Get Ready for the Cookie Program!
Raising Awesome Girls
Scout Out Her Passions

Remember the thrill you felt when you scored your first ever soccer goal? Or how proud you felt getting flowers after a school play? Those experiences weren’t just fun ways to make new friends, they helped make you the confident, ambitious woman you are today. Plus, experts say kids who participate in extracurricular activities could actually do better in school. “Out-of-school experiences help girls develop real skills like teamwork and perseverance—skills that she’ll need to do well in school and throughout her life,” says Girl Scouts Chief Girl Expert, Developmental Psychologist Dr. Andrea Bastiani Archibald. With these tips, it’ll be fun and easy to find the right fit for your growing girl.

Explore Your Options
Check your school, parks and recreation department, museums, libraries, and community centers for activities that might be fun to try out. Additionally, ask other parents what their kids are involved with and whether they’re happy with the experiences. Then make a list of the activities that fit both your budget and schedule.

Ask These Questions
Is your daughter super imaginative? Perhaps something artistic would be a match. Does she love running around outside? Think about soccer or softball. Is she obsessed with Lego and figuring out how things work? A junior robotics club or coding class could be right up her alley. Remember that your daughter might not be into the same things you were as a child, no matter how much you wish that were the case! Really pay attention to her personality and then let her choose from a few options you think she might like.

Keep Her Interested
Tell her how proud you are of her for trying something new! If she can’t stop talking about how much fun she’s having in her new activity, you’ve probably found your match! Congrats! If she isn’t as enthusiastic, though, look into why. Maybe she’s not being challenged enough, or perhaps she’s not ready to be in such an advanced group. Ask her about her feelings and try to come up with solutions together—or talk to her teacher or coach to see if you can get her up to speed or help her feel more engaged. “Some activities simply might not be a match for your child, though,” Dr. Bastiani Archibald notes. “Of course it might be disappointing if you loved ballet or piano as a child and your daughter isn’t into it, but it’s important to recognize and value her unique personality and interests.”

Watch for Burnout
When you ask her about her activities, does she just shrug and say they’re “okay,” when two weeks ago, she couldn’t wait to tell her everything that she’d learned or accomplished? “If you notice that she’s not as excited as she used to be, try to find out why,” says Dr. Bastiani Archibald. “Having a very busy schedule with not a lot of downtime can make her overtired and make it hard for her to enjoy her hobbies as much as she would normally.” If that’s the case, sit down with her and see what can be adjusted in her schedule. Simplifying her week and her time obligations can help her enjoy her favorite things again. “But know that as a child grows, her interests may shift and change as well, so if she’s really not having fun anymore, it may be time to ditch that particular activity.”

Try Another Path
Struck out this time? Time to pick yourself up, dust yourself off, and start all over again! Keep in mind the lessons you and your daughter learned together from your first go-round—what worked and what didn’t—when you choose the next activity to try. Dr. Bastiani Archibald notes that “there’s a whole fun world out there, and you and your girl will have an amazing journey exploring it together.”

We want every girl to succeed. That’s why GSSJC is happy to bring you Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.’s Raising Awesome Girls, an online publication to help you and your Girl Scout answer questions, face challenges and find solutions to daily life. For more articles like this, visit www.girlscouts.org and find Raising Awesome Girls under the “For Adults” tab.
Troop 122325 celebrated their bridging ceremony on the “Love Lock” bridge near downtown Houston where they transitioned from Daisy to Brownie. Afterwards the troop attached a lock to the bridge as a symbol of lasting friendship. See more Scrapbook photos on page 45.

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Ready, set, Rally! We’re revved up to start this year’s Cookie Program with a new cookie - Raspberry Rally! If you like our Thin Mints, you will love this delicious thin, crispy cookie infused with raspberry and covered with chocolate. I cannot wait to place my order and take my first bite! As a self-professed Girl Scout cookie expert, I predict that our Girl Scouts will be swamped with orders for this delectable treat as well as for the rest of our cookie lineup!

No surprise - I’m excited about cookie season, and so are our Girl Scouts. The Cookie Program is a tradition that the girls and their customers look forward to each year. As the largest girl-led business in the world, the Cookie Program teaches the girls about goal setting, budgeting, and money handling while helping them develop the self-confidence they need to be our future business leaders. It also provides the troops with funds for activities. All this while learning and growing in a fun environment - who wouldn’t be excited?!

According to the Girl Scout Research Institute, most girls expect to be independent and financially empowered. Year after year, I am amazed at how our girls at all levels gain financial skills and progressively build on them each year through Girl Scout programming, including the Cookie Program. Our Brownies begin by learning how much things cost and the basics of being a philanthropist by helping others with time or money. Then as Cadettes, they move into budgeting. When they become Ambassadors, they learn about borrowing money. Along the way, they fine-tune their ability to set goals, develop a plan, make decisions - individually and as a team - and manage their money. None of this is possible without our volunteers. So, when someone from the Product Sales operations team or a troop cookie program manager asks for your help with some part of the Cookie Program, please say yes. It’s a huge job but a hugely rewarding one!

Speaking of traditions, our council hosted its Celebration of the Century bash at Misty Meadows Ranch, Camp Agnes Arnold, and Adventure Park on Dec. 3. More than 1,500 girls and their families attended the carnival-themed event to help us celebrate this fantastic milestone. It was a full day of festivities, which included magicians, performers, face painting, inflatables, delicious food, and fireworks!

For 100 years, our council has led the way in developing girls of courage, confidence, and character across 26 counties in Southeast Texas. I am so proud to be a part of an organization that is making a difference in the lives of so many girls.

As we close out 2022, remember to support our council through its end-of-year giving campaign. Every gift helps us to continue providing result-driven programs, like the Cookie Program, that enrich girls’ lives. Be sure to make your donation by Dec. 31 for tax-deduction purposes.

I wish every Girl Scout member happiness and good health in the new year. We need your batteries fully charged for the upcoming Cookie Program and the rest of the year’s adventurous activities.

So, ready, set, rally!

From the Top

Marguerite Young-Chapman
Chair of the Board and President of the Council

New Leader Must-Knows!
Are you a new Girl Scout leader? Here are some things you need to know for the next few months:

1. **Girl Scout Cookie Program** kicks off Feb. 11 and runs through March 28. Get your troop involved! Select a troop cookie manager, take online training and you’re ready to go! For more info, visit gssjc.org/cookies.

2. **World Thinking Day** is Feb. 22. On this day, we celebrate the sisterhood of Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world. Visit girlscouts.org/worldthinkingday for activities for your troop level.

3. **Get ready for: Girl Scout Week March 5-11!** This week celebrates the founding of Girl Scouts on March 12, 1912 and troops are encouraged to celebrate Girl Scouting in the community.

4. **Get ready for summer 2023!** Yes it is getting cold outside, but think about fun summer nights by the campfire. You can register soon for summer camp sessions.

Shop Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shop</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Shop Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PP for Girls</td>
<td>7000 Southwest Freeway, Houston</td>
<td>Tues. – Thurs. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>713-292-0247</td>
<td>Fri. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sat. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Imperial Valley</td>
<td>15800 Imperial Valley Dr., Houston</td>
<td>Tues. – Thurs. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>281-447-8870</td>
<td>Fri. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lufkin</td>
<td>1202 College Drive, Lufkin</td>
<td>Tues. and Thurs. 10 – 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beaumont</td>
<td>700 North Street, Suite F, Beaumont</td>
<td>Tues. to Thurs. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Westside</td>
<td>Wed. pickup only-10 a.m. – 4 p.m.</td>
<td>No in-person. Please provide min. 24 hr. notice on orders by email to <a href="mailto:shop@sigs.org">shop@sigs.org</a> or by calling 713-292-0247</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>531 FM 359 South, Brookshire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stafford</td>
<td>12300 Parc Crest, Ste 170, Stafford</td>
<td>Tues. – Thurs. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>281-670-2982</td>
<td>Fri. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sat. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Tues. – Thurs. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>281-282-6077</td>
<td>Fri. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sat. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cypress/Jersey Village</td>
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<td>Tues. – Thurs. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>346-818-3227</td>
<td>Fri. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sat. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.</td>
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New! Please call the shops 24 hours in advance to make a reservation if you want to shop Tuesday-Thursday between 5 – 6 p.m. Westside excluded.

Shops and buildings will be closed Dec. 23 – Jan. 2. Shops will also be closed Dec. 3.
Life Just Got a Little Sweeter!
It’s Cookie Time!

Why is participating in the Cookie Program a sweet idea?
Did you know the Girl Scout Cookie Program is the largest girl-led entrepreneurial program in the world? We are excited about this year’s program, and we hope you are too. Let’s put the cherry (or five cherries) on top of this cookie season! Here are the top five reasons your daughter should participate:

1. **Life skills**: The Cookie Program helps girls develop unparalleled leadership skills that will stay with them for life, including goal setting, decision-making, money management, people skills, and business ethics.

2. **It's easy to participate**: Your designated troop cookie manager can access online training when it’s most convenient for them. Smart Cookies, our cookie site, will offer girls web- and mobile-based resources to track and manage their business on a digital platform.

3. **Financial benefits**: Troops will earn money to help offset the cost of activities, outings, program supplies, and so much more. Individually, girls can even use their Cookie Dough at a GSSJC shop or use it for a cool event, including overnight camp!

4. **Earn rewards**: Every year we have a special theme for the Cookie Program, and girls can work toward earning special rewards that now include experiences that help with goal setting!

5. **Girls will thank you for it**: Nearly 80% of all women business owners were Girl Scouts, and many successful businesswomen say they got their start selling Girl Scout Cookies. Thanks to caring volunteers and parents, like you, girls who participate in the Cookie Program gain courage, confidence, and character to pursue their dreams.

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**Mark Your Calendars**

**Jan. 13**
Troops place orders.

**January 16**
“Be a Digital Cookie Rock Star!”
girl/parent webinar available to watch on-demand

**Feb. 1**
Cookie delivery starts.

**Feb. 11**
Cookie Program starts.

**Feb. 17**
Cookie booths start.

**March 26**
Cookie Program ends.

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Scan the QR code to access our GSSJC Cookie website! This will be your go to for all things cookies including forms, guides, and details about the program.

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**New This Year!**

- Shortbreads are now “Trefoils”. Same great taste just with a new name!
- Good news! Parent and Me booths will continue in the 2023 Cookie Program. More details to come on our GSSJC Cookie website.
- Girl experiences are coming to the Cookie Program! Girls can earn Painting with a Twist, Build-a-Bear workshops, Moody Gardens event and more!
- Raspberry Rally cookie, available exclusively online direct shipped
- Cheddar Up, mobile-friendly payment app
Meet The Five Skills
Build a Lifetime of Skills and Confidence!

- **Goal Setting:** Setting important goals inspires a girl to better herself.
- **Decision Making:** Smarter decision making empowers a girl to excel.
- **Business Ethics:** A girl learns the value of running a business the right way.
- **People Skills:** Confidence in dealing with others helps a girl reach her goals.
- **Money Management:** A girl learns the importance of good money management.

How to Help Your Girl Scout Participate

- Make sure your Girl Scout is registered for the 2023 membership year.
- Complete the Parent Permission and Responsibility form.
- Review online Family Guide.
- Attend your troop’s cookie meeting. Get essential information about the opportunities and responsibilities of the Cookie Program.
- Join the Cookie Program team. Volunteer! Whether you can spare a little or a lot of time, there is a place for you. The Cookie Program couldn’t happen without the time and talent parents and other volunteers give to support girl success at the troop and council level.

Starting Inventory Order

The Starting Inventory Order (SIO) is moving to a troop reward this year! To earn the SIO troop reward, troops will need to place an initial order of 75% of the previous year’s sales.

Troops will receive a booth kit consisting of a portable charger, cookie cargo box, booth money fanny pack and Raspberry Rally table display.

Work with your daughter to calculate how many cookies she should order using the SIO Parent Worksheet. Download it on the GSSJC Cookies website.

Parent Permission and Responsibility Form QR Code

Troop Proceeds

Girl Scouts in each troop decide how to use the proceeds earned from participating in the cookie program.

Below is a sample of how a troop of 12 Girl Scouts might budget the $1,350 they earn in troop proceeds they earned during the cookie sale:

- Attend Carousel camping weekend ($35/girl or adult) $420
- Attend Board Game Design Challenge workshop ($21 per girl) $252
- Love Hug and Groom horses at Camp Misty ($10 per girl) $120
- Renew all girls’ memberships during Early Bird to earn an exclusive patch ($25 per girl) $300
- Service project benefitting a local animal shelter $150
- Add to travel fund for trip next year $108
**Ways to Sell Cookies in 2023**

**Door to door**
Girls go door to door to homes in their neighborhood selling packages in hand.

**Digital selling**
Use Smart Cookies e-cards, social media links, QR codes, and more.

**Cookie booths**
Your troop cookie manager can reserve cookie booths at businesses where girls can set up a table to sell their cookies.

**Lemonade stands**
Parents and girls can set up a table to sell cookies at their home like a lemonade stand.

**Walkabouts**
Girls gather with their troopmates and take their neighborhoods by storm in this door-to-door selling method.

**More Girl Scout Cookies are available exclusively online!**
Get these two cookies, plus all your favorites shipped directly to you!

**We Would Love to Have You!**
Our Product Program team is looking for engaged volunteers to help make the Cookie Program run smoothly. The more help, the better. Scan the QR code to gain access to our sign-up sheets.

**Color Me!**
How to Help Your Girl Scout Succeed

Now that you know more about the 5 Skills and what they can do for your Girl Scout, here are a few simple ways you can help her get ready for the Cookie Program now:
• Listen to her practice her sales pitch.
• Review cookie materials and visit ABC Smart Cookies with her to help her learn more about her product.
• Ask her questions – even pretend to be a potential customer.
• Guide her to set practical and useful goals about what she wants to learn and earn.
• Listen to her describe what her goals are for the money earned through the sale.
• Be a role model for business ethics and safety rules.
• Have fun with her!

Remember, the Girl Scout Cookie Program is a part of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, which is girl-driven. Let your Girl Scout take the lead in selling cookies and reaching goals. Your encouragement, coaching, and guidance will be key ingredients to a successful Cookie Program experience for her.

Cookies4Heroes

Earn a Cookies4Heroes patch and theme socks for supporting our heroes through our virtual cookie share or Cookies4Heroes program. Girls may also earn eligibility to deliver cookies to first responders, military support and law enforcement when selling 30+ cookie shares.

Did you know?

ALL Proceeds From Girl Scout Cookies Stay Local?

Did you know ALL proceeds from Girl Scout Cookies stay local?
1. Cover the costs of running the Girl Scout Cookie Program, including the costs of cookies, materials, and logistics.
2. Fund Take Action projects for the community and amazing girl-led adventures for troops.
3. Help council provide Girl Scout programs in STEM, the outdoors, life skills, and entrepreneurship, as well as camps, leadership training, and more!

National Cookie Weekend

Keep the fun going all cookie season and celebrate National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend during Feb. 17-19! On this weekend, Girl Scouts around the country celebrate the Girl Scout Cookie Program – the largest girl-led business in the world! Decorate your yard or car, prep for booth sales, send e-cards, customize a shirt to promote your girl business, or throw a party to celebrate the 2023 Cookie Program!

Walkabout Weekend

Who can resist our esteemed sweet treats when a Girl Scout is at their front door with their favorite cookies? Not us! Door-to-door sales remains one of the most effective ways to sell cookies. In a recent national study, 78% of those customers who were not approached during a cookie sale stated they would have purchased two to four packages if asked.

Go door to door in your neighborhood and visit cookie customers you may have missed or who might want to restock their favorites! Follow all safety guidelines.

When you participate in our 2023 Walkabout weekend, you will receive a special Walkabout patch.
It's Time to Sign Up for Summer Fun at Camp!

Registration opens in early January.

Get Ready for Girl Scout Summer Camp!
The winter holidays are just around the corner, which means it’s time to start thinking about those long summer nights at Girl Scout Camp! There are many options to choose from this year, including:

- GSSJC Overnight Summer Camp
- GSSJC Day Camp
- Family Camp
- Community Day & Twilight Camp
- And – new this year – Troop Summer Camp!

With so many options, how do you know what’s right for you? Take our quiz to find out: https://tinyurl.com/GSSJC-Summer23 or scan QRCode.

Look for more information about summer camp coming to your mailbox in mid-December, then look for registration to open in early January!

