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# CANADIAN *Guiders*



## Dear Guiders . . .

Connecting with girls on a personal level has been a privilege and a pleasure for me during my tenure as Chief Commissioner. While I always enjoy engaging with our adult members, such as the women in my Guiding Unit and Fireside Friends Trefoil Guild and all the Guiders who do such innovative work with their units, it's the girls who have always put my duties as Chief Commissioner into perspective.

That's why I was delighted to be interviewed for this issue (see pages 4-5) of *Canadian Guider* by Morgan Boyer, a Ranger from St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. At 18, Morgan (shown with me above) has packed a lifetime of adventure, teamwork and leadership into her years as a GGC member. Among her many Guiding activities, she has travelled with other members to Mexico and Costa Rica, represented WAGGGS at the United Nations' Girls Speak Summit, and used her own experiences to create programs for young girls to educate them about stopping violence against women.

There are countless Morgans in every branch of our organization – from Sparks to Rangers – all doing amazing things through Guiding! I am very proud to call each and every one of them my Guiding sisters.

This is my final Chief's Message to you in *Canadian Guider*. At our Annual General Meeting in June, we will proudly welcome Pamela Rice, of Quebec, as the new Chief Commissioner of Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada. Active in Guiding since she was a girl, Pamela is as passionate as I am about the positive impact our organization has on the lives of girls and women throughout Canada. I wish her all the best in her new role as our leader.

### In this issue . . .

Spring heralds our annual classic chocolate and vanilla Girl Guide cookie campaign. Check out pages 16-17 for an interesting twist on helping girls combine math skills with cookie sales, and pages 30-31 for tips on keeping track of the cookie money raised by girls and their parents.

Did you know our girls earn some 900,000 badges each year? On pages 18-19, you'll find some facts and figures about this, followed by a look at the evolution of GGC badges on pages 20-21. And, as we near the end of another Guiding year, on pages 8-9, we offer you some tips on getting the girls' feedback on the program to help you do some forward planning for next year.

I wish you all good luck, and look forward to continuing to work with you in my role as GGC International Commissioner.

*Sharron Callahan*

Sharron Callahan



# Welcome Spring!

This spring, Girl Guides of Canada will see the role of Chief Commissioner transferred from Sharron Callahan to Pamela Rice. We thank Sharron for her inspiring leadership and look forward to the inspiration Pamela will bring to her term as our leader. Other changes highlighted in this issue of *Canadian Guider* include the National Service Project, now focused on Literacy (page 42), the new GGC Photo Contest format, now running three times annually (page 46), and GGC Social Media, now expanding to include Instagram (pages 36-37). While we eagerly welcome spring, let's look forward to new changes as we continue to grow Guiding throughout Canada.

Cover photo by Van Chau

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Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada (GGC) recognizes and values the richness of human diversity in its many forms, and therefore strives to ensure environments where girls and women from all walks of life, identities, and lived experiences feel a sense of belonging and can participate fully. This commitment to inclusion means GGC's culture, programming, and practices encourage self-awareness and awareness of others; room for difference; and environments where girls and women feel safe, respected, supported, and inspired to reach their potential.

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Photo: Grace King



Photo: Laura Allgrove



# In Her Own Words

## An Interview with Sharron Callahan

Photos: courtesy Sharron Callahan

In recognition of Sharron Callahan's term as Chief Commissioner of Girl Guides of Canada—Guides du Canada, we asked Morgan Boyer, a Ranger from Sharron's home province of Newfoundland and Labrador, to interview her. Here, in her own words, are some of Sharron's thoughts and reminiscences on Guiding and on her time as head of our organization.

### What initially drew you to Guiding?

My mother was involved in Guiding, first in England and then in Canada when she arrived as a war bride. Guiding was always a part of my life and I became a Brownie as soon as I was old enough to join.

### What is your fondest memory of being a Brownie?

We had such fun selling Girl Guide cookies. It took us on adventures outside our normal boundaries and it was a great learning opportunity!

### As GGC's Chief Commissioner, what were your primary goals?

I had many things I wanted to accomplish, but my four primary goals were:

- to improve girl programming and deliver a more dynamic program
- to engage girl members with a girl council
- to support what girl members want
- to continue streamlining the organization.

### What is the funniest thing you have experienced as Chief?

I would have to say it was a comedy of errors when I was heading the Canadian delegation for the Western Hemisphere conference in Mexico in 2013. A storm over Toronto forced my plane to be rerouted through Vancouver, and when I arrived in Mexico City three days after departing from home, it was midnight, and no one was there to meet me. I managed to find a bus to Cuernavaca, but when I arrived at Our Cabaña it was locked up for the night. By the time I managed to get to a hotel by taxi, it was 2:00 a.m., and the hotel was also locked up tight. Everywhere I turned on that trip I met logistical challenges, and the icing on the cake was my lost luggage finally arriving the day before I was due to go home!

Photo: Marlene Graham





Photo: Donna Tuck



Photos: courtesy Sharron Callahan

**What do you find to be most inspiring about Girl Guides of Canada?**

During the past four years, I loved being able to visit the provinces and territories and their councils, and meeting so many awesome GGC members. Guiding truly happens at the unit level and I've camped, hiked and cooked outdoors with girls and leaders from units all over Canada. Having those amazing opportunities is what inspires me as a Guider and as Chief Commissioner.

**As Chief Commissioner, how do you think you've enabled girls to fulfill our Mission – to be confident, resourceful and courageous, and to make a difference in the world?**

I hope that our effort to give girls a greater voice in a national council is a reflection of our mission. I've also supported and encouraged girls to travel internationally, to participate in committees and to hold seats on provincial councils. And I think the Girl Greatness award submissions and GGC Scholarship testimonials demonstrate the empowerment of girls in the program.

**What is your favourite memory as Chief Commissioner?**

At the World Conference in Hong Kong, there were 107 WAGGGS countries

present. When I saw all these women in the meeting hall, dressed in so many different uniforms and representing such a diversity of cultures, gathering for the common purpose of ensuring global Guiding is the very best it can be. . . that was a truly amazing moment!

**If you could sing any song for *The Voice*, what would it be and why?**

I always have Girl Guide songs going through my head and, although I truly love "On My Honour," I would probably sing "The Little Green Frog." I always get a kick out of that song.

**If you could say anything to your past self, what would it be?**

Slow down a little bit. I tend to be very busy and sometimes I over-extend myself. I would love to have taken more time to stop and smell the roses. I would also tell myself to stop eating those chocolate bars and to get outdoors and be more active!

**Moving into the next 10 years, what are your hopes for Girl Guides of Canada?**

I hope the foundations of the things I started will continue. I hope our membership numbers continue to rise, and I hope to see us create more of a presence on the world stage.

**In 20 words or fewer, what notes of wisdom do you have for GGC's Chief Commissioner-Elect Pamela Rice?**

Always carry your crests with you, take care of yourself, and keep a lipstick in your pocket!

**And now for our most challenging question . . . If you could be a Girl Guide cookie, would you be chocolate, vanilla or chocolatey mint?**

That's not difficult at all. I love vanilla cookies and I could eat a whole row of them with ice cream. 🍪

*Ranger Morgan Boyer is a girl assistant with a Brownie Unit in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.*



# KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON

## From Vandalism to Victory

BY PATRICIA TELLIS

As Guiders, we challenge ourselves and our girls to do our best every day. However, some challenges require that to “do our best” we also have to “keep calm and carry on.” That’s exactly what happened following the break-in at Camp Wa-Thik-Ane, just 10 days before the 2014 Quebec Provincial Fall Day Camp last October.

We received many anonymous donations that included personal notes about Camp Wa-Thik-Ane. A truly poignant one read, “Let’s hope the silver lining on this one shines especially brightly. I’m sorry about the vandalism. Wa-Thik-Ane was an important part of my childhood.”

Added to the vandalism were the challenges of website registration glitches, but in the end, the 2014 Fall Day Camp was our largest to date, with 430 very enthusiastic Sparks, Brownies, Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers participating. Even the persistent rain didn’t dampen anyone’s spirits!

### Camping – Girl Guide Style

The goal of this annual event is for girls and Guiders to experience camping “Girl Guide style,” with activities including camp skills, exploring nature and, of course, campfire cooking. This year, despite the rain, we managed to build fires, and most of the girls

Photos: courtesy GuidesQuebecBlog

**O**rganizing an event for hundreds of participants is a challenge in itself, but having run this camp for several years now, our planning team is well prepared. What we couldn’t prepare for last year was the break-in and vandalism at the campsite so close to the event’s opening. However, the ensuing media attention and outpouring of public concern strengthened our resolve to not only keep calm and carry on, but to take this camp from vandalism to victory!

### An Outpouring of Support

Guiders, parents, friends and members of the community donated money and materials and spent many hours helping with the cleanup and repairs. In a matter of days, Quebec Girl Guides received more than \$6,000 to replace the equipment and supplies that had been stolen, including a locker full of nearly-new tents worth more than \$4,000. Many girl members also helped out, and Zone West crest embroiderers donated custom crests for us to sell to raise more money.



cooked part or all of their lunch (including the requisite S'mores) over an open fire.

Sparks brought lots of smiles and giggles with their rain gear. This was the first camp experience for many of them, and they enthusiastically rose to the occasion, hiking, stalking, playing, making new friends, acquiring new skills and singing up a storm!

Brownies did round robin activities including a pitch/take down tent relay, an animal track scavenger hunt, a water-front photo scavenger hunt, a bedroll relay, a first aid session, a corners game and a craft session. Following a short afternoon hike around the campsite, they ended the day with a game of tag.

Guides began their day with a wide game in the forest, stalking "animals" (played by Guiders), followed by an afternoon round robin that included making/testing fire starters, cooking bannock, learning knots, creating super camp gadgets, doing a scavenger hunt, playing charades, hunting bugs and other nature activities.

Pathfinders and Rangers played a version of *Survivor*. After a scavenger hunt for their supplies, the girls completed a series of team requirements to build a tarp shelter over a fire pit, light a campfire using only three matches, take a first aid challenge, build a raft for a small mascot, create a newspaper outfit for a team member, and complete a tribal arts challenge.



**“Let’s hope the silver lining on this one shines especially brightly. I’m sorry about the vandalism. Wa-Thik-Ane was an important part of my childhood.”**

**– Anonymous Donor**

After a hearty supper, everyone gathered for a group singsong/campfire before boarding the buses for the trip home. Despite their now soggy and muddy clothes, the girls were all smiles as they departed. A group of Guiders stayed the night and was joined by more Guiders the next morning to help close up our beloved campsite for the winter.

### **A Thank You Note and Video**

In addition to everyone who offered support to Camp Wa-Thik-Ane after the break-in, special thanks are due to the more than 60 Guiders who brought their girls to this event. The beginning of the new Guiding year is very hectic, and the camp planning

team appreciates the extra efforts these women make to get their patrols together in time. To view a video message from the campers to all Wa-Thik-Ane supporters, visit [youtu.be/hTZPjlgEhdU](http://youtu.be/hTZPjlgEhdU) 📺

*Patricia Tellis, of Montreal, Quebec, is Deputy Provincial Camp Adviser. This article was adapted from her November 4, 2014 blog post, “From Lemons to Lemonade” on the GuidesQuebecBlog ([guidesquebec.wordpress.com](http://guidesquebec.wordpress.com)).*



## Year-End Tips for Unit Guiders

BY RACHEL COLLINS

As Unit Guiders begin preparing for year-end, it's easy to get caught up with the details of camps, trips and advancement ceremonies. But we shouldn't forget to also review the past year and to think about the ways our units can grow and improve! How do we do this? Just ask the girls!

The most important information we can use in forward planning comes from the girls and their parents, but especially from the girls. After all, they're the reason we do what we do. As you begin tidying up loose ends this spring, try these ideas to help you review the past 10 months, so you can make informed decisions to give your girls an even better Guiding experience next year.

## Girl Feedback

What did the girls love? What did they not like? What were they indifferent to? Try these three strategies to help you identify and consider their program preferences. (Take into account that the girls' memories of activities from early in the year will not be as strong as for more recent activities.)

- 1 Active Voting:** This fun feedback game is great for Sparks and Brownies. Use five categories as your voting criteria, and describe them to the girls as follows:
- loved it (would definitely want to do it again)
  - liked it (pretty fun, would probably want to do it again, glad we did it)
  - so-so (okay, didn't mind doing it, but probably wouldn't choose to do it again)
  - didn't like it (never want to do this activity again)
  - did not participate



which you want feedback on a piece of paper and attach it to the walls or tables. Have the girls write brief comments on each activity (or rate it on a scale of one to 10), and attach each sticky note to the appropriate activity sheet. Add a sheet of paper with "New Activities" on it and let the girls attach sticky notes of ideas to it.

