

You're About to Earn Your First Award Don't Forget to Celebrate!

Celebrations are important. So are ceremonies. They call us away from the everyday. They take a special accomplishment, feeling, or life event and make a big way of saying, "This is worth remembering." We may not use those exact words, but we "say it" by singing, dancing, eating special foods, telling certain stories.

Getting Together in Circles

Ceremonies have been around for a long time—and so have circles. In fact, people have been getting together in circles to celebrate something special in their lives for thousands of years.

Circles are important in Girl Scout ceremonies—from Friendship Circles and squeezes to just standing around in a circle to meet and talk. Circles have no beginning and no ending. They bring people together—face-to-face.

So join with your sister Girl Scouts and plan some ceremonies for this journey.
Or split into pairs and take turns planning ceremonies (and being the emcee).
It's one more way to be a leader.

Using Symbols in Your Ceremonies

Girl Scouting has lots of symbols—the friendship squeeze, the handshake, the sign. Signs and symbols can make your ceremony feel richer, more special. Here are some other symbols and what they represent:

CANDLE OR FLASHLIGHT	the light within each person
STRING/ROPE	the thread that unites everyone
BRANCH	peace
FLAG	official banner
PEBBLE	nature