Online Registration Tips

Summer camp session details will be available online in mid-December, and registration will be available online in early January. In the meantime, here are some tips to help you prepare for online camp registration:

- Registration for Summer Troop Camping and Family Camping will be through your MyGS Account.
- Registration for individual day and overnight sessions will be through the Summer Camp Online Community. Please log on and make sure you know how to reach this website before January. (You must be logged in to view the full site!) https://bit.ly/3DnmlQQ
- If your camper has attended summer camp in the past, registration will look just a bit different. We are partnering with a new registration platform this year called UltraCamp. We are excited about this platform, and it will help streamline registration, communication, payments, campership applications, and medical information for summer day and overnight camp.
- Summer camp sessions are based on the grade girls will be entering in the Fall of 2023. For example, a girl who is currently a 3rd grade Brownie would register for 4th grade Junior sessions, since she will have completed the 3rd grade.
- Girls must be members of Girl Scouts to register for summer camp. (Girls who are registered in other councils must request a login code by emailing customerservice@sigs.org.)
- If you are coordinating girls who wish to attend camp together, make sure the girls are the same level, choose the same date, camp, and session, and include each other’s names in the buddy section of the application. We suggest that you register on the same day and time as your camper’s buddy. This gives you the best chance for getting buddies together in the same session. Check back with the family after you register to make sure you are signed up for the same session.
- You will be able to check session availability on the registration site.
- If a session is full, you will not be able to register. Please choose your second choice date or camp.
- You can register for more than one camp or session.
- You will receive an automatic reply email after you register. PLEASE review this email. It will summarize the camp, dates and session you registered for.
- Only girls who participate in the 2022 Girl Scout Cookie Program are eligible to receive a Campership. New this year, the Campership application will be available in the online registration platform!
- Your camper registration may be delayed or placed on hold if any of the following circumstances apply:
  - You are not a currently registered member of the Girl Scouts.
  - The camper age or grade does not match the published eligibility requirements.
  - The camper does not meet the prerequisite skills or requirements for specialty or leadership programs.
  - The required deposit was not paid or your credit card was denied.
Is your daughter ready for camp?
Are YOU, as a parent, ready to send your daughter to camp?
We are ready!

Q: How do I determine when is the right time to send my daughter to camp for the first time?

The biggest question to ask is, are YOU ready as a parent to let your child go? It helps to be clear on why you are sending her to camp. Whether it is to make new friends, learn new skills or gain independence, it starts with your goals for a positive camp experience. If you are upbeat about the upcoming experience, your child will reflect this same attitude. If your daughter has been able to successfully spend the night at a grandparent’s or a friend’s house, she is most likely ready for an overnight camp experience.

We are ready for your daughter. Our goal is for each girl to have a successful social learning experience while at camp. Through great activities and community living, we create an environment that teaches resilience and self-reliance. Camp professionals have been helping kids build independence for years. When choosing a first camp experience, start with the confidence that you have laid the foundation for your child’s success. Begin the process with your child with words of encouragement and enthusiasm.

Q: How will I know my child is being supervised appropriately?

We are ready for your daughter. Our goal is for each girl to have a positive individual and group experience at camp. Camp staff are trained to focus on each camper every day from their heads to their toes. Supervision not only includes making sure girls are wearing life jackets but also that they are changing their clothes every day, drinking water and applying sunscreen and that healthy relationships are growing in their cabin or tent. Girl Scouts place a high priority on safety and train staff in all aspects of camp life - from leading activities to cooking over a campfire. Our goal is to carefully prepare and plan for each camp experience with your daughter in mind.

Q: How do you screen and select camp staff?

We are ready for your daughter. Our goal is to hire child-centered staff who enjoy the outdoor experience. Camp counselors include home grown Girl Scouts who have many years of experience in Girl Scouting as well as students from local universities who desire to be a part of the Girl Scout organization. We also bring in camp staff from overseas through a J1 Visa program, which means your camper might have a counselor from another country! After references are verified, all counselors are required to have an interview with the camp director. All staff must pass a criminal background check before they live and work with campers. The most important trait we are looking for in our camp staff is the desire to create a lasting camp experience for your daughter. Their job is to create an environment that will make your child fall in love with the camp experience.

Q: How will I communicate with my child while she is at camp?

We are ready for your daughter. Our goal is for each girl to build autonomy while at camp. We ask that all cell phones remain at home. In general, we work to promote independence and group cohesion in campers by discouraging telephone contact during camp session, but there are exceptions to this philosophy. The Camp Director will contact the parent/guardian if a camper is having trouble adjusting to camp life after 24 hours onsite or if there are health concerns. Parents may “visit” their camper daily by viewing photos (at no charge) on the camp’s web site. We also encourage parents, friends, and family to drop off mail at check in.

Q: What if my daughter does not have a friend to attend camp with her?

We are ready for your daughter. Our goal is for each girl to discover more about herself while connecting with other campers and camp staff. Many first-time campers and camper parents focus on the activities offered at camp and make the decision to attend camp based on canoeing, horseback riding, field trips, etc. While activities are important aspects of camp, that’s not what camp is about. Camp is about making some of the best friends of your life. Campers not only make some of their best friends at camp, they learn what real friendship is. Camp is a social experience – learning to live, work and play together over the course of the week. Whether your daughter arrives at camp alone or with a friend, she will leave camp with new friends and experiences. Over the past five years, 99% of our campers shared they made a new friend at camp on their evaluations.

Q: What if my daughter has physical, psychological, emotional or medical needs that require daily support?

We are ready to partner with you, the parent. Our goal is to prepare each camper for success. To lay the foundation for success, parents and camp directors must partner by sharing information. Some campers require an environment in which staff are specifically trained to meet their medical needs. If your child’s needs cannot be met at our Girl Scout camps, we will assist you in the search for a camp setting that is setup to provide a successful experience for your daughter.

Camper Essential Functions
In order to attend Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council’s summer day, twilight, and overnight camps, campers must meet the following essential functions.

- Move independently from place to place
- Effectively interact in a group based on program content
- Be able to meet personal needs (bathing, toileting, dressing, diet management, etc.)
- Be a capable self-manager of chronic illnesses

Please contact us if you have any questions about your camper’s ability to succeed at Girl Scout camp.
Camp Agnes Arnold

Camp Agnes Arnold is ready to invite girls to a traditional summer getaway in the woods! Shadow Lake is one of the main attractions at Camp Agnes Arnold, located near Conroe, with 35 acres of cool, refreshing fun for Girl Scouts. Girls this summer will enjoy canoeing, kayaking, corcling and fishing on Shadow Lake, swimming at the pool and in the lake, climbing the triple-level Adventure Park and racing down the double zip line, hiking along trails, shooting archery or riflery, or pedaling through camp on a bike or 4-wheeler.

The Nature Center hosts many displays on local plants and animals and includes classroom spaces and a bird blind where girls can observe wildlife on Shadow Lake. Accommodations at Camp Arnold include platform tents, cabins, treehouse cabins and the Fishing Village, located right at the edge of Shadow Lake. The camp also features the Ann Temple Allen Lodge, a library, several classrooms and an infirmary, all of which are air-conditioned.

Camp Agnes Arnold is located adjacent to Camp Misty Meadows in the Treelake complex. We can't wait to see you at Camp Agnes Arnold this summer! Whether you are returning and looking for some of your favorite sessions from summers past, or looking for lots of new fun too, there is something for everyone! Here's a sneak peek at some new exciting sessions we think you're going to love!

- Are you a little anxious to camp by yourself for the first time? What better way to experience all of the summer camp fun than with your favorite adult gal by your side! Grab your mom, your grandma, or even your favorite aunt and join us for our Me and My Gal session during week 3!
- Are you a Cadette or older who loves the idea of our Night Owl session? Great news! We are adding some specialty night sessions! If your favorite part of camp is being in the water or telling spooky stories, we’ve got some new sessions you’re going to LOVE!
- Is your favorite place at Agnes Arnold the Adventure Park? This one is for you! If you are looking to grow your leadership skills and love to be in the treetops, we can’t wait to have you join us for our Adventure Park Aide session in week 6!

Casa Mare

The warm, salty breezes, the call of gulls and the sight of sailboats gliding across Galveston Bay make Casa Mare a tropical paradise for ocean lovers and landlubbers alike. Whether you are interested in joining our council’s sailing program, the Mariners, or simply enjoying a camping trip with your troop, Casa Mare is the perfect venue for seaside fun! Located in Seabrook, Casa Mare features a sand volleyball court near the water, pool, covered pavilion and archery range. All accommodations at Casa Mare are dormitories. The camp also has an air-conditioned galley with classrooms, as well as the Margaret Sheriff Sailing Center which also includes classroom space for sailors in addition to housing the camp’s sailboat fleet.

This summer, in addition to our one-week and two-week sailing sessions, we are excited to bring Troop Camping to Casa Mare! Join us for a full week or a half week of fun camp activities with your troop. Activities include Sailing (that’s right! We are bringing Taste of Sailing for troops!), and Sea Kayaking on the bay! In addition, troops will enjoy archery, outdoor fun, STEAM activities, and daily swimming (with an option for swimming lessons). Themed weeks will focus on different badges and journeys in this awesome summer of fun! Look out for more details to come!

Insider’s tip – the GSSJC Proficient & Advanced Swimmer Card will be required for sea kayaking and sailing … start working on it now! https://tinyurl.com/GSSJC-SwimCard
Misty Meadows Ranch

We are excited to welcome campers back to Misty Meadows Ranch this summer where all campers will get to experience the fun of camping at a Ranch camp! Campers will get to have a horse experience this summer, visit the chickens and goats, and help tend the garden. If ranching and horses aren’t your thing don’t worry, we’ll still be offering camp sessions tailored to interests in arts and crafts, glamping, and shooting sports! Misty Meadows has two different sleeping areas, and both are climate controlled so you can relax in the AC after a fun day out and about at camp.

New at Misty this summer, we will be moving towards a progressive riding program for campers attending weeklong riding sessions which will create a more skills-based equitation program at Summer Camp. In 2023 equestrian sessions that are part of the progressive program will explicitly state they are part of the progressive program and that participants will go to the barn every day of their session for a riding lesson and ground school lesson. Campers signed up for a session marked as part of the progressive program will spend either their morning or their afternoon in the barn and get a lesson in riding and ground school every day. At the end of the week campers in the progressive program will be evaluated on their riding skills and what they’ve learned in their ground school lessons so campers and parents know which session to sign up for the following summer.

We will still be offering equestrian sessions that are not part of the progressive program during the summer. Those sessions will state in the description how many times campers will ride and that they are not part of the progressive program.

Another new program we will be starting at Misty in 2023 is a Wrangler in Training (WIT) program! This will be the sister program to Camp Arnold’s Counselor in Training Program. WITs will learn about what being a staff member at Misty Meadows is all about and develop their leadership skills with horses and campers while still participating in their favorite camp activities. The WIT program is not for campers who are looking to develop their own riding skills. We will continue to offer the Equestrian Aide program in 2023.

Our last new type of session we’ll be offering at Misty is a lineup of ranch themed sessions for Brownies, Juniors, and Cadettes that will focus on farm to table practices such as cooking with eggs collected from the Misty chickens and learning about planting seeds and caring for a garden. You may even get to venture into the woods and learn about foraging for your own food!

Are You Ready for Summer Camp Songs?

Get ready for summer camp by brushing up on some of your favorite Girl Scout Camp Songs! Listen to the tunes of our camp songs, and many other campfire songs, on the “Songs & Games” Online Community! https://tinyurl.com/GSSJC-SongsGames

Camp Arnold Song
You're a grand old camp, you're a wonderful camp, And you always and always will be! When we're here with you, our dreams come true, Camp Arnold, we're faithful to thee! (Every Day!) We have watched you grow, we have told you hello, And we never will say goodbye! (Hello!) Our hearts are true, we're all for you, Camp Arnold will never die! (Hey!)

Casa Mare Song
Chorus:  Sail along together, sail along the bay, Sail along together, to Casa Mare.

Been sailing since daylight, through shadows and sunlight, And now in the twilight, we're sailing home. The stars are appearing to guide us in steering Our course to Casa Mare.

Casa Mare is waiting to welcome tired Girl Scouts As they come from sailing across the bay. Remember forever our days here together, As shipmates at Casa Mare!

Misty Meadows Ranch Song
We'll remember trail ride afternoons, and evenings singing songs. We'll remember lunches in the lodge - a time we all belonged. Late-night talks and laughter, smiles shared with our friends, But when our time at camp is over, our memories won't end!

Chorus:  Misty Meadows, we won't forget the nights under the stars. The friends we've made, though far away, will still be in our hearts. The nights around the campfire's glow, the mornings at the barn, The days and nights we've spent at camp will never be very far, We'll remember days spent in the rain, and days spent in the sun, Swimming lessons at the pool, and free time having fun. But the memories of our days at camp, the friends that we have made, We'll remember past the summer's end, through all our living days!
## GSSJC 100th Anniversary Patch Program

In 2022, Girl Scouts of San Jacinto is celebrating 100 years of fabulous experiences for the girls of Southeast Texas. We have created a special patch for girls and adults, which can be earned by watching a video about the council's history on our YouTube channel or scan the QR Code. And then, throughout the year, you can earn charms to attach to your patch. Some charms can be earned by attending an event, but many can be earned on your own and purchased in our shop.

### CHARMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Adults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Make new friends- invite a girl to join *(+1 charm)</td>
<td>Make new friends- recruit a volunteer/ invite a friend *(+1 charm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Find something 100 years old in your community *(+100 charm)</td>
<td>Find something 100 years old in your community *(+100 charm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend a council or region event *(silver star charm)</td>
<td>Volunteer at a council or region event or with a SIG *(silver star charm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend the annual meeting/ ARE *(key charm)</td>
<td>Attend the annual meeting/ ARE *(key charm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We want to hear from you! Send a short video about your favorite Girl Scout memory to <a href="mailto:communications@sjgs.org">communications@sjgs.org</a> and you might be featured on our GSSJC social media channels! *(camera charm)</td>
<td>We want to hear from you! Send a short video about your favorite Girl Scout memory to <a href="mailto:communications@sjgs.org">communications@sjgs.org</a> and you might be featured on our GSSJC social media channels! *(camera charm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design a pretend Girl Scout badge for the future *(globe charm)</td>
<td>Attend an alumni networking event or an adult training *(globe charm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go Troop Camping *(tent charm)</td>
<td>Go Troop Camping *(tent charm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn at least 5 things about our council's history either by visiting the museum, speaking with an adult in your community who was a Girl Scout in the 20th Century, or visiting our website. *(teapot charm)</td>
<td>Learn at least 5 things about our council's history either by visiting the museum, speaking with an adult in your community who was a Girl Scout in the 20th Century, or visiting our website. *(teapot charm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participate in the 2022 cookie sale (cookies) * Koala with birthday hat</td>
<td>Volunteer at a cookie booth or cookie delivery (cookies) * Koala with birthday hat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service project- collect or donate 100 items if with a troop; 10 if individual girl *(heart charm)</td>
<td>Volunteer at a recruitment event *(heart charm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To embrace the spirit of giving, make a meaningful donation on behalf of your family to the Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council. Any amount helps support the Girl Scouts mission but consider $100 for our 100 Year Anniversary! *(sign charm)</td>
<td>To embrace the spirit of giving, make a meaningful donation on behalf of your family to the Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council. Any amount helps support the Girl Scouts mission but consider $100 for our 100 Year Anniversary! *(sign charm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learn three Girl Scout songs (music charm)*</td>
<td>Attend Fall Volunteer Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend 100th Anniversary event at camp</td>
<td>Attend 100th Anniversary event at camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renew membership or buy new membership *(cupcake charm)</td>
<td>Renew membership or buy new membership *(cupcake charm)</td>
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</table>

*Notes charms available for purchase in the shop.
Black History Month Celebration
“I’m A Girl Scout!” Fun Patch

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements and contributions of the African American and Black communities—a time (though not the only time!) for emphasizing the central role of this varied community throughout U.S. history. Also known as African American History Month, the event grew out of “Negro History Week,” the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans.

We’ve got plenty of activities for you to choose from as you join the Black History Month celebration. You’ll discover and learn your way to earning a Fun patch!

Number of activities required to get the patch:
Daisy (3) • Brownie (4) • Junior (6) • Cadette (8)
Senior (10) • Ambassador (12)
Now go get your patch! www.girlscoutshop.com

Theme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Sketch a portrait of a Black individual past or present who you admire, and write a paragraph about their contribution to our country and why you chose them.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Make a music playlist featuring 12 Black artists with different styles of music and from different decades. Read the National Museum of African American History and Culture's blog post “Celebrating Black Music Month” for some inspiration and history.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Identify five books written by African American authors that you would like to read—and start reading one of them!</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Research art (sculptures, murals, etc.) that Black artists have contributed to your community or places you've traveled.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Watch and share with your friends a movie or documentary about Black history in the United States.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Memorize a poem (or part of one) by an African American woman poet and recite it to your family or troop. You might consider “Rise” by Maya Angelou or Nikki Giovanni’s “Rosa Parks.” Learn more about your chosen poet's career.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Learn about African American folk art and share with your family or troop a picture of your favorite piece, some background information about it, and why you like it.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Create a poster displaying three quotes you love by three historical figures from the African American community.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Listen to some prominent Black jazz musicians, such as Louis Armstrong, Dizzy Gillespie, and Duke Ellington. While tuning in, free-write phrases or words that describe how the music makes you feel. For an extra point, type the words into wordle.net to make a colorful word cloud that represents jazz music to you.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Read about Shirley Chisholm, the first African American woman elected to Congress and the first woman and African American to seek the nomination for president of the United States. Write a poem about her accomplishments!</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Learn about traditional African dance and drumming from the country of your choice.</td>
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Celebrate Black History Month

Black History Month begins Feb. 1. This is a great time to learn, commemorate, and celebrate the history, cultures, and contributions of Black Americans. In Girl Scouts, we are committed to being a place where diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging are ever-present.