## Parent Feedback

It's important to talk to parents as well as girls, because parents may remember feedback that the girls have since forgotten. At the third- or second-to-last meeting of the year, send a hard copy of the survey home, or use **SurveyMonkey.com** an online tool that allows you to create and send surveys, and to analyze the results. Include questions such as:

- How well was the unit organized? Was communication clear and effective? Were leaders open and approachable for questions and conversation?
- How did you like the special events? Were they enjoyable? Was the cost appropriate?
- What were some of your daughter's favourite activities? What activities did she not like?
- What kinds of events or activities would you like to see added to the unit schedule?
- What did you hope your daughter would get out of Guiding? Has that been achieved?

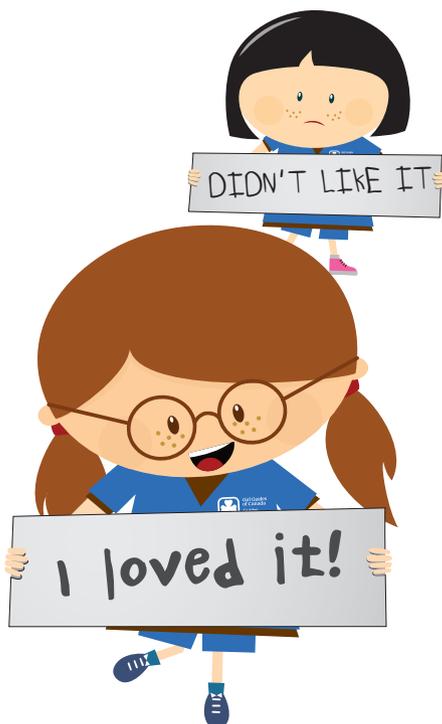
Tell the girls and their parents you sincerely want and need their feedback. The girls' activities and the parents' survey are pointless if honest opinions are withheld to protect the leaders' feelings or out of worry they will not be accepted or taken seriously. 🌟

*Rachel Collins is a Guider in Guelph, Ontario and chair of the Canadian Guider Editorial Committee.*

Designate five points for each of the criteria. If you are in a room, designate the corners for the first four and the centre for the "Did Not Participate" section. Using a master list of the year's activities, call them out one by one, and instruct the girls to run from place to place to cast their votes or to indicate they did not participate. Have other leaders count the votes cast in each area. At the end of the game, you will have a strong sense of which activities were overwhelmingly popular, and which ones you could probably forget about next year.

**2 Two Stars and a Wish:** This activity works well for any age level and can be done as a unit, in patrols, or one-on-one. Working with a list of activities from the entire year, ask the girls to tell you two things they loved (their stars) and a wish (something they wish they had done, or want to do in the coming year).

**3 Sticky Notes:** This activity also works well with girls of all ages. For Sparks and Brownies, divide a sheet of paper into four sections. Write "Loved it," "Liked it," "So-so," and "Didn't like it" in the quadrants and the name of the activity in the middle. Do a sheet for each activity, and post them around the room. Hand the girls stickers to apply their votes to the appropriate sections on each activity sheet. (Sparks may need help reading the sheets.) For Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers, hand each girl a stack of sticky notes and a pen. Write each activity for





# Travel and Action

## Canadian Girl Guides in Peru

GENEVIÈVE LESPÉRANCE

Last August, 16 Pathfinders and Rangers and four Guiders travelled on a GGC-sponsored trip to Peru to give service to the small town of Mato, which sits at an elevation of 2,200 metres in the Andes Mountains. Working with Canada World Youth, these Girl Guides of Canada members lived their Guiding Promise to “take action for a better world” by making a difference in the lives of the people in that community.

Photos: Geneviève Lespérance

**T**he majority of the population of Mato consists of farmers who grow oranges, avocados and a native grain called Kiwicha. They speak Spanish as well as the local dialect, Quechua. Upon our arrival, we quickly began to learn first-hand about the community’s customs and traditions through our home-stay families.

### Uphill Both Ways!

On our first service foray, we took care packages to the neighbouring villages of San Diego and Lipiani, located a 45-minute walk

from Mato. There is a saying that, “any walk in the Andes is uphill both ways,” and we soon learned personally what a workout a 45-minute trek at that altitude can be for a Canadian. However, the residents were thrilled with our care packages, which contained treats such as candies, cakes and toothbrushes, as well as soccer balls we had brought with us from Canada. When the children in the villages saw us inflating the balls, they ran in delight to the soccer field. The girls quickly got together an impromptu soccer match, with 40 villagers facing off against 16 Canadian Girl Guides, and the children loved every minute of it! “I realized that communication doesn’t mean you have to speak the same language,” said one Ranger. “Playing a game and interacting without words, we easily understood each other.”



## Bricks and Mortar

Our major service project on this trip was constructing an indoor adobe stove for a grandmother in Mato. Previously, she had to cook outdoors on a fire to feed herself and her two grandchildren. The new stove would make it possible for her to cook more food without having to worry about the weather.

Adobe stoves are built from the ground up, with bricks made from soil and dried in the sun. The bricks are approximately the size of a large shoe box. To make them, we dug dirt and used an old iron fence to sieve out stones. We also used pickaxes to break up old bricks into dirt, and then added water and bits of straw. Mixing was hard work, and one Guider even broke her shovel!

Using a brick frame to form the bricks was fun, even as we found ourselves covered in fine adobe dust. At the grandmother’s house, we dug a pit to make more clay to use as mortar for the stove. “The Girl Guide teamwork stood out to me,” said another Ranger. “Each brick was really heavy for one person, but we worked together passing them along.”

Building just one adobe stove, we soon realized how much collective work would be required to construct a house or a school. Even the turkeys and roosters got interested in the project! At the end, overcome with happiness, the grandmother tearfully realized that she would not have to cook outside anymore.



## Service at Schools

We also participated in other service projects, including repainting the murals at the Mato preschool and doing a litter cleanup in preparation for the annual fiesta of San Justino. In our final project, we made 500 bread rolls for the students at Mato’s elementary/high school. Baked outside in an adobe oven, each roll was shaped like a llama’s footprint or a wheat stalk, in honour of the town’s fiesta. When we arrived at the school, we had two bushel baskets of rolls and a big pot of avena (creamed oatmeal) to distribute. The students were excited to have a breakfast provided to them by their new Canadian friends!

As we had done with the care packages we took on our visit to the villages of San Diego and Lipiani, we distributed school supplies, soccer balls and volleyballs in Mato. The volleyballs were especially popular with the younger girls.

The idea of making a lasting difference in a distant country can be daunting. However, as one Ranger remarked, “A person may not be able to change the world alone, but we can each do a little bit together to make it a better place.” Experiencing a different culture and way of life also made us all feel very fortunate for the things we take for granted in Canada. As we completed our last service project in Mato, another Ranger summed it up for us all, saying, “I think that Girl Guides is fantastic for encouraging female leadership for all girls, and then empowering us to travel internationally to make a momentous impact on the daily lives of others.” 🌍



*Geneviève Lespérance is a Guider in Kingston, Ontario.*

# Five Favourite Tips

## Advice from a Girl Guide Traveller

BY SAM QUESNELLE

As a Pathfinder and a Ranger, I travelled with Girl Guides through eight countries in Europe, Asia and South America. Now, partway through my first year as an adult member, I look forward to more international travel adventures as a Pathfinder Guider.

**I**n 2009, my first Girl Guide trip took me on an adventure to Finland, Sweden, Denmark, and Russia. My lifetime memories of this include seeing the classic Tchaikovsky ballet, *Swan Lake*, in St. Petersburg and joining 18,000 participants in a Girl Scout camp in Denmark, where I made friends among our host Girl Scout group from Albertslund, outside Copenhagen. Needless to say, on this journey I became hooked on Girl Guide travel!

### Fun, Friendship and Service

In 2010, a nationally-sponsored trip saw me in Ecuador, working on a Me to We project to build a school in a remote community in Chimborazo province. My co-participants and I made lasting friendships, enjoyed playing with the local school children, and were inspired by the progress we made on the school. This greatly influenced my choice of studies, and I am now enrolled in courses focused on international development at the University of British Columbia. My dream is

to one day work in an organization such as Save the Children or WAGGGS, and to help communities and children develop through Guiding and Scouting.

In 2013, on an independent trip to South Korea, Mongolia, and China I attended a Girl Scout camp in Busan, along with 3,000 Guiding members. While there, I forged many lasting international friendships, especially with my Guiding sisters from Mauritius.

From puddle jumping in a monsoon in Korea to standing in Tiananmen Square and on the Great Wall of China to playing cards with Mongolian Girl Scouts to putting on a day camp for neighbourhood kids to building a yurt for a family, this trip offered me all kinds of cultural and service opportunities.

For those of you who want to step outside your comfort zones, take on new challenges, make new friends, give service in different communities and learn about yourselves and your world, Girl Guide travel will get you there! Bon voyage and happy adventures!

# Five Things to Keep in Mind

## My Top Travel Tips

**1 Keep an open mind.** Things in other countries may be completely different than anything you're used to, but if you are open to new experiences, you'll find you like the differences. This tip is especially relevant to food. I tried eating guinea pig in Ecuador and fish intestines in Korea, and – as foreign as they first seemed to me, having grown up on Vancouver Island – I quite enjoyed both of them.

**2 Be an ambassador for Canada.** When travelling internationally, everything you do reflects not only on Girl Guides of Canada, but also on Canada itself. In Mongolia, most of the Girl Scouts had never met someone from Canada, so we established their idea of what Canadians are like. Take the time to talk to people about where you're from, because often they will be as interested in Canada as you are in their country!

**3 Wear your uniform.** The GGC uniform opens doors. It identifies you as part of a group (which is very helpful in crowded areas, such as lineups at museums and airports). It is also a conversation starter. In Finland, we were stopped on the street by a man who was a Scouter from South Africa, and who gave us some South African Scout badges that he had in his wallet. In China, we became minor celebrities; wherever we went people wanted to have their picture taken with us!

**4 Don't be threatened by language barriers.** They are not as difficult to overcome as they might seem. I became good friends with a Mongolian Girl Scout who did not speak a single word of English. We communicated very well, using our common connection to Guiding and Scouting and our willingness to laugh at ourselves through many games of charades.

**5 Keep your travel documents in plastic bags.** I'm sure you know you have to keep these safe from loss or theft, but if, like I did, you get caught in an unexpected monsoon in South Korea (or wherever you happen to travel), you have to also keep them dry! My very soggy passport had to be scanned six times at the Mongolian border. Another less-fortunate member of our group ended up having an extended stay in Korea while she applied for a new emergency passport. It may seem like a little detail when you pack, but "plastic bagging" your documents can have a huge effect on your trip if you find yourself getting wet! ☔

*Sam Quesnelle is a Guider in Vancouver, British Columbia.*





# I Can

## Unit Accessibility for Guiders

BY JOCELYN ROGERS

Unit accessibility is as important for Guiders as it is for girls. We talk a lot about making sure all girls are welcomed and facilitated, regardless of their abilities or disabilities. But how much do we talk or think about how women who have disabilities should also be encouraged to join us?

Photos: Edna Dach

**I**n 10 years as a girl member of Girl Guides of Canada, and in the years after I became an adult member at the age of 18, I was never told, “You can’t...” At the age of 32, I began losing my sight and now at 45, I am legally blind. And I have yet to hear, “You can’t...” That’s because all the girls and adults I have known in Guiding simply don’t believe I can’t; they believe I can.

When I started going blind from retinitis pigmentosa, I knew I would have to learn how to live life without sight, but it never once crossed my mind to give up the sheer joy of being a Guider. Today, I wear blackout glasses to get used to being completely in the dark, and sport purple hair – just for the fun of it. My girls love it!

### Unit and Organizational Support

As a Guider with a disability, I have been very fortunate. My co-leaders, my girls, and their families have all been incredibly supportive, and my lack of sight doesn’t stop me from doing anything with my unit. Our organization is very supportive, too. For example, last September, I asked National if they could produce a large-print version of Safe Guide.



enjoyed it, and I was impressed with their ability to learn the basics very quickly. The girls are also learning about the technological aids I use, such as my “talking watch” and my computer screen reader software.

With my failing vision, music has become increasingly important to me, and I am involved in many community musical activities. This new passion has spread to my Guiding life, too. I know and can teach the girls a wide variety of Girl Guide songs, and during the last year, I helped lead music sessions at two Edmonton Area arts events.

### Different Abilities

At the beginning of the Guiding year, I explain all about my visual impairment, and tell the girls they can ask me anything, and they don’t have to censor their language to avoid making reference to my lack of sight. “See you later” is still perfectly acceptable to me and when I mention “reading” a book, I explain that my way to read is to listen to an audio book.

I also explain that wherever I leave my cane, they should not move it without first asking me, and they never fail to follow that instruction. This respect towards my needs is empowering to me, especially as I know that the girls learn that being around me does not have to be scary or uncomfortable. The same is true for their parents, whom I also make aware of my blindness before the first meeting of the year. They quickly learn that dark glasses and a white cane are not a sign of disability, but of different abilities.

