



FAMILY PACKET

GSEP MEMBERSHIP YEAR 2020

Welcome to your family's go-to, super-fun guide
to getting the most of this year in Girl Scouts!

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2 About My Troop | 12 Troop Experience |
| 3 Camps & Offices Map | 14 Family Adventures |
| 5 This year in Girl Scouts | 16 Girl Scout Kit |
| 6 Growing Up Girl Scout | 18 Making Memories |
| 8 Girl Programming | |



About My Troop

Keep all the important information about your troop here for easy reference.

GIRL SCOUT INFORMATION

Girl Name: _____

Girl Scout Level: _____

Troop Number: _____ Service Unit: _____

TROOP INFORMATION

Troop Co-Leader Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Troop Co-Leader Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Troop Cookie Manager Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

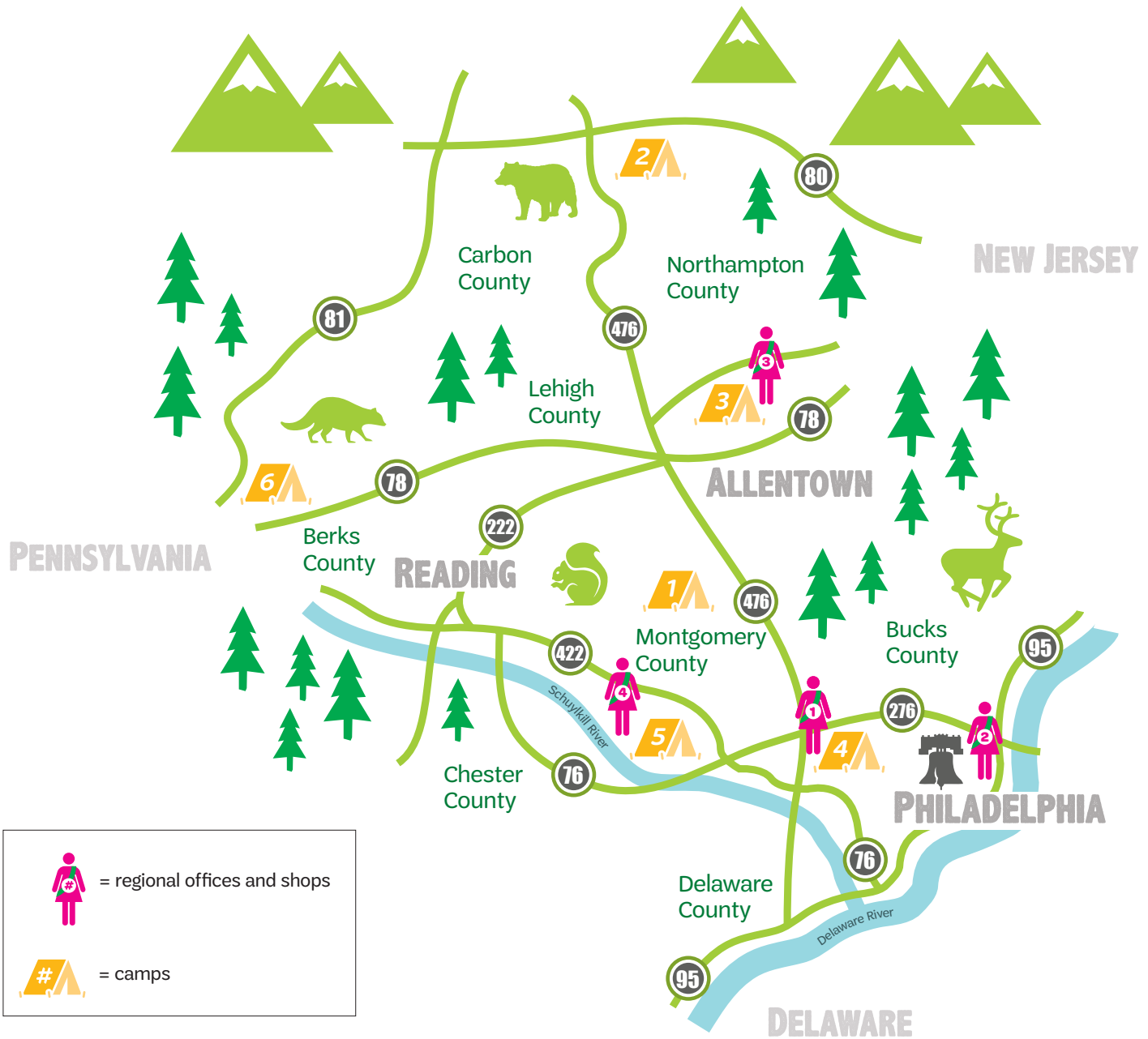
Troop Meeting Place: _____



Meeting Day & Time: _____

My Role: _____

GSEP IS HERE TO HELP!

If you have a question, just call us at 215-564-2030 or email at memberservices@gsep.org! Our business hours are 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Monday through Friday but you can leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.



 = regional offices and shops
 = camps

Regional Offices and Shops

1. Shelly Ridge Service Center
 330 Manor Road
 Miquon, PA 19444
Tel: 215.564.2030
 (Headquarters)

2. Jane Seltzer Service Center
 2020 Rhawn Street
 Philadelphia, PA 19152
Tel: 215.564.2030

3. Lehigh Valley Service Center
 2633 Moravian Avenue
 Allentown, PA 18103
Tel: 215.564.2030

4. Valley Forge Service Center
 100 Juliette Low Way
 P.O. Box 814
 Valley Forge, PA 19482
Tel: 215.564.2030

Camps

- 1. Laughing Waters**
Gilbertsville
- 2. Mosey Wood**
White Haven
- 3. Mountain House**
Allentown
- 4. Shelly Ridge**
Miquon
- 5. Valley Forge**
Valley Forge
- 6. Wood Haven**
Pine Grove

Dear Families,

We are excited to kick off Membership Year 2020 with a focus on enhancing our G.I.R.L. (Go-Getter, Innovator, Risk-Taker, Leader) experience. This guide will bring the benefits of Girl Scouting home as we welcome our girls and their families to become engaged and get more out of this upcoming year.

