It’s Your World—Change It:
Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden

Audience: This series is for Daisy Girl Scouts and is suitable for troops and groups.

Purpose: Girls will complete the Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden journey and can earn the three awards at the completion of the series: Watering Can, Golden Honey Bee, and Amazing Daisy. This series gives a great introduction to Girl Scouting for Daisies, and introduces the flower friends and the Girl Scout law. To earn the Watering Can award, girls must plant a mini-garden in a plastic bedding six-pack or small pot. To earn the Golden Honey Bee award, girls must then use their gardening skills to plant a small garden in their community, or donate the vegetables grown from their mini-gardens to a local charity. If gardening at your location is not possible, girls can still earn their Amazing Daisy award by learning the Girl Scout Promise and the Law.

Duration: This series is comprised of 10 sessions which are each 45 minutes long.

Required Materials: For the success of the journey, the facilitator(s) will need a copy of the adult guide for the journey, one copy per girl of the Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden journey book and markers or crayons. Additional materials for each session are listed just below the session title and it would be helpful to prepare these materials well in advance of facilitating that session.

Prior to the Series: It would be helpful for the facilitator to read the Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden journey and each session’s activities in advance to understand the “big picture” of what will be covered. All sessions in the series need to be completed in order for the girls to earn the awards and all can be expanded to add to the girls’ experience.
Session 1: Garden Girls
No additional materials required

Daisy Circle Introduction: 10 minutes
Gather the girls in a circle and explain that they are now in a Daisy Circle, which will be formed to mark special times such as: welcoming new girls, making group decisions, listening to the Daisy Flower Garden story or any other times they want to talk as a group. Have the girls introduce themselves one by one by saying their name and one thing about themselves that they want all the girls to know.

Girl Scout Promise: 5-10 minutes
Ask the girls if they know (or remember) the Promise and the Law. Explain that the Promise is the way Girl Scouts agree to act toward their sister scouts and other people. Have the girls repeat each line of the Promise after you, and say the whole Promise together as a group.

Garden Girls: 15 minutes
Read pages 5-12 with the group, which introduces the Daisy Flower Garden story and the three garden girls. Feel free to pause at page 9 for girls to share their favorite animal, and at page 11 to share who they live with from their family.

Me and My World!: 10 minutes
Have the girls turn to page 13 and complete the activity. After about 10 minutes, have them share their answers and pictures to the group.

Closing Ceremony-- Friendship Squeeze: 5 minutes
Have the girls stand in a circle, cross their right arm over their left, and link their hand with the girl’s hand next to them. Once all of the girls have linked hands, send a pulse around the circle. One person (usually an adult) will start by gently squeezing the girl’s hand beside her, and each girl will continue the squeeze around the circle. As they gently squeeze the next girl’s hand, have them think of something good about the girl beside her. After every girl has received the pulse, have them hold hands and spin around to face the outside of the circle. If time allows, you may use this at the closing of every session to give a consistent beginning and end to your troop’s Girl Scout experience.
Session 2: Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden

Additional Materials Required: pot or plastic bedding six-pack, dirt, a watering can, and vegetable seeds to plant.

**Daisy Circle: 5-10 minutes**
In the Daisy Circle, review the Girl Scout Promise and the Law and show the girls the Girl Scout Sign. Explain that the sign is the way that Girl Scouts greet each other around the world. Then ask the girls to pair up while still remaining loosely in their Daisy Circle, and have the pair of girls make the Girl Scout sign to each other.

**Garden Story Time, Chapter One: 10-15 minutes**
Have the girls turn to page 17 in their book. Read to them the first chapter of the Daisy Flower Garden story. Then review the “Girl Scout Stuff” on page 20. Show the girls how to do the Girl Scout handshake by shaking their left hands and making the Girl Scout sign with their right hands. Explain to the girls that the left-handed handshake—in contrast to the right-handed handshake that most people use—represents friendship because the left hand is closer to the heart than the right hand. Have the girls practice their handshakes.

**Mini Garden Planting: 15-20 minutes**
Talk to the girls about how much fun it would be for them to create their own garden. Follow the directions on pages 42-43 of the adult guide to begin your troop’s garden! This activity is necessary to earn the Watering Can award. Tell the girls that each week, they will water the garden and watch it grow!

**Optional: Sandy’s Song: 5 minutes**
If time allows, sing together Sandy’s Song on page 21.
Session 3: A Garden Grows
Additional Materials Required: mini garden pots and a watering can

Daisy Circle: 10 minutes
Review the Girl Scout Promise and Law and have them say “hello” to one another in Spanish like Cora in the story of Amazing Daisy. Explain that in Spanish, which is spoken in many countries including Mexico and Spain, people say hello by saying “hola!” Go around the circle and ask each girl to say “hola” to the girl to her left. Then choose a few girls to help water the growing garden.