I won’t pretend that going blind is easy – it isn’t. But knowing I have 26 enthusiastic girls and my very supportive co-leaders to be with every Monday evening helps me keep focussed on what is important, and I have never believed so strongly in any organization and the good it does for those involved and for society as a whole. Our inclusivity can truly make a difference in the life of each girl and each woman who joins us. 🌟

*Jocelyn Rogers is a Guider in Edmonton, Alberta.*

## Four Tips for Guider Accessibility

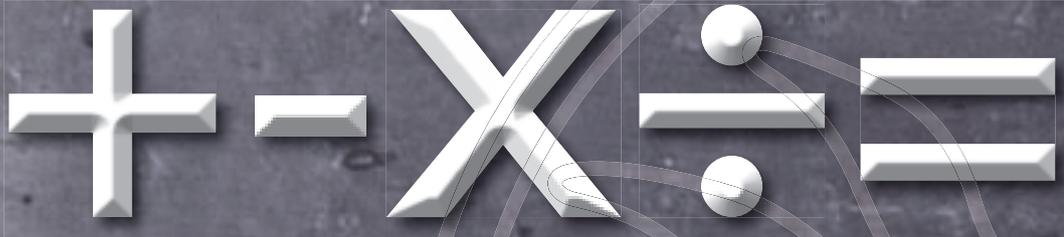
- 1 Guiders who have disabilities know what they are capable of. Always emphasize a Guider’s abilities, rather than dwelling on her disability.
- 2 Focus on “She can,” rather than “She can’t.” When appropriate, ask “How?” and “How can I/we help?”
- 3 If the Guider appears to need it, offer accommodation and assistance; but don’t insist.
- 4 As long as safety is maintained, presume the Guider can do what she says she can do.



It is now available in an 18-point font at [girlguides.ca](http://girlguides.ca)

### Challenges and Opportunities

Blindness has thrown many challenges my way, but it has also led me to new activities and new opportunities, and my girls to new learning experiences. I have started playing goalball, a Paralympic sport designed specifically for the visually impaired. Recently, I asked the Alberta Sports and Recreation Association for the Blind to do a demonstration of the game for our unit. I took part in the demonstration and the girls had a chance to try it out, too, wearing eye-shades. They



## Girl Guide Cookie Math

BY MELISSA MOOR

We all know that selling Girl Guide cookies helps girls develop communication, leadership and teamwork skills, as they learn to collaborate, to solve problems, to connect with their communities and to become confident, resourceful and prepared. But how many of us have thought of using cookies to help them develop their math skills, as well?

A case of cookies is a great tool for learning about addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Running math activities relating to cookies is a fun way to get girls of all ages thinking about cookie sales while building their confidence with numbers. You can also use statistics from your unit's cookie selling history to help girls connect math to their everyday lives.

### Unit Activities

Next time your unit is preparing for cookie season, try some of these Girl Guide cookie math activities to introduce the girls to cookie selling, goal-setting and graphing.

#### Human Bar Graph **S B G P**

Use masking tape to create the axes of a bar graph on the floor. The graph will have two categories: classic chocolate and vanilla cookies and chocolatey mint cookies. Have the girls form the bars in the graph according to their favourite type of cookie. Reading the graph, discuss which type is more popular in your unit and how much more popular it is.

#### Setting Cookie-Selling Goals **S B G P**

As a group, count the number of cases your unit aims to sell. Work with the girls to figure out how many boxes that is. Use a graph, or pictograph for younger girls, to compare the number of cases your unit aims to sell this year to the number of cases you sold last year. Have the girls work out how many cases each person would need to sell to meet the goal. Ask them to explain how they got their answer.

#### Tracking Cookie-Selling Goals **S B G P**

Use a graph to track your unit's progress towards achieving your cookie-selling goals. For Sparks and Brownies, create a pictograph with two columns, "Unsold" and "Sold." For the next several meetings, move pictures of cases of cookies from the "Unsold" column to the "Sold" column as your unit sells more cookies. For Guides and Pathfinders, create a pie chart, colouring in part of the chart each week as cookies are sold.

20-6=

14



## Small Group Activities

Some cookie math activities work best in small groups. Set up stations around your meeting space and have groups of girls rotate through each activity.

### Counting Cookies **S B**

Using a case of cookies to help them, Sparks and Brownies can practise counting, adding and subtracting. First, ask the girls to count the number of boxes in a case. Next, create addition and subtraction questions using the boxes from the case to make a visual representation of each question. For example, ask “How many boxes are left in the case after we sell three?” or “If you sell two boxes and I sell four, how many boxes did we sell altogether?” For each question, ask the girls to explain their answer and show their work using the boxes of cookies, pictures, equations or words.

### Cookie Multiplication and Division **G P**

Cases and boxes of cookies make a great basis for multiplication and division questions. Questions might include “If there are 12 boxes in one case, how many are there in three cases?” or “Last year we sold this many cases. This year we want to sell twice as many. How many cases or boxes is that?” Ask the girls to explain their answers using boxes of cookies, pictures, equations or words.

### Cookie-Selling Skits **S B G P**

Guiders can act out cookie-selling scenarios that require the girls to model safe and courteous cookie selling while also practising making change and doing mental math. Acting as potential customers, Guiders can present the girls with prompts such as “I would like to buy one box of cookies but I only have a \$20 bill. Can you please give me change?” or “My family wants two boxes. I’m bringing three boxes to work and I need one more box for my uncle. How much do I owe you?”

### Cookie History **G P**

Write a few important years in the history of Girl Guide cookies (available in the Cookies tab at [girlguides.ca](http://girlguides.ca)) on pieces of paper and the corresponding events on separate pieces of paper. Have the girls practise ordering four-digit numbers by placing the years in chronological order. Then have them match the event with the year. You can also build math questions around the history of cookies. These could include “GGC has been selling cookies since 1927. How many years is that?” and “How many more years until Girl Guide Cookies will have been sold for 100 years?”

*Melissa Moor is a Guider in Metcalfe, Ontario, and a member of the Canadian Guider Editorial Committee.*

# Guiding by the Numbers

## Badges, Crests & Pins

Badges, crests and pins have been a part of Guiding since its beginning. Earning them for completing activities and challenges inspires an ethic of cooperation, empowers leadership potential and fosters a sense of accomplishment that boosts self-esteem, self-reliance and self-confidence in our girls. Here are a few facts and figures about these Girl Guides of Canada symbols of cooperation, achievement and excellence.

By 1941, there were 69 Guide, 21 Brownie and 61 Ranger proficiency badges girls could earn. Today, there are 11 Sparks keeper badges, 83 Brownie interest badges, 110 Guide interest badges and 66 Pathfinder badges.

**955,000**

GGC badges earned last year.

**322,604**

Brownie interest badges earned.

**1,910,000**

Minutes it would take to sew the badges earned by all girls in one year on a badge sash, based on 955,000 badges, sewn at a speed of two minutes each.

**97,446**

Brownie keys earned last year.

**107,914**

Spark keeper badges earned last year.

**35,810**

GGC badge sashes sold.



**4,024**  
Brownie Fairy  
emblems sold.

**2,248**  
Guide Swallow  
emblems sold.

**362**  
Chief Commissioner's Gold  
Awards earned, the top award a  
girl can receive in Guiding.

**90-Year Pin**  
Highest level of membership pin in  
Canadian Guiding. First awarded in  
2014 to longtime Quebec member  
Daphne Sebag-Montefiore.

**Newest Challenge Crest**  
Words in Action!

### Top-Selling Branch Badges

**12,903**  
Being a Spark (Sparks)



**11,344**  
Cookies Yum  
(Brownies)



**9,875**  
Understanding the  
Promise and Law and  
Motto (Guides)



**2,510**  
Cookies Rising 1  
(Pathfinders)



### Top-Selling Crests

**7,110**  
International Day of the  
Girl challenge crest



**6,294**  
Remembrance Day  
special crest



# Guiding 1910-2015

## The Evolution of Badges

COMPILED BY MELISSA CHARENKO

Badges have been part of Guiding in Canada from the beginning. Last year, members earned 955,000 badges, which would take 1,327 days to sew on (luckily some are iron-on now). Here's a look at the evolution of just a few of them!

|   | 1910   | 1920  | 1930   | 1940   | 1950  |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| <b>Cook</b><br>1910-1921  |   |    | <b>Cook</b><br>1921-1935   |    | <b>Cook</b><br>1935-1964  |
| <b>Matron</b><br>1910-1921<br>(name changed to Housekeeper, 1916)   |  |   | <b>Homemaker</b><br>1922-circa 1935  |   | <b>Homemaker</b><br>circa 1935-1964   |
| Girls in Canada originally followed British program and had to order badges from the UK. Originally, there were 22 badges. The program for girls often had the same requirements as the Boy Scouts, but girls sometimes had extra requirements. Some of the badges soon had Canadian content, such as identifying different birds for Bird Lover. |  |  | <b>Swallows</b><br>circa 1919-circa 1949<br><i>Swallows are the most popular patrol today.</i> |  |  |
|   |  |   |  | <b>Swallows</b><br>circa 1950-circa 1964   |   |
|   |  |  | <b>Collector</b><br>1919-1934  |    | <b>Collector</b><br>1935-1967   |
|   |  |   |             | <b>Fairies</b><br>1919-(ongoing)<br><i>Fairies are the most popular Brownie Circle Emblem today. Circles used to be called "sixes" (for six girl members).</i> |   |

Melissa Charenko is a Guider from Toronto, Ontario, and a member of the Canadian Guider Editorial Committee.

Special thanks to Ontario Council for the use of their Canadian Guiding Badges & Insignia Resource, available at: [guidesontario.org](http://guidesontario.org)

1910 Guiding begins in Canada.

1919 Brownies begins.



1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010



**Cook**

1965-1995



**Kitchen Creations**

1995-ongoing



**Homemaker**

1964-1994  
(name changed to  
**Lifeskills**, 1992)



**Lifeskills**

1995-ongoing



**Swallows**

circa 1964-ongoing



**Collector**

1968-1995



**Arts Appreciation**

1995-2004

**Cool Collecting**

2004-ongoing



**1988**  
First program for  
five-year-olds  
**1989: Officially named Sparks**



1990-1992



1992-1995



1995-2003



2004-ongoing

**Advancement Badges and Pins**

# GGC Insignia on Display

## Badge Banner & Badge Pillow S B G P R

These badge display ideas work for any branch of Guiding.

### Brownie Badge Banner

Submitted by Ideas to Go regular contributor Lee Ann Fraser, this Badge Banner was made in the late 1970s by Jane, a Brownie with the 1<sup>st</sup> East Bay Brownies, in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. She cut a piece of muslin fabric, folded and finished the top into a pocket for a length of dowel, hemmed the sides and fringed the bottom, by sewing along a line for the top of the fringe and pulling out the horizontal threads beneath it.

Jane used iron-on embroidery transfer patterns for the owls and toadstools, but stencils work well, too, or you can use dressmakers' tracing paper. Fabric markers make colouring the figures simple. Jane transferred the name tags, badges and ribbons from her original uniform to preserve and display them for all to see.

Other fabrics will work for this banner, even felt, but muslin is the easiest to fringe, and also takes fabric marker very well. Attach badges, tapes and ribbons by sewing or with glue.



### Guide Badge Pillow

This simple pillow is easily made by upcycling uniform T-shirts as the girls move from branch to branch, or by using other T-shirts or scrap fabric you might have on hand. You can cover an existing throw pillow that may no longer be wanted, purchase new pillow forms, or use loose polyester fill. Sew or glue on badges, or attach a badge-covered sash to the pillow as you wish. (This pillow has badges presented individually in badge-sash fashion.) Spark units might begin this idea and suggest the girls continue it as they move up to Brownies, Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers, so they end up with their entire badge collection on branch-coloured pillows as mementos of their many years of fun, friendship and adventure in Guiding! 🌟



# Build Your Own!

## The Wonderful World of Camp Gadgets

COMPILED BY HILARY FELDMAN

“My ideal camp is where everyone is cheery and busy, where the patrols are kept intact under all circumstances, and where every patrol leader and Scout takes a genuine pride in his camp and his gadgets.”

