

Journey Awards

In a Girl Scout journey, awards link experiences, discussions and ideas that girls explore together. As girls progress through the levels from Daisy to Ambassador, their awards signify attaining new and higher levels of knowledge and skills, and ultimately a deeper understanding of what it means to be a leader who makes a difference in the world.

All the steps girls take toward earning awards are built right into the journey. Adult guides for each level provide tips for coaching girls along the way. With the Brownie Quest map, girls and adults track award progress together; from Juniors on up, girls themselves track their own progress. Another important tradition that helps girls remember what awards stand for, is the ceremony. Journeys offer girls ideas about meaningful ways to celebrate earning awards so that girls always know why these accomplishments matter.

Awards are a vital part of the Girl Scout experience, and adults can assist girls in finding the best way to achieve their goals. If a girl misses a meeting related to earning an award, adults can find a way for her to do something similar to what she missed to earn her award. All girls may not have the exact same experience, but they can each take away new insights, connections and a sense of accomplishment.

Badges

- Journeys and badge activities exist for different reasons.
- Journeys are an important foundation for every Girl Scout: They engage girls in using all three leadership keys—Discover, Connect, and Take Action.
- Girls climb a “leadership ladder” in Girl Scouts as they do journeys at every level and earn the leadership awards incorporated within them.
- Badge activities focus on a single topic, enabling girls to develop skills in that topic area.
- Girls and their volunteers are encouraged to add badge activities to their journey experiences.
- GSUSA will have more information later in 2009 about the plans for updating badges.