

# GSWO Resources

## *Fast Fundamentals*



### Overview

#### Volunteer Essentials

Volunteer Essentials is your reference for all things Girl Scout Policy. Think of this as your encyclopedia to Girl Scout volunteering. When you have a question, start with Volunteer Essentials. The answer is closer than you think!

#### Program Events Guide

The Program Events Guide is a listing of council and community sponsored activities across the council. Each page is filled with activities and skills that will create memories that last a lifetime – all while building leadership skills for girls across our 32 counties. Want to go camping, learn ballet, or explore caves? The guide is full of family events, badge workshops, volunteer learning, how to reserve properties and complete registration. Get ready for a year full of adventure and fun with Girl Scouts!

#### Safety Activity Checkpoints

In Girl Scouts, the emotional and physical safety and well-being of the girls is our top priority. Safety Activity Checkpoints outline the Safety Standards and Guidelines used in Girl Scouts, which apply to all Girl Scout activities. Please check Safety Activity Checkpoints prior to participating in any non-council sponsored event or activity for reminders on what things to keep in mind or materials to make sure you have on hand. (Ex. Parades, biking, and trampolining).

#### G.I.R.L Resource Centers

We have updated our G.I.R.L. Resource Centers across the council, with common items that troops can borrow to enrich their Girl Scout experience! A library of books, guides, kits, flags, and more for troops to check out for a ceremony, troop meeting, or other activities is found at each Girl Scout Center. Interested in reserving a room at one our Girl Scout Centers or council properties? We are committed to ensuring troops and service units have easy access to meeting spaces, including council property, so troops and service units may use council camps and service centers for regular meetings, for up to 3 hours at no charge. Please note, program resources may only be checked out for one week, unless confirmed by the program staff, by a Girl Scout volunteer, for Girl Scout use.

### Pearl of Wisdom

Engaging in active learning boosts girls' ability to develop leadership outcomes. At the community level: **64%** of girls who engage in active learning exhibit community problem-solving skills, compared to **16%** of girls who have not participated in this kind of learning!



## Activity 1: Volunteer Essentials Scavenger Hunt

### Instructions:

This is a great way to kick-off the year when handing out new Volunteer Essentials. Have participants bring Volunteer Essentials with them, or provide a few copies to each small group. Have the groups compete to see who can complete the scavenger hunt first using the Volunteer Essentials book.

### Facilitator Note:

Make sure to flag pages in your Volunteer Essentials with correct answer/page numbers. Feel free to add additional things to find.

1. Find the girl/adult ratio for Cadettes
2. Find the Child Abuse Hotline number
3. Find our policy on setting up a troop website
4. Find the Girl Scout Traditions & Celebrations
5. Find Troop Trips & Travel Safety
6. Find the information on creating a safe space for the girls.

## Activity 2: Program Events Guide Scavenger Hunt

### Instructions:

This is a great way to kick-off the year when handing out the new Program Events Guide. Have participants bring the Program Events Guide with them, or provide a few copies to each small group. Have the groups compete to see who can complete the scavenger hunt first using the Program Events Guide.

### Facilitator Note:

Make sure to flag pages in your Volunteer Essentials with correct answer/page numbers. Feel free to add additional things to find.

1. Find a STEM activity offered by a Community Partner for a Brownie in the Dayton area to attend.
2. How do you reserve a council property for less than 3 hours?
3. What page can you find all Cadette events?
4. When does Summer Resident and Day Camp open?
5. How many opportunities are there council wide to attend Troop Camp Training?
6. Find a Journey Jumpstart for Seniors.
7. Where can you find information on higher awards?
8. How do you register for council events?
9. Where can you find information about traveling the world in partnership with Girl Scouts of Western Ohio?
10. Who are you going to call with questions?

## Activity 3: Resource Center

### Instructions:

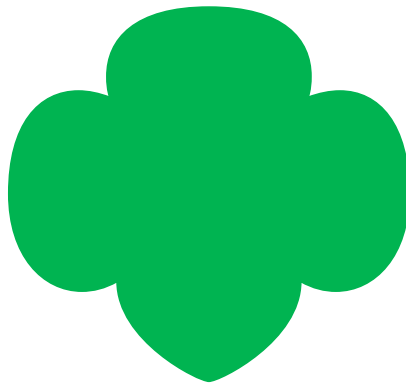
Have the group decide whether each item is available at our G.I.R.L. Resource Centers. Facilitator read items out loud and have participants call out responses. Answers listed below.

Binoculars	TRUE
Bandanas	FALSE
Glue	FALSE
S'mores	FALSE
Compasses	TRUE
GS Staff Member	FALSE
First Aid Kit	FALSE
Tent	FALSE
Lemme Sticks	TRUE
AED	FALSE
Bridge	TRUE
Flag Ceremony Kit	TRUE
Firewood	FALSE
Girl Guidebooks	TRUE
Cookie Costumes	TRUE
Archery Bows	FALSE
Fishing Safety Kit	TRUE



## S'more Info

G.I.R.L Resource Center	Council Properties	Program Event Guide
 <p><a href="https://gsw.org/resourcecenter">gsw.org/resourcecenter</a></p>	 <p><a href="https://gsw.org/properties">gsw.org/properties</a></p>	 <p><a href="https://gsw.org/programmeventguide">gsw.org/programmeventguide</a></p>
Volunteer Essentials	Safety Activity Checkpoints	Girl Scouts of Western Ohio Council Shop
 <p><a href="https://gsw.org/volunteeressentials">gsw.org/volunteeressentials</a></p>	 <p><a href="https://gsw.org/volunteeressentials">gsw.org/volunteeressentials</a> &gt; Safety</p>	 <p><a href="https://gsw.org/shop">gsw.org/shop</a></p>



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