



GIRL SCOUT FAMILY GUIDE

2020–2021

Let's Get Connected!

Connect with us on our social platforms to see what's the buzz at our hive! From programs to troop features and service projects, we are always excited to feature the amazing things our Girl Scouts are doing in our community and beyond! Don't forget to send pictures of your troop activities to marketing@hngirlscouts.org. You never know when you'll be featured!



Girl Scouts, Hornets' Nest Council



@girlscoutshnc



@gshnc



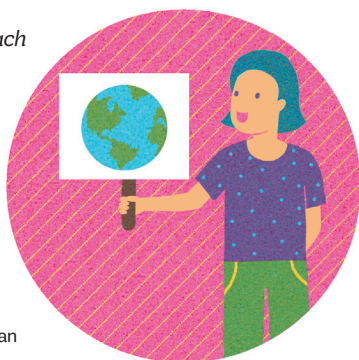
Girl Scouts, Hornets' Nest Council

What Girl Scouts Is All About

Girl Scouts helps your girl be her best, bravest, boldest self each and every day. The benefits go way beyond the badges and awards she'll earn as recognition of the new skills she's learning. Whether she's finishing a school project, making a new friend, or speaking up for what's right, a Girl Scout faces the world with confidence and optimism.

Her Hopes and Dreams

Right at this moment, there are Girl Scouts learning about our universe, climbing mountains, painting murals, coding robots, feeding the hungry, and even suggesting new laws to make the world a better place. If she can dream it, Girl Scouts can take her there.



Her Growth

There's no need to be perfect in Girl Scouts. This is a community where your girl is seen and unconditionally accepted for exactly who she is today and all that she can be tomorrow. When she feels confident enough to try new things and work through problems, she'll achieve great things.

Her Success

With her group or "troop" of Girl Scout sisters by her side, your girl will aim higher, try harder, and bounce back faster in those moments when she doesn't quite hit her target. Get ready to see her shine like never before.



The State of Girls in North and South Carolina

Based on the 2017 State of Girls Report, a report from the Girl Scout Research Institute, North Carolina is currently ranked 41st in the nation, and South Carolina is 40th, based on national measures of girls' well-being.

Now more than ever, it is imperative that we invest in girls. As the largest girl-serving organization in the world, Girl Scouts is committed to ensuring that all girls develop to their full potential. It is our job to provide them with leadership experiences for discovering the world around them, connecting to supportive adults, and taking action in the world now and in the future. Statistics are not destiny!

Through the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, girls are equipped with the skills, passion and ability to be successful leaders as they recognize a sense of self, learn positive values, become challenge seekers, develop healthy relationships and contribute to the community and beyond.

Girl Scouts' Regional Impact By the Numbers

25% of girls are living in poverty. Girl Scouts, Hornets' Nest Council believes all GirlS should have access to the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. Through community sponsors, our Girls Go Beyond program directly delivers free programming to girls, regardless of socio-economic barriers.

28% of girls do not participate in any organized activities. Through hands-on, girl-led, girl-centered learning in STEM, the outdoors, and entrepreneurship, Girl Scouts have abundant opportunities to develop invaluable life skills.

18% of girls are not involved in community service or volunteer work. Every year, Girl Scouts spend over 75 million hours improving their communities. With a mission built around making the world a better place, Girl Scouts seek change through take action projects.

34% of girls report being a victim of bullying. Through anti-bullying programs like Be a Friend First (BFF), Girl Scouts provides essential tools to overcome negative influences and empowers girls to build positive relationships.

12% of girls have emotional, developmental or behavioral issues. Girl Scouts are more likely to develop a strong sense of self, gain role models to look up to, and grow friendships which build a network of supporters for life!

We Promise

Girl Scouts' ideals are clearly stated in our Promise and Law, which members of all levels recite. The Girl Scout Family Promise is a commitment your family can make to support your girl and her Girl Scout community as they grow as leaders and make the world a better place.

Girl Scout Promise

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.

Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be

honest and fair,

friendly and helpful,

considerate and caring,

courageous and strong, and

responsible for what I say and do,

and to

respect myself and others,

respect authority,

use resources wisely,

make the world a better place, and

be a sister to every Girl Scout.

Girl Scout Family Promise

On my honor, I will try:

To support my Girl Scout

And her troop,

To help girls lead at all times,

And to always keep it fun!

*Members may substitute for the word God in accordance with their own spiritual beliefs.