— Lord Baden-Powell

Illustrations: courtesy Girl Guides of Canada National Archives

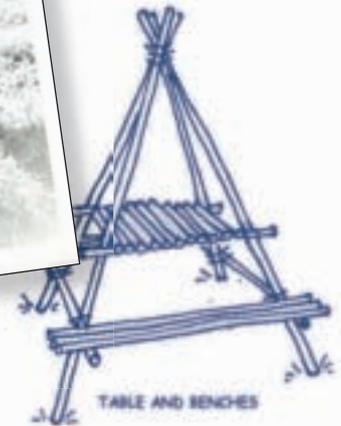
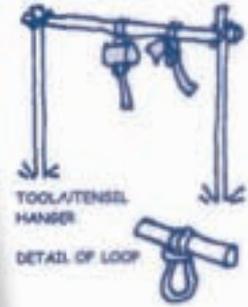
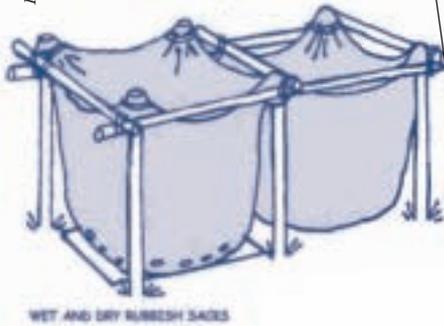
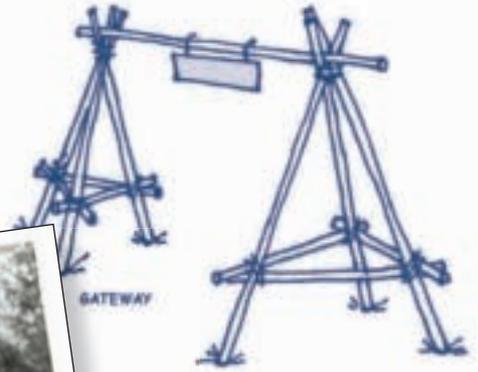
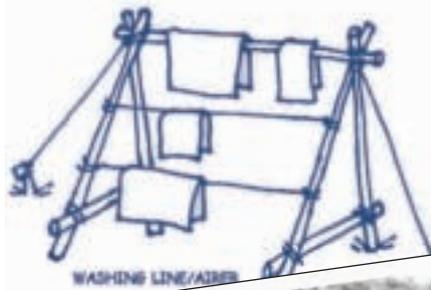
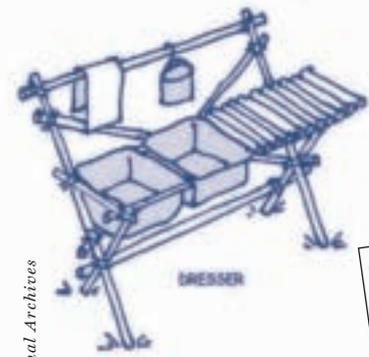


Photo: courtesy Girl Guides of Canada National Archives

Gadgets have been a part of Guiding and Scouting since our Founder, Lord Baden-Powell, led the first group of Scouts on a wilderness adventure. Today, we make the same useful gadgets that generations of girls and women before us did at their Girl Guide camps. And we take the same pride they did in coming up with our own innovations and variations.

Improvised washstands, coat hangers, mug holders, boot scrapers, pot holders, pot pourers, rubbish bag holders, tables, benches, laundry lines, toast holders, tool hangers, gateways and flagpoles are just some of the mainstay gadgets that not only make camp chores easier, but connect the girls with the traditions of Girl Guide camps. They also provide good old-fashioned creative fun, as the girls use their imaginations to enhance a tried-and-true gadget with their own ideas or to come up with a new gadget of their own.

### Just Sticks and Rope

It's amazing what you can make with just some solid sticks and good rope. Using simple knots and lashing techniques, you can create a wide range of items from a useful wash stand or pot holder to a more adventurous catapult or seesaw. That is why B-P wisely pointed to gadgets as a crucial part of every good camp.

Starting with two sticks and a sturdy stake, you can make a fire bucket holder that keeps water close at hand, off the ground, and less likely to be kicked over. Using a similar tripod technique, you can fashion a simple washbasin holder or garbage bag rack. By securing a plank between sturdy stakes hammered into the

ground, you can make a boot scraper, and you can turn a pair of sticks into a boot-holder to keep outside your tent. These are just some of the simple, tried-and-true gadgets that can enhance any girl's camping experience.

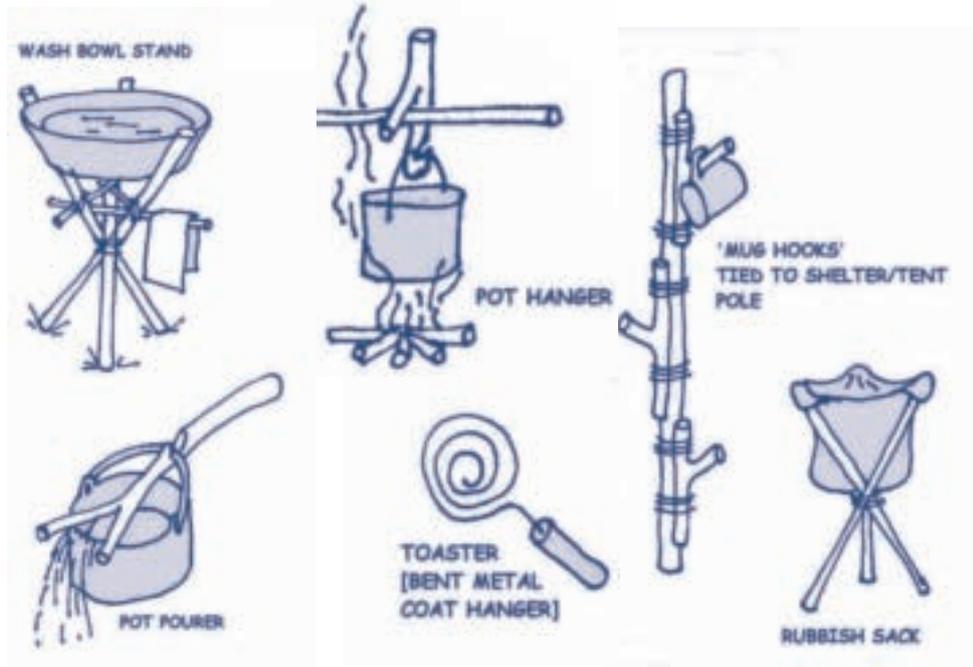
If you're feeling more adventurous, make a frame for your dishwashing system, with sections for your wash, rinse and bleach basins and a rack to hold dripping dishes. (Positioning wash basins off the ground is more sanitary and much easier on the back.) For longer camps, expand your gadgets to include a clothes-drying rack, a table or a picnic bench. Small, irregular sticks gathered on site will serve well for smaller gadgets, but you'll need straight sticks at least two centimetres in diameter for more extensive projects. Since these are not always easy to find lying around, many units and campsites keep a set of their own on hand.

### No Sticks? No Worries

Even without sticks, you can create practical gadgets. Use a large food bucket with a lid and a clean plunger to wash your laundry. Make a lantern by strapping a headlamp to an empty milk jug. Exercise your inventiveness to create the tools and structures you need to provide convenience and comfort at your next outdoor event.



Photo: Hilary Feldman



## Camp Cuisine

Stuck for camp cuisine ideas? Step away from the camp stove and try out some other cooking tools and techniques.

### Buddy Burners

A favourite at camp skills events is the buddy burner, and even girls as young as Brownies can master cooking on one. The burner is made up of cardboard, wax and a wick inside a small can, and the cooking surface is created by fitting a larger can with vents over the burner. Typical buddy burner meals include grilled cheese sandwiches, egg in a hole, bacon, pancakes, and other fried foods.



Photo: Teshia Llewellyn

### Dutch Ovens

The traditional Dutch oven relies on a sturdy cast iron pot and charcoal to cook stews, brownies, macaroni and cheese, and other delectable recipes. The secret lies in layering the correct number of charcoal briquettes underneath and on the lid, to create just the right temperature. Some sites allow you to dig a hole, line it with rocks, and then place the pot on coals inside. Try out Dutch oven taco pie, sausage balls or breakfast casserole (see the recipes on the page 26).

### Milk Carton Cooking

Instead of cooking hotdogs in pots of water or on sticks over a fire, try cooking them in milk cartons. Wrap each hot dog in several layers of aluminum foil. Line the milk carton with a large sheet of newspaper and place the hot dog(s) inside, pushing in the newspaper on top. Light the carton and allow it to burn in the firepit. Try making grilled

cheese the same way. Or trade the milk cartons for waxed burlap for another variation. Just be sure to use oven gloves, as the contents will be very hot.

### Paper Bag Steamers

Steaming food at camp requires wet paper bags and charcoal or fire embers. Use a sturdy wet paper bag, or several layered bags, break an egg into it and add some chopped bacon. Place the whole thing directly on the coals. The contents will cook as the paper dries. This technique works for fish and other foods as well.

### Outdoor Ovens

Line a cardboard box with foil to create a basic outdoor oven that uses charcoal as the heat source. To go green, try a solar oven, with a reflective flap and clear plastic lid to trap heat from sunlight. Use your outdoor oven to cook S'mores, nachos, and other camp foods.

### Campfire Cooking

Of course everyone loves a crackling campfire, so why not make one part of your meal planning? The girls can roast all kinds of food on a stick, and also cook in foil packets. Whether it's a baked potato, mixed vegetables or a banana boat, you can cook most foods in foil packets placed in the glowing campfire embers once the flames settle down. Looking for something a little different to cook in the embers? Try orange steamed muffins or popcorn in a packet (see the recipes sidebar). 🍌

*Hilary Feldman, a Guider and District Commissioner in Vancouver, British Columbia, is the newest member of the Canadian Guider Editorial Committee. For more camp gadgets and instructions for making them, check out the Girl Guides of Canada OAL Camping Manual.*

## Fire Safety First!

Remember to always practise fire safety when cooking at camp. Keep hair tied back and do not wear loose clothing around open flames. Use pot holders or oven mitts when handling any hot metal pots or utensils. Remind the girls of the "Stop! Drop! Roll!" rule.

## Fun and Simple Camp Recipes

### Dutch Oven Taco Pie

- 1½ lbs/700 g lean ground beef
  - 1 medium jar taco sauce
  - 1 8-oz/500-ml can tomato puree
  - 4 large corn tortillas
  - 1 8-oz/225-g package shredded cheddar cheese
1. Brown the ground beef.
  2. Combine the taco sauce and tomato puree.
  3. Line a Dutch oven with aluminum foil.
  4. Place two tortilla shells in Dutch oven.
  5. Place half the ground beef on top.
  6. Pour half the taco sauce over top.
  7. Place two more tortilla shells on top and layer the remaining ground beef and taco sauce on top. Sprinkle with cheese.
  8. Cover and bake until the cheese is melted.

### Dutch Oven Sausage Balls

- ¼ cup/55 ml butter
  - 1 lb/450 g sausage meat
  - 1 egg
  - 6 oz/170 g grated cheddar cheese
  - 3 cups/700 ml Bisquick mix
1. Coat the bottom of a Dutch oven with butter and begin heating.
  2. Mix all ingredients together with clean hands.
  3. Pinch off small pieces and form into balls. Cook 10-15 minutes in the hot Dutch oven.

### Dutch Oven Breakfast Casserole

- 8 slices of bread
  - 2 lb/900 g sausage meat
  - 16 oz/450 g grated cheddar cheese
  - 12 eggs
  - 4 c/1 l milk
  - 1½ tsp/7 ml dry mustard
  - 1 tsp/5 ml salt
1. Brown the sausage meat.
  2. Line a 12-inch Dutch oven with heavy-duty foil. Lightly grease the foil with butter.
  3. Break up the bread and place in the oven. Crumble the cooked sausage meat over the bread and cover with cheese.

- In a separate bowl, mix eggs (lightly beaten), milk, dry mustard and salt.
4. Pour the egg mixture over the layered bread/sausage/cheese in the oven.
  5. Cover, and bake for 35 to 40 minutes, checking occasionally. Your super-filling camp breakfast is ready to eat once the cheese rises to the top, melting into a golden brown crust over a fluffy layer of eggs.

### Campfire Orange Muffins

- muffin mix of your choice (blueberry, cranberry, chocolate chip, etc.)
  - oranges
  - aluminum foil
1. Cut each orange in half and scoop out the flesh from both halves. Save the flesh.
  2. Mix up muffin batter according to the package directions.
  3. Fill one half of orange with muffin batter; cover with the other half and wrap in three layers of aluminum foil.
  4. Place the oranges in your campfire coals. The orange peel may blacken a bit during the baking, but will keep the muffin itself from burning as it cooks, much like a steamed pudding.
  5. During the cooking process, turn each aluminum ball approximately every minute to ensure it is heated evenly. The muffins usually require 10 minutes or so to cook through. You can check one out around the 10-minute mark and return it to the fire if it requires more time. Your muffins are ready to eat once they have firm centres.
  6. Unwrap and eat with a spoon and your scooped-out orange flesh!

### Campfire Popcorn Packets

- 2 tbsp/30 ml popcorn kernels
  - 2 tbsp/30 ml vegetable oil
  - heavy-duty aluminum foil
  - salt (optional)
1. Place the popcorn and oil on a square of heavy-duty aluminum foil.
  2. Sprinkle with a bit of salt (optional).
  3. Form a loose pouch, leaving room for the kernels to pop, and seal the edges.
  4. Tie a corner of the pouch to a stick with a piece of string.
  5. Shake over a campfire until popped.



# Making a Splash!

## BC Girl Guides Ocean Aware Challenge

BY MONIKA PELZ

“You may never touch the ocean, but the ocean touches you every day,” says world-renowned oceanographer Sylvia Earle. In a country as big as Canada, some people may not appreciate how relevant the ocean is to each and every one of us. The Ocean Aware Challenge has been created to change that.