Every girl who participates in the Girl Scout leadership experience and follows the Girl Scout promise and law is empowered to:

1. Develop a strong sense of self
2. Display positive values
3. Seek challenges and learn from setbacks
4. Form healthy relationships
5. Identify and solve problems in the community

In addition to the above, research shows that Girl Scouts also achieve higher education and income levels and feel more satisfied with their lives. It is a proven fact that Girl Scouts prepares young girls for a lifetime of leadership, and the longer she's in Girl Scouts, the brighter her future will be.

These positive results could not have been achieved without the tireless dedication and support of our adult volunteers. And for that, I say "Thank You!" Our troop leaders, cookie parents, Service Unit team members, and every volunteer who supports and delivers amazing programming are true heroes, and we appreciate the involvement of our Girl Scout families which leads to greater benefits for the girls. It's a wonderful circle of engagement and caring and the proof is in the success of the girls.

This Family Guide will cover how Girl Scouts works, what we offer, and how we want to engage our families to become more involved in the organization. On behalf of the Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania, thank you for choosing Girl Scouts for your girl and your family.

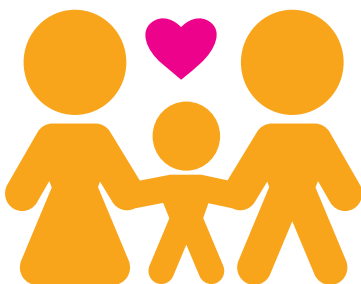
Yours in Girl Scouting,

Kim E. Fraites-Dow
CEO, Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania

"GIRL SCOUTS WAS A RAY OF LIGHT FOR MY FAMILY. FROM BUILDING AN ESTES ROCKET FOR MY SCIENCE BADGE WITH MY BROTHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT TO WATCHING MY MOTHER LEAD A TROOP FOR MY YOUNGER SISTER, THIS ORGANIZATION HAS GIVEN ME SO MANY MEANINGFUL FAMILY MOMENTS TO CHERISH. I'M PROUD TO SEE THIS LEGACY LIVE ON IN FAMILIES LIKE YOURS AND AM EXCITED FOR ALL THE FUN, LEARNING, AND ADVENTURE YOU'LL HAVE IN THE YEAR AHEAD."

-SYLVIA ACEVEDO

CEO, GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA



This Year in Girl Scouts

While this is a calendar for general events and reminders, be sure to check with your troop leader for any events specific to your troop.

OCTOBER

- 01** The Girl Scout Membership Year begins
- 11** International Day of the Girl
- 31** Founder's Day - Juliette Gordon Low's Birthday

NOVEMBER

Volunteer Awards Ceremony

DECEMBER

Early Bird Registration for GSEP Summer Camps open

JANUARY

GSEP Cookie Program
Gold Awards
Silver Awards

FEBRUARY

GSEP Cookie Program
22 World Thinking Day

MARCH

GSEP Cookie Program
Women's History Month
Girl Scout Week - week of March 12
12 Girl Scouts Birthday

APRIL

22 Volunteer Appreciation Day

MAY

Early Bird Registration for next membership year begins

Annual Meeting

JUNE

Early Bird Registration for next membership year

Enjoy a summer of fun at GSEP's resident and day camps!

JULY

Enjoy a summer of fun at GSEP's resident and day camps!

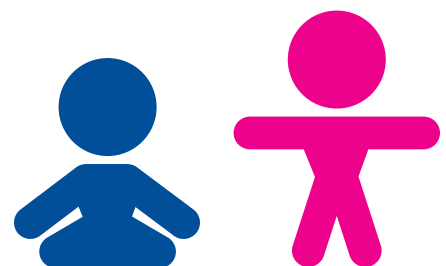
AUGUST

Enjoy a summer of fun at GSEP's resident and day camps!