Today’s need for greater racial equity and inclusion requires kids to be exposed to diversity at a young age. To uplift all voices that have had an impact on our country, it is critical that Black history is studied and celebrated—not just in February, but throughout the entire year. African American history is American history, and when kids understand the fuller picture of history, it will also help them understand the fuller picture of today. -Parents.com

**Why is Black History Month celebrated in February?** Two prominent leaders who played an important part in U.S. Black History have birthdays in February: President Abraham Lincoln, (Feb.12) who fought against slavery in the Civil War, and African American abolitionist and author Frederick Douglass (Feb. 14).

**How can we celebrate locally?** Look for local Black History month events and activities for you and your troop in the January/February Golden Scoop and Troop Scoop email newsletters. Register your troop for the 45th Annual MLK parade through the GSSJC Events tab. It will be Jan. 16, 2023 in Downtown Houston, starting at 10 a.m.

**Read these books that are written for youth and celebrate Black history and culture:**
- *A is for All the Things You Are* by Anna Forgerson Hindley
- *A Child’s Introduction to African American History* by Jabari Asim
- *The Story of Ruby Bridges* by Robert Coles
- *Something Happened in Our Town: A Child’s Story About Racial Injustice* by Marianne Celano Ph.D.
- *Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans* by Kadir Nelson
- *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963* by Christopher Paul Curtis
- *Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You: A Remix of the National Book Award-winning Stamped from the Beginning* by Jason Reynolds

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### Theme

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Traditions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12. Cook a recipe you can enjoy with your troop, friends, or family that originates in the African American community. For an extra point, watch an episode of <em>High on the Hog: How African American Cuisine Transformed America.</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Learn what Kwanzaa is about and when it is celebrated. Make a list of the seven principles and what they mean.</td>
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<td>14. Learn about a famous Black chef and their contribution to the food industry.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. Read about the history of quilting in the African American community then create a picture inspired by a favorite quilt from your reading and share your creation and what you like about the quilt with your family and troop.</td>
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### Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discovery</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16. Read about the history of the Black Lives Matter Global Network Foundation and make a poster that shows your support.</td>
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<tr>
<td>17. Draw a map of the African continent and label the countries that comprise it.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18. List five major events of the Civil Rights Movement, noting the dates and two or three details about each one.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19. List five Black woman scientists, along with a sentence (or more!) about the work of each woman.</td>
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<tr>
<td>20. Learn about the legendary gospel vocalist Mahalia Jackson and how she prompted Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to improvise his “I Have a Dream” speech. Then listen to the gospel classic “I’ve Been Buked, and I’ve Been Scorned” that Dr. King requested she sing at the 1963 March on Washington.</td>
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<tr>
<td>21. Read about the significance of the Underground Railroad and create your own map showing the routes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>22. Attend a virtual exhibit or program offered by the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, then share what you learned with your family or troop.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23. Research the term “diaspora” and learn what the term “African diaspora” refers to.</td>
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<tr>
<td>24. Draw the historic Sankofa bird from Ghana and learn what it symbolizes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. How did Black History Month get started? Learn more about National Freedom Day and Negro History Week.</td>
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The Girls Scouts in Troop 106005 enjoy riding their bikes and take pride in practicing bike safety. To help keep other bike riders safe, the girls installed a bike repair stand at a local park. Then, they invited a Daisy troop to the park for a bike safety clinic. Their concern for other bike riders and their community earned the Junior troop a Bronze Award.

The Bronze Award is the highest award a Junior Girl Scout can earn. Girls must spend up to 20 hours working on a community issue that is deeply important to them. After choosing an issue, the girls develop a plan, carry it out, and spread the word about their project.

The troop installed the bike repair station at Cypress Creek Park at Timberlane in Spring with the help of a troop dad. The troop got the idea from Harris County Precinct 4, which has a list of park projects that community members can complete. The troop chose to install the repair station purchased by the precinct.

The troop dad helped the girls drill holes into the concrete to secure the repair station to the ground. The girls took turns using the drill with close guidance. The station, which has cables that tether from the stand and hold bike tools like an air pump, screwdrivers, wrenches, and tire levers, is a godsend for bike riders.

After installing the bike station in May, Troop 106005 later hosted the bike safety clinic at the park in April. After the clinic, all the girls went for a bike ride. As they rode their bikes, they saw a boy using the repair station they had installed. The troop has its meetings at the park, so they see people using it all the time now, said Troop Leader Liz Stevens.

The girls said they had fun working together to create the poster and flyer for the bike safety clinic. Troop member Sara said the girls watched videos about bike safety and then brainstormed ideas for the poster content. They ended up with seven bullet points about bike safety.

“We told the younger girls they should wear bright colors, know the signals for left and right turns, always wear a helmet and knee pads, and always be aware of their surroundings,” Sara said.

Vanna, also a troop member, said she enjoyed sharing information with the younger girls and that talking to them was easy. “My sister was one of the Daisies, so I was used to talking to little kids,” said Vanna, an avid bike rider.

She said her troop made the clinic exciting by allowing time for the younger girls to ask questions. At the end of the clinic, the girls asked the Daisies review questions. She said the Daisies “did pretty good” answering the questions. “It makes me feel really good having all this knowledge, and it makes me want to share it with other girls,” Vanna said. “It’s like having cupcakes at school. You have them, and you want to share them.”

She and Sara said they feel proud of themselves and their troop for earning the Bronze Award. It took all of them and their parents to make it possible for the troop to achieve the award, they said.

Troop 106005 Promotes Bike Safety

Ch’rai, a member of Troop 118159, also earned a Bronze Award for a similar project on bike safety. She made a video about bike safety using her cell phone. Her dad helped her edit the video. Ch’rai later gave a presentation and showed her video during a safety program at her school.

She said she is glad she completed the project because “it’s something that will help the community.” She is also excited about earning the Bronze Award. “It’s an example that Girl Scouts can do anything if you put your heart to it and try your best,” Ch’rai said. Her troop leader posted the video on the troop’s YouTube page.
Curiosity Leads to Saving Monarch Butterflies Through Silver Award Project

Girl Scouts Emalyne and Pearl have been best friends since they were each 4 years old. As their friendship has blossomed over the years, so has their love for each other and monarch butterflies. The girls first noticed the butterflies fluttering around Pearl’s front yard and became mesmerized by their lifecycle and beauty. When they learned about the declining monarch population, the girls decided it was time to educate the community.

“When her dad brought the butterflies to our attention, we felt a sentimental tie with them,” Emalyne said. “We became obsessed with watching them grow from caterpillar to cocoon to butterfly and felt obligated to save them.”

Last fall, the girls started working on a Silver Award project focused on helping to preserve the monarch. They created a presentation for young children at Ella Baker Montessori in Houston and provided them with some fun tools to help save the monarchs. The girls earned a Girl Scout Silver Award in May for the project.

The Silver Award is the highest award that Cadettes can earn. Girls must spend up to 50 hours on their projects. Girls use this time to identify an issue they care about in their community or beyond, plan and implement their project, and then reflect on what they have accomplished.

Pearl and Emalyne have become monarch experts through the research process, learning some new facts about the orange and black butterfly, like they eat 2,000 times their weight in milkweed and eat with their feet. “I didn’t even know they could taste at all,” said Pearl, who noted that milkweed is the only food the butterflies can eat to stay healthy.

The girls, now Girl Scout Seniors, said the monarch population is declining because of pesticides used in farming to kill weeds. Milkweed plants look like weeds, so they are destroyed, creating a decline in the monarch’s food source, they said. That’s why the girls also created a parent flyer with information about the plant and where they can buy it. They wanted to encourage parents and their children to plant milkweed in their own yards.

As part of their presentation to a science class of first through third graders, the girls showed pictures collected from their research and ones they took of the butterfly garden at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. They also shared information about the monarch’s lifecycle and habits and their personal experience with the butterflies.

The students received the parent flyer, which summarized the presentation.

The girls said they spent much of their time creating the PowerPoint presentation. They had to be sure they used proper resources and websites and interviewed the right people. The girls talked to a butterfly specialist at the museum and a horticulturist at a local nursery.

In addition to the presentation, the girls made activity baskets, which they delivered to nine pre-kindergarten and kindergarten classes at the Montessori school. The baskets included a National Geographic informational booklet, the parent flyer, butterfly lacing, and lifecycle flashcards, which they made and laminated. The girls had to raise money to buy the baskets and the other materials. They did chores for their families, including deep cleaning Pearl’s mom’s car and Emalyne’s home. Their arduous work earned enough to spend $283 on supplies and materials.

All the work was well worth the outcome. The presentation was a hit with the children. They were fully engaged and asked questions about the monarch butterflies, the girls said. “We really wanted to raise awareness. Watching the butterflies made us want to learn more, and we wanted other kids to feel the same spark of curiosity,” Pearl said. “If they decide to help save the monarchs, that would be awesome!”
Mehaa Amirthalingam learned a life-changing lesson while completing her Gold Award project: No obstacle is too difficult to overcome when you have passion. During the height of the pandemic, Mehaa found a way to install a computer lab in Cambodia and get 30 donated computers from Houston to a remote village in the country – all to help children receive free education. Her tenacity earned her a Gold Award, the highest award a Girl Scout can earn.

Mehaa started her project in 2020 after learning about Malaki World Missions from her mother, who attended a fundraising event for the organization. Malaki World Missions is a nonprofit organization that provides resources and runs schools in Kampot, Cambodia, to empower women and children, particularly girls, through education. Families in the village cannot afford to send their children to school because of poverty and isolation.

The Gold Award is the highest award a Girl Scout can earn. Only Ambassadors and Seniors can earn the award. Girls choose a community issue that is dear to them and then they must spend at least 80 hours planning, implementing, and sharing their project.

Before starting her project, Mehaa initially collected and donated clothing and art supplies for the organization and visited the village in 2019. During her visit, she ran a few workshops with the children, teaching them basic computer commands with flashcards. Moved by their plight, Mehaa was inspired to improve the children’s access to education, and her Gold Award project to create a computer lab in the Malaki Village Community Center was born. She not only wanted to offer better access, but she also wanted to create a blueprint for a solution that other organizations can replicate to help to close the educational gap in places around the globe.

Since having the computer lab installed in May 2021, the children have learned how to use the laptop computers and are gaining more technology skills each day. Seeing their progress as they use the same resources as developed areas is gratifying, Mehaa said.

“Education is the top tool for a brighter future,” said Mehaa, now a first-year student at the University of California-Berkeley, where she is a mechanical engineer and business major. “We need as many people as possible to help close the educational gap. This project makes me feel hopeful for our future. I’m happy.”

Mehaa spent several months researching online learning systems and eventually decided to apply the same applications her K-12 schools used. She then developed an online curriculum and classroom with input from teachers and tutors and created progress reports with help from a team of students at the Global Studies Academy in the Fort Bend Independent School District. She also recruited and trained volunteers, including Malaki World Mission volunteers, through Zoom to help with the lab setup.

With monthly progress reports, Mehaa and her team tracked the benefits and drawbacks of the online learning system and curriculum, enabling her to make real-time changes. Initial reports showed an improvement in the children’s skills, she said.

Mehaa, who drafted a research paper on the educational divide in Cambodia and globally, says her major obstacles in implementing her project were figuring out the best resources to help the children learn and how she would get the computers to the community center with COVID restrictions. She eventually enlisted some willing Malaki World Mission volunteers and college students who had plans to travel to Cambodia. They graciously agreed to deliver the computers to the village.

The computer lab remains open today, with the community center teachers monitoring the use of the computers. Leng Abbasi, the founder and director of Malaki World Missions, makes multiple visits to the center every year. Students have access to the internet and an online classroom system to continue their learning.

Mehaa says after completing her project, she reflected on the things that helped her achieve big and small goals. “I realized how my family is a pillar in my life. A lot of people don’t have that,” she said. “It makes me more compassionate and willing to provide resources and support others. After working across the globe during COVID, I also learned there is a way to do what you want if you are passionate about it, especially with support.”

Girl Scout Changes Lives of Cambodian Children by Creating Computer Lab in Their Village
Make the World a Better Place

Girl Scouts always step up to do what they can to improve their communities and the world.

All across our country and our world, Girl Scouts are leaping to the aid of others by engaging in wonderful acts of service and kindness. Whether by writing letters to senior citizens, honoring first responders, taking part in a citizen science project, or promoting voting and democracy, now your troop can get involved too. Girl Scouts of the USA has several nation-wide service projects: https://bit.ly/3gEfRFq.

Here are some local service project ideas:

**Nacogdoches Hope Food Pantry** – HOPE provides supplemental food to Nacogdoches County residents in need. Families and individuals can visit the pantry once a month to obtain food. HOPE serves senior citizens, children, persons with disabilities, veterans, persons living in situational poverty, and others. Help Hope by hosting a food drive or volunteer at the pantry. nacogdocheshope.com

**Help out furry friends!**
Animal shelters need your help by donating items like toys, food, newspapers, food bowls, blankets, beds, and more. Another thing you can do to help is to spread the word about your local shelter so your neighbors know where it is and to adopt not shop. Contact your local shelter to see what they currently need!

Nacogdoches Animal Shelter – www.petfinder.com
League City Animal Shelter – www.leaguecitytx.gov
Kurth Animal Shelter – www.kurthmemorialadoptions.com
Diboll Alley Cats – www.facebook.com/DibollAlleyCats/
Houston – https://houstonspca.org/ or www.humanesociety.org
Beaumont – https://humanesocietyoftexas.org
Huntsville – https://rbhumanesociety.org/

**Women's Shelter of East Texas** – The shelter is in need of books, gently-used clothing, furniture, home goods. https://www.wc-et.org/

**Center of Hope Polk County Mission Center** – Food donations needed. www.centerofhopepolk.org

**Houston Food Bank** – Make a troop field trip fun while helping others! Girls ages 6 and up are invited to volunteer at the warehouse. Volunteer projects vary based on need and may include inspecting/sorting food, repacking dry food into family-sized bags, and more! www.houstonfoodbank.org

**Kalin's Center** – The center in Crockett, is a safe, child-friendly environment where abused children can tell their story. High school aged girls can volunteer. Donations needed are snacks, juices, tissues, crayons, coloring books, and copy paper. https://kalinscenter.org/

Help deliver or prepare food for the **Beaumont Meals on Wheels program.** seniormeals.org

Prepare and serve meals with the **Catholic Charities of Beaumont.** catholiccharitiesbmt.org

Grab a hammer and tool belt! Take part in a building project with **Habitat for Humanity.** You can also donate building materials and supplies to the Habitat Restore. habitat.org

Organize, sort, and box up food donated to the **Southeast Texas Food Bank.** setxfoodbank.org

**Volunteer with the Julie Rogers Gift of Life Program** – The center provides medically underserved women in Southeast Texas with free cancer screening. High school-aged girls can help with office activities like assembling literature bags, goodie bags, mailouts, etc. Girls can make signs and cheer on participants at their local fun-runs. giftolifebmt.org/volunteer

**Kids' Meals Inc** – Decorate lunch bags at your next troop meeting! The organization hands out 35,000 meals to preschool-aged children a week. Each meal is handed out in a brown paper lunch bag. Make those bags cheery by coloring the bags in a fun child friendly way. You can drop off the bags or even mail them in to: 330 Garden Oaks Blvd. Houston, TX 77018 https://kidsmealsinc.org/

**Books Between Kids** – This organization serves Houston’s at-risk children by providing them with books to build their own home libraries. Donations of books are needed. Troops can also volunteer at their location by doing inventory, sorting books and more. Girls aged 5 and up are welcome with correct adult ratio. www.booksbetweenkids.org
The Girl Scout Gold Award represents the highest achievement in Girl Scouting. The award recognizes girls in grades 9-12 who demonstrate extraordinary leadership through sustainable and measurable Take Action projects. Since 1916, girls have successfully pursued the highest award, an act that indelibly marks them as accomplished members of their communities and the world.

**Rachel Austin** designed her project to focus on science careers - specifically geology. She created STEM kits for upper elementary students and held club meetings with four different groups ages 4-17. During the meetings, the kits’ experiments were demonstrated and they created their own artwork. The Earth Kits website was created and includes the kits’ contents, slideshow, worksheets, demonstration videos, and more.

**Ayesha Balock** aimed to address the issues of sexual assault and toxic relationships for teens and young adults. She created a PowerPoint about consent, possible red flags in a relationship, and how to tell if you’re being stalked/followed. This, along with self-defense demos were posted on her website with helpful resources. Videos of how to perform self-defense moves are also on YouTube that are linked on the websites for many local resource organizations.

**Demiana Bekhit** enlisted 25 volunteers to help fight apathy by serving the poorest of the poor around the world. So far, her new youth group has connected with two orphanages in Egypt through the Orthodox Coptic Church and started serving monthly meals to homeless in downtown Houston.