Garden Story Time, Chapter Two: 20 minutes
Ask the girls what they remember from last session’s story. Have the girls turn to page 23 in their books, and read chapter 2 to them out loud. Feel free to pause at page 26 for the girls to share what they would like to find in a garden.

Garden Circle: 15 minutes
Ask the girls if they have a garden at home, and if so, what does it look like or have in it? Ask if they know any local gardens they like to visit. Then explain that they will play a game where they will be the critters that live in a garden. Ask what animals they think live in their local gardens (pigeons, squirrels, etc). Then tell them that you will call out the name of a garden critter, and when you do, the girls must pretend to be that critter in sound and movement. Have the girls continue to act like that critter until you call out a new one. Some fun ones to try may be a bird, frog, rabbit, squirrel and butterfly. Then call on each girl to name her favorite critter and have the group act like that critter together.
Session 4: Keys and Bees
Additional Materials Required: mini garden pots and a watering can

**Daisy Circle:** 15-20 minutes
Review the Girl Scout Promise and Law and ask the girls what they remember from last week’s story. See if any of them remember what the special key opened and who left it for them buried under ground. Then ask them a few questions about the keys in their lives:
1. Do you have any keys? (if the girls do have keys, ask them what they unlock)
2. How many keys does your family use?
3. Where does your family keep its keys?
Then choose a few girls to help water the garden. Have them look to see if anything is starting to sprout!

**Garden Scamper:** 15 minutes
Have the girls create two lines in a large, open space. Explain that you will call out the name of a garden critter, such as rabbit, bird or grasshopper. The two girls at the far end of the line must run through the center of the two lines together by using the movements of that critter. Once the girls arrive at the top of the line, they can decide on a critter to call out, and the two girls standing at the far end of the line must now run up the middle, imitating the critter the two “callers” chose. Continue through the line of girls until all have called out a critter and all have run up the line.

**Garden Grow!:** 10 minutes
Have the girls turn to page 45 in the girl journey book and draw what they think their mini garden will look like when it is fully grown!
Session 5: Amazing Daisy and her Flower Family
Additional Materials Required: mini garden pots and a watering can

**Daisy Circle: 10 minutes**
Have the girls gather in a Daisy Circle and recite the Promise and the Law. Then tell the girls how to say hello in French: “bonjour!” Explain that French is a language spoken in France and in several African counties, and one of the flower friends they will be meeting today, Mari, is from Africa and has family in France, so she would know French pretty well. Have each girl say “bonjour!” to the girl to her left and right. Then choose a few girls to help water the garden.

**Garden Story Time, Chapter Three: 20 minutes**
Have the girls turn to page 33 in their books and listen as you read chapter 3. When you have finished the chapter, explore with them some of the characteristics of the flowers. Sunny, for example, is friendly and helpful. Ask the girls questions like, “Can you think of another word for friendly?” Then pose some situations where the girls can respond if that is friendly behavior, such as “If you meet a new girl at school and you invite her to sit with you at lunch, are you being friendly?”

Then do the same with Zinni (considerate and caring) and Mari (responsible for what I say and do); ask the girls to describe the traits or come up with similar words, and then pose situations so the girls can better understand the behavior. Feel free to let them describe situations where they were friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, or responsible for what they said or did.

**Imitating Nature: 15 minutes**
Have the girls sit in a circle and ask them what natural objects can be found outside (trees, grass, rocks, etc). Then have each girl describe her front or back yard—what natural objects can be found there? If a girl does not have any outdoor space at home, have her describe what objects can be found at a local park or playground. Then have the girls pretend to be natural objects, similar to the Garden Circle in session 3; call out various natural objects and have them look like and move like that object. Some ideas are: tree, rock, blade of grass, cloud, warm sun, butterfly, ant, worm, and bird. If time allows, feel free for them to take turns, one at a time, pretending to be a natural object and have the group guess what they are pretending to be!
Session 6: Flower Friends, Flower Needs
Additional Materials Required: mini garden pots and a watering can

Daisy Circle: 5-10 minutes
Continue the tradition of forming a Daisy Circle and having the girls recite the Promise and the Law. Then have the girls share if they know any other ways to say “hello” in different languages. Share the Dutch way of saying hello: “hallo” (pronounced the same as hello except with an “a” like “apple”). Dutch is the language of the Netherlands, home of Tula the tulip, who they will meet in today’s story! Choose a few girls to help water the garden, and see if some of the vegetables are ready to pick! If you will have the ability to plant a garden (see next session) you may share the vegetables with the girls. Otherwise, consider donating them to a local church, senior center, or food bank.

Garden Story Time, Chapter Four: 20 minutes
Have the girls turn to page 47 in their books, and read chapter 4 to the group.

