A World of Girls* girl and facilitator

OPENING

Use the Quiet Sign to get the girls’ attention. Welcome them to the third meeting.

Flag Ceremony

Hold a Flag Ceremony in the same manner as the last meeting, including the Girl Scout Promise after the Pledge of Allegiance.

Activity 1: Introduction of a Kaper Chart

- What are kapers?
  - Kapers are the small jobs that must be done at every meeting.
  - A Kaper Chart helps us keep track of all the jobs so that the meetings run smoothly.
- Discuss ways the girls can help the troop.
  - Flag ceremonies (Color Bearer and Color Guard)
  - Activities (supply monitor and trash collector)
  - Sweeper
  - Snack helper
  - Closing squeeze starter
- Explain that when everyone helps at meetings, we are fulfilling the Girl Scout Promise: “I will try . . . to help people at all times.”
- Everyone will get a chance to do all the jobs at one point or another.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kaper Chart for June Troop Meetings:</th>
<th>June 7th</th>
<th>June 14th</th>
<th>June 21st</th>
<th>June 28th</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Responsible for closing ceremony</td>
<td>![Symbol]</td>
<td>![Symbol]</td>
<td>![Symbol]</td>
<td>![Symbol]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean up after meeting</td>
<td>![Symbol]</td>
<td>![Symbol]</td>
<td>![Symbol]</td>
<td>![Symbol]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bring a snack</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bring a game/craft/activity for meeting</td>
<td>![Symbol]</td>
<td>![Symbol]</td>
<td>![Symbol]</td>
<td>![Symbol]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What symbols should go in blanks?
Activity 2: Introducing the A World of Girls Journey

Show the girls the A World of Girls Journey. Say something like: “In the Journey, A World of Girls, we will learn about the lives of girls all over the world! You'll also explore your own world and the girls in it – your families, your friends, and girls from all parts of your life!”

Activity 3: Brownie Bingo

Materials

- Brownie Bingo Printout – one per girl (see next page)
- Pencils, crayons or markers

Each girl receives a bingo printout and goes around the room asking one another questions and filling in the boxes with the names of girls who fall into each category until each box has at least one name in it. This activity helps the girls recognize how some things are unique to one person, but other things may be more common.
<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>plays a sport</td>
<td>has a cat</td>
<td>tells jokes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>was a Girl Scout</td>
<td>loves gardening</td>
<td>can say hello in more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>than one language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>has a brother</td>
<td>has a dog</td>
<td>likes maple syrup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>has been to another</td>
<td>has curly hair</td>
<td>has straight hair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>country</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activity 4: My Unique Talents Quilt

Materials
- Construction paper, one for each girl
- Crayons or marker
- Hole punch
- Ribbon, yarn or paperclips to attach quilt squares

“A World of Girls” is all about celebrating what is unique in each of us. Have each girl design her own quilt square in which she shares a picture of something unique about her. Some examples might be:
- Coming from another country
- Speaking a second (or third!) language
- Is a superstar chef
- Has a beautiful singing voice
- Has an interesting pet
- Plays a musical instrument

Brownies may need a little bit of helping understanding what it means to be unique, so feel free to offer up some things at which you’ve seen them shine. Once each girl has completed her square, have them punch a hole in each corner then attach all of the squares together by using yarn, ribbon, or paper clips. You can have them share what they put on their square with each other as well. The girls can display the quilt on the wall at their meetings to remind them that each of them is unique, but that they are all connected together in their Brownie circle.

Activity 5: It’s Your Brownie Story Mini-Book

Materials:
- Mini-book template sheet for each girl (see next page)
- Scissors

What better way for Brownies to tell their story than with their own book, especially when it includes stickers? Use the provided template for each girl to create her own book along with stickers. You will need one sheet of 2 x 4 labels for each girl to print the “World of Girls” stickers. Don’t have the sticker supplies? Just print the instructions and book template and have girls create their own illustrations.

