

UNIT GUIDER POCKET PAL



SPARKS 2020-2021 ALBERTA 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

Brownie 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

Brownies (ages 7 and 8)

Brownies is a two-year program

Guides (ages 9-11)

Guides is a three-year program

Pathfinders (ages 12-14)

Pathfinders is a three-year program

Rangers (ages 15-17)

Rangers is a three-year program

Trex (ages 12-17)

Trex focuses on camping and the outdoors

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

SPARK PROMISE

I promise to share and be a Friend.

SPARK OPENING SONG

Sparks jump up when you light the fire.
Sparks jump up and give a big cheer.
Sparks jump up as 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,
With love deep inside.
It's easy to be a friend, a friend.

6

There are eight program areas and each one has three themes under it:

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

7

ACCESSING THE GIRLS FIRST PLATFORM

Go to this website:

<https://experience.girlguides.ca/ggc-login>

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:

Dare: \$21.75

National: \$4.75

Province: \$5.75

Area:

District:

Unit:

Note: These numbers are subject to change once the 2020-2021 Guiding year cookie money breakdown is released later this year.

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 and Boy Scouts. It is celebrated by Guiding and Scouting members worldwide.

The WAGGGS (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts) website usually has activities to do each year for Thinking Day and a crest associated with it.

CANADIAN WORLD FRIENDSHIP FUND (CWFF)

This fund is supported by Girl Guide members in Canada and friends of Guiding. It offers financial assistance to Guiding members traveling internationally and nationally, the 5 World Centres, and Guiding in other 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 many ways to raise funds for the CWFF, talk to your District Commissioner for more information.

11

FIVE WORLD CENTRES

There are five WAGGGS World Centres:

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

There are programs and events held for Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world at the World Centres.

Visit the WAGGGS websites (www.waggggs.org) for more information.

12

INCLUSIVE GRACES

CAMPFIRE GRACE

(Tune: Fire's Burning)

We're thankful, We're thankful,
For friendship, For friendship,
And for good food, And for good food,
And hands that prepared it.

KNIFE, FORK, SPOON, SPATULA

I'm a knife, fork, spoon, spatula, cha cha cha
I'm a knife, fork, spoon, spatula, cha cha cha
I'm a knife, fork, spoon, I'm a knife, fork, spoon,
I'm a knife, fork, spoon, spatula, cha cha cha

Actions: put your arms above your head and mimic the shapes of a knife, fork, spoon, and spatula, and wave your arms back and forth for the Cha Cha Cha.

13

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.

14

AWARDS

Volunteers in Guiding do so much and ultimately empower every girl in Guiding to discover herself and be everything she wants to be. Recognizing adult members is an important way to help our volunteers feel valued and thanked.

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

Check the Alberta Council Awards Booklet on the Alberta Council website, www.girlguides.ca/ab to get more details about these awards.

Check with your District Commissioner for more information about awards.

15

RESOURCES

My GGC - www.girlguides.ca

- Check your unit roster

Guiding Essentials - on member zone under About Guiding

Safe Guide

Insurance Booklet

National and Provincial Fundraising Policy

Emergency Response Card

The Brand Centre – on member zone

The Guide Store – www.thegirlguidestore.ca

Area Standing Committee Advisers

Alberta Council website - www.girlguides.ca/ab

16

REGISTRATION FEES

Total - \$150 for girls

National: \$60.00

Province: \$42.00

Area:

District:

Unit:

17

MY INFORMATION

UNIT NAME AND IMIS NUMBER:

DISTRICT:

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER:

AREA:

AREA COMMISSIONER:

IMIS NUMBER:

18

DISTRICT INFORMATION

19

AREA INFORMATION

20