**N**o matter where we live, the air we breathe, the weather conditions we experience and the food we consume all have ties to the ocean. Whether situated on a coast or inland, Girl Guides of Canada units throughout the country can make a splash by taking on this new challenge. Based on key concepts that everyone should know about the ocean, the challenge was created in a partnership of BC Girl Guides and the University of Victoria’s Ocean Networks Canada (ONC). This challenge will help Guiders make ocean awareness a part of any meeting, and you probably won’t even get wet!

### Oceanography Made Fun

ONC is the operator of the world’s largest underwater cabled observatory, supporting coastal to deep-sea ocean research and technology. Cabled observatories collect real-time data from a variety of instruments, including hydrophones (underwater microphones),



Photos: Jessica Brown

cameras, water-quality meters and other science instruments. These data are crucial to our awareness of the oceans and of what we need to do to protect them. Working with the BC Programming team, ONC is now making oceanography fun for girls of all ages.

Units taking up the Ocean Aware Challenge will find resources focusing on science with a playful twist. Games, crafts, hands-on experiments and skits are incorporated, to make the ONC data and science more accessible to the girls. For example, they can imagine themselves as floating plankton or enjoy a beach sundae made with “eroded” Girl Guide cookies.

### Ocean Extravaganza

BC Girl Guides have embraced this challenge with great enthusiasm and excitement. In Sidney, Shoreline District participated in an Ocean Extravaganza, in which all the girls earned Ocean Aware crests and learned some awesome things in the process – for example, that hydrophone recordings of human sounds are much louder than the poignant songs of whales and dolphins. They also had a great time unrolling toilet paper to “measure” ocean depths, and discovering that they could pour water into distinctive layers by employing a simple density trick!

Are you ready to take on a new and exciting adventure? Dive into this challenge and become ocean aware. It’s sure to make a splash with your unit!

Find the Ocean Aware Challenge at: [bc-girlguides.org/web/Documents/BC/program/OceanAware.pdf](http://bc-girlguides.org/web/Documents/BC/program/OceanAware.pdf)

Learn more about Ocean Networks Canada at: [oceannetworks.ca](http://oceannetworks.ca) 

*Monika Pelz is a Guider and Education and Engagement Coordinator for Ocean Networks Canada in Victoria, British Columbia.*



# A Guiding Tradition

## Environmental Stewardship in Action

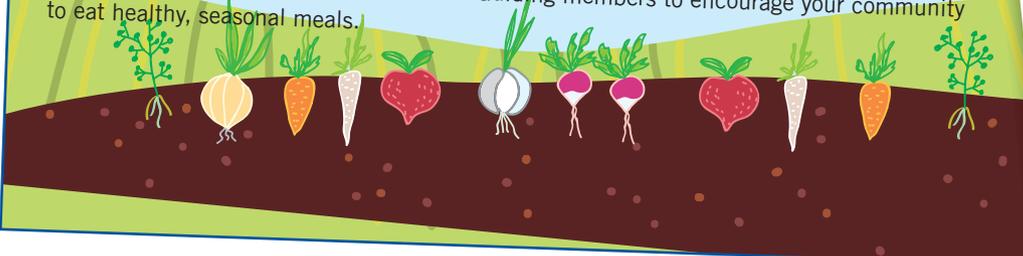
When Girl Guides get their hands dirty – when we plant trees, start a community compost program, or clean up a local park – we are doing more than earning badges. We are continuing Guiding’s tradition of environmental stewardship in action by providing service to our communities and connecting with our natural environment. Taking care of our planet has always been a priority for Girl Guides of Canada.

Photo: Angela Young

Protecting our common environment is part of the Guiding Law. Through hands-on environmental service activities, girls learn how their actions affect the environment, and develop the knowledge and skills necessary to make good environmental choices that will make a difference in the world. So, whether you want some activities to celebrate Earth Day (April 22) or are just looking for a way to welcome the spring sunshine, here are some creative ways to continue Guiding’s tradition of environmental stewardship in action.

## Create a guide to local farmers' markets.

Eating what is in season and grown locally helps support our independent farmers, provides us with healthy, fresh food and eases our carbon footprint, because what is produced locally requires less fuel to reach us. Learn about botany and agriculture as you create a seasonal produce guide for shoppers at your local farmers' market. Share the guide with friends, neighbours, and other Guiding members to encourage your community to eat healthy, seasonal meals.



### Program Connections:

#### SPARKS

- Going Outside

#### BROWNIES

- Key to My Community

#### GUIDES

- Farming Interest Badge

#### PATHFINDERS

- Getting Food on the Table Module

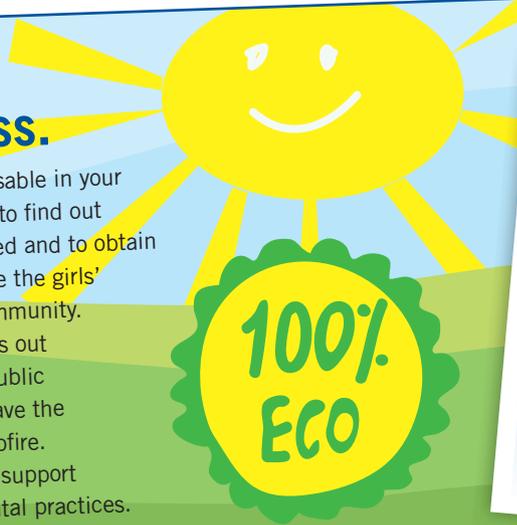
#### RANGERS

- Community Connections

## Raise recycling and reusability awareness.

Research what is recyclable and what is reusable in your community. Contact your local municipality to find out more about how recyclables need to be sorted and to obtain the pickup schedule in your community. Use the girls' skills and talents to share this with your community.

Do you have a group of artists? Make posters out of reusable materials. Are you working on public speaking skills and building confidence? Have the girls develop skits to share around the campfire. Help your girls get creative as they learn to support and promote sustainable urban environmental practices.



#### SPARKS

- Going Outside

#### BROWNIES

- Key to the Living World

#### GUIDES

- Recycling Interest Badge

#### PATHFINDERS

- Lending a Hand Module

#### RANGERS

- Environment, Outdoors and Camping

## Plant trees in your community.

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#### SPARKS

- Going Outside, In My Community

#### BROWNIES

- Key to the Living World, Key to My Community

#### GUIDES

- Beyond You, Learn About Our Environment, Forestry, Conservation, Community Service Interest Badges

#### PATHFINDERS

- Exploring a Theme, Our Environment, Community Service Award, Environmental Awareness, Canada Cord

#### RANGERS

- Environment, Outdoors and Camping, The Ranger Service Project, Chief Commissioner's Gold Award

# Managing the Money

## How to Collect Cookie Funds

BY HILARY FELDMAN



Selling cookies is a fundamental part of leading a Guiding unit. However, while it's fun to witness your girls' confidence grow as they engage the public, collecting the funds for every case of cookies they sell can present challenges. Here are some strategies to help you manage the money.

**Q** *My unit orders a large number of cookies. How can I keep track of all those cases?*

**A** Whether she is a Guider or a parent, make sure your cookie receiver counts all the cases when picking them up. Number and track each case against a list of the girls, so you know who to bill, even if cases get traded around among families. To safeguard against mysteriously missing cookies, have everyone sign for the cases when you distribute them.

**Q** *What timeframe should I give the girls and their parents to sell their cookies?*

**A** Generally, units set a four-week timeframe. If your families need more time to complete their sales, give them weekly reminders, because once the initial flurry of the cookie "blitz" month is over, they may lose motivation, resulting in unsold cases. Whatever timeframe you set, give a clear due date from the start. Write the deadline in permanent marker on every case, and send each girl home with a cookie envelope marked with her name, the number of cases, the amount owed, and the due date.

Photo: Sandy Nicolson



**Q** *My unit has some parents who don't want to take any cookie cases. How do I handle this?*

**A** Parents consent to sell cookies during the unit registration process, but can overlook or forget this commitment in intervening months. Not only do cookie sales generate the primary revenue to run our programs across Canada, they also provide an opportunity for girls to develop valuable life skills, including communication, planning, problem-solving, money management, and etiquette. Hopefully a brief review of these benefits will help remind parents of their commitment. If they pay for their cases but decline to take them home, you can use the extra cases for promotions, thank you gifts and donations to food banks, shelters and seniors' residences. If you opt to sell them, the parents' initial payment can be considered a donation to cookie sales.



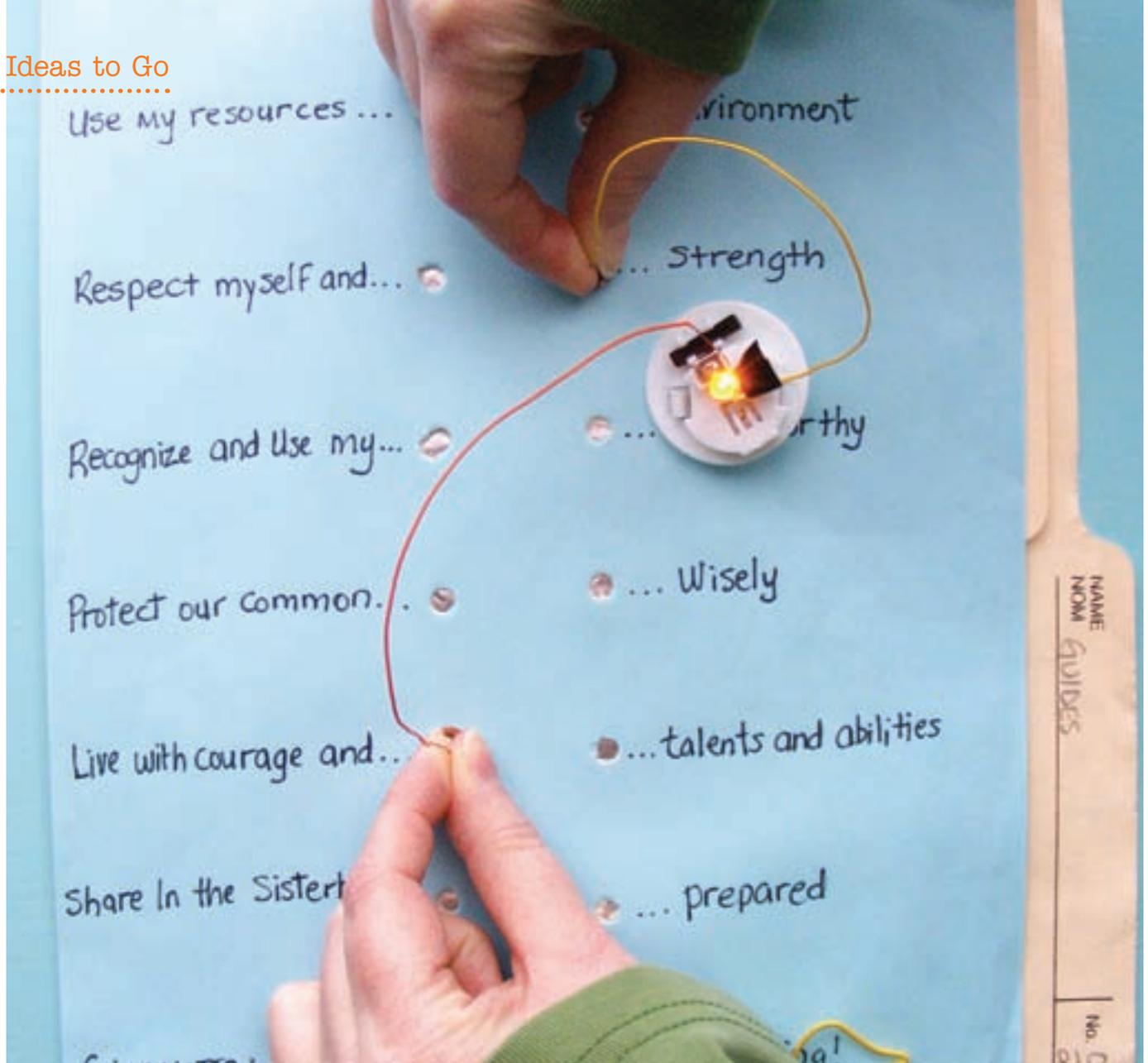
**Q** *The deadline has passed for cookie money but some families still owe the unit. I have been sending reminders with no success. Now what?*

**A** While email is a useful communication tool, it's easily ignored when people are busy. Send home a written reminder with the girls. After another week or two, try calling parents the day before your meeting and leave a brief message to jog their memory. If more time passes with no successful contact, phone at different times of day to catch them in. When you do manage to speak to them, in a friendly but firm tone, put their payment into context, explaining that your unit owes a lot of money for all the cases. Keep communicating until you have a resolution, working with the parents to set a date for payment, and offering to pick up the money, if that helps. Make notes to document your calls and conversations, and save your emails. Keep your District Commissioner/Administrative Community Leader informed, in case further action is required.

Sometimes non-payment stems from underlying issues. Be sensitive to this possibility and offer different options: full payment, all the cookies returned, or some money and some cookies returned. Consider reallocating unsold cases to a keen cookie-seller, or arrange an impromptu unit door-to-door sale during a meeting.