**Shelby Bradford** addressed issues at Reach Unlimited, where supplies and updated activities were needed for their clients with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Activity boxes were created for curriculum support and client downtime. These boxes were demonstrated in the classrooms, and each includes a QR code so that staff and clients can access videos. The organization reported that students love the activity boxes and are calmed by them.

**Shelby Brown** worked with the city of Panorama Village to create environmental education at Schroder and Apache parks. She installed five bird houses, identified 38 plants and trees, planted one tree and two butterfly attractors, and installed two large environmental signs. She also held education sessions with scavenger hunts and gave out activity packets for children and adults. Her information is on the city website.

**Madison Burba** focused on establishing volunteer training at SoleAna stables, an organization that specializes in horse therapy for children. Its goals are to help the children become physically stronger and gain social skills. With her volunteers, Madison filmed and edited a video series explaining volunteer roles and expectations for any situation. At least 80 people were impacted, including 40 riders and the organization’s volunteers and staff.

**Karen Castro** researched, planned, and presented life skills classes for low income, elementary school children. The classes included age-appropriate activities. Karen and her team of five volunteers worked with MECA Houston summer arts camps to hold tri-weekly classes to teach skills that are not taught in public schools. MECA will continue to use her lessons and activities at future summer camps.

**Narissa Chan** created a five-episode Teenhood podcast on Spotify to promote mental health awareness among teenagers. The podcast had five guests, including peers, teachers, and nonprofit organizations. Teenhood has 145 listeners on Spotify, where the episodes are still available. Her school counselor promoted Teenhood to students who met with her throughout the school year and will continue doing so in the future.
Kelsey Cornell partnered with her local middle school to create anti-bullying videos with lesson plans that teach students how to recognize and address bullying. She filmed the videos with a group of 14 volunteers and then edited the videos with the help of an A/V teacher. Two middle schools in Magnolia use her anti-bullying campaign and have reported a reduction in bullying. She created a website to make her videos available worldwide.

Krishna Chokshi created an educational trail at the Brazos River Campgrounds and made a YouTube video of the trail’s features. The campground was given the QR codes to share with their campers. iNaturalist, a free nature app, was used so people can view trail photos and add their own photos to encourage more participation in the great outdoors.

Chloe Cross realized there was nothing written by a teen, for teens about stress. She created an interactive journal, Doodles for Dopamine, now available on Amazon. Proceeds are used to purchase books to donate to schools and shelters. The books are at several schools in counselors’ offices. A social media outlet was designed on Twitter to spread messages of positivity and safety for mental health awareness and acceptance.

Mahika Dawar’s project, Groom the Neighborhood, creates a safe dog walking experience while improving the health of aquatic wildlife through the installation of four pet stations along two First Colony neighborhood lakes. Mahika posted infographics around the neighborhood, published a magazine article in The Compass, and presented her project to her peers on the Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council to spread awareness.

Diana Duke wanted to educate more people about how to properly dispose of plastic bags and how not doing so results in pollution in our cities and oceans. Volunteers were taught how to make “plarn” out of plastic bags, then to crochet the plarn into collection bags. A website was designed with ideas on how to use fewer bags, ways to reuse them, and proper disposal. Her school’s community service club will advertise her plarn project this year.

Samantha Duong worked with children with autism and their families at Avondale House and other venues. She provided ways for the families to learn how to stretch and exercise safely and have fun doing it. She worked with Avondale to designate a time for clients to watch her videos and exercise. She reached 30 people, and now her videos are available on YouTube.

Sophia Fair addressed food waste by creating social media posts and a Market Booth focused on a composting campaign to share ways that households can limit their food waste. She visited farmers markets to share ways to implement a home composting system. She created a video tutorial and information dense posts on social media. She also provided two Galveston Island recreation centers with informational posters on composting.

Acadia Ferguson and 12 fellow musicians from Seabrook created a series of videos to address tweens’ declining interest in classical music, which leads to decreased interest in band and orchestra. Each video starred a musician demonstrating and playing their instrument to help students make educated choices and boost enrollment in orchestra. Her videos have more than 300 views and have been shared with local teachers and Girl Scout leaders.

Melissa Hamada collaborated with 36 peers to compile ways for teens to shake off stress. She designed a website and Instagram account to raise awareness about stress and offer a variety of resources. Each peer posted tips on her “Shake off Stress” website. During her 30 days of wellness campaign, she helped 96 followers find ways to reduce academic and performance stress compounded by COVID-19 stress.

Elizabeth Harris addressed the need for books to take home at two Small Steps Nurturing Center locations. She created book check-out systems so the children could take library books home. She trained staff to use the software system, print the labels, and put the labels on books.
**Noelle Harris** helped to reduce bacteria populations and improve the water quality in the Spring Creek Watershed. She worked alongside volunteers to mark 61 storm drains to inform residents that only rain should be going down our storm drains. They also created an educational video which was published on The Woodland Township’s YouTube page informing the public of the current Spring Creek water quality.

**Molly Hennessy** focused on the need for outdoor performance spaces at MECA due to the pandemic. The spaces could allow MECA to continue to provide multicultural artistic experiences to underserved students. Molly created a design and implemented it. She also taught mosaic art to the students. The art was then used to decorate the outdoor space and create a feeling of ownership. This outdoor space also can be rented and used for community events.

**Annabeth Kalapatapu** helped girls increase their self-confidence through soccer. She held a free clinic with positive female role models for girls ages six to 10. Eighteen girls and four coaches took part in the week-long clinic. They also encouraged the girls to uplift each other. They cheered each other on in every drill and felt proud of how much they learned during the clinic.

**Brooklyn Kelley** focused on how pancreatic cancer disproportionately affecting women of color and how this cancer does not have the same awareness as other forms of cancer. To raise awareness, she hosted a workshop for her peers, launched a social media campaign via Instagram, and created Haven of Hope and its website. All these resources were shared with local organizations that support women of color.

**Safia Khan** created a video to inform students about how to recognize the red flags of intimate partner violence and properly respond if they are experiencing or witnessing an abusive relationship. Besides having the video on YouTube, her school presented the video as an advisory lesson to 2,400 students. She also designed and printed out leaflets and shared with five universities.

**Kenzie Laire** and her team refurbished the butterfly garden at Eddie V. Grey Wetlands Center in Baytown. She researched, replaced local butterfly plants, and added information to the center’s Instagram account. She made posts about pollinators and pollinator-supporting plants and created the pollinator pop quiz PowerPoint, which will be used in camps at the wetlands center.

**Kennedy Leggins** worked on a project to help eliminate discrimination against ethnic hair, which she witnessed firsthand in her cosmetology class. She addressed this issue by researching, preparing, and implementing an ethnic hair curriculum, which included donating more than 20 ethnic hair mannequins to her school. They also created videos and binders for the school to continue to use to teach these ethnic hair techniques into the future.

**Vivian Lorch** designed a cultural education program at an elementary school where 69% of students are learning English as a second language. She used music and dance to educate students about the culture and geography of more than 13 countries. At the end of the year, all 500 students said they had learned something new and wanted to participate again. The music, dance, and theater teachers will continue her project.

**Aatha Kukaruban** created a video to inform students about how to recognize the red flags of intimate partner violence and properly respond if they are experiencing or witnessing an abusive relationship. Besides having the video on YouTube, her school presented the video as an advisory lesson to 2,400 students. She also designed and printed out leaflets and shared with five universities.

**Amanda Lynch** created a free library in her community to address early reading readiness of children ages two to eight. She held a book stroll event to get children interested in taking the books home and made pamphlets in two languages encouraging early reading. About 40 people were directly impacted.
Nicole Mao encouraged elementary students to engage in their natural environment with the goal of establishing responsible, long-term environmental values and behaviors. She created 20 hands-on nature kits with crafts, activities, facts, and games on assorted topics for children to check out of their school library. Her website and videos continue to reach others outside of her local school area.

Ireen Maredia addressed the importance of teenage mental health. She created a positivity board at school that students use to leave optimistic notes. They increased the spread of positivity by developing an informational site that teaches teenagers how to take care of their mental health. A club was established at the school to assist others and monitor the board. Additionally, her project was shared with the school district to impact more teenagers.

Mackenzie Mitchell addressed financial literacy with lesson plans she taught to 48 fifth grade students at Willow Creek Elementary. Lessons covered financial concepts such as investing, inflation, fiscal management, and compound interest. She also made videos covering these subjects posted on a website that teachers can continue to use as a learning tool for their students.

Emma Montero addressed the need for more reliable computers and internet service in the low-income area of Jefferson, LA. She and 10 volunteers installed a computer lab and taught the basics of the internet and computers. She also coordinated the donation of two computers along with office desks and chairs.

Arwa Momia created a website that offers mental health practices and materials that teens may apply at home to help them learn how to manage stress, anxiety, and sadness. It is also has information about a suicide prevention hotline and therapists to give youngsters a helping hand in finding local services. She developed a presentation for middle school students to explain mental health and the distinctions between feeling and emotion.

Amanda Morse partnered with Exploration Green to create an interactive species guide, scavenger hunt, and signs with links to further the reading for 81 of the most commonly found species. Her opening event hosted 68 visitors to Exploration Green to complete the Scavenger Hunt and learn about the ecosystems around them. The impact will continue to grow as more visitors scan the code on her signs.

Naina Merchant started a radio show to educate first-generation college students about prepping for college. Naina and the host of Chai Time Radio Show (99.5 FM), interviewed high school counselors, college admission committee members, principals, and teachers. Her radio show recordings are posted on YouTube and Spotify. Naina will be the first in her family to attend college in the U.S.

Megan Muesse focused on the need for teenagers living at the Upbring Krause Center to learn about money management. She developed a financial game using the envelope system: save, spend, and give. She also prepared 75 goodie bags for game days. The center will continue to use her program. Fifty adults and teens were impacted through practice games and game days.

Eva Nitsch created a website that contains information about crisis pregnancy centers in 10 counties. Each center meets important physical needs by providing free ultrasounds and pregnancy tests, various referrals (adoption, housing, and foodbanks), and necessary supplies like formula, clothes, and diapers. In addition, they provide counseling and emotional and spiritual support.

Kaytlynn Norman worked with her high school’s suicide prevention club and crisis counselor to educate people about mental health during Mental Health Awareness Month. She passed out flyers with helpful information to students and wrote and helped produce a mental health awareness video that was shown in every homeroom. The club will continue to show the video.
Raquel Ochoa created a sustainable and transportable garden for Baker Ripley’s Head Start / Early Head Start for low-income families. She and her eight volunteers gave parents raised beds, containers, and information on proper gardening and the importance of it. While creating a garden was fun, the thing Raquel was most passionate about was having a chance to teach others about something she enjoys.

Anjuli Perubhatla addressed activities to help kids understand science. The activities were held at the Rosenberg Railroad Museum. She created traveling trunks with hands-on activities to teach science concepts such as magnetism, color mixing, the function of color for identification, and the physics used in ramps. Besides their use at the museum, these trunks also will be introduced to local schools so teachers can use them in their classrooms.

Ariana Ogden addressed the collapse of wild bee colonies around the world by working with Keep Pearland Beautiful and Exploration Green to create educational workshops and build bee hotels. Attendees learned about the importance of native bees, how to keep them healthy, and how to make functional bee hotels. Ariana also designed a website and YouTube channel to encourage others to help their local bees.

Lorelei Powell addressed childhood obesity by teaching 20 children ages eight to 12 at Wildwood Methodist Church how to cook healthy meals. She created a cookbook with links to cooking videos she filmed to help them follow along with the cookbook.

Monica Orozco partnered with Zero Waste Houston and Houston Heights Association to start a weekly composting program. More than 100 participants diverted 10.2 tons of waste from landfills and the City of Houston started three similar drop-off programs. Monica discussed her project during Houston Climate Week to encourage the city to implement similar sustainability initiatives.

Kathia Raneri addressed negative ideas about her native country, Haiti, and encouraged people to react to natural and human disasters in more constructive ways. Kathia had a wide social media reach with her program. The posts and videos had between 100 to 8,872 views, 10 to 269 likes, and up to 18 comments. She also presented live to 86 people.

Nitya Pakala created a camp which focused on teaching climate change and environmental science to elementary students. Nitya led 10 volunteers from local youth organization. They hosted a four-week camp at the MECA Sunburst Summer program where fourth and fifth graders learned about the Earth, the environment, and sustainability.

Jane Reistle addressed the disappearing prairies by partnering with the University of Houston at Clear Lake and the Native Plant Society. Her team worked with engineers to design and build a greenhouse for the society to propagate native plants and restore prairies faster and more efficiently. She then created educational models for campers and school field trips at UHCL. Dickinson fifth graders were first to do the lessons and start a plant for the greenhouse.

Anissa Patel decided to help blind children in Gujarat, India, learn English. With the help of teachers and a native speaker, she created a curriculum that included audio recordings for each letter of the alphabet. A set of tests were added to assist the school’s teachers in assessing each student. The Lion’s Blind School for Girls will continue to use and share her English learning project.

Juliana Rausch and her team of 15 volunteers created a relaxation garden and space for first responders to help lower their stress levels, especially during COVID-19. They installed benches, a gazebo, plants, and other comforting items at Station 91 in Jersey Village. She created a YouTube video demonstrating how to care for the plants.
Journee Scott developed the Girls Guide to Surviving Womanhood for her project. The guide educates middle school girls about puberty. She provided facts, resources, and products through a workshop and videos.

Renee Sharp designed a LEGO build challenge curriculum for autistic students at Gateway Academy. During a semester of instruction, she helped 75 students develop collaboration, communication, and social interaction skills. She also trained 34 teachers and 14 volunteers to use the program and chronicled the project on social media for others to use.

Sienna Rossmiller noticed teenagers in her community did not have financial literacy skills and created a project to address the issue. She and her team presented five financial literacy workshops to students at the YMCA. The taught them about credit, debit cards, and investing in the stock market. Ten counselors also attended to understand the content so they can teach it to other students. The YMCA will continue to use her project to teach new groups of teens.

Emilia Stonaker held an in-person screening of the documentary “Kiss the Ground,” which is about how to protect soil. The screening was followed by interactive panels and activities with agricultural experts from across Houston. She also held specialized activities for a journey in a day, “SOW what?” Her community now has a PowerPoint version of the activities for “SOW what?”

Anusha Solai created a Carpal Tunnel Awareness campaign, which focused on high schoolers and included some potential physical therapy treatments. She conducted three workshops for her Music Honor Society, school orchestra, and her church using Zoom. The workshops demonstrated exercises and strategies to prevent carpal tunnel. A video was posted to social media (YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok) so many people can build awareness.

Ruchika Sanghi worked with Riverstone Montessori to set up a reading buddy system for children ages four and five, with the goal of reading six extra minutes each day. She used a Sign-Up Genius for high schoolers to volunteer and read to the kids. She eventually incorporated volunteer reading sign ups into the Key Club.

Camille Smith spread awareness about foster, adoptive, and kinship families in the Greater Houston area through technology and social media. She designed and built a functional website and Instagram account for Oak Forest Foster Closet. The website has had more than 1,000 visitors and the Instagram account has 260 followers, which has brought 82 new volunteers to this family ministry.

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Adison Smith created a website named myvoiceincourt, which is dedicated to compiling necessary information for kids aging out of foster care. Adison noticed that many kids are unaware of the resources available to help them build better futures. She created this website so all these resources and information can be in one place for easy access and serve as a place where kids can quickly go to for help.

Ella ten Wolde partnered with a community center to create a club that taught third through eighth graders life skills that aren't covered in local public schools. Two sets of lesson plans were created for elementary and middle school students. Family Point Resources will continue to use and share her lesson plans.

Rey Ring found that children aren't taught about the positive aspects of ADHD. She designed and did multiple presentations and recorded and posted content online. The presentations are posted on her school's webpage and her project advisor’s webpage, which is a resource available to people considering counseling.

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Isabella Terracini addressed the mental health of middle schoolers dealing with anxiety and isolation rooted in the pandemic. She worked with nine volunteers to design four virtual workshops that included resources on growth mindset, yoga, journaling, and art therapy. The workshop videos are available on her Mindset in the Middle website for others interested in stress relief to access.

Rebecca Wagley covered topics of peer pressure, saying no, health effects of vaping, what parents can do to help their child, history of the modern e-cigarettes, and the amount of nicotine used in JUUL (the largest brand on the market). She used her research to develop a PowerPoint presentation session at a local library using an infographic focused on "Five ways to go about dealing with peer pressure and saying no." The project recording is on YouTube.

Diane Tran addressed the limited accessibility of reading materials and school supplies in poor communities. While working with Cypress Assistance Ministries, shelves were built, and more than 1,000 books were collected through her organized book drives. Diane’s former volunteer club will host annual book drives for CAM to support their book supply for their clients.

Lucy Vestal helped middle school girls feel more confident in themselves and use that feeling to create meaningful relationships with other girls in their community. She used several platforms, including Ted Talks, movies, podcasts, and books and impacted 17 girls in person and more through her website, Girls Who Thrive.

Ava Tobar believes that it's crucial for women entering college to be aware of situations that might lead to sexual harassment or violence. So she created a presentation for the Senior Women’s Club at her high school. Her presentation was recorded along with a self-defense video, which are both available online and have been shared with local colleges to spread awareness to their students.