10 National S'mores Day

SEPTEMBER

30 Girl Scout membership year ends



GROWING UP A GIRL SCOUT

**YOU WANT TO SEE HER
CONFIDENT, STRONG AND
READY TO SUCCEED**

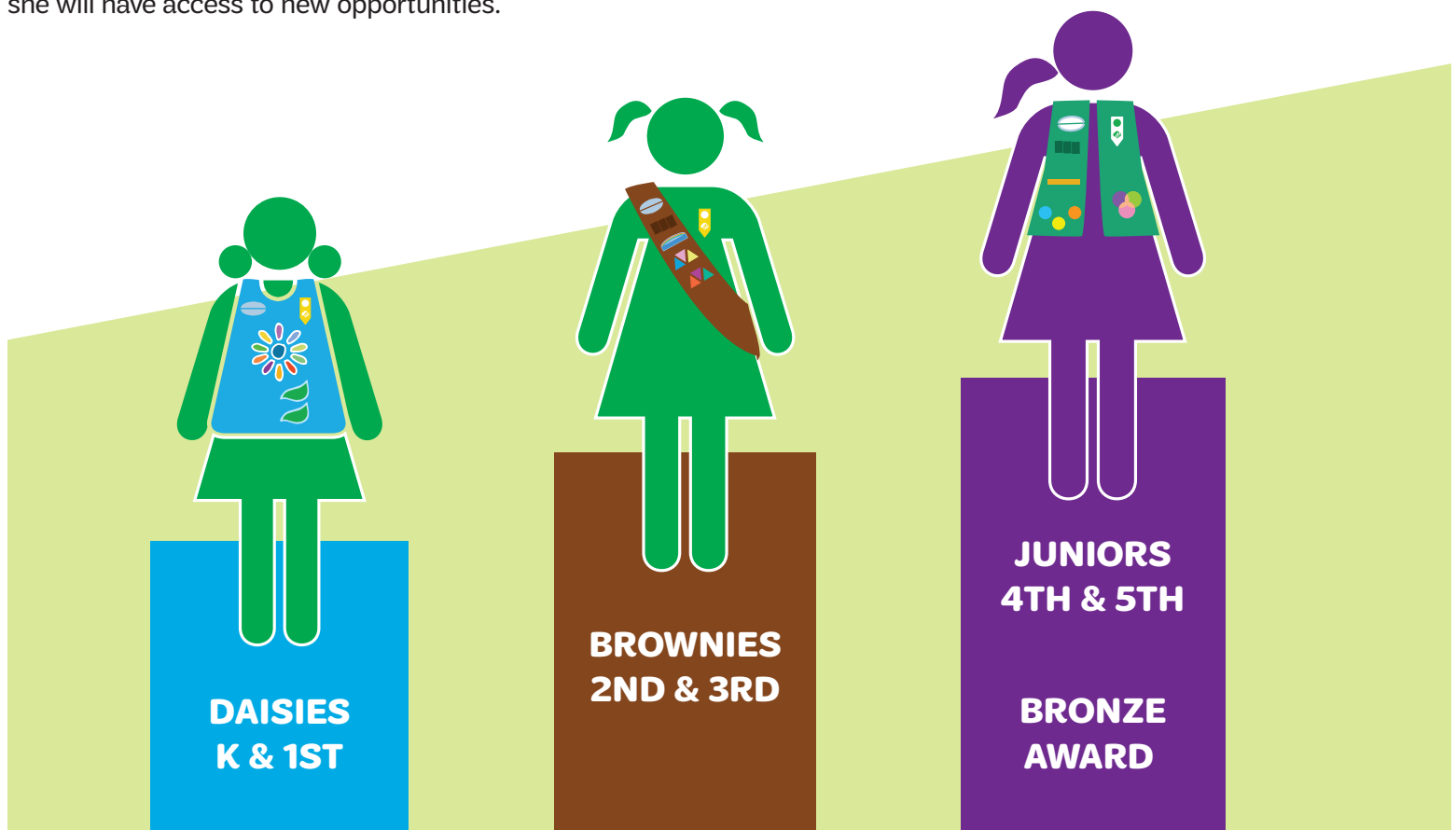
WHAT GIRL SCOUTS IS ALL ABOUT

Whether building robots, making new friends, riding horses, traveling, or just having fun, she will find her place here. From troop meetings and activities to summer camps and council programs, so many opportunities abound in Girl Scouts. The Girl Scouting program is progressive, so every year, as she gets older she will have access to new opportunities.

BY GIRLS. FOR GIRLS. Everything your Girl Scout does – whether it’s climbing mountains, making her voice heard, or designing new technology – has been created especially for, and is tested by girls.

TOMORROW’S LEADERS TODAY Your girl will develop a strong sense of self, demonstrate positive values, seek challenges, solve significant problems in her community, and establish healthy relationships. These aren’t just good qualities – they’re leadership skills that will last for a lifetime.

3-2-1...ACTION! At Girl Scouts, “Can I?” turns into “I will!” as your girl transforms her ideas into action, turns her questions into adventures, and grows her confidence through practice. And when she’s part of the largest network of girls and women in the world, there’s no limit to what she can accomplish.

