

Silver Award Project

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Service Unit Recruitment Event

Location and Time

An outside pavilion is an ideal choice for a location. The event can be held inside, but then there might not be enough room to have all the activities included. With the pavilion, there is a lot of room to spread apart the activities and give the girls room to be active with the stations. The rental price for the township pavilion was affordable for the Service Unit. Having the event in a park or near a playground can be nice.

A two-hour window is recommended. Also, choose a time that isn't during a meal time, for example 9am to 11am on a Saturday.

Publicity

For publicity, flyers were posted in stores in the area and public bulletin boards. Current Girl Scouts can be given flyers to hand out to friends.

A Facebook event can be made and shared with a few leaders and friends in the target area. Ask them to share it with girls and adults in the area.

It can be difficult, but school connections are very important. If the school can hand out flyers it would be very helpful.

Staffing

A staff of at least 5 adults or older Girl Scouts (Cadettes and up) is recommended to staff the stations at the event. An email or post to a website can be sent to ask for help. Council representatives can also be invited to attend and help.

If a large number of girls are expected, ask that the leaders Girl Scouts and younger/older siblings stay at home, so that the focus can be on the target area's girls attending the event. But, if not many girls are coming, having one or two Girl Scouts their age there can be good so they aren't alone.

Volunteers were asked to wear jeans, a Girl Scout shirt, and leader pins if they had them.

Supplies

Each activity has its own supply list and most items a leader might have or cost very little. Also, Girl Scout banners, yard signs, balloons and station signs make the event more fun and catches people's attention.

For events in general, there are always some basic items to bring along. When hosting an event, it's always good to have some extra supplies in a bag that you bring no matter what. In it should have things like:

- Tape
- Twine
- Scissors
- Sharpies
- Pens

It's always good to have these items on hand in case you run into a situation where you will need them and you didn't think of it before.

Activities

The event is set up as stations so girls can move through multiple activities. The theme is courage, confidence, and character with camping, a favorite Girl Scout activity, added of course. Each station coordinates with this theme. Attached are specific details for each station.

- Information
- Coloring and badges
- Singing and traditions
- Science experiments
- Crafts and first aid
- Games
- Camping and outdoors

Plan for The Day

For example, say the event runs from 9 am to 11 am. Through the 2 hours the girls will rotate through 4 different Girl Scout related stations. Girls should be greeted when they arrive and be invited to a station. As the girls are rotating, the parent(s) can get their questions or concerns answered at the information table.

Information

The information Station should be set up with all of the latest marketing information and recruitment supplies that available. This is the place to have your most positive and experienced volunteers. It is also great to have some examples of fun things the girls in your area have done. Ask around and search your home to find some favorite cookie prizes, fall product rewards, t-shirts, bandanas, etc. to include on your table. The more merch the better!

Be sure to have a sign-up sheet for follow up or use the council provided recruitment cards. It is helpful if you know all the current troops in the area along with their meeting times and locations. This information not only helps with girls looking for specific locations to attend meetings but also where a new troop could be added.



Coloring and Badges

Supplies:

Crayons

Printed Coloring Pages (see next two pages)