Garden Activities: 15-20 minutes
Have the girls open their books to page 61 and complete “The Path to My Best Garden”. Discuss as a group what is required to make a great garden (flowers need lots of water, sunlight, etc.). Have them write a few ideas on the flowers with a crayon or marker. Then have them draw their own garden with crayons or markers to complete “What’s In Your Garden.” Allow the girls to share their drawings at the end of the meeting if time allows.
Session 7: Garden Brainstorm!
Additional Materials Required: mini garden pots and watering can (if not fully grown), paper bags (1 per girl), and objects found in nature for What’s in the Bag game: rock, twig, shells, pieces of bark, pine cones, acorns, flower, etc. (1 per girl)

Daisy Circle: 5-10 minutes
Have the girls recite the Promise and the Law, and teach the girls a new way to say hello: “salam!” Tula the tulip’s family is originally from Iran, and “salam” is how you say hello in Iran. Allow the girls to greet each other with “salam” and maybe even a Girl Scout handshake! Then, if your garden is still growing, choose a few girls to water the plants. Discuss how your garden has grown!

Take Action Project Brainstorm: 20 minutes
See if the girls remember some of the flower friends from last session’s story. Which are their favorite and why?

When you have a good discussion going, guide the girls to the character of Rosie, who makes the world a better place. How are Cora, Campbell, and Chandra trying to help the Daisy Flower Garden? Then tell the girls that to earn their Golden Honey Bee award, they must do a project that helps their community. Suggest some ideas like cleaning up a community garden or planting a small vegetable patch or garden at your meeting place or somewhere else nearby. Make sure it is feasible and easy to accomplish in one session. Tell the girls that two sessions from now, the girls will complete their Take Action project. Get the girls involved in the entire process by having them bring some of the necessary items to the next meeting.

Note: if access to a garden is not possible, have the girls donate their vegetables from their mini garden to a local church, senior center, or food bank.

What’s in the Bag?: 15 minutes
Preparation Required: Place one natural object in each bag.
Have the girls begin by sitting in a circle. Allow the girls, one at a time, to place their hand in their bag and describe the object inside without looking! Does it feel smooth, rough, spiky, fuzzy, etc.? Then have her guess the object, and pull it out of the bag to see if she was right. Make sure the girls do not peek before it is their turn!
Session 8: Hooray for Bugs!
No additional materials required

Daisy Circle: 5-10 minutes
Continue the tradition of the Daisy Circle and reciting the Promise and the Law along with the last new way to say hello: “konnichiwa” (ko-nee-chee-wa). Tell the girls that in the story they will hear today, they will meet Tamiko, a girl whose family is from Japan. “Konnichiwa” is how people say hello in Japan!

Remind the girls of the things they should bring for the next session’s Take Action project, and collect any supplies the girls have already brought.

Living the Girl Scout Law: 15 minutes
Have the girls open their books to “Living the Girl Scout Law” on page 64 and see how many girls can match the flowers to the lines of the law. Allow the girls to work together in small groups or alone using the journey book to find the answers. Then if time allows, have them draw their favorite flower on the next page.

Garden Story Time, Chapter Five: 20 minutes
Read chapter 5 to the girls. Take time to discuss details of the story, asking questions like:
• Have you ever seen a ladybug? What color was it? Did you hold it in your hand?
• Do you know what ladybugs are best known for?
• How about worms? Have any of you seen worms wriggling around after a rain?
• How would you like to have some worms to eat up your fruit and vegetable peelings so you wouldn’t have any food to throw out in the garbage?

Session 9: Take Action!
Additional Materials Required: Take Action Project supplies

Take Action Project: Entire Session
Now’s the time your girls can earn their Golden Honey Bee award for taking action in their community! Make sure your Daisy parents know where you will be going if you are leaving your regular meeting place. Have the girls get as involved as possible, even if that means it takes a bit longer. Girls love to learn by doing, so let them get their hands dirty and clean up their community!
Session 10: Celebrate the Girl Scout Law!
Additional Materials Required: supplies for garden party (optional)

Daisy Circle: 10-15 minutes
Gather your girls in a Daisy Circle to reflect on their adventure taking action in their community. What was their favorite part? Then have the girls recite the Promise and the Law, and say hello to one another using their favorite way to say hello!

Garden Story Time, Chapter Six: 10-15 minutes
Read to the girls the final chapter of the Daisy Flower Garden story. Have the girls reflect on the story and what they liked best about it.

Garden Party: Remainder of Session
Throw a fun garden party with refreshments, or simply bring the girls outside for some fresh air! If you would like, have the girls complete page 83 in their journey book and draw a picture of their garden party. Then present the girls with their three awards:
• The Watering Can Award for being “responsible for what I say and do” by planting a mini garden
• The Golden Honey Bee Award for making the world a better place
• The Amazing Daisy award for knowing and living the Promise and the Law!