Girls make the **Girl Scout sign** when saying the Promise. Try it by holding up your right hand like this:



Keep track as your girl levels up through the years!



Daisies
Grades K-1



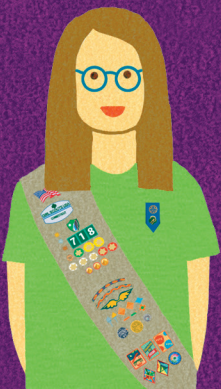
Brownies
Grades 2-3



Juniors
Grades 4-5



Cadettes
Grades 6-8



Seniors
Grades 9-10



Ambassadors
Grades 11-12

Set Her Up for Success

You want a brighter, better tomorrow for your girl—and that's exactly what we want, too. When you stick with Girl Scouts and allow us to work hand-in-hand with your family, you're investing in her future and preparing her to thrive.

Although all members benefit from being a Girl Scout, studies show girls who participate in the program for three or more years are significantly more likely to:

- Achieve higher education levels and income
- Feel satisfied with their lives
- Practice leadership
- Be civically engaged
- Have healthy relationships
- Have a positive sense of self

What more could you want for your girl? Invite her friends to join the adventure this year—it's never too late!—then in the spring, secure her spot for the 2021-22 Girl Scout year. Head to www.hngirlscouts.org/join for more info on girl and adult memberships.

Our Troop Model

The traditional Girl Scout Troop model gives you and your Girl Scout something to look forward to year round! The average Troop meets twice a month where girls get together with friends, learn new skills, take field trips and explore the outdoors. Through the Membership application, girls owe a \$25 membership fee, which helps fund program development and Council services. Some troops will also require troop dues, which can help fund everything from patches to snacks and activities in between.

Financial Aid

Every girl should have the opportunity to be a Girl Scout. If you need help, our financial assistance can cover costs of:

- Membership fees (girls and volunteers)
- Starter uniform pieces (vest, tunic or sash with starting insignia - Council ID, WAGGGS pin, American Flag and troop numbers.
- Books (Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting or Journey Books)

Reach out to our Customer Care team at customer care@hngirlscouts.org or at (704) 731-6500 to get more information about applying for financial aid.

Calling All Juliettes!

A Juliette, or individually registered Girl Scout, has the same Girl Scout experience as any other girl—outdoor adventures, life skill training, entrepreneurial programming, and hands-on STEM experiments with the support of a Girl Scout volunteer—she simply does it all without being in a troop setting. If you're interested in becoming a Juliette family, reach out to your council for guidance, support, and to stay up on cool events the whole family can attend.

Keep the Fun Going with Girl Scouts at Home

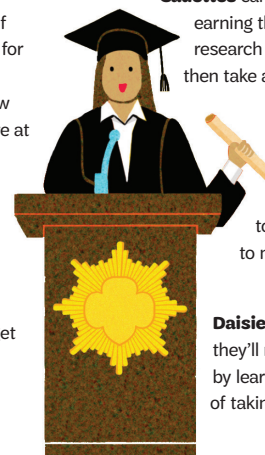
Troop meetings are awesome, but why let the good times stop there? We've handpicked the most engaging and inspiring Girl Scout activities for you and your girl to try out at home—and brought them to life like never before. Head to girlscouts.org/athome to check out our free video tutorials for standalone projects, or work on earning a badge from virtually anywhere.



Go for the Girl Scout Gold Award

Who is a Gold Award Girl Scout? She's driven, passionate, and optimistic. She's the leader of tomorrow today. She's an amazing candidate for colleges, scholarships, and exciting careers. Essentially? She's you—either today or in a few years! Learn what girls of all levels can achieve at girlscouts.org/highest-awards.

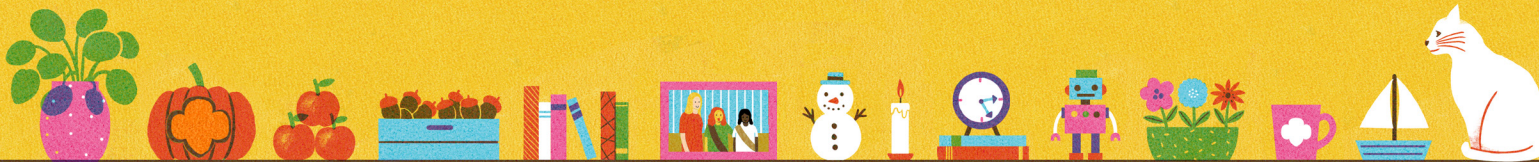
Seniors and Ambassadors can earn the **Girl Scout Gold Award** by tackling community problems while driving lasting change in their neighborhoods and beyond. Reach out to your local Girl Scout council to get started on your path to the Gold Award.



