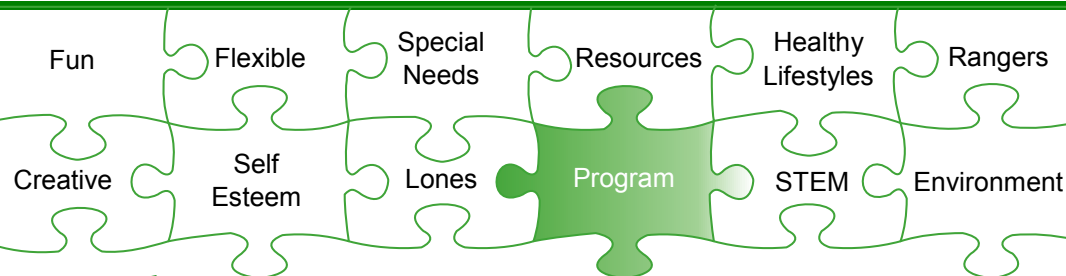




Girl Guides of Canada
Guides du Canada

BC PROGRAM COMMITTEE



FunFinder

October 2013

Enrolment Ideas Issue

Often, when we ask the girls to help choose an enrolment theme, we will get the "standard" answers: Under the Sea, Enchanted Forest, Fall, Winter Wonderland, etc. Those are great but there is so much more...

While the occasion may be formal, the ceremony for an enrolment can be whatever the girls and the leaders choose - there are endless possibilities if we think outside the box! Here are a few ideas - use them as a template or as a

springboard for even greater ideas!

We do realize that many of you have already completed your enrolment ceremonies for this year, in which case, keep these ideas in your back pocket for next year!

SPARK ENROLMENT IDEAS

It is important in Sparks that when enrolling them, a ceremony be involved. A theme is a fun way to make the enrolment an occasion instead of just another meeting.

Two weeks before:

Make invitations to send out to parents.

Confirm that any special guests are able to make it.

One week before:

Practice the ceremony in its entirety. The girls will be much more comfortable if they know what is going to happen.

Designate a photographer.

Before parents arrive

Decorate your meeting place according to your theme.

Go through the ceremony once more, to make sure that all the girls are comfortable with it.

Make any last minute adjustments to uniform, costumes, etc.



THE ENROLMENT CEREMONY

Opening Song: "Sparks Jump Up"

Spark Promise: I promise to share and be a friend.

Welcome to parents and guests: explain what enrolment is

Ceremony:

- Sparks come up to the Guider/Commissioner who is doing the enrolment. They can come up individually or as a pair - whichever works best for your unit.
- Each girl says her promise and makes her Spark sign.
- The Guider/Commissioner pins her enrolment pin on her badge scarf (or shirt if she doesn't have a badge scarf), and presents her with her enrolment certificate.
- The Guider/Commissioner then shakes her hand and congratulates her.
- They turn around and pictures are taken by parents and a designated photographer.
- Designated photographer takes a picture of the entire Spark unit.
- When all girls have been enrolled, thank parents and guests for coming and ask them to join you for a piece of celebration cake.

Closing Song: "I Promise to Share and Be A Friend"

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The BC Program Committee is a busy and rewarding committee to be a part of. We create challenges, produce the FunFinder, provide trainings for Guiders and host Girl Events. We work as a team for many of our activities, but also have individual responsibilities based on our positions.

We are currently looking to fill a number of positions on our team with dedicated Guiders who are passionate about the program.

Please see page 12 for more information.

Make New Friends

Becoming a Spark is an exciting time as for many girls it marks the beginning of their Guiding journey. One of the most important things girls learn as a Spark is the value of friendship, so why not have a Friendship theme to your enrolment this fall?

A few weeks before:

Take pictures of each Spark "sharing and being a friend" Make picture frames out of foamy. Tell the girls they will be used on enrolment day. Take them home and insert the pictures that you have been taking. These will be their enrolment gift.



they will walk down for enrolment. Using a roll of paper, have them draw and colour what "I promise to share and be a friend" means to them.

Enrolment night:

Lay the runway out so the girls can walk down the pathway to where their leaders are positioned. Lay the pictures frames with pictures on a table alongside pins and presentation certificates.

As new Sparks each make their way down the pathway to where the leaders are positioned, they can take the hand of a second year Spark who can then present them for enrolment by sharing one thing that makes her a special friend.



