

UNIT GUIDER POCKET PAL



SPARKS 2024-2025 ANY COUNCIL

1

MISSION

To be a catalyst for girls empowering girls.

VISION

A better world, by girls.

GIRL GUIDE PROMISE

I Promise to do my best,
To be true to myself, my beliefs and Canada.
I will take action for a better world
And respect the Guiding Law.

2

MOTTO

Be Prepared

Lend a Hand
Ember Motto

LAW

The Guiding Law challenges me to:

- be honest and trustworthy
- use my resources wisely
- respect myself and others
- recognize and use my talents and abilities
- protect our common environment
- live with courage and strength
- share in the sisterhood of Guiding

3

SPARKS OVERVIEW

For girls ages 5 to 6
Sparks usually meet once a week for an hour

In Sparks, girls have fun trying a bit of everything and begin discovering their individual skills, talents and interests. Girls will make lots of new friends, start earning badges and getting to know what Guiding is all about.

Your Spark could experience these activities.

- Discovering the community through outings to places such as a fire station, a farmer's market or a neighbourhood landmark
- Exploring the arts by making collages or creating a dance
- Having fun preparing simple snacks
- Discovering the outdoors on a nature scavenger hunt
- Having sleepovers or going to a weekend camp

4

Sparks (ages 5 and 6)

Sparks is a two-year program

Embers (ages 7 and 8)

Embers is a two-year program

Guides (ages 9-12)

Guides is a three-year program

Pathfinders (ages 12-15)

Pathfinders is a three-year program

Rangers (ages 15-17+)

Rangers is a three-year program

Link (ages 18-30)

Link is to allow women 18-30 to stay connected to Guiding

Trefoil (ages 30+)

Trefoil is for women 30+ to stay connected to Guiding

5

There are eight program areas and each program area has three themes under it.

1. Guide Together (Our Story, Spirit of Guiding, Camping and the Great Outdoors)
2. Explore Identities (Being You, Different Together, Gender Power)
3. Build Skills (Money Sense, Life Stuff, How To)
4. Be Well (My Mighty Mind, My Physical Self, My Healthy Relationships)
5. Experiment and Create (Science Lab, Design Space, Art Studio)
6. Connect and Question (Local Communities, Canadian Connections, World Stage)
7. Take Action (Your Choice, Your Voice, Your Action)
8. Into the Outdoors (Nature Discoveries, Our Shared Planet, Camping Skills and Adventures)

7

SPARK PROMISE

I promise to share and be a Friend.

SPARK OPENING SONG

Sparks jump up as you light the fire. Sparks jump up and give a big cheer. Sparks jump up as the flames get higher. The Sparks, the Sparks, the Sparks are here.

SPARK CLOSING SONG

I promise to share and be a friend.
By showing we care, it's love that we send.
Though the world is so wide, there's love deep inside. It's easy to be a friend, a friend.

6

ACCESSING THE GIRLS FIRST PLATFORM

Go to this website:

https://experience.girlguides.ca/ggc-login?_ga

You need your iMIS number to log into this, use your name as it appears in iMIS and the email address you have in iMIS

HOW TO EARN BADGES

- ♣ To earn a Theme badge it is recommended
 - Girls participate in 6-8 activities
- ♣ To earn a Program Area badge
 - Girls complete 2-3 theme badges/theme
- ♣ The guidelines to earn the Take Action Program Area are a little different –
 1. **Your Choice:** complete the Explore Your Passion Instant Meeting
 2. **Your Voice:** complete the Driving Change Instant Meeting
 3. **Your Action:** complete 1-3 actions

8

At enrolment, Sparks get their enrolment pin, membership year pin and certificate.

Enrolment requirements: to have attended at least one meeting and know their promise.

SAMPLE ENROLMENT CEREMONY

GUIDER: Are you ready to be enrolled as a Spark and make your Spark promise?

GIRL: Yes

GUIDER: Please join in your promise with me. I promise to share and be a friend.

GIRL: I promise to share and be a friend.

GUIDER: Congratulations, you are now a Spark in the _____ unit.

*Make sure to involve the girls in planning their enrolment ceremony. The possibilities are endless!

9

GIRL GUIDE COOKIES

Selling Girl Guide cookies is the main fundraiser for units. In the fall, the chocolate mint cookies are sold, and in the spring the classic chocolate and vanilla sandwich cookies are sold.

Breakdown of cookie money:

National & Dare:	\$38.50
ANY Council:	\$7.00
Membership Subsidy:	\$0.75
Area:	
District:	
Unit:	

\$25.75 - Area, District, Unit.

Each Area sets a different breakdown, but Units are guaranteed a minimum of \$13.50/ case.

10

THINKING DAY

Thinking Day is on February 22nd and is the shared birthday of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell who were the founders of Girl Guides. It is celebrated by Guiding and Scouting members worldwide.

The WAGGGS website usually has activities to do each year for Thinking Day and a crest associated with this.

CANADIAN WORLD FRIENDSHIP FUND (CWFF)

This fund is supported by Girl Guide members in Canada and is used to support international and national travel trips, the 5 World Centres and Guiding in countries around the world.

The goal is to raise \$5.00 per member for the CWFF. There is an Alberta Council challenge with a crest for raising \$5.00 per member.

*There are a variety of ways to raise funds for the CWFF, talk to your District Commissioner for information on this.

11

FIVE WORLD CENTRES

There are five world centres for Girl Guides.

1. Pax Lodge – England
2. Our Chalet – Switzerland
3. Our Cabana – Mexico
4. Sangam – India
5. Kusafiri – virtual world centre in Africa

There are programs and events held for Girl Guides around the world at the world centres.

Their websites (www.waggggs.org) has more information.

12

GAMES

FRUIT SALAD

One (or more) girls are in the middle of the space and everyone else is lined up on one side. Everyone thinks of a fruit. The person in the middle calls out a fruit and if their fruit is called, the girls run across to the other side. The ones in the middle try to catch them, anyone who is caught becomes part of the middle. When the ones in the middle call fruit salad, everyone runs across and a new game is started.

BLOB TAG

One girl is it. She tags other girls and anyone who is tagged becomes part of one long chain (the blob) that continues to catch girls and they join the chain.

BUTTON

The girls all sit in a circle and someone is in the middle with their eyes closed. A button is passed around the circle while the girls sing “button you must wander, wander, wander. Button you must wander everywhere”. Everyone then holds their hands behind their back and one girl has the button. The girl in the middle tries to guess who has the button.

13

AWARDS

There are awards for your contributions to Guiding and for those of the amazing women with whom you work.

Check the Alberta Council Awards Booklet on the provincial website, girlguides.ca/ab to get all the details for the awards.

Check with your District Commissioner for more information about awards

14

RESOURCES

My GGC - www.girlguides.ca

- Check your unit roster

Guiding Essentials

Safe Guide

Insurance Booklet

National and Provincial Fundraising Policy

The Brand Centre - brandcentre.girlguides.ca

The Guide Store - thegirlguidestore.ca

Area Standing Committee Advisers

Provincial website - www.girlguides.ca/ab

15

REGISTRATION FEES

Total - \$195 for girls

National:	\$80.00
Province:	\$37.00
Subsidy & Unit Rent:	\$60.00
Area:	\$18.00

16

MY INFORMATION

UNIT NAME AND IMIS NUMBER:

DISTRICT:

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER:

AREA:

AREA COMMISSIONER:

IMIS NUMBER:

DISTRICT INFORMATION

AREA INFORMATION