Cadettes can get ready for Gold Award success by first earning the **Girl Scout Silver Award**. You'll research an issue you care about, make a plan, then take action to improve your community.

Juniors can prep for the Gold Award by first earning the **Girl Scout Bronze Award**. You'll team up with other girls to learn about an issue and work together to make a difference in your town.

Daisies and Brownies can practice the skills they'll need to become Gold Award Girl Scouts by learning about the world and the importance of taking action to make it better.



Forming a Girl Scout Troop

In addition to hundreds of openings currently available in existing troops, you are able to form a new troop, giving yourself the ability to ensure your Girl Scout has the opportunity to participate in Girl Scouting in a way that works for your family.

Troop Roles

All Troops are required to have at least 2 co-leaders to ensure an impactful experience for girls, volunteers and families! When forming a new troop, 2 volunteers are required to become a co-leader at that time in order for the troop to form.

Troop Leader Responsibilities

- Liaise with service unit volunteers and council staff.
- Manage the troop's finances.
- Communicate with parents.
- Ensure girl safety.
- Guide the troop's Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE).

Troop Volunteer Responsibilities

- Assist the troop leader.
- Ensure girl safety.
- May drive girls, coordinate finances, and/or chaperone troop activities.
- Provide extra help at troop meetings.

Benefits of Forming a New Troop (versus Joining an Existing Troop)

When you form a new troop, you and the other parents/volunteers forming the troop have the opportunity to determine the day of the week, time, and location of troop meetings, ensuring your new troop fits into the existing commitments in your life.

Speak to the Membership Representative leading your introduction into Girl Scouting, or reach out to our Customer Care team at customercare@hngirlscouts.org or 704-731-6500 to learn more about forming a troop.

All About My Troop

Fill in the details of your girl's troop and keep this handy all year long!

Troop number: _____

Troop co-leader phone/email: _____

Troop co-leader phone/email: _____

Troop co-leader phone/email: _____

Meeting place: _____

We meet at _____ on _____, every _____ week/s.
[FILL IN TIME] [FILL IN DAY] [FILL IN NUMBER]

The girls in the troop are:

Important cookie dates:

Our family is helping out by:

Other important information:

Your Girl Scout Council is Girl Scouts, Hornets' Nest Council

7007 Idlewild Road,
Charlotte, NC 28212
www.hngirlscouts.org

(704) 731-6500
customercare@hngirlscouts.org



Girl Scouts Make a Difference

A cornerstone of the Girl Scout experience is a dedication to making the world a better place. It's part of the Girl Scout Law, after all! When it comes to teaching your girl positive values, Girl Scouts focuses on encouraging girls to look at their communities and determine ways to help others, whether through community service projects alone or with their troop, advocacy for others, or Civic Action! What ways does the Girl Scout Law encourage girls to be a leader in her own life and in her community, and how can you help her continue to learn these values at home?

Be Fair

When your girl identifies something that's unfair, ask her to explain what a better solution would look like and how it would work. There may be several ways to solve the same problem, so help her think through as many as she can come up with and decide which one she thinks is the most fair for all involved.

Be Friendly and Helpful

Encourage all family members to look for ways to help around the house. Rotate chores so everyone's contributing equally and nothing's seen as a "boy" or "girl" task. Your girl may not love trash day or dish

duty, but it will give her pride in a job well done and build her appreciation for helpers in her life.

Be Considerate and Caring

Model thoughtfulness for your girl by asking about her feelings and truly listening when she answers. Discuss the importance of putting yourself in someone else's shoes and trying to understand their point of view before deciding how to react in any given situation.

Be Courageous and Strong

Talk to her about a time when you were nervous about speaking up for what you believed was right but did it anyway. Ask if she's ever been in a similar situation and how it went, then remind her that sometimes we have to be brave to make a difference.

Be Responsible for What She Says and Does

When you notice not-so-awesome behavior in your girl, take time to talk with her about it and understand what's going on rather than simply punishing her for her actions. Talking about her actions and why she takes them will help her do better next time.