The week before:

Have the Sparks make a runway that

A Frightfully Good Enrolment

Ahead of Time:

Make Halloween masks on a stick. Have the shapes already cut out. You could use pumpkins, cat faces, witch faces, Frankenstein faces, etc. Put out a variety of markers, and art materials for the girls to use. When completed and dried, add a stick (either a paint stick, a chopstick, a strong straw, etc.)

Decorate a large refrigerator box (big enough for a junior leader or leader to be in) to look like a haunted house. Cut a door into the front of the box, and an exit door in the back.

Make stepping stones from grey or brown construction paper. Glue leaves to them to make it look like they're outside in the fall.

Make a fence from cardboard or locate a ready made free standing one.



Enrolment Day:

Decorate the enrolment location with balloons and streamers in orange, black and purple. Make a pathway from the stepping stones you've made leading to a fence with an opening. The haunted house should be beyond the fence.

2nd years stand on either side of the pathway holding their masks up to their faces as the 1st year Sparks walk down the path to be the haunted house.

The Spark knocks on the door and knocks. The door opens and the leader takes her inside the box, closes the door and goes out the back to the leader waiting to enroll the Sparks.

You can get really creative with this theme by creating words or rhymes for the girls to say, dress in costume, etc. Have fun with it and make it memorable!



Sparks Sparkle

Consider having a jewel themed enrolment.

A meeting or two in advance:

Invite the Sparks to decorate a foam or Bristol board tiara with stick-on jewels and sequins.



Make large stepping stones that are blinged up to look like large jewels



Enrolment night:

On the night of enrolment, lay out a stepping stone path.

Have the second year Sparks, already wearing their tiara's, stand along both sides of the path.



As each new Spark follows the path, she can be dusted with glitter by her older Spark friends. If your meeting location doesn't allow this, make confetti out of metallic paper using a large hole punch. Once her promise has been recited, each new Spark can receive her enrolment pin, certificate and be crowned with her tiara.



Critters Enrolment

Ahead of time

Make critter masks, e.g. raccoons, deer, rabbits, bear cubs, squirrels, etc. Put them away for enrolment.



Make a paper backdrop of a forest. Draw out trees, grass, leaves, animals, etc., and have the Sparks colour it.

Create a magic rainbow as a pathway into the forest. You can add potted trees or Christmas trees to make your scene more dimensional.

Enrolment Night:

Set up the paper backdrop behind the enrolment area with the Christmas trees in front so it looks like a forest. Have the rainbow pathway leading to the forest.

The second year Sparks can be

playing in the forest. The critters "1st year Sparks" see them and follow them to the forest via the magic rainbow.



At the end of the rainbow, the first year Sparks meet the leaders who ask if they would like to have fun and play with the other Sparks. If they do, they have to say their promise. Once they are enrolled, they shed their mask and become Sparks by receiving their enrolment pin.



Winter Wonderland

Ahead of time:

Make large snowflakes for the walls, and small snowflakes for the trees



<http://www.cncofficesystems.com/blog/diy-paper-snowflakes/>

String popcorn and cranberries for the tree.

Locate one or two Christmas trees, 2 strings of white Christmas lights, Cotton batting and any other decorations that are appropriate to use for the evening.

Have the 1st year Sparks make cardboard snowshoes or skis while the 2nd year Sparks make 2 lanterns each.

All girls come in winter jackets, toques and gloves.

Enrolment Night:

Set up the room to look like a winter wonderland. Decorate the trees with

the snowflakes and popcorn/cranberry strings. Use the strings of lights to create a pathway, adding cotton batting over them to make it look like a snowy pathway.

2nd year girls line the pathway with their lanterns to light the way to the Guiders.

The 1st year girls ski/snowshoe into the meeting to be enrolled. Once they have been

enrolled, received their pin and certificate, a second year Spark presents one of her lanterns to the 1st year to welcome her into the unit.

Note: Once enrolment is over:

The girls can take the popcorn/cranberry strings and put them in the trees outside for the birds.



Follow the Rainbow

Ahead of time:

Borrow a kid-sized plastic slide, decorating each side so that it looks like a rainbow.

Have the girls make rainbow coloured stepping stones.



Enrolment Night:

Lay out the rainbow stepping stones with the slide at the end. If you like, the second year Sparks can form the path instead by making an arch or holding rainbow-coloured helium balloons.

As you call the name of a first year Spark to come forward, she walks along the rainbow path and slides down the rainbow slide to be enrolled.

The Spark repeats her promise, is pinned with her enrolment pin, then presented with her enrolment certificate and one of the coloured balloons to mark this special day.

