



Brownie WOW! Wonders of Water Activity Plan 1

LOVE Water Award

Purpose: When girls have earned this award, they'll know the value of water and how to conserve it.

Planning Guides Link: Leadership

Activity Plan Length: 1.5 hours

Involve Family and Friends: Participation from family and friends can enrich your troop's Girl Scout experience, both for the girls and for you. Use the suggestions below to make it easier for you to connect with additional support.

- Before the meeting:
 - Send a note to families to find those with interest in or expertise with the topic. Ask them to lead or support an activity or two, or even lead the whole meeting.
 - Offer this activity plan as a starting place and point out that they may choose alternative activities using the *Customize It!* section as a guide. For example: If an activity plan directs girls to sit outside and observe animal habitats, you may choose to go to the zoo and learn about animal habitats there instead.
- At home:
 - Encourage families to ask questions about their girls' badge activities. Some examples that work for any badge include: What did you learn? What surprised you? What does it make you think of trying next?
- Throughout the year:
 - Suggest to families ways that girls can share or display their Girl Scout accomplishments. Possibilities include a bulletin board, a scrapbook, a special memories box or family sharing time.

Girls Take the Lead: Include girl leadership through long-term planning, short-term meeting prep and specific activities at meetings.

- Long Term Planning
 - If you use "Plan Your Brownie Year", share this with the girls at the start of the year. Have them ask friends and family to help out with specific meetings or activities. Let the girls brainstorm ways to make the plans their own, such as thinking of related field trip activities. If a girl has experience with a field trip, ask her to be assistant tour guide.
 - If you are adapting the "Plan Your Brownie Year", get the girls' input on which badges to choose. Offer just a few choices in each category or timeframe to make decisions easier. Every girl should have at least one badge or journey she's excited about.
- Short Term Planning
 - Ask a family to help lead a badge. Make sure they have access to activity plans and any resources you might have. Keep additional requested materials to a minimum.
 - Choose two helpers to stay after a meeting for 15 minutes. Give them each an activity to introduce and either instruct or help guide at the next meeting.
 - Before a meeting, ask everyone to vote on some aspect of the activity: draw posters or perform skits, open with a song or game, etc.

- Use a rotating list of helper tasks, called a 'kaper chart', to share responsibilities. Examples include acting as emcee of the meeting, leading an opening game, bringing a snack next meeting or taking attendance.
- At the Meeting
 - During the opening, have 1-2 girls share their answers to a get-to-know-you question.
 - Have girls fulfill their kaper chart responsibilities.

Try to find something in each activity that you can let girls decide or manage.

Customize It: If your group wants to expand work on this award or simply try different activities, go for it! There are many ways to complete this award, including: completing the activities as listed in the *Wow! Wonders of Water Journey*, completing this activity plan and take home activities, attending a council-sponsored event or customizing activities. Pick the one(s) that work best for your group. Girls will know they have earned the LOVE water award if:

- They can list things they know and love about water
- They make and carry out one personal promise that protect water

Girls can continue their WOW! Wonders of Water Journey by earning the remaining awards: SAVE Water Award, SHARE Water Award and WOW! Award.

Tips and Tools

- Girl Scout Cadettes who are working on the *It's Your Planet—Love It! Breathe Journey* can earn their Leadership in Action (LiA) Award by assisting with these activities. Contact your Service Unit Manager to find girls in your area who may be interested in assisting your group. Requirements for the *WOW! Wonders of Water* LiA award can be found in the *It's Your Planet—Love It! WOW! Wonders of Water* and *It's Your Planet—Love it! Breathe* adult guides.
- Check out ways to stay safe using Safety-Wise at <http://gsrv.gs/safetywise>.
- Ensure that your activities are accessible to everyone. Ask in advance if any special accommodations need to be made. If you have questions regarding specific adaptations, please contact River Valleys at 800-845-0787.
- Add a special focus on active, healthy living by using the Healthy Habit booklet from GSUSA.