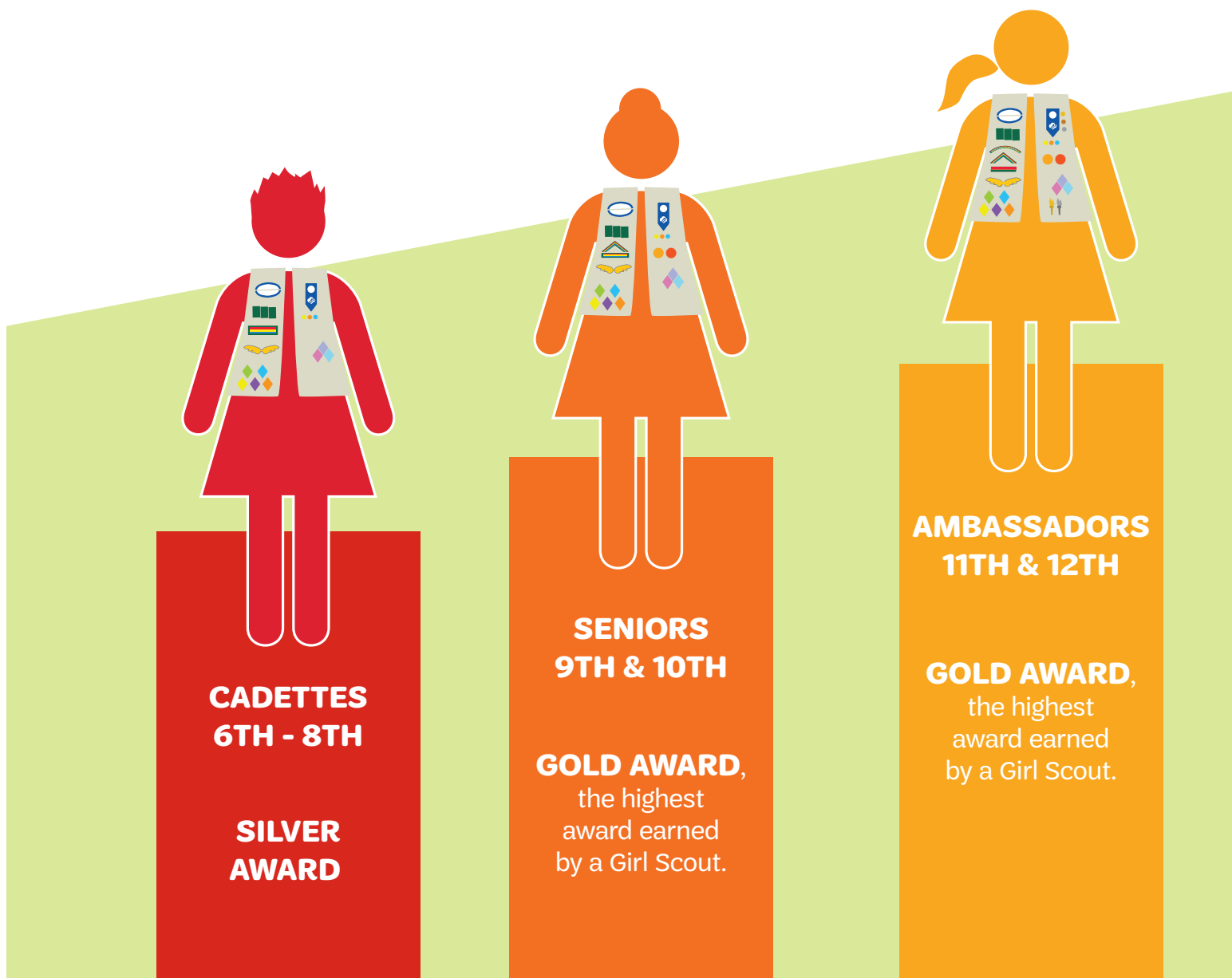


UNIFORMS AND BADGE/PATCH PLACEMENT

For more than a century, Girl Scouts have proudly worn distinctive uniforms that symbolize the high ideals for which the organization stands. Girl Scouts at each level wear one required element (tunic, sash, or vest) to display official pins, badges, and fun patches. Talk to your troop leader to ask which sash/vest, insignia, and pins to purchase. In general, badges and insignia pins are displayed on the front of the uniform and fun patches are displayed on the back. Daisy Girl Scouts have the option of a tunic instead of a sash, but all other levels use the same vest or sash but in different colors based on the age level.

GSEP offers multiple ways to shop for your Girl Scout. You can visit one of our locations (listed on the Council Map, page 3), online at gsep.org, or the mobile shop at many council functions. Any of these ways will give you the opportunity to browse shop offerings, uniforms, books, awards, Girl Scout gifts, and other Girl Scout items! Download the mobile order form at gsep.org and email to retail@gsep.org at least two days in advance to place an order before heading to a shop or mobile location.

For more detailed information about uniforms and badge placement, visit:
www.girlscouts.org/en/our-program/uniforms/where-to-place.html



How GSEP Delivers Girl Programming

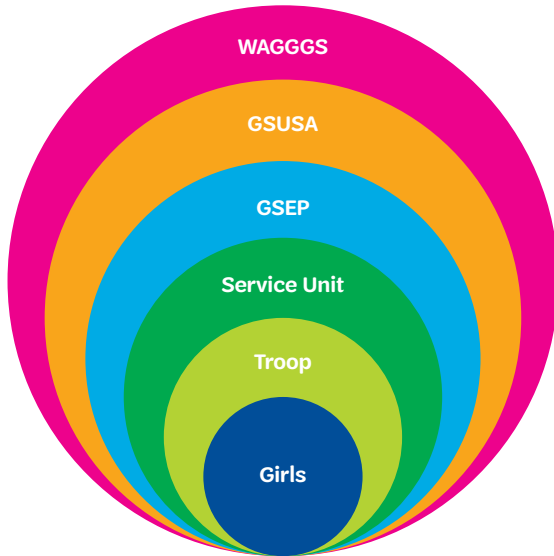
GIRL SCOUT SUPPORT

How is Your Girl Scout's Troop Experience Supported?

A team of staff and volunteers provides girls with local support, learning opportunities, and advice. Volunteers and staff work together to ensure high quality troop experiences for girls.

As a family, you'll have the most contact with your troop leader and their volunteer committee – often made up of caregivers like you! The troop leader reports to their Girl Scout Service Unit, led by a Service Unit Manager or Co-Managers. Service Units are made up of experienced Girl Scout volunteers in a local area, usually defined by school districts.

Each service unit works closely with an assigned team of staff including Volunteer Support, Placement, and Recruitment. GSEP staff members are based out of our service centers and camps. Member Services is also available by phone or email to answer any questions you might have!



WAGGGS – World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts

GSUSA

GSEP – led by staff

Service Unit – led by volunteers

Troop – led by volunteers

Girls (& Families!)

OUR PROGRAM

At Girl Scouts, your girl will unleash her inner **G.I.R.L.** (**Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader**)!

How? Through the **Girl Scout Leadership Experience**— a collection of engaging, challenging, and fun activities like earning badges, going on awesome trips, selling cookies, exploring science, getting outdoors, and doing community service projects.

At Girl Scouts, she'll get to lead her own adventure (it's her world!) and team up with other girls in an all-girl environment to choose the exciting, hands-on activities that interest her most. Along the way, she'll gain important skills in four areas that form the foundation of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience:

- **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (S.T.E.M.)**
- **Outdoors, Life Skills, Entrepreneurship**

The Result? A Lifetime of Leadership!