Other Ideas

Bubbles! Blow bubbles as the girls walk down and give each new spark her own new bubble wand and bottle of bubbles as a keepsake

Fairy Wings. Older Sparks can wear fairy wings as they welcome the new Sparks. (These can be decorated ahead of time.) Once enrolled, they are given a pair of wings too. Following the ceremony the girls can decorate them together.



BROWNIE ENROLMENT IDEAS

Owls, toadstools, and magic pools are all special things found only in Brownies. Incorporating these, involving the girls in the planning, and playing with different themes will create a memorable enrolment ceremony for your girls. The following suggestions are intended to get you thinking about new and fun ways to make your enrolment ceremony exciting. Use them as a starting point to a brainstorming session with your other leaders or implement them as they are shared here. The most important thing is that it is meaningful to both you and your Brownies. Don't forget the girls should help make enrolment invitations for their families.



The Princess in Me

Our girls wanted a Princess enrolment - there's nothing better than a wand and a crown to make girls light up! But we wanted to go a little deeper than the trappings of princess-hood! So with a little thought we designed a ceremony and used a story - http://dragon.sleepdeprived.ca/program/ceremonies/guide_ceremonies/brownies/brownies_7.htm and then modified and embellished it.

Props and Décor:

We used the story and made mirrors with cardstock and aluminum foil, we made crowns using this template: http://www.britishmuseum.org/explore/young_explorers/create/bead_crown.aspx and we used tulle and ribbons to decorate chairs; we also had an arch which we have used before that has lights on it.

Modifications to the story:

We wanted to emphasize how true princesses are found by the qualities they have, such as kindness, truthfulness, etc. so we changed the story to have the Fairy Godmother let the new Brownies know that they could also be true princesses if they were to do acts of goodness. The girls then read their "royal" proclamation of how they would take action for a better world.



Invitations:

We made a princess crown shape that when opened up had a heart, with a picture of the Brownie in the heart, and the usual wording to come join us.

Grand Howl

The grand howl is a Brownie tradition that is done to welcome, congratulate or to thank a special guest. Girls and leaders stand in a circle, with the person or people to be congratulated or thanked standing in the middle. Girls making the circle squat down with hands hanging in front of them. Starting off quietly, girls and leaders chant "tu whit, tu whit, tu whoo" and rise slightly and then return to squatting position. Do it again, but this time a little louder and stand a little taller. On the third chant, clap your hands above your head as you jump up and say "tu whoo".



Magic Forest Theme

This enrolment theme is based on the Brownie Story found in the Brownie Program book. The idea is to transform your space into a forest. Create a path by placing fallen leaves, tree branches and twinkly lights on the ground in two lines. You may choose to create a blue moon to hang in your space. Second year girls could be standing on the edges of the path. Girls will walk down the path to the toadstool at the end. Beside the toadstool have a large mirror on the ground (to represent the magic pool). Recite the "Twist me and Turn Me"

poem from the Brownie story while spinning the Brownie slowly. When it comes to "I look in the water and there see..." have the Brownie look into the mirror (magic pool) and say "myself". After that, have the Brownie recite her promise and present her with her earned pins and badges. Finally, ask for one of the second year girls to come forward to lead the new Brownie back into the Magic Forest and to stand along the edge of the path. When all new girls have been enrolled, do the Grand Howl.

Stepping Stones

Create stepping stones using fun foam, laminated poster board or flat stones. You could write parts of the Brownie promise and/or Brownie law on each stone. As the girls come forward to be enrolled, step on each stone and say part of the promise or law. The stones could lead to the magic pool to perform the "twist me and turn me rhyme" or they could lead to the Owls for the girl to receive her pins and any badges.

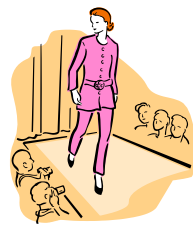
Key to Brownies

Each girl is given a large key. Keys could be made from poster board, cardboard, or girls could create a personal key using recycled materials. After the girls recite their promise, they can use their key to unlock the Brownie lock. The Brownie lock should be large enough that each girl's key fits.

On Becky's Guiding Resource Centre website, at http://dragon.sleepdeprived.ca/program/ceremonies/guide_ceremonies/brownies/brownies_5.htm, is another version of this enrolment theme. In her example, there are six locks to unlock and six keys to unlock them. The locks are called promise, law, motto, sign and handshake, toadstool, magic pool, and grand howl. Each girl unlocks one of the locks to help the group discover the magic of Brownies. If you have more than six girls being enrolled, you could have two or more girls with keys to open each lock. As each of the locks is unlocked, a reading or an appropriate activity is done (i.e. Story of the toadstool is read when the toadstool lock is unlocked). For complete details, visit the link above.



