

## **Daisy Flower Garden**

In this journey for kindergarteners and first-graders, a favorite pastime—gardening—meets the Girl Scout Law. The result is a storybook world of flowers and little girls who, together, do great things. Girl Scout Daisies will especially enjoy meeting the colorful, global characters who teach them to live the Girl Scout Law. The adult "how-to" guide offers Garden Story Time tips, key ideas for garden projects, and all the Girl Scout history and traditions needed for an adventure starring Amazing Daisy, a new flower friend for Girl Scout Daisies

## **Daisy Flower Garden Awards**

Like all Girl Scout journeys, "Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden" focuses on the leadership philosophy of girls discovering (themselves and their values), connecting (caring and teaming), and taking action (to improve their communities and the world). For Girl Scout Daisies, the best way to experience this leadership philosophy is by practicing the Girl Scout Law. So the journey's three awards, which tie directly to the garden theme, recognize girls' progress in applying the Law to their lives.

The Watering Can Award represents girls being responsible for what they say and do. They earn the award by caring for their mini garden and beginning to understand how the Promise and Law play out in their personal lives. The watering can, a source of nourishment in a garden, also serves as a dual symbol: The girls nurture their mini-garden while they nurture themselves by learning the Promise and Law. (Session 3 is an ideal time for girls to earn this award.)

The Golden Honey Bee Award represents taking action—in a big or a small way— to make the world a better place. The award is named for Honey, the bee who leads the girls of the garden story to Amazing Daisy and the Daisy Flower Garden. Girls earn the award as they complete a planting or growing project in their community (probably around session 5)

The Amazing Daisy Award represents knowing—and living—the Promise and Law, just like Amazing Daisy. (Girls receive it at a closing garden party celebration as they say the Promise and Law.)

The first two awards show the girls their progress and accomplishments along the journey, which culminates in the more important end goal: making the Promise to live by the Law.

Why not start out your year by giving the girls the background "Garden Patch" to display their three Girl Scout Daisy awards?

Here are some sample sessions for the Daisy Flower Garden to get you started. Use your imagination and input from the girls to make this journey unique to your group. Page numbers in each heading refer to the pages in the adult guide.

Session 1: **Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden** page 34. Girls get to know one another, learn basic Girl Scout values, all the while developing their ability to have unique identities. They could:

- Learn about the Daisy Circle and the Girl Scout Promise and learn to say hello in a different language
- Read or listen to the first chapter of the Garden Story on page 17 in the girl book
- Plant a mini garden
- Learn about and talk about garden critters
- End the session with a closing ceremony such as the friendship squeeze.

Session 2: **Buzzing toward Girl Scout Values** page 49. Girls discover how Girl Scout values are part of their daily lives. They could:

- Continue learning the Girl Scout Promise by reciting it aloud in their Daisy Circle and learn another way to say hello in a different language
- Learn the Girl Scout sign and the significance of the three fingers, pair up and practice.
- Join with their planting partner, water their mini gardens and discuss the garden progress
- Gather in their Daisy Circle again and read or listen to the story in the girl book in Chapter 2
- Close this session with another ceremonial friendship squeeze or maybe a song about friendship like "Make New Friends"

Session 3: **Greetings and Friendship** page 55. Girls deepen their understanding of the Girl Scout Law, particularly the fifth value, "Responsible for what I say and do." They could:

- Greet each other with Girl Scout sign and recite the Promise and learn a new a way to say hello in a different language
- Learn the Girl Scout Handshake and practice with a buddy
- Pair up with their planting partner to water and check the progress of their mini gardens relating the project to the fifth value in the Girl Scout Law again
- Gather in their Daisy Circle and read or listen to chapter 3 in the girl book where they learn about Sunny, Zinni, and Mari and how they relate to the Girl Scout Law
- Finish the session with another ceremony where they are presented with their watering can award

Session 4: Good Thoughts, Good Deeds, Garden Needs page 65. Girls deepen their understanding of the Girl Scout Law, and how the Girl Scout values play out in their lives and their community. They could:

- Greet each other with Girl Scout sign and recite the Promise and learn another new way to say hello in a different language
- Gather in a Daisy Circle and read or listen to chapter 4 of the girl book where more flower characters are introduced who represent the Girl Scout Law
- Brainstorm possible Daisy Flower Garden Take Action Projects using the checklists returned from parents
- Join with their planting partner and water their mini gardens and discuss the garden progress.
- Take turns putting on a blindfold and reaching into a paper bag filled with various nature items and describing what they feel and what they think the item is
- Close with a friendship squeeze and a song

Session 5: **Doing and Growing** page 71. Girls Achieve success with their plant/grow Take Action Project . They could:

- Say hello in another language and greet each other with the Girl Scout Sign and Promise
- Read or listen to chapter 5 of the girl book about bugs and talk about the upcoming Garden Party.

 End the session with another ceremony presenting the girls who completed their Take Action Project with the Golden Honey Bee Award

Session 6: **Celebrating the Law with a Garden Party** page 77. Girls understand the meaning of the Girl Scout Law and its role in their daily life. They could:

- Say hello in the language of their choice and ask their guests to say hello in the language of their choice.
- Gather together and recite the Promise
- Gather with their guests to listen to or read chapter 6 in the girl book and relate the Girl Scout Law to the flower characters
- Brainstorm ideas that are important for future Girl Scout Daisies and share their favorite part of the Daisy story
- Recite the full Girl Scout Law and earn the Amazing Daisy Award
- Share their garden project with their guests and celebrate with a garden party

## What is a Take Action Project?

These are all take action projects that Daisies can do. The girls will have more ideas.

- Establish an herb garden at school
- Release of beneficial insects into a public garden
- Establish an education project where they explain the benefits of composting

To help customize this journey please visit the GSUSA web site at www.girlscouts.org/journeys where you will find journey maps. Badge Activity Sets and the Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting are available at your local Girl Scout Shop or to purchase on line at <a href="http://www.girlscoutsla.org/pages/shop/index.html">http://www.girlscoutsla.org/pages/shop/index.html</a>.