To bring the Girl Scout Leadership Experience to life, activities are led by girls themselves, feature cooperative learning, and highlight learning by doing. Girls come up with their own ideas, build teams, and experience the joy of making a positive impact. At Girl Scouts, she will:

DISCOVER	Discover: a strong sense of self. Find out who she is, what she cares about, and what her talents are.
+	
CONNECT	Connect: value the power of diversity Collaborate with people, to learn from others and expand her horizons.
+	
TAKE ACTION	Take Action: individually & collectively Do something to make the world a better place.
=	
LEADERSHIP	





Highest Awards

Bronze. Silver. Gold. These represent the highest honors a Girl Scout can earn. Girls in 4th and 5th grade (Junior level) earn the Bronze; 6th, 7th, and 8th graders (Cadette level) earn Silver; and 9th grade and up (Senior and Ambassador levels) earn Gold.

All three awards give your Girl Scout the chance to do big things while supporting an issue they care about. Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards, address the root cause of an issue, and come up with sustainable, long-lasting solutions. They might plant a community garden at a school or inspire others to eat healthy foods for their Bronze, advocate for animal rights for Silver, or build a career network that encourages girls to become scientists and engineers for Gold. Whatever they choose, they'll inspire others. Visit www.gsep.org/highestawards to learn more.

Spark Magazine

GSEP publishes Spark magazine once yearly. The magazine is mailed to all members in August and can also be picked up from any service center. The fall/winter issue (delivered in August) contains a Program Guide listing programs taking place in September – February. We also mail out a Program and Camp Guide, listing all spring/summer programs plus all day and resident camp sessions. This is mailed to all members in December. Girls are welcome to register individually for programs as well as with their troop.

To check out Spark magazine now, visit the “Our Council” page of our website, then click on “Publications and Documents.”

To register for any GSEP programs or camps, you will need to create an account in our Program/Event Registration System. This system is separate from MY GS where you register as a GSEP Member. The Program/Event Registration System link can be found on our website always in the top right corner of the page.

THE CAMP EXPERIENCE

We live in a world of screens— smartphones, laptops, TVs, tablets— and sometimes you just want your daughter to get away from it all and reconnect with the outdoors. We get it! At Girl Scout camp, girls are free to explore new worlds, unplug from society, and make new friends. GSEP offers four resident camps and three-day camps. And with financial aid, extended care, and busing, camp is available to every girl.

To see more about our camps, including Open House Dates in the spring, visit www.gsep.org/en/camp/summer-camp.html. Camp registration is online only and opens in mid-December. You don't already have to be a Girl Scout to sign up for camp, so girls can bring a friend! Registration remains open through the summer, but popular sessions fill up quickly.

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 a Juliette family, reach out to your council for guidance, support, and to stay up on cool events the whole family can attend.





The Troop Experience

PARTNERING WITH YOUR TROOP

Families are an essential part of the troop experience! Many hands make light work, and the role is more fun when it's shared. Girl Scout volunteers make a difference in the lives of girls, in the success of families, and in the growth of communities. The strength of Girl Scouting rests on the shoulders of adult volunteers who are committed to helping today's girls become tomorrow's leaders.

As a volunteer, you'll introduce girls to new experiences that show them they're capable of more than they ever imagined. They'll each find their inner **G.I.R.L.** (**G**o-getter, **I**nnovator, **R**isk-taker, **L**eader) after all!

Who are Girl Scout troop leaders? Leaders are VOLUNTEERS! Leaders are busy women and men just like you. Leaders are parents, grandparents, neighbors, and college students who give their time unselfishly. Many volunteers are needed—a minimum of two registered, unrelated and cleared (background check) Girl Scout adults, one of whom must be female, must be present at every troop meeting.

MAKE HER TROOP YEAR MEMORABLE

You will want to know all about your Girl Scout's troop. Take note of her leader's name, contact information, and troop number. You should also know the day, time, and location of troop meetings. Use the form at the front of this booklet to capture this information. Remember, it is your responsibility to bring your daughter to and from meetings, and to pick her up on time.

Below are some ways you can be involved with the troop. Each adult need to be a registered Girl Scout members, have completed the background clearance process, and take any trainings required for the position they choose. Learn more on our website about volunteer training.

Consider this the ultimate cheat sheet to being an all-star **G.I.R.L.** supporter – no matter how busy you may be! When you step up, you're enhancing the troop experience and modeling leadership for your girl. She'll be prouder than ever to call you hers.

In 15 minutes a week, you could...

Organize and manage the calendar for troop snacks or carpools. Keeping track of who's contributing what and when will make meetings go smoothly for everyone.

In 30 minutes a week, you could...

Manage troop communications. This can mean anything from texting other families to confirm meeting dates, to maintain the troop's social media account or being in charge of a phone tree.

Take photos or videos at troop meetings and Girl Scout events. Make sure the troop has signed council photo releases before snapping and sharing images.

In 1-2 hours a week, you could...

Lead part of a troop meeting or guide the girls through earning a specific badge. You can introduce the girls to a topic that you specialize in or explore a new activity and learn alongside the troop.

In 2-3 hours a week during cookie season, you could...

Organize booth sales and keep track of cookie orders. You'll be playing a key part in the Girl Scout Cookie Program®, which raises funds for troop activities and teaches girls important leadership skills.

