

SAMPLE FIRST FOUR GIRL SCOUT JUNIOR MEETINGS

Objective: To renew old friendships, welcome new members, and establish a pattern of girl/adult partnership which will carry through the year.

Meeting 1

START UP ACTIVITY

Begin creating Jumpin' Jivin' Junior Books--Give each girl several sheets of plain white paper folded in half. They chat with each other, trying to find something unique about each girl (a hobby, former residence, favorite TV show, etc.). On the pages, they can collect signatures and write the interesting facts.

OPENING

Two or three returning members can lead the troop in an opening that they enjoyed last year or choose one girl to hold the American flag while the others recite the Pledge of Allegiance and the Girl Scout Promise. Sing Make New Friends:

*Make new friends, but keep the old.
One is silver and the other gold.
A circle's round. It has no end.
That's how long I want to be your friend.*

BUSINESS

Discuss troop government options and select a form of troop government. (See the Junior Girl Scout Handbook) Elect officers appropriate to the form of government selected.

ACTIVITIES

Brainstorm plans for the year--make available copies of the Junior Girl Scout Badge Book and the Journey materials, service project ideas, patch programs, etc. If the troop is large enough, assign a committee to look over each resource and make a recommendation to the troop. Discuss the ideas and vote on one activity to begin with.

Play the Girl Scout Law Relay

- Print the ten parts of the Girl Scout Law on large index cards, making one set of cards for each team.
- Mix the cards in each set and place them face down at the starting line.
- Set up an area where the Girl Scout Law will be assembled - a table top or bulletin board.
- Divide the troop into two teams.
- The first girl picks up a card and runs to the assembly area for her team. She places the card and runs back.
- The next player then takes a card, runs up, and places it in the proper place.
- Each girl in turn adds another card until the Law is complete. (If a girl feels a card has been misplaced, she can change it when it is her turn.)
- The first team to construct the Girl Scout Law in the correct sequence wins the game.

CLEANUP

Explain that a Girl Scout leaves a meeting place cleaner than she found it. All the girls help with clean-up.

Continued...

CLOSING

Friendship Circle and Squeeze --the girls join hands to form a circle, crossing arms right over left. One girl makes a silent wish, and then squeezes the hand of the girl on her right. Each girl squeezes the next girl's hand in turn until the squeeze passes back to the first girl. The girl who began the squeeze can say, "Goodbye, Girl Scouts." The circle breaks and the girls go to their parents.

Meeting 2

START UP ACTIVITY

Make Girl Scout Promise and Girl Scout Law pages for the Jumpin' Jivin' Junior Books that the girls began last time. They can copy the words and write a few sentences or make an illustration to show why the Girl Scout Promise and Law are important to them.

OPENING

Have an opening just as you did in meeting #1.

BUSINESS

Using their troop government system (i.e. Patrols, Town Meeting, Executive Board—see the Junior Girl Scout Handbook) discuss troop dues. Ask the following questions:

- What will we need money for?
- How much money will we need for the activities we would like to do?
- What other ways do we have of building our treasury?
- What would be a reasonable amount for the weekly dues?
- How can the girls earn the money for their dues? (save from allowance, extra chores, etc.)

ACTIVITIES

Begin the activity selected at the last meeting.

Kaper Chart--introduce the concept of girls sharing in the responsibility of planning troop meetings. A Kaper Chart for troop meetings could include planning Opening and Closing, selecting a game or song to learn, taking attendance, collecting dues, and, of course, clean-up. A patrol or committee of girls could make the Kaper Chart.

Learn the following song *Whene'er You Make a Promise*:

*Whene'er you make a promise
Consider well it's importance
And when made
Engrave it upon your heart.*

CLEAN-UP

Use the Kaper Chart to select helpers.

CLOSING

Friendship Circle and Squeeze--remind the girls that dues will be collected next week and that the Kaper Chart will be used.

Continued...

Meeting 3

START UP ACTIVITY

Make a cover for the Jumpin' Jivin' Junior Book. The girls can fold a piece of construction paper in half and print the words "Jumpin' Jivin' Junior Book on it. To decorate the cover, provide stamp pads with ink in several colors. Each girl makes a design using her fingerprints. She can invite her friends to include their fingerprints in the design. Provide additional blank white pages on which the girls can write about the activities they do at meetings. Throughout the year, pages could be added with songs they have learned, memories of troop trips, etc.

OPENING

Use the Kaper Chart to select one or two girls to lead the opening. They will determine what to do.

BUSINESS

Take attendance and collect dues. Brainstorm ideas for an investiture/rededication. Reference various Girl Scout Junior publications or Let's Celebrate: Girl Scout Ceremonies for ideas.

ACTIVITIES

Continue working on the activity selected by the girls at the first meeting.

Make decorations and invitations for the investiture/rededication. If the girls have decided to write their own ceremony, give them time to do so.

CLEAN-UP

As per the troop Kaper Chart.

CLOSING

As per the troop Kaper Chart.

Meeting 4

START UP ACTIVITY

Girl Scout Junior Resource Scavenger Hunt—set out various GSUSA and GSHPA publications and resources appropriate to the Girl Scout Junior level. Have girls find one activity that interests them with the troop. (Tuck these ideas away and plan to discuss at a future meeting—perhaps some of these ideas will be the basis of future meetings.)

OPENING

As per the troop Kaper Chart.

BUSINESS

Take attendance and collect dues.

Continued...

ACTIVITIES

Practice Investiture/Rededication ceremony.

Continue working on the chosen activity--if the girls have completed a badge, patch, or segment of a journey, the award could be presented at the ceremony.

CLEAN-UP

As per the troop Kaper Chart.

CLOSING

As per the troop Kaper Chart.