A Model of Greatness



One year the Brownies decided that they wanted to be "models" for their Brownie enrolment; it would have been simple to overlook

the idea in the belief it was too shallow an idea to make for a meaningful enrolment, but we thought it out and came up with some great ideas!

What were the Brownies modelling? Aside from their best dress-up clothes that some chose to wear while others modelled their uniforms, all the girls modelled behaviour that made them a Brownie. For the weeks leading up to the ceremony they wrote down (or let us know) about times they "lent a hand" or gave service and we incorporated all of that into the "description" of what they were wearing!

Decorations:

The girls came up with runway lights, so we used strings of mini lights; they wanted a runway so we taped red plastic tablecloths of a good width down where we wanted the girls to walk; the girls created posters of their favourite "designers"- the quality they wanted to model such as kindness, loyalty, bravery, etc.

Food:

The girls could only bring foods that "modelled" healthy choices and hard work, so they had to be snacks that they made themselves; they "modelled" planning and preparedness by pre-making signs for their snacks and juice.

Invitations:

Parents and family and friends were invited to an "exclusive showing" of the newest Brownie collection; we used a dress form with a Brownie scarf around the neck as a picture on the front.

Go Team Go!

A few years back, we had a Unit of Brownies who were very sports-minded - when they chose themes for enrolment, they thought "Sports" so we settled on baseball and the ideas began to flow!

Props and Décor:

We used school benches as our "bleachers". We made signs of "Tweenies-11" and "Brownies-0" that we changed numbers on as the girls completed their Promise. We made bases that we taped to the floor and used masking tape to create lines. The girls made posters of the upcoming "event" to put up on the walls.

The girls did parts of their Promise as they made it from first base, to second to third and then home, where they were pinned by the leaders.

The girls talked about what it means to be a team - they used cue cards made up by the leaders after a circle discussion.

Food:

We served popcorn in red and white striped bags, hot dogs, and peanut granola bars (no allergies that year!) We also had the girls bring treats in and they made carry trays like the old time servers in the ball fields had.

Invitations:

The girls traced out a baseball glove on cardstock and then we "sewed" stitches on with yarn and wrote out our words inviting family to the "greatest game in the world - becoming a Brownie".

Entertainment:

We sang "Take me out to the Ball Game".

Shoot for the Stars

We were doing a series of STEM meetings and so the girls decided they wanted a space theme enrolment.

We picked a rocket ship as our invitation and said we were shooting for the stars and to come join us in our mission.

Props and Décor:

We bought black craft paper and glow in the dark paint and created space pictures. Each girl created her own constellation and named it after herself.

We had glow sticks and we dimmed

the lights through part of the ceremony to help the girls' pictures stand out.

We made toilet paper rockets and star mobiles.

Food:

The girls brought treats and got creative - we had star-shaped cookies, star sprinkles on cupcakes, "out of this world" brownies and fruit cut into star shapes.

Entertainment:

We sang "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" and "Bed is too Small".

Ceremony:

We created a story about taking a trip to the stars and what will make for success - attitude and bravery and being prepared. The girls said their star was going to shine the brightest because...and they came up with things that would make the world a better place.



Colourful Crayon Enrolment

Julie from <http://www.guidingjewels.ca> shares a Brownie enrolment about celebrating diversity. Each girl dresses up as a different coloured crayon (e.g. coloured party hats, coloured capes, or coloured crowns). Each of the second year girls had the same colour as one of the new girls. In this ceremony, a story is read about how the crayons in the box are not getting along and are not kind to each other. When the crayons are used all together to make a beautiful picture, they realize that together all their unique colours can create something really beautiful and special. After the story has been read the girls then make their promise and receive their pins. For the complete story, visit <http://guidingjewels.ca/brownies/meeting-plans/361-18-twist-me-and-turn-me>.



Brownie Dreamland

This enrolment ceremony incorporates camping, which can help to excite the girls for upcoming camps.

Props and Décor:

Set up "camp" with a tent and some sleeping bags to set the scene.



Ceremony:

The ceremony starts with new girls and one of the leaders camping and falling asleep. After the girls fall asleep, the other leaders and second year girls enter the forest and make a Brownie ring.



They make owl hoots and/or sing the Brownie opening song around the toadstool, which wakes up the new girls.

The new girls then come forward to join the Brownie ring and look into the magic pool. The traditional "twist me and turn me" rhyme is said and each girl makes her promise so she can

become a Brownie and receive her pins and badges.