TROOP RESPONSIBILITIES

Leader's Troop Responsibility

- Follow the Girl Scout Promise & Law
- Let girls lead – ensure girls of every age take an active and grade-appropriate role in deciding the what, where, when, why, and how of what they do
- Create an inclusive environment where girls and families feel welcome
- Provide a well-rounded and safe program following Girl Scout guidelines
- Listen to and respect every participant and serve as a role model
- Use volunteer resources such as the Volunteer Toolkit (VTK)
- Stay connected to the Service Unit and/or GSEP

Girl's Troop Responsibility

- Follow the Girl Scout Promise & Law
- Treat fellow Girl Scouts as her sister
- Attend and participate in meetings and outings
- Respect troop leaders, volunteers, and family members
- Be prepared and conduct herself in a safe manner
- Pass along troop information to caregiver
- Be open to new adventures and have lots of fun!

Family's Troop Responsibility

- Make sure your Girl Scout arrives and is picked up on time for meetings and outings
- Help her fulfill GS responsibilities including dues, permission slips, and uniform pieces
- Help her complete any missed activities so she can earn badges
- Be supportive of her Girl Scout endeavors and let her know you consider her Girl Scouting participation to be important and special
- Volunteer!!!
- Support the council sponsored Product Program sales
- Stay in contact with troop leaders and help as needed
- Discuss issues that may arise privately with the leader, not in front of girls
- Talk with your Girl Scout about acceptable behavior and set a positive example
- Attend family meetings and troop ceremonies
- Read all communications from GSEP and your troop leaders and respond in a timely manner to requests

GSEP IS HERE TO HELP!

If you have a question, just call or email! Our business hours are 9 am–5 pm Monday through Friday but you can leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

215-564-2030
memberservices@gsep.org

VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND CLEARANCES

Whether this is your first year volunteering or you're a seasoned pro, this opportunity to help girls try new things, build confidence, and make memories that will last a lifetime is one you will never forget. As a Girl Scout volunteer, you will build girls of courage, confidence, and character who will make the world a better place!

Pennsylvania law states that adults applying for or holding an unpaid position as a volunteer with a child care service, a school or a program, activity or service responsible for the child's welfare or having direct volunteer contact with children will need clearances.

At GSEP, the safety of our girls is always our top priority. All volunteers with GSEP are required by law to complete a Background Clearance. For more information regarding the law, please check the website: www.keepkidssafe.pa.gov. Get started now on the "Ways to Volunteer" page of our website.

Who needs to complete a Background Clearance?

Any adult who assists with troop meetings or activities, attends camp-outs/camporees, transports or supervises girls, or handles money. Please see the Volunteer CBC Processing Packet on our website for more information.

READY TO PITCH IN?

CONTACT YOUR GIRL'S TROOP LEADER AND TELL HER EXACTLY HOW YOU'D LIKE TO HELP OR WHAT YOU CAN PROVIDE. SIMPLY OFFERING "WHATEVER YOU NEED" COMES WITH BEST INTENTIONS, BUT TROOP LEADERS ARE OFTEN TOO BUSY TO ASSIGN OUT ROLES TO FAMILY MEMBERS. BEING SPECIFIC ABOUT HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE WILL BE APPRECIATED!

What to Expect as a Girl Scouts Family

COSTS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Register as a member - girl or adult!

What all members share, both girls and adults, are the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Each member also agrees to follow safety guidelines and pay the annual membership fee of \$25.

- Registration is done online at gsep.org/join
 - Membership dues are sent by GSEP to GSUSA. No portion of the dues stays with our council. Membership dues may not be transferred to another member and are not refundable.

The basic Girl Scout uniform (including sash, insignia, and pins) costs around \$25 depending on the age level.

Financial Assistance

At GSEP we are invested in every girl!

To help to welcome in every girl and adult member, GSEP offers financial aid to those in need. The amount of funds granted will vary based on need and available funds. We offer Membership and a Shop Certificate. To learn more, visit our website www.gsep.org.

How do troops pay for materials, badges, etc.?

Girl Scout groups are funded by a share of money earned through:

- Council-sponsored product program sale activities: Girl Scout Cookie Program
- Group money-earning activities (Council-approved)
- Any dues your troop may charge (This is in addition to the \$25 annual membership fee that goes to the national organization)

PRODUCT PROGRAM

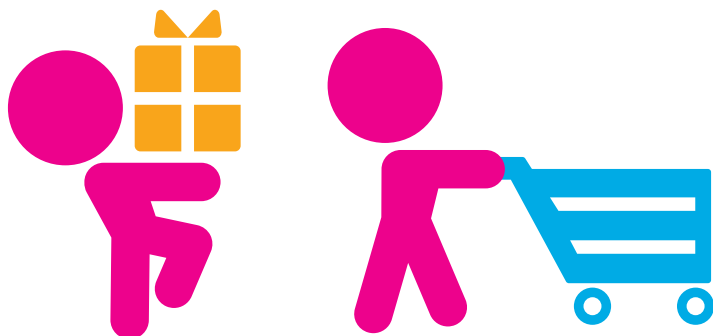
Troop Money Earning - including famous Girl Scout Cookies!

When your Girl Scout participates in the GSEP Cookie Program, she is not just selling a box of cookies, she is investing in her troop, herself, and the Girl Scout experience in Eastern PA. Nowhere else can a girl earn money to develop business leadership skills, go to camp, and travel the world. By raising money for her troop, she is learning about setting and achieving goals, decision making, money management, people skills, and business ethics. The Girl Scout Cookie Program is the largest girl-led business in the world! This makes a difference for your Girl Scout, who will help her troop earn money for new adventures and to change the world, one box of cookies at a time.