Make notes to document your calls and conversations, and save your emails.

|   |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| Keep communicating.   | Arrange an impromptu unit door-to-door sale during a meeting.  |  | Keep communicating.   |
|   | <p><b>Q</b> <i>Our unit cookie parent gave two cases to each family. One family claims they did not receive the cookies, so they don't owe money. The unit can't afford to pay \$120 for these missing cookies. What can I do?</i></p> <p><b>A</b> Every parent must sign the cookie sign-out sheet when cases go home. Make sure you can track where each case has gone. In a situation such as this, your first step is to check for the parent's signature on the cookie sheet and to determine from your attendance records whether the girl was present on the day of distribution. Could another parent have signed for the missing cookies to help out? Tracing the movement of cookies is essential, which is where numbering the cases can help. The signature on the cookie sign-out is a guarantee that the parent will pay for, or return, the cookies. Retain your cookie sign-out sheet until all the money has been collected.</p> <p>In worst-case scenarios, Girl Guides of Canada has procedures in place to follow up with outstanding cookie debts. However, if you are diligent in taking steps to clearly and consistently communicate with the girls and their parents, hopefully further steps won't be necessary. 🌐</p> <p><i>Hilary Feldman, a Guider and District Commissioner in Vancouver, British Columbia, is the newest member of the Canadian Guider Editorial Committee.</i></p> |  |   |
| Consider reallocating unsold cases to a keen cookie-seller.                         |  |  | Use the extra cases for promotions, thank you gifts and donations.                    |
| Keep motivated!   |  |  | Offer to pick up the money, if that helps.  |
| Make sure you can track where each case has gone.                                   |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Retain your cookie sign-out sheet until all the money has been collected.             |
| Keep communicating.   |  |  |  |



# STEM and Guiding

## Girl Guide Circuit Board B G P R

Combine this STEM gadget with a fun teaching and review activity on subjects such as the Promise and Law, Guiding history, knots, trail signs and identifying constellations. Premade boards are suitable for Brownies. Older girls can make their own to use themselves and to work with younger girls in a bridging activity.

Photos: Lee Ann Fraser

This idea was created for Canadian Guider by Lee Ann Fraser, a Guider in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. Check out her other ideas at: [owl-and-toadstool.blogspot.ca](http://owl-and-toadstool.blogspot.ca)

### What You Need

#### Circuit Tester

- battery-operated tea-light (available at dollar stores)
- two 15-cm lengths of thin insulated wire (upcycled from a telephone extension cord, or purchased from an electronic or hobby supply store)
- small-size Phillips screwdriver
- small-size flat-head screwdriver
- needle-nose pliers
- electrical tape

#### Circuit Board

- file folder
- hole punch
- electrical tape
- aluminum foil
- ruler
- scissors
- pencil
- markers
- scrap paper
- decorative tape (optional)

## What You Do

### Circuit Tester

Make this first, so you can use it to test your circuit board connections as you make them.

**1** Cut two lengths of wire measuring about 15 cm each. Use a wire stripper to remove about 2.5 cm of the insulation from each end. The wire inside a telephone extension cord works well. This type of cord is made up of two different colored pieces of wire.

**2** Using the slotted-head screwdriver, pry off and discard the plastic cover from the tea-light, being

careful not to damage the bulb.

**3** Using the Phillips-head screwdriver, remove the screw inside the tea-light. Then remove the metal plate that the screw was holding, and move the bulb wire to the side.

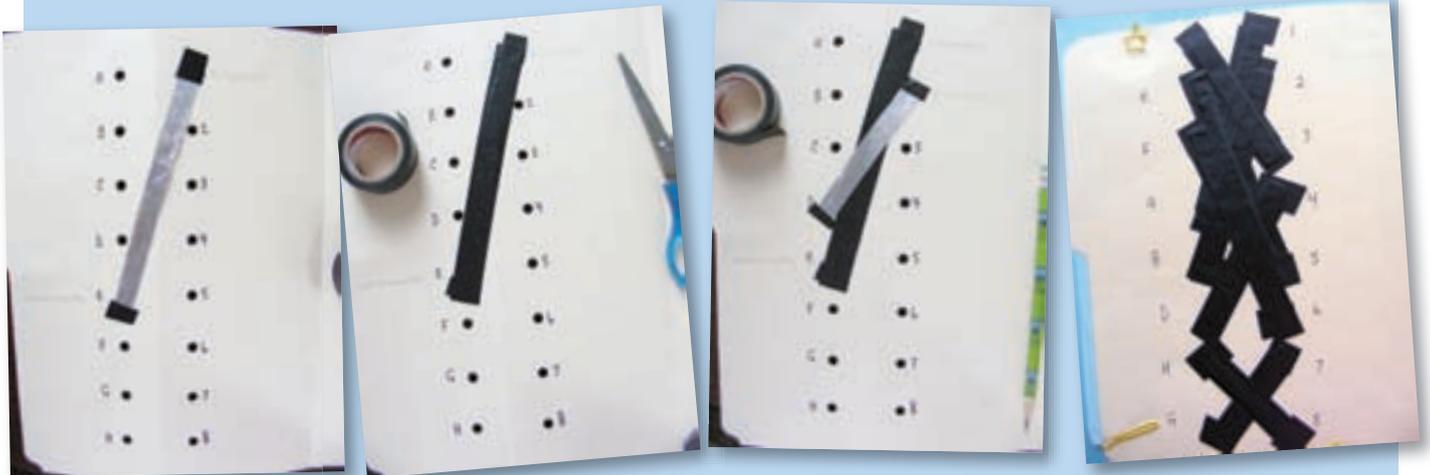
**4** Position the end of one of your cut lengths of wire in its place. Replace the plate and the screw.

**5** Twist the second piece of your cut length of wire around the bulb wire. Use needle nose pliers to twist it securely in place. You may need to apply a tiny piece of electrical tape if it comes loose.

**6** Flick the switch to “On” and test your circuit tester by touching the ends together to see if they light up. Now try this out on your circuit board.



## What You Do



### Circuit Board

**1** Using scrap paper, prepare a draft two-column list of questions with answers or matching statements that are not directly opposite them. Give each identifying letters and/or numbers.

**2** Measure the height of your file folder; divide that number by the number of holes you need, plus one to allow for space at the bottom, to get evenly spaced holes. Mark each on the folder with a pencil.

**3** Fold the cover of the file folder over to the centre; insert the hole-punch as far as it will go at the pre-marked places and punch through both layers. When you unfold the cover, you will

have sets of two holes, evenly spaced and side by side.

**4** Referring to your draft list, on the inside of the cover, label each hole using matching letters and numbers for each pair. On the outside of the cover, write the questions with answers or matching statements beside the appropriate hole, keeping in mind that the left column of the front cover will correspond to the right column of the inside cover and vice versa.

**5** Fold over a piece of foil several times for strength and cut one narrow strip for each pair of questions and answers or statements, long enough to cover both of their assigned holes.

**6** Using electrical tape, attach the foil strips to the inside cover of the folder, matching the letters and numbers. Be careful not to cover the other holes. The tape acts as an insulator between the layers of tinfoil, thereby isolating each circuit, so take care that no part of a foil strip crosses or touches another as you apply them. If any part of the tinfoil is touching another piece of tinfoil, the circuit will be crossed, and your tester may light up the wrong answer. You may need more than one piece of electrical tape for each strip of tinfoil to make sure it is totally covered and secure. Use your circuit tester to check that each connection is working, before moving to the next one. 🔄

# Hat Crafts



## Trefoil Brooch

B G P

### What You Need

- 1 Girl Guide Cookie carton
- craft knife
- 1 small brooch pin
- decoupage glue/sealer
- foam brush
- glue gun and low-temperature glue sticks

### What You Do

1. Using a craft knife, carefully cut out the trefoil images from the cookie case.
2. Use either the large trefoil or the smaller size.
3. Use the hot glue gun to attach the brooch pin to the back.
4. Apply decoupage glue/sealer to the brooch to protect it from the elements.

*These ideas were created by Lee Ann Fraser, a Guider from Antigonish, Nova Scotia, who has become a regular contributor to Ideas to Go. You can find more creative ideas on her blog: [owl-and-toadstool.blogspot.ca](http://owl-and-toadstool.blogspot.ca)*



## Knapsack Hat Craft

B G P

### What You Need

- felt – choice of two colours for the knapsack and bedroll
- embroidery floss – blue for the trefoil and a choice of colour for decorative stitching
- sewing needle
- fabric paint for decorative stitching and trefoil instead of sewing (optional)
- string
- 2 rounded wooden toothpicks
- 1 safety pin
- scissors
- ruler
- all-purpose/craft glue
- polyester stuffing (optional)

### What You Do

1. Cut a strip of felt measuring 5 cm x 11 cm (2 in x 4.5 in) for the knapsack.
2. Fold up one end 4.5 cm (1.75 in).
3. Add a thin layer of polyester stuffing, if desired.
4. Glue the sides closed.
5. Fold down the remaining felt to form the front flap of the knapsack and glue it closed.
6. Embroider a trefoil and decorative stitching on the front flap. (You can use fabric paint instead of embroidery, if desired.)
7. Cut the second colour of felt for the bedroll, approximately 6 cm x 6.5 cm (2.3 in x 2.5 in)
8. Roll it so that it looks like a sleeping bag and secure the roll layers with glue.
9. Tie a string around the bedroll to simulate a packer's knot.
10. Poke the toothpicks through the left and right sides of the knapsack.
11. Apply a dab of glue to the holes to secure the toothpicks.
12. Glue the bedroll to the bottom of the knapsack.
13. Attach the safety pin.



## Campfire Hat Craft

B G P

### What You Need

- a metal frozen juice lid
- scrap cardboard
- green or brown scrap felt for the base and orange/yellow/red scrap felt for flames
- small twigs
- all-purpose/craft glue
- safety pin
- scissors
- pen
- small rounded pebbles (optional)

### What You Do

1. Trace a circle around the frozen juice lid on the cardboard and cut it out.
2. Trace, cut and glue the same-sized circles of felt on the front and back of cardboard.
3. Cut a few flame shapes from orange/yellow/red felt and glue to the base so that the flames stand up.
4. Glue twigs for the firewood around the flames.
5. Attach a safety pin to the edge of the felt.
6. Glue small pebbles around the edge of the circle (optional).



## Girl Guide in Sleeping Bag

B G P

### What You Need

- scrap felt in your choice of colour
- 1 mini wooden stir stick
- 2 small googly eyes
- yarn scraps
- all-purpose/craft glue
- scrap card stock or heavy paper
- self-adhesive laminate
- 1 safety pin
- needle and thread

### What You Do

To Make the Sleeping Bag:

1. Cut a 5-cm x 8-cm (2-in x 3-in) piece of felt.
2. Fold the felt in half lengthways. Sew the edge, starting at the fold on the bottom left corner and continuing along the right side, stopping 2.5 cm (1 in) from the top.
3. Fold the un-sewn corner down and stitch it in place. (You can use craft glue instead of sewing, but need to hold the pieces in place until it dries.)

### To Make the Girl

1. Glue yarn scraps on the top for hair.
2. Glue googly eyes just below the hairline.
3. Glue the girl inside the sleeping bag so that just her eyes and hair are peaking out.
4. Write "Did you hear that?!" on the scrap of paper and secure it between two pieces of laminate, trimming to fit.
5. Attach the note to a safety pin and pin it on the top of the sleeping bag.



## Seahorse Brooch

S B C

### What You Need

- bumpy chenille stem in a colour of your choice
- small googly eye
- brooch pin
- all-purpose/craft glue

### What You Do

1. Cut and bend one bump section of the chenille stem into an "S" shape to resemble a seahorse.
2. Glue the eye to the top of the "S."
3. Glue the brooch pin to the back with a generous amount of glue.

## "I'm Cool" Bag of Ice

B G

### What You Need

- 1 mini zipper-lock bag
- 2.5-cm x 5-cm (1-in x 2-in)
- 10 clear tri-beads (or any clear beads)
- 1 safety pin
- scrap card stock or heavy paper
- self-adhesive laminate
- pen

### What You Do

1. Place beads in the bag, zip it shut.
2. Write "I'm cool!" on the scrap paper and secure it between two pieces of laminate, trimming to fit.
3. Attach the bag and note to the safety pin.



## Owl Note Holder or Hat Craft

B G P

### What You Need

- a metal frozen juice lid
- a 25-cent coin
- felt, in choice of colours for body, wings, feet, beak, ear discs (around the eyes) and ear tufts
- gems or googly eyes
- glitter glue (optional)
- pen
- scissors
- a self-adhesive magnetic strip, a clothespin or a safety pin

### What You Do

1. Using the metal frozen juice lid, trace and cut out a circle of felt for the body.
2. Using the 25-cent coin, trace and cut out felt for two ear discs, and one circle to cut in half for the wings.
3. Cut a small triangle for the beak.
4. Cut a rectangle for the feet, and cut notches in it to represent the talons.
5. Cut two elongated triangles for the ear tufts.
6. Glue all felt pieces and eyes to the body.
7. Decorate with glitter glue (optional).
8. Glue clothespin or safety pin to the back, or attach the self-adhesive magnet. 🧲

# Girl Guides Online

## Tips for Keeping in Touch

Connect with us and each other online! On our social media channels, we aim to be helpful, fun and conversational. Here are some tips for keeping in touch with Girl Guides online.