After becoming a Brownie, each new girl returns to the campsite to lie down and fall asleep. They later awake and comment on the dream they just had. When they look down at their sashes, they realize that it wasn't a dream and that they are now Brownies. This idea comes from Becky's Guiding Resources website <http://dragon.sleepdeprived.ca/>.



Halloween

There are many ways to incorporate Halloween into your enrolment ceremony. This is one idea from the [GuideZone website](#):

Incorporate costumes for the girls being enrolled to wear with their uniform, such as a mask or hat. Leaders could dress up by wearing witches hats.

Have all the new girls stand in the centre of the room in either a real or imaginary cauldron. Use chairs and black streamers, black table clothes, or cardboard painted black to create your own giant Brownie cauldron.

Leaders stir the pot reciting a script that explains how the girls have worked hard and their time has come to become Brownies.



Girls then fly on witches brooms to the toadstool and magic pool to do the usual enrolment traditions (i.e. recite promise,

receive pins, etc). The ceremony could then be followed by a Halloween party. Don't forget the Halloween decorations and candy. Perhaps you could incorporate trick or treating into the ceremony, as well.



Crossing the River to Brownies

This idea comes from the Ontario Girl Guides website guidesontario.org, under Unit Guider Resources and then Brownies.

Create two river banks on either side of your meeting space, wide enough to allow each girl to place a piece of the bridge across it. You could use masking tape, large sheets of paper or table cloths to represent the river banks.

Girls who are already enrolled stand on the west bank, while new girls stand on the east bank. Each girl to be enrolled is given a cardboard piece of "wood".

Each new girl places her board in a row to make a bridge across the river to the other side. Once the bridge is complete, have the girls recite their promise. They can then cross the bridge to the other side to receive their pins and badges.



Brownies receive their enrolment pin, membership pin (which could be a 1, 2 or 3, depending on whether or not they were in Sparks), and circle emblem at enrolment.

They could also receive a Unit title tape, the Key to Brownies badge, and any other badges they have earned to date.



The Great Brownie Caper

The girls really wanted a mystery with clues and adventure, so we came up with the Great Brownie Caper!



Props and Décor:

We made large magnifying glasses with black poster board and clear cellophane and put clues about the girls underneath the cellophane. We made a winding path with stepping stones and made a map of the gym that marked the enrolment spot with a letter X.

The programs can read "Top Secret" and the toadstool can be replaced by the treasure chest that holds the girls certificates with a few gold coins thrown in.

The girls made toilet paper binoculars and the leaders hid their enrolment pins, giving them a map personalized to their pin.

Food:

We made "trail" mix, had cookies with x marks the spot and invisible ink juice (lemonade).

Invitations:

We wrote our invitations with invisible ink (white crayon) and sealed them up in envelopes labelled "op secret" with instructions on how to decode by rubbing a coloured pencil across the page (for backup we included a small piece of paper with clear invitational instructions on it. The girls had the most fun telling their parents how to decode what they had been given.



GUIDE ENROLMENT IDEAS

Ahoy, Ye Mateys!



Johnny Depp may have had something to do with it, but pirates were suddenly a big hit one year and, of course, the girls were determined to have a

pirate theme enrolment, so we brainstormed and came up with:

Decorations:

The girls were ambitious and created an absolutely huge silhouette of a pirate ship from black craft paper and we taped it behind us. We were able to borrow a wooden chest and fill it with cheap trinkets and gold coins (we gave out chocolate coins later).

Because they had made their ship black, they made

their skull and crossbones white and red. We sprang for red bandannas, which they wore on their heads. And one girl begged

White Spot for some Pirate Pak boxes, which they gave her and we set around the room.



Invitations:

What else could it be but a treasure map with "x" marks the spot? The girls had a great time coming up with variations on pirate sayings and we let them design their own maps, just making sure the invite info was on there.

Ceremony:

Once they decided on pirates, we had to have them walk the plank! We used a 2 by 12 foot plank for the final walk as a "Tenderfoot" and, once the girls had made their Promise, we made them take the dive into Guides. We put their certificates into clear bottles with their badges on a twine rope wrapped around the bottle.

