



Earning Badges with Multi-Level Girls

This Outdoor Journey is built on selected badges that can be completed in nine sessions, each 90-minutes long.

However, it's important to note that you can add a meeting to any of these badges if you feel girls need more time completing the requirements.

You may have the space, time and adult support to be able to divide your girls by grade level in a Multi-level troop (so the Juniors, Brownies and Daisies are all working in grade-level groups focused on their unique badge requirements).

Keep these things in mind:

- Think of these badges as a complete unit and support girls as they work from one to the next. Because you have girls who are in more than one grade level, you may need to adjust which badges girls work on at the same time, based on which ones fit together best.
- Save the Troop Camper badges to do after girls complete badges that are giving them skills they will use while camping. The camp out is the culminating activity.
- Do not work on the Take Action award until after the camp out. Girls will feel differently about the outdoors and the natural world they have experienced after camping out, and their Take Action project and preparation will have much more impact for them.
- Because the Outdoor Journey is new, as your older girls transition to earning this Journey, they may have already earned one of the badges included. If so, you will want to review with them what they learned before working on the new Cabin Camper or Eco Camper badges so they are ready to use their skills and have a successful experience when camping.
- Daisies have never had badges before, so this will be new to them. As a result of following this progression, girls will be more prepared for outdoor experiences and to begin their Take Action project.
- Juniors may want to expand on the Take Action project to create a Bronze Award project. Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors may use the new Outdoor Journey as the journey requirement for earning their Girl Scout Silver or Gold Award.
- Remind older girls that they can serve as role models for girls. Their excitement about team projects will help younger girls learn what it means to Take Action



and improve their community. They can also mentor younger girls to earn their Junior Aide award.

- While it's tempting to have girls doing all the same thing, Girl Scout badges are developed to be age-appropriate and give girls experiences to look forward to. So while your Daisies may be able to master building a teepee fire or learning more complex first aid techniques, it means they will have less to look forward to when they are Brownies or Juniors, so do the badge requirements as presented whenever possible.
- It is possible to have all levels working on different requirements while doing the same activity. For example, the Daisy Buddy Camper Badge and the Brownie Cabin Camper badge each include knot tying. Juniors are often accomplished at knots and can teach both Daisies and Brownies how to tie the square knot. In the Daisy Outdoor Art Maker badge, there is an option for them to take a hike on a trail. Brownies are working on their Hiker Badge, and Juniors take a conservation hike when earning their Eco Camper badge. All three requirements can be met with girls going on the same hike if there is an adult guiding each group of girls so the individual requirements are met.