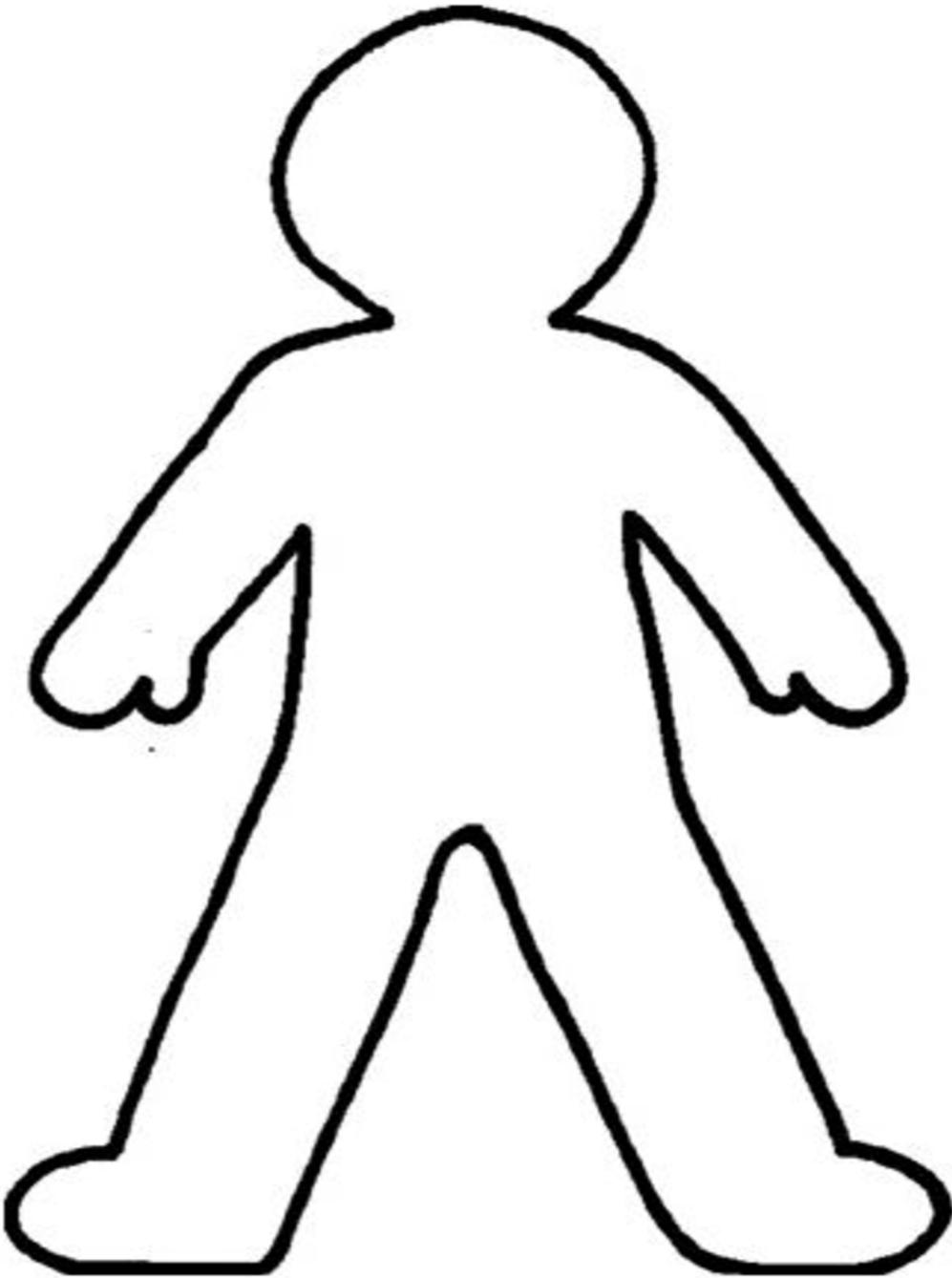
Vests

The legacy of Girl Scouts is a powerful force. Often known by our signature vests, be sure to have multiple levels of vests for the girls and parents to see and touch. This also serves as a measuring tool for sizing a new Girl Scout.

Coloring pages are a great immediate activity that does not require any explanation. Girls can just sit down and start coloring while their parents are being greeted.



COLOR YOURSELF



Traditions and Songs

Here are a few basic Girl Scout traditions that you can talk about or even teach at this station.

- For generations Girl Scouts have been opening meetings with the Girl Scout sign as they say the Girl Scout Promise. The three fingers represent the three parts of the Promise.
- A traditional meeting closing is the friendship circle. Everyone stands in a circle, crosses their right arms over their left, and clasps hands with their friends on both sides. This circle stands for an unbroken chain of friendship with Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world. Don't forget to make a silent wish as a friendship squeeze is passed from hand to hand.
- When attending large events or traveling Girl Scouts often make small tokens of friendship to exchange with the Girl Scouts or Girl Guides they meet. These little gifts are called SWAPS, which stands for "Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere" or "Shared With A Pal". They can be complicated or simple.
- Songs, Songs, Songs! The top 5 camp songs of all time are Kookaburra, Make New Friends, Linger, Princess Pat and Brownie Smile. Here is another favorite one:

THE LITTLEST WORM

The littlest worm
I ever saw
Was stuck inside
My soda straw! (repeat all together)

He said to me
Don't take a sip
For if you do
I'll surely flip! (repeat)

I took a sip
And he went down
All through my pipes
He surely drowned!
(repeat)

He was my pal
He was my friend
But now he's gone
And that's the end! (repeat)

The moral of
This story is
Don't take a sip
Of soda fizz!



Science Experiments

Share our many opportunities for Girl Scouts to enjoy the love of science. Pick a project that is super fun, exciting, creative, and have the potential to empower girls to further explore science and engineering. For example, this experiment is easy to do and fun to watch.