Going for the Gold

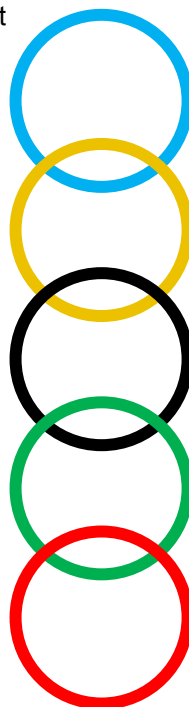
Guides very often pick topics they are familiar with and, many of them being sports-minded, will choose the Olympics. So we had some

ideas and the girls met in patrols and came up with an enrolment ceremony. They chose Canada as their host country and because they are all Canadian, they led the "opening ceremonies" by doing Horseshoe for the visitors and singing.

Decorations:

The girls decided to put up Olympic rings using hula hoops covered in crepe streamers in the five colours - they put some on the background wall and the girls paraded some in. They created Olympic torches with cardboard tubes and yellow and orange tissue paper with cellophane, that the girls held as they waited to "compete"; the leaders created gold medals that held their enrolment pin, and the leaders created podiums with flag stands.

The girls made posters telling about the Olympic values, many of which mirror Guiding values - excellence, fun, respect, fairness, personal growth, leadership and peace. They also drew pictures of Guiding.



Food:

The girls decided that the Olympics are an international

event so each girl decided what she could bring in the way of different countries' foods - some chose chocolate éclairs from France or Greek tiramisu, while others made cupcakes iced in Olympic colours.



Invitations:

Parents and family and friends were invited to an Olympic extravaganza event with deluxe floor seats for the best view of the event!

The girls chose to use the torch symbol and the phrase "going for the gold"



The ceremony?

The girls created a "venue" by marking off an area with gym benches. As they approached, the "commentator" spoke on the attributes that made the girl Olympic worthy.

The Guide would then make her promise and proceed to the podium to be awarded her gold medal.



Hear Ye, Hear Ye, Make way for the Girl Guides

It may be because we had talked about a medieval theme for camp, but when we asked the girls, they wanted a medieval theme for their enrolment. The girls wanted to be “knighted” with their enrolment pin and “claim their rightful place”! So we sat down and came up with a ceremony and some great ideas!

Decorations:

We used cardboard that we painted to make castle outlines on the wall. The girls then used poster board, scissors, paper, glue and markers to make “family” banners with symbols representative of their interests and ideas.

We made small shields of stiffened felt, which we pinned their pin onto and we “knighted” the girls as they made their Promise by dubbing the girls with a fun foam sword.

Invitations:

The girls used paper stained with tea and dried to create parchment on which they created their invitation, then they rolled it up and tied it with string and a “seal” to make a scroll.

Food:

Some of the girls came up with the idea to use the little plastic swords to make fruit skewers. Everything was finger food, as they all used fingers,

not forks, back then.

Entertainment:

The girls learned “Greensleeves,” which fulfilled program requirements, too! They were a little reluctant to begin with, but then truly got into it.

Ceremony:

The Town Crier announced the girls as they approached the royalty (leaders) and decreed their reasons for earning Guidehood.



Patrols in Pajamas Night

Anything out of the ordinary is going to get the Guides excited, and they decided on a pyjama party!



Invitations:

We made a bed envelope by folding a piece of cardstock over and sealing it along two open edges. The third open edge we “turned down” by cutting one piece shorter. We added patterned paper as a trim on the cut edge to be the sheet and then created a pillow shape, which we wrote the

invite on, and then slipped into the opening.

Decorations:

We created clotheslines and the girls drew pyjamas on poster boards and cut them out. A couple of girls brought in extra pairs of real pyjamas and robes.

For our Promise spot we made a bed on the floor - we taped down a king size sheet and turned the edge down, then placed a blanket there, also, with pillows at the head of the bed. A white poster board was cut into a

headboard and taped to the wall. The leaders had a couple of stuffed animals for company!

The girls brought their craziest slippers and wildest pyjamas to wear.

Food:

We broke down on this one and allowed the girls to bring what they would normally have for snacks when they had friends over - we got a lot of chips and popcorn and pretzels but we did get some mini pizza bagels



Ghoulish Guides Get-Together

If enrolment is going to take place in late October, then Guides are going to suggest Halloween! So one year we said that if they could be creative enough in being able to relate their Promise to vampires, bats, and goblins, we would go for a Halloween enrolment. When put to the test, the Guides came through with flying colours!

Decorations: The girls decided they would go with the ghosts and graveyard aspect of Halloween, so they created tombstones with their names and “the day the Tenderfoot died” (by becoming a Guide) and made a statement that told about their

life (or value, etc). We used black plastic tablecloths as backdrops and the girls made ghosts with white paper. The girls used fall leaves for the floor and some fake webbing material.