Meera West worked with volunteers in her neighborhood’s Jennie Elizabeth Hughes Park to create a garden with signage linked to a website. The website teaches about native plants and climate change and is linked to West University Place Parks and Recreation Department. She held open houses in the park and planting demonstrations where visitors took home native seeds.

Audrey Todd worked with the Humble Area Assistance Ministries to start a pet food collection and distribution program that more than half of their clients needed. Through presentations to other organizations, she forged long-term material and volunteer assistance for HAMM. She created a promotional video and English/Spanish flyers to advertise the new service and highlighted it on HAMM’s website.

Kairi Wolf addressed the lack of opportunity to share, view, and appreciate the artwork created by students at a Title 1 elementary school. She created an art show to help students feel more confident in their art skills and learn that art is meaningful. The school will now host the art show annually. A second art show was held at the Dew house for more exposure and to involve the community.

Isabella Ugalde started a high school club to educate and inform students about diverse cultures and ethnic groups. The Culture History Club holds monthly meetings and includes education about a different culture at each meeting. It also focuses on food, clothing, or a tradition from that culture. Club posters will spread this cultural awareness around the school.

Chanee Woo wanted to help the many immigrants who come to the U.S. speaking limited English. She partnered with a local church that hosts ESL classes to create 18 teaching videos. The videos were posted on YouTube and include a Quizlet study set where viewers can practice. The church’s ESL director will continue to use these videos as part of their curriculum and share the YouTube links.
Girl and Troop Activities

Register for events under the My Events tab in my Account. Go to gssjc.org and select MyGS, log in at the top right corner, next click My Events in the left-hand menu. If you have a question about your activity, contact 713-292-0370 or 1-800-392-4340. If you have a problem with your login, contact Customer Service at 713-292-0300 or registration@sjgs.org. Bring: For all events, bring Permission Slip F-204 and Medical Form F-185 for each girl and the Adult Emergency Form F-22 for each adult.

Attention Daisy Leaders! Look for the Daisy in this section for activities that Daisies can attend.

Look for this symbol in indicate a virtual program offering.

General Activities

Spark Weekends
Spend the weekend at camp, and join us for an awesome day of activities! We’ll provide the program, lunch, and dinner, plus a campfire on Saturday night, and troops make a camping reservation. Priority camping reservations are given to attendees at the event, so this is a great opportunity for troops that would like an easy-to-plan camping experience.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Where</th>
<th>Theme</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 7</td>
<td>Casa Mare</td>
<td>Winter Wonderland</td>
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<td>Jan. 14</td>
<td>Misty Meadows</td>
<td>Gymkhana*</td>
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<td>Jan. 21</td>
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<td>Jan. 28</td>
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<td>Feb. 11</td>
<td>Casa Mare</td>
<td>I Heart the Bay</td>
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<td>Feb. 18</td>
<td>Robinwood</td>
<td>World Thinking Day</td>
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<td>Feb. 25</td>
<td>Camp Arnold</td>
<td>Detectives</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 6</td>
<td>Camp Pryor</td>
<td>Harriet Potters Mystery</td>
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*games on horseback

Great App Pitch Live Event
Juniors and Cadettes will be asked to pitch a pre-developed idea for a fun, new phone app to a group of their peers. Time will be spent learning how to listen to critiques when pitching and how to give meaningful feedback when listening to others. Girl Scouts will then have time to apply feedback, revise their original app pitch, and pitch again to “investors.” Juniors will earn the Business Jumpstart badge and Cadettes will earn the Business Creator badge.

Who: rians and Cadettes
Where: Virtual via Zoom
When: Sunday, Feb. 12 at 6 p.m.
Cost: $50/girl
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Cookie College
It’s time to get excited about cookies! Use your entrepreneurial skills to set yourself up for success during the upcoming cookie season. Attend this in-person event where girls will get to put their cookie-selling skills to the test while completing all the steps to earn the newly released Cookie Business badges and the Cookie Kickoff patch.

Who: rians and Cadettes
Where: Program Place
When/Who: Daisy/Brownie: Jan. 28 at 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
         Juniors/Cadettes: Jan. 28 at 1 – 3 p.m
Cost: $12/girl, $3/adult
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Cookie College Rally in Box-Virtual
Calling all registered Girl Scouts! Troops and IRGs are invited to participate in our Cookie College-In-A-Box Rally! It’s time to get excited about cookies! Use your entrepreneurial skills to set yourself up for success during the upcoming cookie season. Attend the virtual livestream of the Cookie College Rally where girls will get the chance to complete two activities virtually while getting pumped to sell cookies in the upcoming cookie season.

Who: rians and Cadettes
Where: Program Place
When: Sunday, Jan. 29 at 2 – 3 p.m.
Cost: $12/girl, $3/adult
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Get Ready for GAM!
Join us for some awesome fun the sailors’ way! Come out to Casa Mare for a fun filled Sunday of games, prizes and more! More details to come, mark your calendars for March 26! We can’t wait to SEA you at the Bay!

How to Register for an Event
1. Go to www.gssjc.org and click on MyGS. Login with your Girl Scout credentials when prompted.
2. Click on My Events and then Register for Another Event.
3. To search, put in the zip code where the event is taking place. Move the search radius to 90 miles. Put the partial or whole title of the event in Keyword, using quotes. Click Search.
4. Click on the event you want. Add the appropriate number of girls and adults. Click Add Events.
5. Choose your registrants and check the credit card box. Follow check out instructions.

Tip: If you are a troop leader registering your group, be sure to toggle over to the Troop radio button FIRST when choosing registrants. This will guarantee you continue to see your troop drop-down list when registering a group.

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Programs on Demand - Cookie Program
Do the program on your time during the dates available. Girls will earn their level's Cookie badge. During this self-paced, digital course, Girl Scouts will follow along with VicTreeFi's founder, Chrissy, as she discusses the business of Girl Scout cookies. Expect to complete fun projects and submit them to the VicTreeFi team for review.

Where: Virtual via Zoom
When: Available Jan 6. at 6 p.m., – Jan. 8 at 11:59 p.m.
Cost: $13/girl
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Cookie Goal Setter for Daisies
Girls will learn how to use money earned from Girl Scout Cookie Program. Girl Scouts will also discover the importance of goal setting!

My Cookie Customers for Brownies
Girls will learn key sales techniques, including how to find customers and connect with them. Girl Scouts will also learn how to handle money.

My Cookie Team for Juniors
Junior Girl Scouts will learn how to work together to set team sales goals. Girl Scouts will also discover how to encourage other troop members and how to keep themselves motivated. Girl Scouts will practice and submit their cookie sales pitch to the VicTreeFi team.

My Cookie Venture for Cadettes
Cadettes will learn how to take their cookie sales goals to the next level! Girl Scouts learn how important a mission statement and a business plan are for any business. Girl Scouts practice writing their own cookie sales business plan.

My Cookie Network for Seniors
Seniors learn how to communicate with customers and how to grow their customer base. Girl Scouts practice smart marketing strategies for cookie season.

Girl Scout Leadership Institute
Join professionals from around Houston for an all-day, hands-on professional skills development day. Try your hand at networking, public speaking, resume writing, building a professional wardrobe, and more! Go home with your own professionalism inspiration board and lots of new skills to try out in your budding professional life. Seniors will earn the Business Etiquette badge. Lunch, snacks, and badges will be provided.

Who: Ⓝ-Daisy Ⓞ-Brownie Ⓟ-Juniors Ⓠ-Cadettes Ⓡ-Seniors Ⓢ-Ambassadors
Where: Girl Scout Center, Houston
When: Feb. 25, 10 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Cost: $30/girl
Contact: Alix Reilman, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Program: On Demand - Financial Literacy
During this self-paced, digital course, Girl Scouts will follow along with VicTreeFi’s founder, Chrissy, as she discusses smart financial practices. Expect to complete fun projects and submit them to the VicTreeFi team for review. Girls will earn their level's Financial Literacy badge.

Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org
Where: Virtual, Zoom

Money Explorer for Daisies
Daisies learn about money! Discover various coins and paper money values. Girl Scouts will practice using money for purchases.

When: Sunday, Feb. 12, 6 p.m.
Cost: $50/girl

Budget Builder for Brownies
Brownies learn about budgets! Girls discover how much things cost and how to use money! Girls will create a budget and apply it to their own values and habits.

Budget Maker for Juniors
Juniors will investigate their wants and needs. Girls will learn how to create a budget based on values. Girls will learn about financial services available.

Budget Manager for Cadettes
Cadettes will learn how to manage money to reach financial goals. Girls will explore their values and spending habits to create a budget for their lifestyles.

Savvy Shopper for Seniors
Seniors will discover how to plan for expenses, reduce financial risk, and stick to financial goals. Girls will discover the ins and outs of income and learn additional budgeting tips. During this self-paced, digital course,

Financial Planner for Ambassadors
Ambassadors will learn about more complex financial decisions. Girls learn about credit cards and loans. Girls will make a commitment to financial responsibility.
**How to Finance a Film Event**

Girls will learn about how to finance a film in Hollywood by playing the role of a film producer. During the first session, girls will work together as a team of producers to determine the premise for a new, hit Hollywood movie. Then, learn about how producers obtain the funds to pay for the costs of movie making. As producers, girls will consider obtaining funding from investors through tax credits, grants, and more. Girls will be asked to create a storyboard to share with potential funding sources. During the second session, apply for funding and price out the cost to create the movie. Juniors will earn the new Budget Maker Badge and Cadettes will earn the Budget Manager Badge. Price includes badges and the Moneyville patch.

Who:  
Where: Virtual via Zoom  
When: Two-part session, Wed., March 1 at 6 p.m.  
March 8 at 6 p.m.
Cost: $40/girl  
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

**Law Day**

Tour the Court House and meet the judges and attorneys. Learn about contracts, jobs, and taxes taken from paychecks and credit cards. You will also hear about educational requirements, scholarships and the variety of jobs in the legal field.

Who:  
Where: Fort Bend County Justice Center:  
1422 Eugene Heimann Circle, Richmond
When: Friday, Feb. 4 at 9:30 a.m. – noon
Cost: $10/girl  
Bring: Sack Lunch  
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

**Older Girl Holiday Party**

Girls will enjoy crafts, games, singing, a yummy holiday snack bar, while understanding the importance of giving back during the season by participating in the food drive. There will be raffle tickets given for each canned good donation for some great prizes! Hosted by Region 3.

Who:  
Where: Cornerstone United Methodist Church,  
18081 West Rd, Houston
When: Dec. 16, 7 – 9:30 p.m.
Cost: $15/girl, free for adults  
Bring: Canned goods for donation  
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

**GSSJC Gay Straight Alliance Interest Group**

GSSJC’s Gay-Straight Alliance for Cadettes, Seniors, Ambassadors and adults, serves to empower and educate scouts surrounding LGBTQ+ issues. We will lead inclusive, engaging, and educational programming to help create Queer and allied leaders within Girl Scouts. This could include a History of Pride patch, troop leader training, and teaching scouts how to confront homophobia. If this group interests you, we would love to have you! Please contact Julia Noble at jnoble@sjgs.org.

**Service to Girl Scouting Pin—Daisy Event**

Complete your Cookie Goal Setter, Money Explorer, My Money Choices, and My First Cookie Business badges planned and lead by Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts. Bring a sack lunch. This is not a drop off event. No tagalongs. Troops must follow girl/adult ratio

Who:  
Where: Cornerstone United Methodist Church,  
18081 West Rd, Houston
When: Feb. 4 at 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Cost: $28/girl, $6/adult
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

**Program: On Demand — Digital Leadership**

During this self-paced, digital course, Girl Scouts will follow along with VicTreeFi’s founder, Chrissy, as she discusses the online world. Expect to complete fun projects and submit them to the VicTreeFi team for review. Girl Scouts will create their own avatar. Girls will earn their level’s Entrepreneurship badge.

Who:  
Where: Virtual via Zoom  
When: March 2 at 6 p.m. – March 3 at 11:59 p.m.
Cost: $13/girl  
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

**Digital Leadership for Daisies**

Daisies learn about the opportunities provided by online communities. Learn how to use technology for good and safely interact online.

**Digital Leadership for Brownies**

Brownies learn about the opportunities provided by online communities. Learn how to use technology for good and safely interact online.

**Digital Leadership for Juniors**

Juniors learn about the opportunities provided by online communities. Learn how to use technology for good and safely interact online. Discover your digital footprint and think about designing a digital community.

**Digital Leadership for Cadettes**

Cadettes learn about the opportunities provided by online communities. Learn how to use technology for good and safely interact online. Discover your digital footprint and think about designing a digital community.

**Digital Leadership for Seniors**

Seniors learn about the opportunities provided by online communities. Learn how to use technology for good and safely interact online. Discover your digital footprint and think about designing a digital community.
**Service to Girl Scouting Pin Planning meetings—Daisy Event**

Come join Region 4 to plan and lead activities for Daisies to earn the Cookie Goal Setter, Money Explorer, My First Cookie Business, and My Money Choices badges. Participate in a mock cookie sale. Come share your cookie sale knowledge and experiences.

Who: ⓓ ⓔ ⓓ ⓖ adults  
Where: Planning meetings: Cypress Resource Center 19108 NW Frwy, Houston  
Event: Cornerstone United Methodist Church 18081 West Rd Houston  
When: Planning meetings: Jan. 19, 24, 26, 31,  
Event: Feb. 4  
Cost: $20/girl $8/adult  
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

**Cadette Media Journey Camp Weekend**

Come join Region 4 to complete all steps for the Media Journey, except TAP, and spend a fun weekend at camp. Troops must follow the girl/adult ratio. No tagalongs.

Who: ⓓ  
Where: Camp Agnes Arnold  
When: Friday, Jan. 20, 6 p.m. – Jan. 22, 11 a.m.  
Cost: $50/girl, $30/adult  
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org  
Note: Badge earned: Media Journey Badge

**Senior Think Like a Citizen Scientist Journey Camp Weekend**

Come join Region 4 to complete all steps for the Think Like a Citizen Scientist Journey, except TAP, and spend a fun weekend at camp. Troops must follow the girl/adult ratio. No tagalongs.

Who: ⓓ  
Where: Camp Agnes Arnold  
When: Friday, Jan. 20, 6 p.m. – Jan. 22, 11 a.m.  
Cost: $50/girl, $30/adult  
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org  
Note: Badge earned: TLaCS Badge

**Ambassador Bliss Journey Camp Weekend**

Come join Region 4 to complete all steps for the Bliss Journey, except TAP, and spend a fun weekend at camp. Troops must follow the girl/adult ratio. No tagalongs.

Who: ⓓ  
Where: Camp Agnes Arnold  
When: Friday, Jan. 20, 6 p.m. – Jan. 22, 11 a.m.  
Cost: $50/girl, $30/adult  
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org  
Note: Badge Earned: Bliss Journey Badge

**Good Sportmanship Badge and Bowling Event**

Come join Region 4 for a fun afternoon of bowling. Cadettes will complete 2-3 activities towards their Good Sportmanship Badge. This event is open to only Cadette, Senior and Ambassador Girl Scouts in the Copper Creek Meadows, Cypress Bend, and Wildflowers communities. No tagalongs.

Who: ⓓ ⓔ ⓔ  
Where: Copperfield Bowl, 15615 Glen Chase Dr, Houston  
When: Sunday, Feb. 5, 1 – 3 p.m.  
Cost: $5/girl, $5/adult  
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org  
Note: Pizza and soda will be provided

**Backpacking Orientation**

Backpacking Orientation is a prerequisite to join the Backpacking Special Interest Group. Don’t worry if you might be the only girl in your troop or an individually registered girl who might be interested in backpacking. You won’t be the only one! You will learn how to pack a backpack, care for a tent, and cook on your own personal stove. You will transfer your camping gear to your backpack, hike two miles to the campsite and set up your tent, where you will spend the evening on a mini backpacking adventure! Enjoy the campfire, savor dinner on your own stove, and settle in for the night in your tent under the stars. After packing up your gear the next morning, you will hike two miles back to the main part of camp, say goodbye to your new friends and count down the days until your first weekend backpacking trip!

Who: ⓓ ⓔ ⓔ  
Where: Camp Arnold (check in at Podville)  
When: March 4 – 5  
10:30 a.m. Saturday – 11:15 a.m. Sunday  
Cost: $25/girl and $25/adult  
Adult Requirements: This is a drop-off event, adults do not need to stay unless they also wish to take the training (Girl Scout ratio will be met by facilitators). This event is overnight, so all adults that do attend must have a current membership and background check.  
Contact: Kathy Elliott, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

**Day Hikes with the Backpackers**

Step out and enjoy a day in nature and get away from the city! Join and meet fellow Girl Scouts and explore a nearby forest or park. You will take a leisurely hike and start to learn some backpacking skills and tips along the way.