All Girl Scouts have the opportunity to participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Program held each January/March

Each troop volunteer team will communicate the troop sale guidelines to families in advance of the sale. The profit from the cookie program stays within the council, a portion staying with the troop, and the rest helps to fund membership financial aid and girl programming. The troop's proceeds help to fund troop activities, badges, and trips. While the troop as a whole benefits from the collective sales, girls will earn individual incentives or can opt to earn credit toward camp or programs based on what they sell. The more a girl sells, the more the troop earns. Troop cookie proceeds are based on the troop's Per Girl Average (PGA). The PGA is calculated by dividing the total number of packages in the troop's inventory by the number of girls selling.

Troops may also do their own Money Earning Activities, as long as they participate in the Cookie Program. Your troop leader is able to guide the girls to plan Money Earning Activities that are appropriate and approved by council.



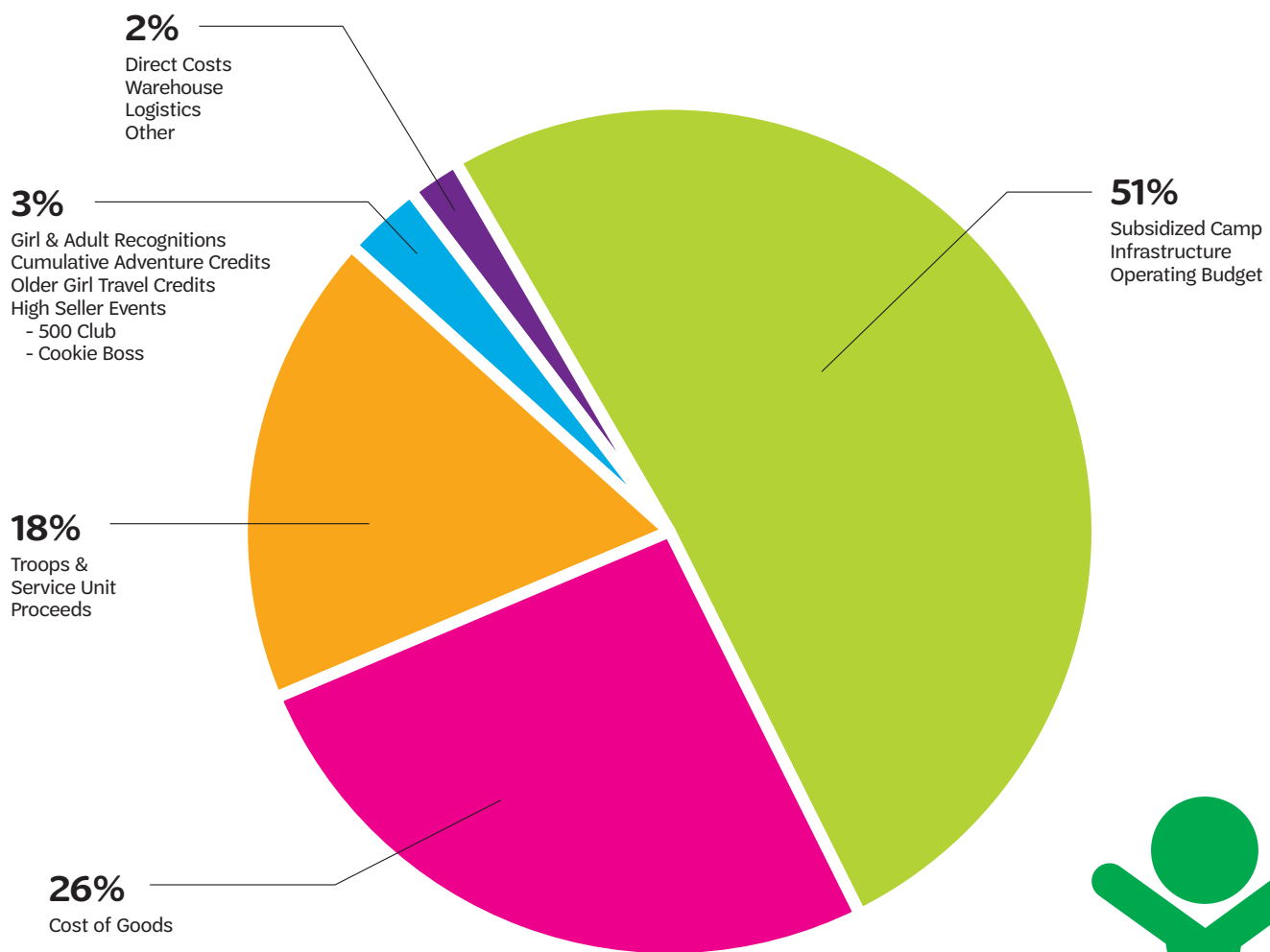
Your Role as a Family

As a caregiver, you play a very important role in helping girls achieve success in funding their troop goals. Here's how you can support your daughter:

Talk with your Girl Scout about realistic goal setting and managing money	Volunteer at cookie booths	Accept financial responsibility for purchased products
Encourage and help her sell to family, friends, and neighbors	Follow guidelines set by council and your troop leader	Celebrate with her when she accomplishes a goal!

How The Cookie Crumbles:

100% of product program proceeds stay in our council.




RETAIL SHOP OFFER

Make sure to visit a store near you to pick up some swag to show off your Girl Scout pride! Visit gsep.org/shop for store locations and for upcoming promotions and sales.


MY GIRL SCOUT KIT

Whether you've just joined or are already a member, get ready for your Troop Year with everything you need and a My Girl Scout Kit bag!


OPTION 1

Choose 1 


+


Choose 1 

+


Add These 

+


Add This 

= Free Bag with Purchase! 

OPTION 2


Choose 1 

+

Add This 

+

Add One More Additional Item

= Free Bag with Purchase! 