Ceremony: The girls said they were rising from the dead as they had unfinished business in this world - they then made their Promise and a promise to do good by helping in a service project or getting involved in helping others, etc.; we left it up to the girls as to what their extra promise was.

One of the leaders even found little wooden coffins which we placed their

pins and badges into. The girls loved them, and had the other girls sign them with markers.

Invitations: The girls wrote “Join us if you dare” and then the invite details. We used grey cardstock and the girls drew twisted trees and haunted houses and tombstones with black markers; they pasted yellow circles for the full moon that had a Trefoil embossed on the circle.

Food: I’m sure the moms had as much fun getting into this as the girls! We had kitty litter cake, ghost marshmallows, spider cupcakes, tombstone cookies, ghoulish green punch and much, much more...

PATHFINDER ENROLMENT IDEAS

Pathfinder Planners

Pathfinders are at an age where they often don't want a traditional enrolment with parents and Commissioner invited. They sometimes want to try something different and a little out of the ordinary. It might be a themed party at a meeting or it might be an event or activity that they've planned outside of the meeting place that ends in an enrolment. Whatever they decide is the right thing to do. It has more meaning for them if they have input into their ceremony.

Ceremonies have no specific formula although there are a number of things you might consider. An idea might be

for 3rd years to plan the ceremony as part of their program work. Here are some basic ideas that the girls should consider when planning an enrolment ceremony.

Why: Enrolment!!!!

Who: Who should be invited? Commissioner? Parents? Friends? No one – just do it with the girls in the unit? Who should plan the ceremony? Who will be on the planning committee?

What: What type of a ceremony is this? Will there be a theme, ie promise and law, friendship, international, etc., or will it be an activity based event? What supplies

are required and who is bringing them?

When: Date and Time

Where: Where will it be?

How: How will we incorporate enrolment into the plan so it feels significant? How will we get there?

Following are just a sampling of ideas that could be used for an enrolment ceremony. Have fun planning and remember to include the Pathfinders in on the planning!



Rock Climbing

Go to a climbing wall for your enrolment.

Ahead of time, have the instructor hide the enrolment pins at various points in the climbing wall.

The girls need to climb to find their enrolment pin. Once found, they bring it back to the Guider to be enrolled.



Scuba Diving



Take scuba lessons at the local pool for enrolment.

Have the enrolment pins attached to weighted items so they can dive for them. After

everyone has found their enrolment pins, they can be enrolled.

Challenge Course

Pick a location with lots of room. Have your 2nd and 3rd year girls set up a challenging obstacle course or ropes course. Each Pathfinder needs to successfully complete the challenge before being enrolled by the Guider waiting at the end of the course. This would be a great enrolment to do at camp. Divide the girls into teams and encourage teamwork to get to the end. Here are a few that you could try.

Bridge:

Build a rope bridge between two trees. It should also have some type of railings.

Challenge: Every member of the team needs to make it from one end of the bridge to the other without touching the ground.

Spider's web

Tie rope between two trees like a spider's web. The easiest is to tie a rope across at the top and another at the bottom. Then tie one rope down each side from top to bottom before creating a random pattern in the

middle for your web.

Challenge: for all team members to get through the web without touching the sides.

Challenge: Every member of the team needs to cross through the web without touching it.

Tightrope: Stretch a rope tightly between two trees about 8 inches off the ground. You will need a long pole for balance.

Challenge: To cross the rope from one end to the other only with the aid of the pole. Half of your team members need to cross successfully.

At the end of the course, the girls are met by their Guider. Before enrolment, the Guider can talk about the challenges and how they met them as a team, and how Guiding is a team. We are a large organization, and when we work as a team, it's amazing what we can accomplish. Now you are part of our Guiding team.



Amazing Race



First, figure out the appropriate length of time, locations and challenges. You will need to be able to hide clue envelopes in the locations. It can be an all day event, or something that's much shorter.

Examples of **locations** and clues:

- Go to the local cemetery.
Envelope at cemetery – find the headstone with the name ____ and the dates ____
- Go to the supermarket.
Envelope at Supermarket - purchase nuts that weigh exactly 257 grams.
- Go to a book store.
Find a book written by someone that has your same first or last name.

Sleepover

Have a sleepover with the entire unit planned by the 2nd and 3rd year Pathfinders. A sleepover is often a great opportunity for the unit to bond in a more casual setting at the start of the year and enrolment can be a great closing to a great night! You can have this sleepover at a regular meeting place or somewhere more adventurous like a Brownie Lodge. If the 1st year girls "survive" the night – they are enrolled in the unit.