CLEAN-UP

Girl Scouts always leave the place looking better than how they found it.

CLOSING

Friendship Circle
1. First fold this piece of paper in half lengthwise.

2. Unfold, then fold the paper in half again, the other way.

3. Fold back one edge and then the other to meet the center fold.

4. With the paper folded in half, cut a line along the solid line on the dotted line. Be sure not to cut the paper in half.

5. How comes the tricky part? Gorilla glue on either corner of the sheet and pull out and down.

6. Fold all the pages together. Also, you can write, draw or use scrap paper or cutting lines or writing paper with guidelines. Your new book is about to grow with friends.

You've already finished this little book. Now about making another print, fold, and cut. It is a great way to put the page in the correct place as well as paper, scissors, and tape to make a book.
Print this page on adhesive label paper with 2-by-4-inch labels, 10 to a sheet. Cut and peel the pictures from the backing and use them to help illustrate your stories. Or print on plain paper and use glue.
MEETING FOUR

Theme: “Choosing a Journey”

OPENING

Use the Quiet Sign to get the girls’ attention. Welcome them to the fourth meeting.

Flag Ceremony

Hold a Flag Ceremony in the same manner as the last meeting, including the Girl Scout Promise after the Pledge of Allegiance.

Activity 1: Brownie Songs

Teach the girls one or both of the following Brownie songs.

**Brownie Smile Song**
I've got something in my pocket.
It belongs across my face,
And I keep it very close at hand
In a most convenient place.
I'm sure you couldn't guess it
If you guessed a long, long while.
So I'll take it out and put in on –
It's a great big Brownie Smile!

**Brownie Hiking Song**
We are the happy Brownies.
We are the busy elves.
We love to help each other,
And of course, we help ourselves.
We wake up in the morning
With a smile upon each face,
And even if things don't go right
We keep that smile in place.
We're the happy Brownies!

Activity 2: Girls Choose which Journey they would like to complete first

Materials:

- Brownie Quest
- W.O.W.! Wonders of Water
- A World of Girls

Say something like, “During our first three meetings, we tried different activities from each of the three Girl Scout journeys. Today we are going to vote on the journey we’d most like to do. But first, let’s review.”

- Hold up Brownie Quest and ask if the girls recall the activities they completed from this journey.
  - You can remind them. “This Journey has four awards: The Discover Key, The Connect Key, The Take Action Key and The Brownie Quest Award.” They read the Brownie story and played a game to help them work together as a team.
  - “In this journey you will go on an ELF Adventure, learning what ELF means along the journey.”
- Hold up W.O.W.! Wonders of Water and ask if they remember the activities from this journey.
  - “In the WOW! Journey, we will learn about all of the wonderful things we can do with water, but most of all, the importance of water to all of us.”
Hold up **A World of Girls**

- “In this journey, you will travel the world, learning about girls just like you from all over – what they like to do, eat, play, and so much more!”

Now ask something like. **“Do you all know which Journey you’d like to vote for?”** Have the girls close their eyes or put their heads down. As you call out each journey name, have the girls raise their hands at the one they choose and tally their votes. They can only vote once!

Announce the winning journey in an excited voice. Remind them that if their choice isn’t picked this time, perhaps it will be the next journey that is chosen.

**CLEAN-UP**

Girl Scouts always leave the place looking better than how they found it.

**CLOSING**

**Friendship Circle**

- Girls form a circle and, with their arms crossed right over left, join hands.
- One girl starts the circle by making a silent wish, then squeezing the hand of the girl on her right.
- Each girl squeezes the next girl’s hand in turn until the squeeze “gets back” to the first girl.
- The girl who began the squeeze can say, “Goodbye, Brownie Girl Scouts.”
- Remind the girls:
  - To hang their Promises where they can see them and to practice saying the words and to bring their nametag back to the next meeting.
  - When the next meeting is.
- The circle breaks and the girls find their adults.