

# Juliette Low's Birthday Patch Program

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Juliette Gordon Low's Birthday is a six-week program designed to teach Brownies the history of Girl Scouts and Juliette Gordon Low (Daisy).

The program theme works well during the six weeks prior to Juliette Low's birthday, October 31. An alternative time frame for implementing this program is the six weeks prior to Girl Scout Week in March, with completion planned to celebrate Girl Scout Birthday, March 12.



## WEEK ONE

**Pre-Meeting Activity:** Game "Daisy's Footsteps". Pick 10-15 events from the life of Juliette Gordon Low found in the *Brownie Girl Scout Handbook* (2000 edition), pages 7-10 (i.e., I was born in Savannah, GA; I enjoyed outdoor activities). Print or type the events on a paper "footprint". Hide the footprints around the meeting area. When the girls come into the meeting, ask them to find the footprints. As each girl finds a footprint, have her tape it to a blackboard or on a large piece of shelf paper or newsprint with the footprints leading to a piece of construction paper with the words "Who am I?" printed on it. Under the construction paper have a picture of Juliette Low or her name in large letters.

After the footprints have been taped to the blackboard or paper, read them and have one of the girls uncover the mystery person.

**Opening Activity:** After saying *Girl Scout Promise*, discuss the meaning of the three parts of the *Promise* (BGSH, page 12). Then practice the Girl Scout sign and handshake (BGSH, page 18).

**Troop Business/Planning Activity:** Referring to the first activity, talk with the girls about following in Daisy's footsteps. Make a list of the girls' suggestions and place them along with the other "footprints" on the blackboard or paper. Incorporate their ideas into activities over the next five weeks.

**Major Activity:** Start a "Daisy Scrapbook" to keep track of these activities. Have the girls draw a picture of their troop making the scrapbooks.

**Closing:** Learn the Girl Scout song "When'er You Make A Promise" (*Brownie Songbook*, 1999 edition, page 45).

## WEEK TWO

**Pre-Meeting Activity:** Game "Birds Relay" or "Barnyard Bedlam" (*Games for Girl Scouts*, pages 41 & 99). If doing Barnyard Bedlam use the pine cones for a craft later in the meeting.

**Opening Activity:** Learn a Girl Scout Law – "To Protect and improve the world around you." Discuss what this means and have the girls share their ideas (BGSH, page 13).

**Major Activity:** Make a simple bird feeder by rolling pine cones covered with peanut butter in bird seed. Then hand-tie a piece of yarn around the top of the pine cone. Place a bird feeder in a sandwich bag to carry home. Have parents or girls hang "feeder" from a tree limb.

Relate this Activity to Daisy's first troop and how they did bird watching and kept bird books. As girls finish making bird feeders, have them draw a picture or make a special page in their scrapbook to keep track of birds that visit their feeders.

**Closing:** Learn the *The Brownie Hiking Song* (*Brownie Songbook*, page 9).

## WEEK THREE

**Pre-Meeting Activity:** Game "Statues" or "Freeze Tag"

**Opening Activity:** Learn a Girl Scout Law – "To show respect for yourself and others". Have girls share their ideas about what this means (BGSH, page 13).

**Major Activity:** Daisy loved sculpting. Have girls model clay or try other kids of sculpture. As they finish, have the girls draw a picture of the sculpting activity in their Daisy scrapbooks.

**Closing:** Learn "Johnny Appleseed", a grace found in *Neustra Cabana Songbook*, page 53.

## WEEK FOUR

**Pre-Meeting Activity:** Game "Button, Button, Who's Got the Button?" or a game related to sewing motions or clothing pantomimes.

**Opening Activity:** Learn a Girl Scout Law – "To use resources wisely". Discuss what this means and have the girls share their ideas (BGSH, page 13).

**Major Activity:** Tell the story of how Daisy formed the "Helping Hands Club" and although she could not sew, she decided to be the sewing teacher.

