

Girl Scout Leadership Experience For Daisies

The **Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE)** is what makes Girl Scouts unique compared to any other youth serving organization. Girls should know that being a girl should not limit their ability to achieve their dreams. Daisies need to learn that they can lead and make decisions. One way to help the girls develop these skills is by using the Girl Scout Daisy circle. This is a simple form of troop government that consists of sitting in a circle together to voice opinions and ideas. This can be facilitated by the adult volunteer using a talking stick. This could be a decorated stick that the girls pass around the circle. When a girl has the stick she can talk and the rest of the girls mustn't interrupt her. When she is finished with her idea or opinion, she passes the stick to the next girl who would like to talk. Using this method of troop government helps teach girls to take turns, to be polite, and it also gives everyone a chance to speak.



- Are better able to recognize their strengths and abilities
- Recognize that their choices of actions or words have an effect on others
- Gain greater knowledge of what is healthy for mind and body

In Girl Scouting, girls **connect** with others including their family and friends, Girl Scout sisters, peers, and people in the community.

At the Daisy level, this means girls:

- Are better able to demonstrate helpful and caring behavior
- Begin to learn how to work well with others
- Recognize that it's okay to be different

In Girl Scouting, girls **take action** to make the world a better place.

At the Daisy level, this means girls:

- Learn the basics of planning a project
- Are better able to assist peers and seek help from them
- Feel their actions and words are important to others

Three Keys to Leadership

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience shows girls 3 keys to leadership:

Discover
Connect
Take Action



In Girl Scouting, girls **discover** their values and what's important to them. Part of being a leader is using your skills and knowledge to make a difference where it matters to you.

At the Daisy level, this means girls:



How Do Girls Do This?

It's not just what girls do in Girl Scouts, but how they do it that creates the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.

Girl Scout activities are based on the 3 keys to leadership, and on the three Girl Scout processes:

Girl Led Learning by Doing Cooperative Learning

Girl Led means that girls of every age take an active and grade-appropriate role in figuring out the what, where, when, why, and how of what they do. The girls in Girl Scouts should be the doers, the planners, and the implementers of their activities whenever possible.

Ways to make Daisy activities Girl Led include:

- Making a list of activities and asking girls to vote on which they prefer
- Encouraging girls to volunteer for tasks they think they would be good at
- Helping with decision making by using question words: who, what, when, where, why and how

Learning by Doing is hands-on learning that engages girls in an ongoing cycle of action and reflection. When girls actively participate in meaningful activities and later reflect on them, they get a deeper understanding of concepts and mastery of skills in both action and reflection.

To help Daisies Learn by Doing they could:

- Explore ideas by testing theories in hands-on activities
- Identify activities that girls can do with limited assistance
- Explore the outdoors in ways that engage their motor skills and 5 senses

Cooperative Learning is designed to promote sharing of knowledge, skills, and learning in an atmosphere of respect and cooperation as girls work together on goals that can only be accomplished with the help of others.

To encourage Cooperative Learning with Daisies:

- Have girls take responsibility as a team for deciding how to accomplish a task
- Demonstrate giving members of the group equal opportunity to participate in discussions
- Have girls write or draw in a journal about how they contribute to a group experience