Who: Ⓧ ⓐ ⓕ ⓐ  
When:  
Feb. 18 – Lake Houston Wilderness Park (updated)  
March 25 – Terry Hershey (updated)  
May 6 – Brazos Bend State Park  
Time: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Cost: $20/girl; $20/adult (includes lunch)  
Contact: Kathy Elliott, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

©-Daisy ⓐ-Brownie ⓐ-Juniors ⓐ-Cadettes ⓐ-Seniors ⓐ-Ambassadors
Environmental

Houston Arboretum Badge Workshops
Girl Scouts can work towards a variety of badges or journeys while they investigate the fascinating ecosystems at the Houston Arboretum. Staff naturalists conduct the badge workshops. They also use their nature sanctuary as a field laboratory for hands-on experience.

Who:  ⓐ  ⓑ  ⓒ
Where:  Houston Arboretum
Cost:  Two-hour workshops: $23/girl
       Three-hour workshops: $28/girl
Contact:  Event manager Rachel Archer, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Grants Available for Environmental Projects
GSSJC offers troops and individuals a chance to apply for a mini grant to complete an environmental project. This could be a service project, Take Action project associated with a Journey, or even a Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award project. Amounts awarded depend on the number of girls involved and the nature of the project. If interested, contact Rachel Archer (rarcher@sjgs.org) for more information or to receive an application. Projects must not be completed yet. This is not a reimbursement fund.

Equestrian

Misty Meadows Ranch And Camp Pryor Waiver And Release
All girls and adults visiting Misty Meadows Ranch are required to complete a new waiver, Form O-1146A. This waiver is required for overnight camping, participating in day activities, or touring the property. This waiver is also required for anyone visiting Camp Pryor, for any reason, while horses are present on the property.

Form O-1146A is available on the Girl Scouts of San Jacinto Council’s website and must be completed and submitted for each visit to camp. Parents or guardians must sign the waivers for girls. Troop leaders are not allowed to sign the form for anyone other than themselves or their own daughters. If a girl shows up for any activity at these camps and does not have a signed waiver, she will not be allowed to stay on the property. This form is a requirement to ensure that GSSJC maintains compliance with a recently passed Texas law.

Horseback Riding
This session is for Juniors and above! Demonstrations and rides last one hour and take place in either the arena or on a trail touring the ranch, depending on the skill of the riders and/or the weather. Girls must arrive 30 minutes before their scheduled ride time to be fitted for boots and helmets. Appropriate attire includes long pants and boots with a smooth sole and ½ inch heels. Boots and helmets are provided. Limit of 12 girls per session.

Vaulting
If you love gymnastic and horses, this 1.5-hour session is for you! Vaulters will learn compulsories on a barrel before trying them out on a horse! Appropriate attire includes legging-type pants and water shoes/swim socks. Vaulting shows will be available for the session. Limit of 12 girls per session.

Who:  ⓒ  ⓓ  ⓔ  ⓕ
Where:  Misty Meadows Ranch
Dates:  Feb. 11: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       Feb. 12: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
       Feb. 26: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
       March 4: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       March 5: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
       March 25: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       March 26: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
       April 1: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       April 2: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
       April 29: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       April 30: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
       May 13: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       May 14: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
Cost:  $35
Contact:  Mariah Balmert, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Who:  ⓒ  ⓓ
Where:  Misty Meadows Ranch
Dates:  March 18: 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 3 p.m.
       April 22: 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 3 p.m.
Cost:  $35
Contact:  Mariah Balmert, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Who:  ⓑ
Where:  Misty Meadows Ranch
Dates:  March 25: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       April 19: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       April 20: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
       May 13: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       May 14: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
Cost:  $35
Contact:  Mariah Balmert, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Who:  ⓑ
Where:  Misty Meadows Ranch
Dates:  March 17: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       April 15: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       April 16: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
       April 23: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
       May 11: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       May 12: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
Cost:  $35
Contact:  Mariah Balmert, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Who:  ⓑ
Where:  Misty Meadows Ranch
Dates:  March 18: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       April 19: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       April 20: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
       May 13: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       May 14: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
Cost:  $35
Contact:  Mariah Balmert, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Who:  ⓑ
Where:  Misty Meadows Ranch
Dates:  March 18: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       April 19: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       April 20: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
       May 13: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
       May 14: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
Cost:  $35
Contact:  Mariah Balmert, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org
Love, Hug, Groom
Love, Hug and Groom is a non-riding activity to introduce girls of all ages to horse care. In this one-hour session, girls will receive a barn tour, introduction to horse care, and participate in hands-on grooming with camp horses. Don’t forget the opportunity to take lots of pictures! Limit of 24 girls per session.

Who: ☘ ☐ ⓢ ⓜ
Where: Misty Meadows Ranch
When: Dec. 17: 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
Dec. 18: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
Feb. 11: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
Feb. 12: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
Feb. 18: 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
Feb. 19: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
Feb. 25: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
Feb. 26: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
March 4: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
March 5: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
March 11: 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
March 12: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
March 18: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
March 19: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
March 25: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
March 26: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
April 1: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
April 2: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
April 15: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
April 16: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
April 22: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
April 23: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
April 29: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
April 30: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
May 13: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
May 14: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
Cost: $12
Contact: Mariah Balmer, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Pony Rides
This one-hour session combines the best of both riding and love, hug, and groom! Rides are for 30 minutes and take place in the arena. The remaining 30 minutes of the session include hands-on grooming with camp horses. Girls must arrive 30 minutes before their scheduled time to be fitted for boots and helmets. Appropriate attire includes long pants and boots with a smooth sole and ½ inch heels. Boots and Helmets are provided. Limit of 20 girls per session.

Who: ☘ ☐ ⓜ
Where: Misty Meadows Ranch
When: Dec. 17: 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
Dec. 18: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
Feb. 18: 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
Feb. 19: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
March 11: 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
March 12: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
April 15: 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
April 16: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
Cost: $35
Contact: Mariah Balmer, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Junior Gymkhana
Calling all Juniors who love horses! Come spend the day at Misty Meadows Ranch playing games on and off horseback, making horse-themed crafts, and practicing outdoor skills! We’ll provide the program, lunch, and dinner, plus a campfire on Saturday night. This is a great opportunity for troops that would like an easy-to-plan camping experience. Appropriate attire includes long pants and boots with a smooth sole and ½ inch heels. Boots and helmets are provided.

Who: ☘
Where: Misty Meadows Ranch
When: Jan. 14, Jan. 21, Jan. 28
Cost: $75
Contact: Mariah Balmer, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Pasture Portraits
Ever wanted to take that perfect horse photo but never had the chance? In this session, you will meet the horses in the paddocks and take as many pictures as you’d like with them! Appropriate attire includes close-toe shoes and your favorite outfit! Limit of 15 girls per session.

Who: ☘ ☐ ⓜ ☕ ☘
Where: Misty Meadows Ranch
When: March 18: 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
March 19: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
April 22: 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m.
April 23: 9 a.m., 10 a.m.
Cost: $10
Contact: Mariah Balmer, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

SPURS Training
Learn the theories and hands-on skills needed to join the SPURS (Super People Using Riding Skills) special interest group at Misty Meadows Ranch. Girls will receive their level one SPURS scarf and be ready to work with the weekend riding program during the school year. Adults will receive training as an Assistant Riding Instructor. A waiver is required to be signed prior to this activity. Also for adults to be trained as volunteers.

Who: ☘ ⓜ ☕
When: Feb. 3 – 5; 8 p.m. Fri. – noon Sun.
Where: Misty Meadows Ranch
Cost: $30/girl
Contact: Mariah Balmer, 713-292-0332, customerservice@sjgs.org
Just Horsin’ Around Workshop  
This is an all-day non-riding session geared for Brownies! You will learn horse safety, parts of the saddle and bridle, how to groom and tack, make a stick horse and do an obstacle course! Limit of 60 girls per workshop.  
Who:  
Where: Misty Meadows Ranch  
When: May 6 at 9 a.m.  
Cost: $40  
Contact: Mariah Balmer, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org  

In-person Workshops  
Join Izzie’s Jewels at our Girl Scout Locations for these fun, in-person workshops! Badge is included, so do not miss out on all the fun!  
Cost: $25  
Contact: Julia Noble, 713-292-0370, customerservice@sjgs.org  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brownie Painter</td>
<td>Jan. 7</td>
<td>10 a.m. – noon</td>
<td>PP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cadette Public Speaker</td>
<td>Jan. 21</td>
<td>10 a.m. – noon</td>
<td>PP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brownie Snacks</td>
<td>Feb. 11</td>
<td>10 a.m. – noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Simple Meals</td>
<td>Feb. 11</td>
<td>10 a.m. – noon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brownie Potter</td>
<td>Feb. 25</td>
<td>10 a.m. – noon</td>
<td>PP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cadette Screenwriter</td>
<td>Mar. 11</td>
<td>10 a.m. – noon</td>
<td>PP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Scribe</td>
<td>Mar. 25</td>
<td>10 a.m. – noon</td>
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Brownie Painter badge workshop - Artists take what they see and make it beautiful. Learn to paint and color your world in super strokes and see what your imagination can do. Brownie Snacks badge workshop - Calling all Brownie chefs! Earn your badges in this fun, hands-on workshop. Girls will learn how to make yummy snacks for themselves, their family, and friends!  

Brownie Potter badge workshop - Learn to make pottery of your very own as you work your way through the steps to becoming a clay artist in this fun, hands-on workshop!  

Junior Simple Meals badge workshop - Calling all Junior chefs! Earn your badges in this fun, hands on workshop. Girls will learn how to create delicious, healthy meals for themselves, their family, and friends!  

Cadette Public Speaker badge workshop - Work on your stage presence and develop your onstage skills. Find your inner performer and be unafraid to speak up! Cadette Screenwriter badge workshop - Are you ready for the big screen? Let’s explore what makes great scripts and how you can create your very own. You have what it takes to be a great screenwriter, so let’s get started!  

Junior Scribe badge workshop - Your writing is powerful. Create characters, plots, and settings for your very own story. Learn about different story techniques and exercise your

Self-paced Photography workshops  
Learn how to capture your vision of the world in photographs. This course is designed to be hands-on while including video instruction that is fun and engaging. Students will watch a short video introducing a new photography technique or skill, watch a demonstration, and then complete a photo challenge using the new skill learned. Be prepared to learn a lifelong skill you will cherish forever! You never know where this one click will take you. Once the course starts, you will be given access to learning modules and challenges designed by real photographers! You will have 30 days to complete the modules at your own pace. Badges may be purchased from the Girl Scout Shop.  
Who:  
When: Monthly, Available on your own time  
Cost: $18/girl  
Contact: Julia Noble, 713-292-0370, customerservice@sjgs.org  

Junior Digital Photographer workshop  
Learn from an expert at the Houston Center for Photography as you earn your Junior Digital Photographer badge! Your HCP instructor will guide you through all the requirements for the badge, including learning about digital camera basics, composing photos, editing, and printing photos, and creating a digital portfolio. All workshops will take place in HCP's Digital Lab and the surrounding outdoor spaces. HCP will provide all equipment and materials, but students are encouraged to bring their own digital camera or smartphone.  
Who:  
When: TBA  
Cost: $18/girl  
Contact: Julia Noble, 713-292-0370, customerservice@sjgs.org  

Aerial Workshops  
Calling all older girls, come fly with The ARTZ in an aerial workshop taught by a professional aerialist. Have your choice of Hammock, Trapeze, or fabric workshops - or sign up for all three! These awesome workshops are a great way for older scouts with no experience to learn the world of circus artz. Workshops are focused on both skill development and creative play. These workshops will help you gain strength, flexibility, confidence, and body awareness; all while having fun!  
Who:  
Time: 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.  
Cost: $29/girl  
Contact: Julia Noble, 713-292-0370, customerservice@sjgs.org  
Aerial Hammock workshop  
When: Jan 7  
Aerial Trapeze workshop  
When: March 4
**Ambassador Digital Photographer Workshop**

Learn from an expert at the Houston Center for Photography as you earn your Ambassador Digital Photographer badge! Your HCP instructor will guide you through all the steps, including exploring the power of photography, understanding composition, light, and motion, and creating a storytelling photographic essay. All workshops will take place in HCP’s Digital Lab and the surrounding outdoor spaces. HCP will provide all equipment and materials, but students are encouraged to bring their own digital camera or smartphone.

**Who:** ⓢ
**When:** TBA
**Cost:** $18/girl
**Contact:** Julia Noble, 713-292-0370, customerservice@sjgs.org

**Intro to Bungee Dance**

Come try this new way to work out and dance! Bungee dance workshops are led by trained instructors and focus on building strength and conditioning by incorporating dance and cardio moves with the resistance of bungee cords. The ARTZ is so excited to share this new and exciting type of fitness with all of you! Whether you have attended classes before or are just getting started, we hope you’ll join.

**Who/Time:** ⓢ 2 – 3 p.m.; ⓔ 3:15 – 4:15 p.m.; ⓖ 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.
**When:** Jan. 21, Feb 25, March 25
**Cost:** $39/girl
**Contact:** Julia Noble, 713-292-0370, customerservice@sjgs.org

**Fine Arts virtual workshops**

Do you have a zest for art? Do you enjoy playing with clay, making your own jewelry, painting, drawing or fancy some photography? Explore the world of visual arts in these workshops. Create original artwork and earn badges!

**Who:** ⓢ ⓔ ⓕ ⓖ
**Cost:** $21
**Contact:** Julia Noble, 713-292-0370, registration@sjgs.org

**Jewelry and Collage Art Workshops**

Join the Jewelry Instructor Inc, as you work through the steps for making your very own jewelry or collages. Classes are two hours and include all the materials needed. Learn from the best in these fun, hands-on, creative workshops.

**Cost:** $27/girl
**Where:** 1824 Spring Street Studio #105, Houston
**Contact:** Julia Noble, 713-292-0370, customerservice@sjgs.org

**I Am Amazing! Self Portrait Collage Art class**

Join the Jewelry Instructor in making inspiring collage art pieces to take home and show off! Tell a story about who you are via collage art on canvas. Bring pictures if desired. Get creative and join the fun in this hands-on workshop!

**Who:** All levels
**When:** Jan 14, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Beaded Wire Charm Bracelet**

Learn the basic techniques of creating your very own cute colorful, beaded charm bracelet. Make one for yourself or give it to a friend!

**Who:** All levels
**When:** Jan 28, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Junior Jeweler Badge Workshop**

Learn the basic tools of the jewelry trade. Make a bracelet, with colorful beads, and metal charms while you earn your badge!

**Who:** ⓖ
**When:** Feb 1, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Kumihimo Laces**

The Kumihimo Laces Workshop is where you can learn the art of Japanese braiding. Discover the meaning of Kumihimo and its history, then learn how to create colorful rope laces for shoes, hoodies, and more!

**Who:** All levels
**When:** Feb. 18, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**My Pet & Me! Portrait Collage Art Class**

Join the Jewelry Instructor in making memorable collage art pieces. Tell a story about yourself and your pet via collage art on canvas. Bring pictures if desired. Get creative and join the fun in this hands-on workshop!

**Who:** All levels
**When:** March 18, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Health

Babysitter & Pediatric First Aid/ CPR/AED Certification by Region 14
Girls will take the Red Cross Babysitting certification course as well as fulfill the requirements for most of the Cadette babysitting badge and parts of the CSA first aid badges. Registration fee will also cover certification for pediatric/child first aid/CPR/AED. Lunch and snacks will be provided. Girls should bring their own refillable water bottle and baby doll large enough to diaper.

Who: Ⓗ Ⓝ Ⓞ
Where: St Thomas More Church, Prinster Hall, 10330 Hillcroft Ave., Houston
When: Jan. 7, 9 a.m – 6 p.m.
Cost: $50/girl
Bring: Refillable water bottle and baby doll large enough to diaper
Contact: 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Silver Award Training for Adults
This virtual webinar training is designed for troop leaders, advisors, and parents who are looking to support Cadettes through the Silver Award process. Topics to be covered include project guidelines, submission deadlines, coaching tips, and how to navigate pursuing the Silver Award despite the impacts of COVID-19. The webinar will include a presentation, service vs. take action activity and Q&A.

Who: Adults
Where: Virtual
When: Jan. 21; 10 – 11:30 a.m.
Cost: $5/person Max.: 50
Contact: silveraward@sjgs.org

Silver Award Training for Cadettes
Silver Award Training is now available on gsLearn! If you are not able to attend one of our Silver Award Trainings live online, you can now take it as a self-directed training on gsLearn. Silver Award Training offers girls and adults a comprehensive overview of the Silver Award steps and forms, tools for identifying and developing Silver Award projects that fall within the national guidelines, and GSSJC’s process for Silver Award applicants. The training takes approximately 90 minutes to complete, but does not need to be finished in one sitting. Taking Silver Award Training prior to starting the Silver Award process is strongly recommended.

Who: Ⓗ Adults
Where: Online
Contact: silveraward@sjgs.org

Ready, Set, GOLD!
Are you a Senior or Ambassador wondering what it takes to be a Gold Award Girl Scout? If so, this virtual workshop is for you! Learn what makes a Gold Award worthy project, how to navigate the step-by-step process for approval, and meet the supporting team of mentors. A panel of recent GSSJC Gold Award Girl Scouts will host a question and answer session and share their tips on developing a successful project. Don’t miss this opportunity to discover all the benefits of going Gold! NOTE: This workshop is meant as an introduction to the Gold Award process and does NOT replace the required Gold Award Orientation.

