



# Daisy Girl Scout

## Age Group Characteristics



Every Girl Scout is unique, with different needs, interests, and levels of development. Girl Scout Daisies are girls in kindergarten and first grade. Some girls may exhibit traits of slightly older girls, while others may still be developing certain characteristics. When working with Daisies, it is important to keep in mind the differences in their emotional, social, physical, and intellectual characteristics.

	Kindergartener	First Grader
<b>Physical Characteristics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has a good appetite, burns energy rapidly, needs frequent snacks</li> <li>• Usually tires early in the evening</li> <li>• Has better control of larger muscles than smaller muscles</li> <li>• Cannot sit still for long periods of time</li> <li>• Hand-eye coordination is maturing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has a large appetite</li> <li>• Can play at an activity for longer periods of time and is very active</li> <li>• Is more able to work or play in one place without fidgeting</li> <li>• Is able to do fine motor activities and has better hand-eye coordination</li> <li>• Is ready to take on more complex activities</li> </ul>
<b>Intellectual Characteristics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions the whys and wherefores of surroundings</li> <li>• Learns by doing, experiencing and playing</li> <li>• Can print some letters, numbers and words</li> <li>• Cannot easily see the viewpoint of another if it is different from her own</li> <li>• Can last in an adult-directed activity for about 20 minutes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is beginning to read</li> <li>• Is interested in realism, magic, and fantasy</li> <li>• Is curious and eager to learn but sometimes acts as if she knows it all</li> <li>• Is more attentive and active</li> <li>• Can attend to an adult-directed activity for about 20–30 minutes, but needs action</li> <li>• Likes to be read to</li> <li>• Is the center of her universe</li> </ul>
<b>Emotional Characteristics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wants to do things herself</li> <li>• Is usually cooperative</li> <li>• Is close to parents</li> <li>• Wants the approval and support of adults and peers</li> <li>• Understands rules and tries to conform</li> <li>• May blame others for her mistakes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can be inconsistent in behavior: friendly, angelic, unfriendly, mischievous</li> <li>• Needs lots of praise and encouragement</li> <li>• Needs indirect supervision and direction. Usually overreacts to negative correction</li> <li>• Usually wants her own way</li> <li>• Has an interest in what’s “good” or “bad”</li> <li>• Shows growing independence</li> </ul>
<b>Social Characteristics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Likes to play with peers</li> <li>• Prefers to work in small groups (2–3)</li> <li>• May need support in completing cleanup, in putting things away and being neat</li> <li>• Can engage in group discussion</li> <li>• Is interested in making up roles</li> <li>• Is capable of compromise, waiting her turn and working out disputes with adult support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plays a great deal in groups</li> <li>• Has some trouble with same-age peers. Often plays better with slightly older children</li> <li>• Wants adults to like her</li> <li>• Likes to have “jobs,” but is often careless with possessions, loses things easily and is absent-minded</li> <li>• Wants to make lots of friends</li> </ul>