Or purchase the bag for \$10 with any Uniform purchase over \$25!

Exclusive 10% off gsep retail shops!

Join us on TeamApp now to get the most up to date information on store hours, latest promotions and events. To Join, search GSEP and click on Shops. You'll receive 10% off your regular priced purchase when you show the app at our retail shops between now and August 31! See store associate for details.

*Earned Awards and Badges are not included in My Girl Scout Kit. Brownie age level shown. Free Kit bag valued at \$15.

GSEP's Frequently Used Girl Scout Terms

Badge/Badges: (Not to be confused with Patches) are EARNED when a girl completes a set of requirements or learns a new skill. Badges are worn on the front of the sash or vest.

Bridging: When girls transition from one level to the next; individually or as the entire troop. This can be from Daisies to Brownies, all the way through Ambassadors to Adults.

Buddy System: Safety practice that groups two or three girls together to keep watch over each other in an activity (for example swimming, hiking). Girls of equal ability should be placed in the same group.

Camporee: A Service Unit gathering of Girl Scout troops for a period of camping and common activities. There is generally a common theme at a Girl Scout camporee oriented towards building courage, confidence, character and leadership while having fun.

Cookies: Cookies refers to the annual Girl Scout Cookie Program. This quintessential Girl Scout experience helps girls develop five important life skills—goal setting, decision-making, money management, people skills, and business ethics—that will set them up for success beyond anything they can imagine! Cookie proceeds can be used to fund trips, camp, community service projects, and more!

Council: Council refers to the 100 or so staff members who make up GSEP, one of 112 councils nationwide.

Day Camp: We offer three day camps: Mountain House (Allentown), Shelly Ridge (Lafayette Hill), and Valley Forge (Valley Forge) for girls grades K-12. Extended care and financial aid are available. Busing is available at some camps.

Destinations: (Formerly Wider Opportunities) Travel opportunities for girls 11-17. Older girls can use their cookie proceeds to fund Destinations.

Dunk Bag: A dunk bag (which is a somewhat misleading but traditional name) is a mesh bag (such as a lingerie bag with a zipper or draw-string closure) large enough for a dinner plate and a few other dishes to slip inside and close.

Fly-up Ceremony: The ceremony at which a Brownie Girl Scout receives Brownie Wings from her Brownie leader, makes the Girl Scout Promise, and receives the Girl Scout Pin from her Junior GS “sister” or the Junior GS leader.

Girl-Led: The Girl-Led process within the Girl Scout Leadership Experience ensures that girls are engaged and in control of all aspects of their Girl Scout experience.

GSEP: Stands for Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania. That’s us!

GSUSA: The national office of Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA), located in New York City.

Investiture Ceremony: A special ceremony in which a NEW member makes her Girl Scout Promise, receives her membership pin, and becomes a member of Girl Scouts.

Highest Awards: Bronze. Silver. Gold. These represent the highest honors a Girl Scout can earn through sustainable community service.

Journeys: Fun and challenging experiences grouped around a theme and spread over a series of sessions. There are three series of Leadership Journeys, each with a different theme.

Member Services: Serves as your first point of contact for general questions and provides an exceptional level of customer service. The Member Services team manages program and membership registration, and helps create and maintain member records. This is your “go to” department for any issues with your MY GS account or the Program/Event Registration System or general questions about a program. You can reach them at memberservices@gesp.org or by calling 215-564-2030.

Mess Kit: Reusable dishes and utensils that fit in a dunk bag for meals on camping or other trips.

Patches: Patches, sometimes called “Fun Patches,” are GIVEN when a girl participates in an event or experience. Patches are worn on the back of the sash or vest.

Resident Camp: We offer four overnight (resident) camps, including Laughing Waters (Gilbertsville), Mosey Wood (White Haven), Shelly Ridge (Lafayette Hill), and Wood Haven (Pine Grove), for girls grades 1-12. Financial aid and busing are available at some camps.

Service Unit (or SU for short): A service unit is a geographical region of volunteers led by a volunteer Service Unit Manager. Each Service Unit works closely with a team of GSEP staff to serve the girls in your region.

Sit-upon: Simple lightweight pad or cushion the girls make to “sit-upon” anytime they end up sitting on the hard ground.

SUM: A SUM is a service unit Manager. A SUM leads a Service Unit. S/he is a volunteer who dedicates time to bettering the lives of girls and the adults who serve them.

SWAPS: stands for “Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere.” SWAPS were incorporated into Girl Scouting/ Guiding as a way to introduce one Girl Scout to another. Girl Scout SWAPS are a long-standing tradition and while they’re easy and inexpensive to make, they really allow girls to express their creativity and make new friends.

Trefoil: International symbol of Girl Guides and Girl Scouting. The trefoil represents the three parts of the Girl Scout promise.

Volunteer Toolkit (VTK): A digital resource that supports troop leaders and co-leaders, making the process of running a troop easier and more efficient. The VTK also gives access to families to see the troop calendar.



MY GIRL SCOUT ADVENTURES

Your Girl Scout memories are one of a kind! When you take a cool trip, learn something new, earn a badge, or do one of the activities from this booklet with your family, mark it down here so you can remember it forever. At the end of the year, and in years to come, you'll look back on these accomplishments with pride.

I DID...

I LOVED...



I LEARNED...

MY GIRL SCOUT SUPPORT CREW

When someone helps you on your Girl Scout adventures this year, add their name here with a note about what they did. You might want to include your troop leaders, an auntie who takes you to meetings, or the neighbor who orders lots of cookies. At the end of the year, check the list and send thank you notes to all your awesome helpers!