Who: Ⓖ ⓐ
Where: Virtual
When: Feb. 26; 2 – 3 p.m.
Cost: $5/girl
Contact: goldaward@sjgs.org

Highest Awards

Older Girl Take-Action Workshop
Curious about how to start a Silver or Gold Award project or complete a Girl Scout Journey? Join us for a take-action workshop where we’ll cover the differences between community service and take-action and how to best plan a take-action project. We’ll also learn from each other by sharing examples and ideas! Come ready to brainstorm!

Who: Ⓗ Ⓝ Ⓞ Adults
Where: Online
When: Jan. 29; 3:30 – 5 p.m.
Cost: $5/person
Contact: Alix Reilman, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org

Green Starlettes Spring Registration 2023
The Green Starlettes Dance Team is offering the opportunity to check out the program without the cost of purchasing the uniform and performance fees. You would have the opportunity to participate in the annual dance recital with the division in your area! Girls will start practice in January and attend the division weekly practices through the beginning of May. All participants would be required to attend the weekly practices and work on the dance at home during the week. Registration is open to 4th graders and above who are not already registered for the Green Starlettes.

Who: Juniors – Ambassadors Registration period: Through December 31
Cost: $20/girl Contact: greenstarlettes@sjgs.org

Winter 2022 ● The Golden Link 35
Distinguish Yourself with the Girl Scout Highest Awards
The Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards are the most prestigious leadership awards you can earn as a Girl Scout. Bronze, Silver, and Gold Award recipients have distinguished themselves as leaders and change-makers by creating a long-lasting impact in their community in any topic of their choice. How amazing is that?

Distinguish Yourself with the Highest Awards by:
• Developing advanced leadership skills like communication skills, adaptability, responsibility, time management, and project management.
• Demonstrating self-motivation and commitment in an area that interests you.
• Stepping outside your comfort zone to work with adult experts in the community.
• Earning scholarships and having a stand-out college/career resume!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bronze Award</th>
<th>Silver Award</th>
<th>Gold Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eligibility</strong></td>
<td>Juniors– Complete as an Individual or in a troop or group</td>
<td>Cadettes– Complete as an Individual or in a group of up to 4 girls</td>
<td>Senior and Ambassador– Complete as an individual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hours</strong></td>
<td>20 hours</td>
<td>50 hours</td>
<td>80 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deadlines</strong></td>
<td>Final Report due by Sept. 30 of the year the girl completes 5th grade.</td>
<td>Final Report due by Sept. 30 of the year the girl completes 8th grade. Girls who have completed 8th grade must submit their Project Proposal by Aug. 1.</td>
<td>Final Report due by Sept. 30 of the year the girl completes 12th grade. Girls who have completed 12th grade must submit their Project Proposal by July 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Where to Start</strong></td>
<td>Visit GSSJC’s Bronze Award webpage and read the Bronze Award Project Guide.</td>
<td>Visit GSSJC’s Silver Award webpage and read the Silver Award Project Guide. Take Silver Award Training on gsLearn.</td>
<td>Visit GSSJC’s Gold Award webpage and read the Gold Award Project Guide. Girls sign up for Gold Award Orientation on gsLearn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisites</strong></td>
<td>Complete one Junior Journey</td>
<td>Complete one Cadette Journey</td>
<td>Complete two Senior/Ambassador Journeys OR the Silver Award and one Senior/Ambassador Journey. Take Gold Award Orientation on gsLearn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contact</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:bronzeaward@sjgs.org">bronzeaward@sjgs.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:silveraward@sjgs.org">silveraward@sjgs.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:goldaward@sjgs.org">goldaward@sjgs.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gold Award Orientation
The self-directed Online Gold Award Orientation provides girls and adults with a comprehensive overview of the Gold Award steps and forms, tools for identifying and developing Gold Award projects that fall within the national guidelines, and GSSJC’s process for Gold Award applicants. Orientation is required for all girls who plan to earn their Gold Award and must be completed prior to submitting their Gold Award Project Proposal. The online orientation is broken into sections, takes approximately 90 minutes to complete, but does not need to be finished in one sitting. Girls may also refer back to it after it’s been completed.

Who:  Ⓟ Ⓠ adults
Where/When:  Online
Contact:  goldaward@sjgs.org

The Next Step: A workshop on how to proceed after Gold Award Orientation
Now that you’ve completed Gold Award Orientation, you might be wondering what to do next. Join GSSJC Gold Award Girl Scouts and mentors to hear about successful projects, brainstorm project ideas, and get all your questions answered so you can take your next step in your Gold Award journey. NOTE: This workshop is optional intended for girls who have already completed the required Gold Award Orientation and does NOT replace it.

Who:  Ⓟ Ⓠ
Where:  Virtual
When:  March 26; 2 – 3:30 p.m.
Cost:  $5/girl  Max:  50
Contact:  goldaward@sjgs.org
**Juniors Take-Action Workshop**
Curious about how to start a Bronze Award project or complete a Girl Scout Journey? Join us for a take-action workshop where we’ll cover the differences between community service and take-action and how to best plan a take-action project. We’ll also learn from each other by sharing examples and ideas! Come ready to brainstorm!

**Who:** Adults  
**Where:** Online  
**When:** Jan. 15, 2 – 3:30 p.m.  
**Cost:** $5/person

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**Intro to Sailing**
Are you curious about sailing? Do you want to feel the wind on your face and hear the water splashing around you? You will work alongside our Mariners (Special Interest Group) as they ready the boats to take you on a sailing adventure on the open seas! Sign up to be a “sailor” for the weekend. You must attend the entire weekend. Introduction to Sailing is a general sailing activity and is not a prerequisite to the Mariner program.

**Who:** Girls 11 and older. Must pass the GSSJC Proficient Swimmer and Advanced Swimmer Test. Requirements are available on GSSJC. Org. Please see section below on Swim Test requirements. Cards can be submitted to sailing.coordinator@gmail.com. Girls without cards will not be allowed to remain at camp.

**When:** May 5 – 7  
**Where:** Casa Mare, Seabrook  
**Cost:** $60

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**Instruction and Mariner Weekends**
Some courses are over two weekends. Girls must attend both. Due to the commitment and nature of the courses, we cannot make special schedule adjustments or accommodations. If a girl is unable to attend both weekends in their entirety, she will be encouraged to enroll at another time. Please note that the success of sailing is based on the weather. Although we will do our best to ensure girls get as much sailing time as they can, weather simply will not allow it. Because of this, girls may not meet the requirements of completion and will be asked to repeat the course. There are opportunities to enroll in sailing during resident camp, or to try again in the upcoming season.

**When:** April 21 – April 23  
**Where:** Casa Mare, Seabrook  
**Cost:** $50 (meals included)

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**We need Dorm Moms!**
To help our program to be fun and safe we need your help! Dorm Moms are an awesome group of women who assist with meals, are watchers during sailing, and ensure the girls are having fun during their weekend stay. Because the Mariners are girl-led, majority of the activities will be led by our older girls. Consider this a small weekend getaway with some supervision! Enjoy a stress and worry free, stay for the weekend by the bay helping girls have their best time sailing! Please contact sailing.coordinator@gmail.com or Stephanie Moore at smoore@sjgs.org for additional details!
How do I obtain my GSSJC Proficient and Advanced Swimmer Card?
We have made it really simple! All you will need to do is go to our website www.gssjc.org. Once on the site you will find the form needed under the “Volunteer hub” tab. When you click on “Forms and Documents” you can search “Swim test” and the form will appear. Print that form out and take it to your local community pool, Recreation center, or swimming pool for the required professionals to administer the test. Please note that girls will still be re-tested at the time of the activity and could be requested to leave if they do not pass the test. If your Girl Scout has participated in American Red Cross Swim Lessons in the past and have obtained a Level 4 swim card, she can still use that as the requirement.

For all STEM events, contact Rachel Archer, 713-292-0300, customerservice@sjgs.org for more information.

Forensics Camp Weekend
Cadettes will use clues to try and solve a mystery at this exciting annual event! Girls will discover forensic techniques such as DNA analysis, chemical identification, fingerprint analysis, and more. Get ready to put on your sleuthing shoes and work as a team to unravel whodunit.

Who: ⓒ
When: Jan. 27 – 29
Where: Camp Casa Mare, Seabrook
Cost: $65/girl; $40/adult

Space Fever! Telescope Night at Camp
Join our Astronomy Special Interest Group and learn about space, telescopes, and all the adventures that await beyond the atmosphere through fun, girl-led activities. Whether you’ve searched for shooting stars or found shapes in the clouds, you’ve already spent some time looking at the sky. Now is your chance to see the sky in a new way – like a space scientist does by participating in hands-on activities and through GSSJC’s telescopes. Patch/badge included.

Who: ⓗ ⓞ
When: See online registration page for finalized weekend
EITHER March 4 or March 11
Where: Misty Meadows Ranch, Conroe
Cost: $22/girl

Robotics Badge Workshops
Look out for Robotics Badge workshops hosted by our Robotics Teams! Earn a badge or more and learn from your fellow girl scouts. Council-wide and private troop workshops will be available on request.

Who: ⓔ ⓕ ⓖ ⓗ ⓜ ⓗ ⓔ
Where: Dependent on team
Cost: Dependent on number of badges earned

Virtual with Microsoft
Join Microsoft, GSSJC, and GSCTX for these varied and interesting workshops covering topics including coding, game design, cybersecurity, and data interpretation! Check online at gssjc.org via the events tab for currently available options!

Who: Levels vary
When: Every other Wednesday from 5 – 6 p.m.
Where: Virtual
Cost: $3/girl

Think Like a Citizen Scientist Team Captains
Do you want to work on your leadership skills? Do you want to earn your Think Like a Citizen Scientist Badge? Are you interested in helping Brownies? Do you like to spend time at camp?
Join us for this two-part event. For Part 1, older Girl Scouts will earn their Think Like a Citizen Scientist Badge and learn how to teach younger girls. Then, they will return to camp for Part 2 to act as team captains and help Brownies earn their Think Like a Citizen Scientist Badge. Team captains must attend both camp weekends. Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors will earn their Think Like a Citizen Scientist Badge during Part 1. Cadettes will also earn their Leader in Action (LiA) for Part 2. Seniors and Ambassadors will earn their Service to Girl Scouting Award, Torch Award, or plan a Take Action Project for Part 2.

Who: ⓔ ⓜ ⓑ
Part 2: EITHER March 31 – April 2 OR April 14 – 16
(See online registration page for finalized weekend)
Where: Camp Agnes Arnold, Conroe
Cost: $35/girl, $10/adult
Think Like a Citizen Scientist Brownie Camp Weekend
Join our older girl team captains to earn your Think Like a Citizen Scientist Badge. Learn what about citizen science, how to make observations, participate in a citizen science project, and have a fun time at camp! There are two options for this event: Saturday overnight stay or Saturday day only. Older Girl Scouts will serve as team captains for each group. Program materials and the earned badge are provided. All participants will receive Saturday lunch and dinner plus an afternoon snack. Overnight participants will also receive Sunday breakfast and s’mores supplies.

Who: ⓑ
When: See online registration page for finalized weekend
EITHER April 1 – 2 OR April 15 – 16
Day Only: Saturday from 9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Overnight: Saturday 9 a.m. – Sunday, 10 a.m.
Where: Camp Agnes Arnold, Conroe
Cost: Day Only: $30/girl, $10/adult
Overnight: $50 per girl, $25 overnight

NEW Think Like an Engineer Day at NOV
Celebrate National Engineers Week with NOV at their new Technology center! Juniors and Cadettes learn how to utilize construction skills and work as a team to solve engineering challenges at a real research facility with robots, drilling rigs and more. Girls will be provided the Think Like an Engineer badge, snacks, lunches, NOV swag including a T-Shirt and NOV Patch.

Who: ⓒ ⓢ ⓔ
When: Feb. 18, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Where: NOV Springett Technology Center, Navasota
Cost: $7/girl

The Wonderful World of Orthodontics (Rising Stars Edition)
Demystify braces with a workshop at an orthodontist! Younger girl troops can participate in a local initiative to increase awareness of the importance of maintaining good oral hygiene, to educate kids on why the American Association of Orthodontists recommends that all children have an orthodontic evaluation by age 7 and learn about the various treatment option (braces vs Invisalign).

Who: ⓑ ⓒ ⓔ
When: Contact Rachel Archer via Customer Service for troop scheduling
Where: Smile Doctors in Katy
Cost: $7/girl

Travel

Council Trip to Austin
Join us for a fun trip that’s a little rugged, a little urban, and a lot Texan! The Council trip to Austin is a travel opportunity for Girl Scouts currently registered as Juniors and above. This three-day council trip includes things like hiking, exploring caverns, relaxing in limestone pools, visiting the State Capitol, watching the bats take off, strolling Downtown, arts, music, and more! Planning is still underway, join us to participate! Register today on GSSJC under Events.

Who: ⓒ ⓓ ⓔ ⓕ, Adults
When: June 9 – June 11, 2023
Cost: $650 (Approx)
Contact: Julia Noble, 713-292-0370, customerservice@sjgs.org

Switzerland Virtual Interest Meeting
Are you interested in learning about our council trip to Switzerland? This 10-day, high adventure, trip will be a once in a lifetime experience, and we want you to go. Join us for our virtual interest meeting where we talk about the trip, answer all your questions and even meet some of the people you’ll be traveling with.

Who: ⓒ ⓔ, Adults
When: TBA
Where: Online via Zoom
Cost: Free
Contact: Julia Noble, 713-292-0370, customerservice@sjgs.org

Destinations
Girl Scout Destinations are the ultimate adventure for individual Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts! Make friends from all over the country as you travel with Girl Scouts from different states. There’s a unique, life-changing experience for every girl.

Girls traveling on Destination are eligible to receive a scholarship from San Jacinto Council to assist with the cost of the Destination. In order to qualify as a recipient, you must participate in the Girl Scout Fall Product and Cookie program. You also agree to remain active in Girl Scouting for the next registration year, and share your Destinations experience at Council when requested.

For more information visit www.girlscouts.org/destinations

Doris Partin Troop Travel Scholarship
If your troop has a love for travel and is planning a trip to Savannah, the World Centers or another international destination, get started by visiting the forms section of GSSJC.org and searching for forms F-453 and O-884. Troops must be in good standing with the Council, have participated in Fall Product and Cookie Programs, have appropriate travel forms submitted to GSSJC, and have raised funds toward their planned trip.

Applications are due TBA. For more information contact Customer Service at 713-292-0370, or travel@sjgs.org.
Training

Adult Learning Facilitator – Friendly and Helpful to Volunteers

Do you enjoy helping new volunteers have a successful start? Do you have a passion for Girl Scouting and want to share your experiences and knowledge with other volunteers? Facilitator Essentials is a training that will help you develop your skills so that you can do just that.

Volunteer Experience is recruiting volunteers to deliver Girl Scout trainings. Volunteers who take the Facilitator Essentials training are mentored to serve as a council Adult Learning Facilitator. You will work in partnership with co-facilitators to deliver program level and council specific role trainings (first aid, outdoors, recruitment, etc.). This is a fantastic opportunity to meet and work with other volunteers and staff; learn new skills; and enrich the experience of new and seasoned volunteers delivering Girl Scout program to girls. It is also a wonderful way to provide essential support to ensure the future of Girl Scouting in our area.

What is involved?

• Facilitators work in teams of two to four to deliver trainings to volunteers.
• Trainings are delivered via the Zoom platform and in person (classroom style).
• Facilitators are scheduled according to their availability and preferences.

How do I get started?

• You must be an adult member of Girl Scouts. Experience as a volunteer may be helpful, but there is no minimum experience required.
• You will have opportunities to observe trainings to see what facilitators do (this can start immediately).
• Register for and attend the Facilitator Essentials training being offered on Saturday, Jan. 21, 2023. This course will be in person at the Girl Scout Center (9 am to 4 pm). If that date does not work, other dates will be available.
• Once you have attended Facilitator Essentials, you can observe a particular training and, when comfortable, facilitate a part of that training.
• You will then be assigned to a training team to facilitate the training course observed; and then expand to other trainings as you become more experienced.
• Opportunities will also be available to train at special training days, participate in facilitator updates, and other special events.

Contact Jo Blackburn, Volunteer Experience council-wide coordinator, for more information or to start observing trainings at jo.blackburn@ymail.com.

Let's Go Camping!  

by Angela Williams

Camping is one of the most powerful program experiences we offer to our girls. Outdoor and nature activities can improve the girls’ cognitive abilities, resistance to negative stresses, and build confidence. Also, they are just plain fun!

What is the current certification required to go camping with my girls?

Full Camp Certification is currently a two-course process.
1. Camping and Overnight Basics (COB) is a two-hour online course and is required to reserve a unit. (Access COB through the gsLearn folder in your MyGS account.)
2. Volunteer Camper Certification (VCC) is hands-on, in-person learning at camp. VCC is required for any open flame cooking (wood and charcoal) or ceremonial campfire. This is a one-day course from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Camping and Overnight Basics (COB) is a prerequisite to this course.