Using tapestry needles and colorful yarn, try a simple sewing activity. An owl or frog sewing kit made out of felt with girls sewing on large button eyes would bring a bit of the Brownie lore into this project.

As girls finish this activity have them draw a picture of Daisy's Helping Hands Club in their scrapbook.

**Closing:** Learn the "Brownie Smile Song" (BGSH, page 15).

## WEEK FIVE

**Pre-Meeting Activity:** Game – "What's in the Bag?" Explore how a non-sighted person identifies objects. Put 10-15 objects in a paper bag and either blindfold players or have them close their eyes. Without any verbal clues, have them reach into the bag and identify an object through touch.

**Opening Activity:** Learn a Girl Scout Law – "To be friendly and considerate". Talk about Daisy's hearing handicap (BGSH, page 9. Refer to page 86 for further information and another activity related to disabilities).

**Major Activity:** Use game to learn about handicaps. Handicapped Obstacle Course:

**Activity #1:** The arm the girls use to write or throw a ball must be kept behind their back or under their shirt. Now have them do one or more of the following activities: Put on a jacket, write her name, put on a glove, make a peanut butter sandwich.

**Activity #2:** Silent talking – have the girls communicate one of the following messages *without* talking: pass me the cookies and milk.

From scraps of material (velvet, fur, sandpaper, foil) have girls piece together a texture page in their scrapbook.

**Closing:** Learn the "Indian Grace", using words and motions the first time, and motions only the second time.

"May the Great Father above us,"  
(Raise right arm above head, draw a circle in the air.)  
"Who is the future,"  
(Point forward with right hand)  
"As in the past,"  
(Point back with right hand)  
"Fill our Hearts",  
(Cross wrists over heart)  
"With much love,"  
(Roll hands.)  
"And great joy."  
(Make fists and place one on top of the other.)

## WEEK SIX

**Pre-Meeting Activity:** As girls arrive, have them construct a rainbow. Materials: Paper, cardboard or posterboard, paint, construction paper, crepe paper, magic markers or crayons in the following colors: green, yellow, purple, orange, red, and blue. Use the completed rainbow as a background for your opening ceremony.

**Opening Activity:** Juliette Low's Rainbow. Learn a Girl Scout Law – "To be a sister to every Girl Scout." Discuss what this means and Juliette Low's dream of world sisterhood (BGSH, page 13). Have each girl become a part of the rainbow by adding something to represent the Laws and Promise they have learned over the past five weeks.

Example:

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| #1: Green  | "Promise"                                      |
| #2: Yellow | "To protect and improve the world around you." |
| #3: Purple | "To show respect for yourself and others."     |
| #4: Orange | "To use resources wisely."                     |
| #5: Red    | "To be friendly and considerate."              |
| #6: Blue   | "To be a sister to every Girl Scout."          |

**Major Activity:** Have a birthday party of Juliette Low with a cake or cupcakes, punch and a rainbow craft. Invite another troop to join in the fun.

There are many different rainbow crafts that can be adapted to your troop's age and abilities; check the local hobby or craft shop. Or, make a Friendship Tie.

**Friendship Tie:** Give each girl six strands of yarn at least one yard long, in the above colors. Twist the six strands of yarn into one strand. Each part of the Friendship Tie has a meaning – the circle formed represents the circle of friendship all around the world, the red, yellow, blue, orange, and purple strands represent the colors of the five worlds to explore, and the sixth strand, green, represents Girl Scouting.

Show girls how to make an overhand knot (BGSH, page 109). Have them tie ten small overhand knots to represent the ten parts of the Girl Scout Law. Tie three large overhand knots to represent the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise. To bring the ends together, have the girls tie a square knot (BGSH, page 109), this forms the "bell". The bell is a Thai custom. They believe the sound of the bell is good luck. If budget permits, you might add a real bell or jingle bell. The Friendship Tie can be used as a ceremony, craft or wide game.

**Closing:** Learn the song "Make New Friends" (*Brownie Songbook*, page 30).