### Get all your GGC Facebook updates . . .

Are you following Girl Guides of Canada on Facebook? You might have noticed that Facebook doesn't always show you all our updates. To make sure you don't miss important notices, fun photos and engaging discussions, follow these steps:



#### On your desktop computer:

1. Log in to Facebook.
2. Look at the top of the left-hand column.
3. Next to "News Feed," click the downward arrow.
4. Choose "Most Recent" instead of "Top Stories."



#### On your mobile device:

1. Log in to Facebook.
2. At the bottom of the screen, tap the "More" button.
3. Scroll to the "Feeds" section and tap on the grey "Feeds" header to expand it.
4. Tap "Most Recent."



Facebook's "Most Recent" setting shows updates from your connections, including GGC, in chronological order instead of allowing Facebook to pick what it thinks are your "Top

Stories." And if you like a particular post, make sure you click the "Like" link. Doing so lets Facebook know that you want to see that type of content in your news feed.

Illustrations: ©PhotoSpin

Photo: courtesy Girl Guides of Canada West Coast Area



## Join us on Instagram . . .

We can never have too many photos showing the fun, friendship and adventure of Guiding! That's why we started an Instagram account. Follow us at [@girlguidesofcanada](#) and tell your Pathfinders and Rangers about it, too. (Instagram users must be 13 years of age or older.)



Photo: Lorna LeRoy



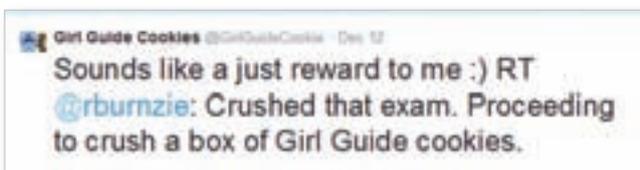
## All the news that's fit to tweet . . .

Did you know GGC has three Twitter accounts? With our official Twitter account, [@girlguidesofcan](#), we share resources, Guiding news and photos from units across the country.



Photo: Michelle Thompson

Our Girl Guide Cookies Twitter account, [@girlguidecookie](#), keeps followers up-to-date on cookie selling events and fun facts. And the Twitter account for Guiding Mosaic 2016, [@guidingmosaic16](#), shares the excitement as our 13<sup>th</sup> national camp draws near!

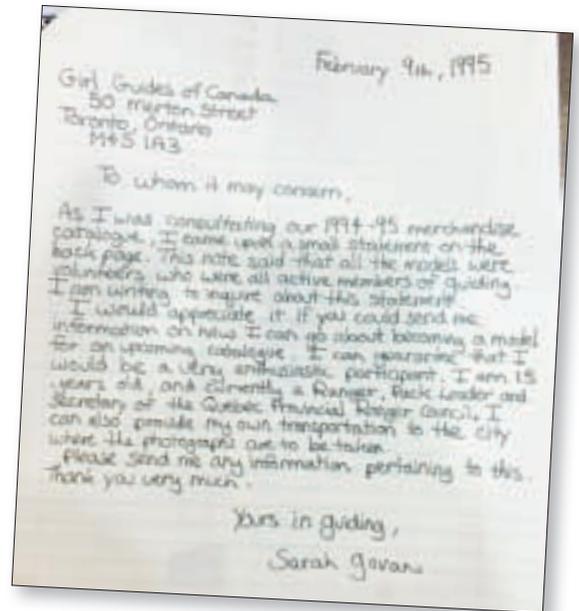


## Got a Great Girl Guide Story?

Share it on [GirlGuidesCANBlog.ca](#)

"To whom it may concern," That's how then 15-year-old Ranger and aspiring Girl Guide catalogue model Sarah Govan began her 1995 letter to GGC's national office, inquiring about how to be part of the photo shoots for our Girl Guide merchandise catalogue.

Twenty years later, Sarah shared this classic letter with our blog audience. "So embarrassing, but hilarious," she wrote in her post. "You can tell that I must have just finished a session on how to write a business letter at school. It's so formal! Sadly, my dream to feature in the catalogue never came true 😊" Sarah's post has become one of the most popular on GirlGuidesCANBlog. 🌟



Share your funny, silly, insightful or just plain Guide-tastic Guiding stories with us! Blog posts are between 300-400 words. Send your pitch to: [ggcblog@girlguides.ca](#)

# Moving UP

## GGC Advancement Ceremonies

In Guiding, one of the rites of spring for many girls is moving up to the next branch. Here are some advancement ceremonies to get you thinking about how you want to celebrate this milestone with your girls.



Photo: Linda Hamelin

### Under the Sea Spark Advancement

by Linda Hamelin

For our Spark unit's "Under the Sea" advancement ceremony last year we folded, painted and fluffed 164 pieces of coloured tissues to make mermaid necklaces, and sewed a mermaid skirt for each of the 11 girls who were advancing to Brownies. Our Sparks and Brownies coloured sea creatures and glued them onto a blue plastic table cloth that looked like water, and decorated another long blue table cloth on the floor with shells and rocks.

During the ceremony, the advancing girls walked along the "water" to be greeted by our Brownies, who placed a mermaid necklace around their necks, as a Brownie leader said, "As you swim through the pathway of shells and coral that represent the learning and experiences you have gained through Sparks, now swim into the deep blue sea of new beginnings and wonders. We wish you all the best with your new friends. Have lots of fun in Brownies."

*Linda Hamelin is a Guider in Laval, Quebec.*

# Passport to Guides

## Brownie Advancement

by Wendy Baker

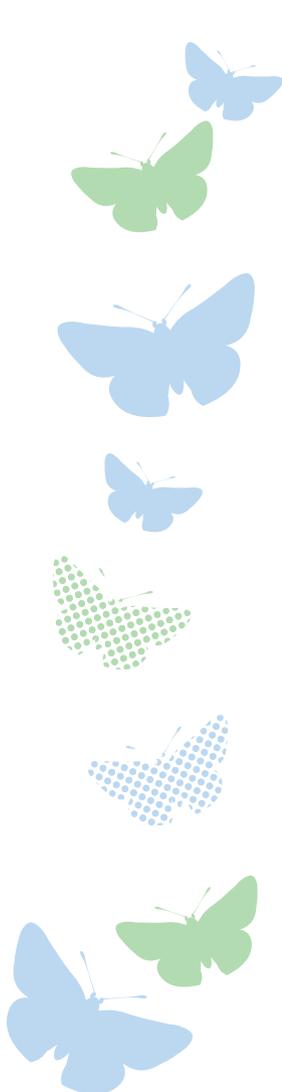
**F**or this ceremony, Brown Owl begins by presenting any insignia the girls have earned in Brownies, along with their Brownie Fun and Adventure pins. She then says, "Now your passport to Guides begins. Follow me into the centre of the Brownie Ring." A second leader invites the girls to do a Grand Howl, and a third leader has them repeat the Brownie Promise.

The Brownies who are not advancing hold butterflies cut out of different colours of construction paper, which the advancing girls collect, as a leader says, "Here is a blue butterfly to represent world friendship. Here is a green butterfly to represent our environment. Here is a pink butterfly to represent the beauty of the outdoors. Here is a white butterfly to represent helping others. Now that you have all your butterflies to remind of you of some of the things you have learned in Brownies, it is time for you to have a rest under the toadstool."

As the advancing girls "sleep," the other Brownies silently move the toadstool away and make a circle around it. The Guides quietly form a horseshoe around the sleeping Brownies, and a Guide leader stands in the opening. The Guide patrol leaders then touch the Brownies on the shoulder to awaken them and lead them to their Guider, who says, "Welcome to Guides. Here is your passport to Guides (handing a passport to each girl). Please take it home and keep it over the summer to remind you to come back to Guides next fall!"

The ceremony closes with all girls and leaders joining hands and singing "Make New Friends."

*Wendy Baker is a Guider in Campbellford, Ontario.*



Illustrations: ©iStock/AnnaWray

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Photo: Debbie Cohoe

## Walk of Fame

### Multi-Branch Advancement

by Debbie Cohoe

Since each girl in Guiding is a star, we decided to create a Girl Guide Walk of Fame for our multi-unit advancement ceremony. The girls donned funky movie star glasses and feather boas in the colours of their branches, and had their handprints and names on the paper “pavement” at the end of our red carpet.

We opened the celebration by singing “One Voice” and ended it with “Do You Wanna Build a Campfire?” adapted by our Guides from “Do You Wanna Build a Snowman?” in the film, *Frozen*.

Opening envelopes that contained the advancing girls’ names, the leaders proclaimed, “And the girls advancing to Pathfinders are...” As the girls were called upon, they changed their boas to match their new branches’ colours.

Parents and friends formed the paparazzi to snap photos as the Girl Guide stars graciously posed for them. They were then treated to Shirley Temples and pieces of our special “Walk of Fame through Guiding” cake. This was a great celebration of our “Star” Girl Guides, and the leaders had as much fun planning it as the girls had doing it!

*Debbie Cohoe is a Guider in Lancaster Park, Alberta.*

## Pathfinder Bags

### Guide Advancement

by Wendy Baker

In this advancement ceremony, the advancing Guides are given symbolic and practical gifts by each Pathfinder in the unit. Each Guide moving forward is stopped by Pathfinder 1, who says, “Halt. What do you want?” The Guide responds, “I want to become a Pathfinder,” and the ceremony continues:

**Pathfinder 1**  
(gives a bag):

“You will need this bag to carry your stuff.”

**Pathfinder 2**  
(gives a cup):

“You will need this because Pathfinders is thirsty work!”

**Pathfinder 3**  
(gives a coat hanger):

“You will need this to keep your uniform neat and tidy, so you don’t have to throw your uniform on the floor with the rest of your clothes.”

**Pathfinder 4**  
(gives a bag of trail mix):

“You will need this for the munchies!”

**Pathfinder 5**  
(gives a bandana):

“This can keep your head covered if you lose your hat, and it comes with a list of 99 other uses!”

**Pathfinder 6**  
(gives a pen on a rope):

“Keep this handy because you have to keep your own notes in Pathfinders.”

**Pathfinder 7**  
(gives a flashlight):

“You will need this to find your way to the lats when we go to camp.”

**Pathfinder 8**  
(gives a program book):

“You are now prepared for Pathfinders.”

When all gifts are given, a Pathfinder leader says:

“Turn around and say good-bye to the Guides. Welcome to the wonderful world of Pathfinders!”

*Wendy Baker is a Guider in Campbellford, Ontario.*

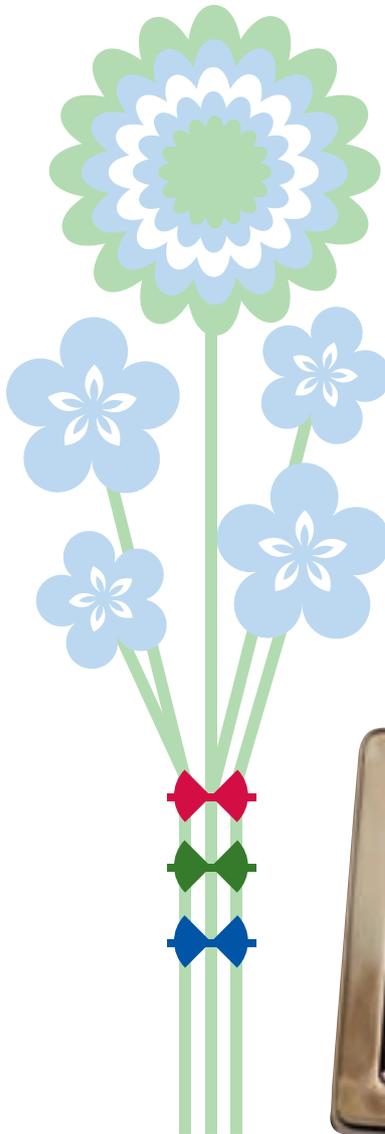
# Flowers, Tote Bags, Hearts and Keys

## Guide, Pathfinder and Ranger Advancements

by Karen Cross

Our Guide unit has a longstanding tradition of presenting the girls who are advancing to Pathfinders with a bouquet of flowers. We feel that moving on to Pathfinders is a rite of passage, as the girls are on the cusp of becoming young women, and quite often, these are the first bouquets they have ever received. We tie the flowers with ribbons in blue (for Guiding) and green (for Pathfinders) and also supply blue presentation folders for the girls' certificates, so they stay nice and crisp all evening and are also great for pictures.