ELEPHANT'S TOOTHPASTE

MATERIALS

- 16 oz empty plastic bottle (preferably with a narrow neck such as those made by Coca-Cola)
- 1/2 cup 20-volume hydrogen peroxide (6% solution, can be purchased from a beauty supply store)
- Cup and tablespoon liquid measuring cups (or mark regular cups at 1/2 cup and 2 tbsp)
- Squirt of Dawn dish detergent
- 3-4 drops of food coloring
- 1 teaspoon yeast
- 2 tablespoons very warm water
- 1 popsicle stick
- 1 small cup
- Funnel (optional if using small bathroom cups)
- Foil cake pan with 2-inch sides
- latex gloves
- Safety glasses (optional)
- Lab smock (optional)



EXPERIMENT

1. Have students put on gloves, safety glasses and lab smock.
2. Put yeast into small bathroom cup. Add warm water, stir to mix with popsicle stick. Let sit.
3. Stand the bottle up in the center of the cake pan. Put the funnel in the opening.
4. Add 3-4 drops of food coloring to the peroxide and pour the peroxide through the funnel into the bottle.
 - Show a water molecule diagram and a peroxide molecule diagram, pointing to the extra oxygen that will be set free in the reaction.



5. Add the Dawn detergent to the peroxide in the bottle.
6. Pour the yeast mixture into the bottle and quickly remove the funnel.
The students can touch the bottle to feel any changes that take place.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The addition of the yeast as a catalyst makes the peroxide molecule release the oxygen atom faster.

OBSERVATIONS

The reaction creates foam that shoots up out of the bottle and pools in the pan. After a minute or so, it begins to come out in a moving stream that looks like toothpaste being squeezed out of a tube. The students can play with the foam as it is just soap and water with oxygen bubbles. The bottle will feel warm to the touch as this is an exothermic reaction.



Crafts and First Aid

A Girl Scout is ready to help out wherever she is needed. Willingness to serve is not enough; you must know how to do the job well, even in an emergency. – Excerpt from the 1947 Girl Scout Handbook

“Be Prepared” is a continuing theme in Girl Scouting. First Aid is a great example of this and is often a badge earned at multiple levels. This subject ties well into a crafting station for an easy activity.



DUCT TAPE FIRST AID KIT

Materials

- Duct tape (fun prints are the best)
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Band-Aids and other items such as individual packets of Neosporin to place into the kit



Lay a 10 inch piece of duct tape on your work surface, sticky side up. Place another piece, same size, on top overlapping by 1/2, like the picture. (This piece will also have 1/2 of its width exposed and sticky, but face down.)



Do the same to cover up the other side of the exposed duct tape. Now flip your duct tape fabric over.



You now can flip the piece over again and fold the tape over the edges so you have no more exposed sticky parts.

Trim the short ends to clean up and fold the tape so these ends are touching.



Now add shorter strips of tape to both sides to “close” up the pouch.

Now add your Band-Aids and you’re done!

Games

Games are a part of growing and learning about others while having fun. They can serve as ice breakers, fill time or even be the main event!

LAPSTACK

Sit everyone in a circle. Each player should have a chair.

Read the statements one at a time to the guests.

If a person answers no, they stay where they are. If they answer yes, they move to sit in the next seat on their right, even if someone is sitting there already!

After a while there will be several players sitting on laps...even 4 at a time.

You can make up your own list of questions or criteria. Here are a few suggestions:

- If you are wearing shoes that tie
- If you are wearing a watch
- If you have on a button on your clothes
- If you are wearing a ring
- If you are having fun
- If your birthday is in January
- If you are wearing yellow
- If you made the bed you slept in
- If you have a zipper
- If you are wearing pants
- If you have green eyes
- If you have been to Hawaii
- If you like chocolate
- If speak a foreign language
- If your birthday is in November
- If you had breakfast today
- If you went to school yesterday

Camping and Outdoors

Time for Camping! There are many ways to camp and between lodges, cabins, platform tents, and even primitive camping it is time to try. So many girls don't get enough opportunities to get away from it all and enjoy outdoor adventures. As council often reminds us, Girl Scout Camp is often the first time a girl gets to ride a horse or challenge herself on a ropes course. Like our troop meetings, camp programs are girl-centered and designed to help each girl find her confidence, discover her leadership potential and make new friends in a supportive, all-girl environment.

Set up a display of what the girls might see at an overnight camp. Let them climb in and see it all, right down to a lovey!