Outdoor Certified prior to COB/VCC?

If you completed GSSJC Standard Troop Camping, you are good to go. Certification does not expire.

The current certification process has been available since mid-2021 and is the result of a collaboration between the VSCA Council Task Force and the outdoor facilitators.

During the VCC in-person training, you will cook a tasty one-pot dish over a wood fire in a grill or bake a cobbler or dump cake in a Dutch oven or box oven using charcoal. You will even make your own campfire. Kapers will be put into action, and you will learn the creative hacks to adapt when the weather unexpectedly changes.

The outdoor facilitators work together to offer VCC twice monthly, September through May. Depending on the holidays, it may only be offered once during those months. If you are interested in becoming a facilitator, please email Angela Williams at williamsphd@yahoo.com.

You can attend a training as an observer to see if this is for you. You can stay overnight on Friday and sleep in a real bed in a nice building. We are a fun group, we work well together and even have a yearly retreat where we share best practices, make new box ovens, fire starters, or whatever is needed. We share meals and fellowship. It’s a great group that loves Girl Scouting. Join us!

*Youth Protection Training Level 1 and Level 2 are required for all adults working with girls.
Youth Protection Training Requirement

As we continue to work to ensure the health and safety of our Girl Scouts, we have developed a youth protection training series that volunteers who work directly with girls, depending on their roles, are required to complete. We designed this online course to raise awareness of the signs, symptoms, and types of child abuse and your responsibility as a Girl Scout volunteer to report instances of abuse. The course also outlines the safeguards in place to prevent child abuse from occurring during Girl Scout programs. This course will increase the safety of all our members.

Youth Protection Training Level 1 must be completed by volunteers in all roles that work with girls, including:

- Troop leaders
- First-aiders
- Troop cookie managers
- Fall product sales managers
- Friends and family
- Region, Community, and council-wide event volunteers
- Drivers of girls

New volunteers must complete this training to receive an appointment letter or serve in a role. For returning volunteers, the deadline to complete training(s) is Nov. 1. Volunteers will not be eligible to renew their existing roles or start new roles until their training is up to date. This requirement also extends to existing volunteers who submit paperwork for travel approval. We will not approve trip requests until the volunteer completes training.

The training is easily accessible in gsLearn. Log into your MyGS account on our website, select gsLearn from the list on the left, and select 591 Youth Protection Training Level 1. View all the videos and answer questions as you progress through the course. After completing the course, volunteers will take a quiz, then a certificate of completion will appear on the screen.

Staff and community volunteers with Access to Looker can verify training completion.

In addition to Youth Protection Training Level 1, certain roles must complete Level 2 training (available on gsLearn or offered in person), including volunteer and staff roles that may be working with girls from different areas and roles that support overnight programs and activities (on or off property).

**Those roles include:**
- Summer camp staff and volunteers
- Special Interest Group volunteers
- Appointed Region volunteers
- Overnight activity (including camping) volunteers
- Reserve rangers

Volunteers must complete Level 1 training every three years or with background screening renewal. Certain roles, such as summer camp volunteers and staff, may be required to renew their training annually.

We understand that the content of this training covers a sensitive topic and can be challenging to process for a variety of reasons. If you feel emotional or stressed throughout this training, please take a moment to check in with yourself and engage in self-care. Self-care can take many forms. For example, it could mean taking a break to be in nature, reading a book, moving your body, or turning to a friend or family member. For additional professional support, consider these resources:

- Texas Health and Human Services COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line: call 833-986-1919 to speak with a mental health professional for help dealing with stress, anxiety, or depression.
- Texas Youth Helpline: Call 800-989-6884 or text 512-872-5777. The Texas Youth Helpline provides prevention services to youth, parents, siblings, and other family members who need a caring voice and sympathetic ear.

Three Ways to Raise a Strong Girl in Today's World

Strong girls are truly having a moment right now. Today’s girls are showing us all just how many varieties of strength exist in the world. But in a society where girls and women have been told for so long to let the boys and men in their lives literally do the heavy lifting—and where women are still being shown as damsels in distress in movies and TV shows—the act of actually being strong can be tricky for girls who are exploring the world and discovering who they are.

Can she be strong and pretty at the same time? If she speaks out and stands up to bullies, can she still be seen as sweet and lovable? The answer is a resounding yes! Here are simple ways you can help her embrace her inherent strength today.

**Give her strong girl role models:** There’s nothing wrong with having some fairy tales in the mix, but make sure fainting princesses aren’t the only heroines she’s focusing on. From listening to female-fronted rock bands on your next road trip to reading about the adventures of Amelia Earhart during storytime, the more she sees (and hears about!) female strength, the more comfortable she’ll be owning her own strength.

Stop “fixing” her appearance: The more you fuss over her looks, the more she’ll fixate on them, too. That means she might shy away from trying out for the volleyball team for fear of getting sweaty in front of other kids or skip out of swim meets because she doesn’t want to have pool hair all day. That’s not to say she can’t use fashion and beauty as a form of self-expression and be strong—but let her rock her own look without projecting your own standards of beauty onto her.

Talk to her about what strength really means: Many people equate strength with fearlessness or the ability to dominate in physical challenges. But strength is so much more than that, and it’s important for your girl to understand. Tying something new, even if she might not be great at it, takes strength. Tying her best takes strength. Creating boundaries and standing up for herself takes strength. Team up with your girl to create a list of at least ten ways that she’s strong. You know she’s made of tough stuff, but it’s important for her to realize that, too!
## Training Calendar Dec. 2022 - July 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Training</th>
<th>Prerequisites</th>
<th>Where</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Dec. 17</td>
<td>Red Cross First Aid CPR/AED Blended</td>
<td>Online videos with certificate</td>
<td>GSC</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Jan. 7</td>
<td>Volunteer Camper Certification</td>
<td>Camping/Overnight Basics</td>
<td>ATC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Jan. 21</td>
<td>Facilitator Essentials</td>
<td>Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Jan. 21</td>
<td>Volunteer Camper Certification</td>
<td>Camping/Overnight Basics</td>
<td>ATC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Jan. 21</td>
<td>Daisy Brownie Program Leadership</td>
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### Key
- ATC - Adult Training Center, Conroe
- GSC - Girl Scout Center, Houston
- AA - Camp Agnes Arnold, Conroe
- WAM - Wind-A-Mere, Alvin
- CWP - Camp Whispering Pines, Nacogdoches
- WC - Welcome Center, Camp Agnes Arnold, Conroe
Around Camp

Galveston Bay House New Bird Watching Blind and Star Gazing Outdoor Education Space

We are excited to announce that construction is underway at the Galveston Bay House on a new Bird Watching Blind and Star Gazing outdoor education space. This new project is being built in collaboration with the University of Texas Gulf Coast Design Lab, the same organization we worked with earlier this year to build the amazing fire pit so many troops have been enjoying. This project will be completed in early December.

If you haven’t visited the new Bay House yet, it is situated on seven acres of land that has a few natural water features that are perfect for bird watching and other activities such as fishing and crabbing. The open land and dark skies on Galveston Island also make it an ideal place for Star Gazing.

Why Girl Scout Camping is So Much FUN

When you hear that you’re going camping with your troop or family, what is the first word that comes to your mind? Most girls think about all the fun they are going to have in the outdoors.

The benefits of camping, especially for young children, helps them develop a sense of adventure, experience a new environment and see and hear unfamiliar sights and sounds. They can meet and play with other young girls, learn outdoor survival skills, see wildlife in their natural habitat and explore the beautiful camps maintained by the council.

Here are seven tips that will make your next camping trip more enjoyable and to easily remember them they all start with a C like camping.

Care – Care about how you camp by being considerate of others.
Caution – Use caution when cooking on a grill or lighting a fire in a fire circle so as not to endanger others or yourself. Improve your camping skills, knowing the right way is the safest way.
Courtesy – Practice politeness because it improves the camping experience. Respect the privacy of others.
Cleanliness – Practice good, clean camping habits. Pick up litter no matter who left it and be proud of the campsite you leave behind. Remember that Girl Scouts leave a place better than they found it.
Cooperation – Observe all camping regulations and rules established to protect our enjoyment of the outdoors. Work cooperatively with others to make it better for everyone.
Conservation – Protect the environment in which we enjoy camping and help those whose job it is to guard and wisely manage our camps natural resources. Endeavor to leave a better outdoors for those who follow us.
Common Sense – Apply common sense to every situation, knowing that reason, understanding and humor makes camping better for ourselves and others.

Do your very best to follow the seven C’s of camping. Have lots of fun, and we hope you make lots of new friends while camping at our Girl Scout camps.
Philanthropy

Thank You, Success to Significance Supporters

Thank you to our Keynote Speaker Lauren Anderson for making our annual fundraising luncheon, Success to Significance a memorable experience. A special thank you to our event sponsors:

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Thank You, GSSJC Donors!

For any questions about the donor list, contact Ruth Delaunay at 713-292-0273 or rdelaunay@sjgs.org. Honorariums listed are $250 and above.

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In Honor of the Bayardo-Charlton Girl Scouts Roberto J. Bayardo

In Honor of Kenzie Briggs James Briggs

In Honor of Margarette Woung-Chapman Douglas E. Brooks
Scrapbook

Send your photos to communications@sjgs.org. Put your troop number in the subject line.

Troop 108001 of Woodland Trails bridged from Daisies to Brownies. They also had four girls who earned the Journey Summit Award: Gabi B., Natalie C., Everly H., and Isla L.

Six troops in the Tanyho Community came together and planted 120 trees for the Girl Scout Tree Promise program. They partnered with Texas A&M Forest Services (Huntsville Division) and the City of Huntsville. They planted Shumard Oaks and Willow Oaks at Kate Barr Ross Park in Huntsville.

Troop 04343 volunteered at Buffalo Run in Missouri City. Girls got the garden ready for planting fruits and vegetables.

Troop 139154 earned a badge at the Houston Arboretum coordinated through GSSJC.

Ariel L, Kaniyah G., and Sydney S. of Troop 158102 enjoyed Cooking with a Twist in Stafford. The girls learned to cook fried rice, donuts, lasagna, and quesadillas.

Troop 152012 was able to donate cookies to Fort Bend EMS & Fort Bend Office of Emergency Management after a very successful cookie season!
Bailey M. and Ashlyn A. built benches and a picnic table in the puppy meet and great area at the Waller County animal shelter. They did this as their Silver Award Project.

Troop 139154 earned their First Aid badge. League City EMS showed the girls a life flight helicopter to teach the girls the importance of safety.

Brynn G., Sam M., and Presley S. earned their Silver Award by making two Blessing Boxes for the city of Friendswood. Donations of non-perishable items and toiletries were given from the community to help others in need. The girls showed persistence and determination in by visiting multiple potential venues and found two locations and two organizations to maintain them. Plus spent many hours, designing, constructing, and painting the blessing boxes which can be temporarily removed during tropical storms and hurricanes.

Troop 157134 delivered 600 packages of cookies to Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital from the Cookies4Hero program.

Troop 3450 had an end-of-year party and had fun on a trip to Camp Robinwood.

Girls from Ambassador Troop 18963 participated in the Photography Badge - Snap Happy Edition at the Houston Center for Photography.
As a token of appreciation for their service Troop 13467 donated their Cookies for Heros boxes to their local Precinct 4 Constables office. Cookies were donated by daisies Fozia, Asma, and Mariam, Cadette Tayma, Senior Tala, and leaders Latifa and Asma.

Troop 139154 attended the Clear Creek Community event at the local roller skating rink, FunCity Sk8.

Troop 130333 completed their Bronze Award project, called “The Big Story.” The Girl Scouts saw a need at an assistant living facility that they could use a mini library for the residents that were unable to go to a library for immortality issues or lack of transportation issues, to provide them with this. The girls approached a local library to see if they had some books to donate to their cause, and they did, as well as some games and puzzles. A bookcase was purchased using cookie money and assembled by the Girl Scouts.

Girl Scouts from Eastern Thicket Community celebrated Girl Scouts Love State Parks Day with a welcome back campout/picnic at Village Creek State Park. Burkeville and Kirbyville troops tent camped, played games, enjoyed pancake breakfast by Troop 131098, and a hot dog lunch and nighttime s’mores snack by Eastern Thicket Community. Ranger Kathy lead Eastern Thicket Community & Golden Coast Community girls on a hike and provided a nature scavenger hunt, migratory bird survival game, hula hoop ecosystems, trash decomposition guessing game and info on Junior Rangers. Several of the girls earned their Junior Ranger pins. Troops present for the hike and games were from Kirbyville, Burkeville, Silsbee, Jasper, Hankamer and Sour Lake.

Troop 151039 helped at a recruitment event.
Troop 18963 participate in the Adopt-A-Beach cleanup in Galveston. They sponsor a mile of the beach around 20th street.

Ava, Lillian, and Victoria from Troop 114171 had a blast at Marksmanship training at Misty Meadows Ranch.

Micayla, Mariah, Vivian, and Tabitha of Troop 111016 enjoyed archery at Misty Meadows Ranch.

Troop 143133 had the opportunity to bridge at the new Galveston Bay House. One of their dads built the troop a bridge. Girls also had the opportunity to watch Troop 143059 have their rededication ceremony.

Troop 08651 went camping at Camp Agnes Arnold and had a blast! The girls visited the barn at Misty Meadows Ranch and saw the vaulting poses. They tried out vaulting on Hipper!
Troop 157134 met with the senior executive team from Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital and donated 600 packages of cookies from the Cookies4Hero program. The hospital set up a press conference and provided the girls the opportunity to present the cookies to the entire leadership team!

Ambassador Troop 18963 participated in the Photography Badge - Snap Happy Edition at the Houston Center for Photography.

Junior Troop 151039 helped with recruitment night.

Troop 137033 kicked off the year sleeping overnight at Moody Gardens Aquarium. They loved the underwater experiences and learned about ocean, coral, and wildlife conservation while earning their Animal Habitats and Senses badges.

Troop 18963 participated in the Adopt-A-Beach Cleanup. They sponsor a mile of the beach around 20th street.
Troop 136001 volunteered for the City of Pasadena’s “Monster Mash.” They got to provide an adaptive fair to children with disabilities first, then served the general population, and even got to meet the mayor of Pasadena! It was a rewarding day serving others.

Troop 154991 had two Girl Scouts run in the Needville Harvest Festival Little Miss Contest. Both girls made us proud and did a fantastic job! Reagan won Little Miss!

Troop 121035 visited the Space Center Houston. There they had the opportunity to take a tour of the facilities and have fun in the different attractions.

Troop 106322 made the drive to beautiful Camp Pryor this weekend and we definitely return soon! Beautiful camp and the girls had the most amazing time.

Lone Star Treasures Community celebrated Juliette Low’s birthday with a giant slumber party. All girls brought a gift in her honor that was donated to Toys for Tots. About 50 toys were donated.

Marilyn B., Corinne A. and Camryn D. of Troop 124002 built a Wish Bench for Candlelighters, an organization that supports families with children undergoing cancer treatments. The wish bench was installed at Camp For All in Burton Texas for families to utilize for any years to come.

Kacey H. and Samantha R. of Troop 124002 crested three different ESL coloring books to distribute to ESL Learners in Houston. Each book has an ABC Concept and a list of Activities in Spanish and English to help close the gap.

Julianne B. and Sadie J. of Troop 124002 built a sensory trail at Sire Therapeutic Horsemanship, an organization that provides therapy and education for those with special needs. With the trail, riders will be able to follow a trail with shapes, numbers, and colors.
Your Girl Scout Cookie favorites are back!

- **Adventurefuls™**: Indulgent brownie-inspired cookies with caramel flavored crème and a hint of sea salt
- **Toast-Yay!™**: French Toast-inspired cookies dipped in delicious icing
- **Lemonades®**: Savory slices of shortbread with a refreshingly tangy lemon flavored icing
- **Trefoils®**: Iconic shortbread cookies inspired by the original Girl Scout recipe
- **Thin Mints®**: Crispy chocolate wafers dipped in a mint chocolate coating
- **Peanut Butter Patties®**: Crispy cookies layered with peanut butter and covered with a chocolaty coating
- **Caramel deLites®**: Crispy cookies topped with caramel, toasted coconut, and chocolaty stripes
- **Peanut Butter Sandwich**: Crisp and crunchy oatmeal cookies with creamy peanut butter filling
- **Caramel Chocolate Chip**: Caramel, semi-sweet chocolate chips, and a hint of sea salt in a delicious cookie
- **Raspberry Rally™**: Thin, crispy cookies infused with raspberry flavor, dipped in chocolaty coating

*Online sales only, while supplies last!*

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FREE Pit Party Pass and Commemorative Patch with Purchase of Each Scout Ticket.

For orders of 8 or less, visit Ticketmaster.com and use code SCOUT6. Restrictions, exclusions and additional charges may apply. Subject to availability. Tickets at market pricing.

For more information or to order a group of 9 or more, call 281-367-9717 or email christina@texasgrouptickets.com. Contact Christina for patches.

Deadline to purchase group tickets: One Week Prior to Event.

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