Ideas:

- Team building activities
- Cook a favourite unit snack together
- Night Games



- Go to the bead store.
Count the number of containers of red beads in the store.
- Go to the park.
Find the container of pennies and find the penny with the date 20____ (the date the first year pathfinders were born). Exchange that penny for your enrolment pin and take it to the final location.

The final location clue given will be to the enrolment destination

Don't forget the **detours**. These can have a Guiding focus:

- Put the world flag puzzle together or memorize a quote by Lady BP.
- Complete the promise and law word search or Create and perform a skit that includes at least 1 guiding law.
- Tie 3 knots that are very important in Guiding and explain why or

correctly raise a flag on a flagpole

- Boil water, make a cup of hot chocolate and get it to the judge without spilling it or make ice cream in a plastic bag.
- Service (e.g. look at the sample, then make 6 identical table decorations for the seniors centre) or crack the code to get your next clue

You can add a 5 minute penalty for any team that doesn't complete the clue exactly.

5 minute penalty for using a hint envelope (location hint).

The number of locations and detours will depend on the time you have allowed for your enrolment event.

Templates available: <http://www.chicaandjo.com/2010/07/05/amazing-race-party/>

Hike



Plan a hike for 1st and 2nd year girls to end at a predetermined location. You can tell them what's at the end or keep it a surprise.

At the same time as they are hiking, 3rd year girls and Guider are at the final destination

setting up food, drinks and decorations. Parents and Commissioner should be there before the girls, if they are invited.

When everyone arrives at the site, enrolment can take place.



Other Ideas

Geocaching with one of the caches being their enrolment pins.

A Transit rally with the final stop being their enrolment.

See the Alberta Girl Guides website <http://goo.gl/YwlfZ8> for Pathfinder Enrolment, Christmas Pathfinder Enrolment, Harry Potter Enrolment, medieval enrolment.

Halloween Enrolment - http://guidezone.e-guiding.com/wb_halloween.htm

BC Program Committee Available Positions

The BC Program Committee is a busy and rewarding committee to be a part of. We create challenges, produce the FunFinder, provide trainings for Guiders and host Girl Events. We work as a team for many of our activities, but also have individual responsibilities based on our positions. We are currently looking to fill the following positions with dedicated Guiders who are passionate about the program.

Environment Specialist

Purpose

To stimulate and promote environment activities throughout British Columbia in the delivery of the Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada program for girls and Guiders.

Qualifications

Be conversant with the programs for all branches of Guiding (or willing to learn!).

Be enthusiastic about the environment and have an understanding of current concerns and issues.

Upcoming Tasks

Review and revise the Eco-Pak resource.

Healthy Lifestyles Specialist

Purpose

To stimulate and promote Healthy Lifestyle activities through British Columbia in the delivery of the Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada program for girls and Guiders.

Qualifications

Be conversant with the programs for all branches of Guiding (or willing to learn!).

Be enthusiastic about active living, healthy lifestyles choices, self-esteem, etc. and have an understanding of current concerns and issues.

Upcoming Tasks

Create a brand new BC Challenge - "Colour Me Healthy".

Ranger Specialist

Purpose

To stimulate and promote an active interest in the Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada program, especially the Ranger program, throughout British Columbia.

Qualifications

Be conversant with the Ranger program.

Be passionate about girls and Guiders having fun while completing the different levels of program.

Be able to relate well to both girls and

adults.

Should have experience in working with Rangers.

Lones Coordinator

Although we do currently have the Lones Coordinator position filled, Susan Stephen has agreed to take on the position of Deputy Program Adviser, so we are looking for her replacement in the Lones position.

The Lones Branch of Guiding was established to enable girls to become Sparks, Brownies, Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers who, because of work, studies, illness or distance from an active Unit, are unable to attend meetings in the usual way.

Following is an excerpt from the Lones Coordinator position description.

Purpose

To promote additional program ideas and activities for Lones.

To provide a way for the Lones Coordinator and all Lones to keep in touch with each other.

Qualifications

Be conversant with the program for all branches of Guiding, being familiar with Lones.

To apply for any of these positions, please contact program@bc-girlguides.org

BC Program Committee



Girl Guides of Canada Guides du Canada

BC Program Adviser

Julie Thomson

Girl Programs Specialist

Carla MacRae

Environment Specialist

Vacant

Lones Coordinator

Susan Stephen

STEM Specialist

Nadia Lee

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Vacant

Arts Specialist

Barb Wilson

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Ranger Specialist

Vacant

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