Last year, all of our girls earned their Lady Baden-Powell award and so we also presented them with green tote bags labelled "LJ" for Long Journey, just as Lady B-P labelled her trunks and suitcases. In each bag, we placed a compass (to point the girls in the right direction), a travel alarm clock (to remind them that time passes quickly) and a note pad (so they can continue to share their experiences with others). Each girl was also given her Fun and Friendship and Lady B-P Challenge pins on a pin tab made from wide green and narrow blue grosgrain ribbons and a gold safety pin. This made presenting the pins a lot easier, and the girls loved their special pin tabs, so this will likely become another tradition in our unit.

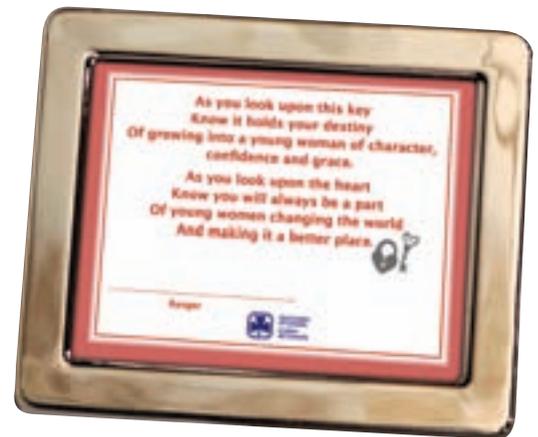


### A Multi-Branch Celebration

All of the units that meet at our church hold a joint advancement ceremony each year, at which Sparks, Brownies, Guides and Pathfinders celebrate together. We also take this opportunity to present any awards the adults may have earned. Last year, two of the Lone Rangers volunteering with our Spark and Brownie units advanced to adult membership, so we made up a certificate to be presented to each of them in a gold frame, with a keychain and a heart-shaped lock. We invited their mothers onstage to present them with the certificates, key chains and bouquets of flowers tied with ribbons of red (for Rangers) and blue (for Guiders). 🗝️

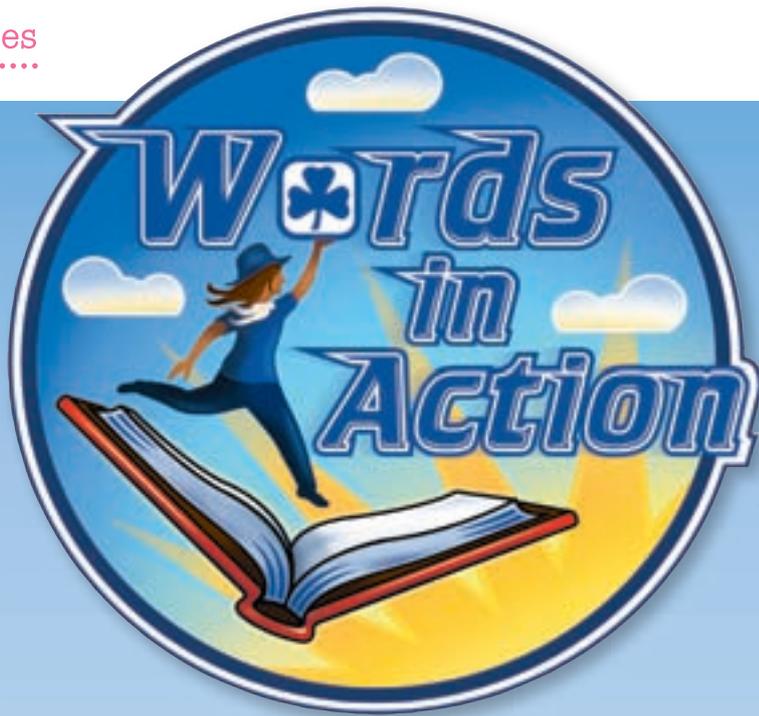
*Karen Cross is a Guider in Toronto, Ontario.*

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## The 2015-2016 GGC National Service Project

Taking action to make a difference in their communities is a big part of what girls in Guiding are all about. The new Girl Guides of Canada National Service Project (NSP), Words in Action, embodies the spirit of service by putting girls in action, promoting the importance of literacy, and increasing public access to books throughout Canada.

**W**ords in Action runs until August 2016, and to help you introduce it to your unit, we've created a step-by-step meeting activity guide, featuring crafts, games and stories that will enhance girls' understanding of literacy and the impact it makes on their lives and those in their community.

Here's how to get started:

- 1 **Go to [nsp.girlguides.ca](http://nsp.girlguides.ca) to check out the meeting activity guide and for background information on literacy in Canada. While you're online, you can also order your girls' crests from [thegirlguidestore.ca](http://thegirlguidestore.ca)**
- 2 **With your girls, decide on which one of five service activities they want to undertake to earn the Words in Action crest:**



HOSTING A BOOK DRIVE



HOSTING A BOOK EXCHANGE



ORGANIZING A LITERACY BACKPACK DRIVE



SETTING UP READING TENTS



VOLUNTEERING TO READ

- 3 **Carry out your service project by building it into your branch's core programming:**

### SPARKS

- In My Community Keeper

### BROWNIES

- Key to my Community
- Key to the Arts

### GUIDES

- You and Others: Reading
- Discovering You: Writing
- You and Others: Event Planning
- Community Service Badges
- Lady Baden Powell Challenge

### PATHFINDERS

- Canada Cord
- Community Service Award

### RANGERS

- Community Connection
- Leadership and Management
- Ranger Service Project

- 4 **Distribute the girls' crests and log your service.**

Help us track the collective impact Girl Guides are having across Canada! Go back to [nsp.girlguides.ca](http://nsp.girlguides.ca) and log the service your unit has completed.

- 5 **Show us what you did!**

Help us showcase Words in Action by sending us high-resolution photos (1MB to 5MB JPEGs or PNGs) of your service activities, and briefly describe what your unit did. Please also download, complete and include an Image Submission Form (<http://bit.ly/1z3qley>) for each photo, and confirm that all girls pictured have a signed Image Release Form (IR.1) in their iMIS profiles. If you have any questions and to submit photos, please email: [programs@girlguides.ca](mailto:programs@girlguides.ca)



## Awards

### Fortitude

Nancy Gelin, North Vancouver, BC

### Honorary Life

Anna Mariani, Pickering, ON

Elaine Otter, Kingston, ON

## GGC Tributes

Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada members are frequently recognized in their communities for the wonderful work they have done during their Guiding lives. As many of them may be familiar to you, we thought we would share the following announcements (December 2014 to March 2015):

Jean Baluch, BC  
 Shirley Batten, NL  
 Margaret Fitzgerald, ON  
 Evelyn Clue, ON  
 Eleanor Galbraith, BC  
 Shirly Holder, ON  
 Nancy Gelin, BC  
 Marie McLean, ON

Katherine Harrop, ON  
 Mildred Corley, BC  
 Margaret Neely, ON  
 Olive Juby, ON  
 Doris Telfer, ON  
 Mary Vitarelli, ON  
 Sandra Wilkinson, ON

## A Tribute Opportunity

### Supporting Scholarships

If you, your unit or your Trefoil Guild would like to make a donation to the GGC National Scholarship Fund in honour of these women, we would be grateful to accept contributions.

For more information, please email us at: [barkleyh@girlguides.ca](mailto:barkleyh@girlguides.ca)

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fyi



Photo: Sherry Pokol

## Ideas to Go – Feedback

### Faux Stained Glass Trefoils

Look how the 231<sup>st</sup> Mississauga Sparks used Anne Whelan’s fabulous Faux Stained Glass Trefoils Idea to Go from the Winter 2015 issue of *Canadian Guider* (pages 34-35). As part of their World Thinking Day celebration in February, they made these lovely trefoil ornaments. And what a perfect Canadian setting they chose to show them off – their local ice rink! Congratulations to the girls and thanks to Guider Sherry Pokol for sharing this photo with us. Also, thank you again to Anne Whelan for creating this unique Girl Guide craft especially for *Canadian Guider* readers.

### We want your comments and ideas, too!

*Canadian Guider* welcomes feedback on Ideas to Go. If your unit has made up any crafts or done any activities we publish, please share your thoughts with us, or send in your own ideas: [cdnguider@girlguides.ca](mailto:cdnguider@girlguides.ca)

**Planning for summer 2015?**  
**How does this sound?**

- Make new friends and camp under the stars
- Embrace Indian culture and have lots of fun
- Take on challenges and boost girls' body confidence

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# GUIDING MOSAIC 2016



Photo: courtesy GMBuzz

## The World Comes to Alberta

### Guiding Mosaic 2016

**Get ready for fun, friendship and adventure at Sylvan Lake, Alberta, July 9-17, 2016!**

Simple moments . . . Extraordinary experiences . . . That's what Girl Guide camp is all about. At first glance, a trip to camp can seem like it's all fun and games – roasting marshmallows, singing your heart out at the campfire, playing a super awesome game of capture the flag . . . But we all know that camp is also where girls can challenge themselves, develop environmental awareness and build strong teamwork and leadership skills as they work, play and hike together, forging friendships and creating lasting memories with girls they may be meeting for the very first time.

Unique among camp experiences for girls, Guiding Mosaic 2016 will bring together more than 1,800 campers from throughout Canada and across the Guiding world. Invitations have been extended to Girl Guide/Girl Scout organizations in 145 countries, ranging from Costa Rica and South Africa to Germany and India.

Through outdoor activities, arts, music and more, girls who may not speak the same language will have the chance to connect through their mutual and universal "Girl Guide language" of fun, friendship and adventure!

Registration for Guiding Mosaic 2016 is ongoing at: [GuidingMosaic.com](http://GuidingMosaic.com)

# Spread the Word

## New PR Toolkit

There are many exciting things happening every month in your unit! While your girls and their parents are aware of these things, the public may not be. That's why we've developed a PR Tool Kit. If you're thinking about approaching a newspaper, local radio station or TV station, but you don't know where to begin, use this kit to guide you. Whatever your need this kit will walk you through the process, step-by-step, along with examples and templates.

Go to: <http://bit.ly/1AdEeY9>

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-Sarah Van Dusen, third-year Brescia student and Girl Guide member of 12 years.

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For a Full itinerary and costs:  
Email: Jennifer Mayer at [pet.jen.reyam@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pet.jen.reyam@xtra.co.nz)  
Or write to: PO Box 805, Taupo New Zealand



**Spring Contest Deadline:  
Monday, May 18, 2015**

Girl Guides of Canada is holding three photo contests in 2015. The first one is on now, and you still have lots of time to send us your finest, most dynamic photos. Submit images that illustrate the fun, friendship and adventure of Girl Guides, and you could win fabulous prizes and have your photo appear in *Canadian Guider!*

**The three contests run from:**

- February 16 to May 18 – winners published in Fall 2015
- July 6 to October 2 – winners published in Winter 2016
- October 13 to January 11 – winners published in Spring 2016

Photos will also be shared on GGC's Flickr account and may be used in our promotional materials.

We want images that feature seasonal programming and events, that are easily recognizable as GGC girls doing fun and amazing things, and that show off GGC insignia, with girls wearing their GGC uniform, scarf, camp hat or sash. Send us sharp-focus, high-resolution photos in 1MB to 5MB JPEG or PNG files, through the online submission form on [girlguides.ca](http://girlguides.ca). Complete all required fields of the form for each image. Up to five submissions can be uploaded on a single form. For each image submitted, please confirm that you have IR.1 (Image Release Permission) forms signed and on file.

Photos will be judged on both an artistic and technical basis, including image aesthetic, quality, originality and relevance to Girl Guides. Candid shots tend to have more impact than staged or posed shots. Heavily-edited photos may be disregarded by the judges. For more contest details, visit: [girlguides.ca](http://girlguides.ca)

Keep your cameras close at hand and shoot, shoot, shoot!



Girl Guides of Canada  
Guides du Canada

**Girl Greatness starts here.**

Photo: courtesy Hilary Feldman



## Welcome Hilary Feldman!

### New Editorial Committee Member

Hilary is a Guider in Vancouver. She is currently a District Commissioner and enjoys organizing events for girls and Guiders, from service opportunities to week-long camps. A former girl member, she also has two daughters involved in Guiding and is particularly enthusiastic about providing STEM opportunities and building girls' outdoor skills.

# AGM Invitation

Please Join  
The Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada  
Board of Directors  
For our 2015 Annual General Meeting and Banquet  
Saturday June 6, 2015  
at  
The Wilds at Salmonier River  
Salmonier Line, Newfoundland  
(one hour outside of St. John's)  
Annual General Meeting: 5:00 p.m.  
Banquet: 6:30 p.m. Cost of Banquet \$45

If you would like to take advantage of the shuttle departing from Guide House to take you to the Wilds and bring you back after the banquet, please advise us at the email address below.

For more information, contact:  
**Helen Culbert at [culberth@girlguides.ca](mailto:culberth@girlguides.ca)**  
or 416-487-5281 Ext. 293



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Photo: Sandy Nicolson

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**Two powerful words you don't hear enough.**  
Thank you to our 19,527 volunteers for all that you do to bring Girl Greatness to life.



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