Resources

- This activity plan has been adapted from the *It's Your Planet—Love It! WOW! Wonders of Water Journey*, which can be used for additional information and activities.
- The coloring sheet from this activity plan is from the Groundwater Foundation at www.groundwater.org

Getting Started

Time Allotment: 15 minutes

Materials Needed:

- Optional: Girl Scout Promise and Law printed out on poster board

Steps:

1. Welcome everyone to the meeting.
2. Recite the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Use repeat-after-me or say it as a group if girls know it by heart.
- 3.

Girl Scout Promise	Girl Scout Law
<i>On my honor, I will try:</i> To serve God and my country, To help people at all times, And to live by the Girl Scout Law.	<i>I will do my best to be</i> honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do,

	<i>and to</i> respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.
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4. Sing the Brownie Smile Song. Use repeat-after-me or sing as a group if girls know it by heart.

The Brownie Smile Song
I've got something in my pocket It belongs across my face I keep it very close at hand In a most convenient place I'm sure you wouldn't guess it If you guessed a long, long while So I'll take it out and put it on It's a great big Brownie Smile!

Activity #1: Brownies LOVE Water Because...

Journey Connection: Session 1—Opening Ceremony: Favorite Water Activities

Time Allotment: 10 minutes

Prep Needed:

- None

Materials Needed:

- None

Steps:

1. Have everyone stand in a circle. If you have a large group, have them split into smaller groups to save time.
2. Have girls start by saying, "My name is _____ and I love water because..." As each girl finishes the sentence, have her perform an action showing why she loves water.
 - E.g. "My name is Pam and I love water because I can go swimming" and make a swimming action.
3. Have the next person in the line repeat what the first girl said, with the actions, and then add their own description and action.
 - E.g. "Her name is Pam and she loves water because she can go swimming" and make a swimming motion, "My name is Jenny and I love water because I can drink cold lemonade on a hot day" and pretend to drink from a straw.
4. Continue around the circle. By the time you get all the way around the circle, you will likely have to help girls remember some of the things said.
5. As a group, repeat all the reasons the girls love water with the actions.

Activity #2: Playing with Raindrops

Journey Connection: Session 2—Option: States of Water Stations

Time Allotment: 15 minutes

Prep Needed:

- Gather materials and supplies.
- Fill spray bottles with water.
- Cut a one-foot by one-foot square of wax paper for each girl.

Materials Needed:

- Wax paper
- Spray bottle
- Water
- Plastic drinking straws
- Paper towels
- Optional: Plastic trays

Steps:

1. Give each girl a sheet of wax paper and a straw.
2. Spray each girl's sheet of wax paper with a spray of water.
3. Have the girls move their water droplets around with the straw. They should notice that the smaller water droplets stick to each other. The more they play with the water, the more likely they are to have fewer, larger droplets. Explain that this is what happens to water droplets in clouds. Eventually they become large enough to fall to the ground as raindrops.

Activity #3: Snack Chat

Journey Connection: Questions link to Session Two—"Green" Tea for a Blue Planet: From Hot to Cold and Vapor to Solid

Time Allotment: 15 minutes

Steps:

1. While enjoying a healthy snack of your choice, here are some things to talk about:
 - When water falls from the clouds, it's called precipitation. Do you know of any other types of precipitation besides rain? *Snow, sleet, freezing rain, drizzle*
 - Besides clouds, where else can you find liquid water? *Lakes, rivers, oceans, ponds streams*
 - What about hidden water? Can anyone think of other places water is hiding? Think about what happens when you drink water or where we get our drinking water. *Water can be found in plants and animals, as well as in the soil and deep underground. When water is below the surface, it is called ground water.*
 - What happens to water when it gets very cold? *It freezes into ice.* Where can you find ice on earth? *In snow, in sea ice, also called glaciers, or in ice packs on top of mountains and at the poles.*
 - What happens to the puddles after it rains? Does the water stay liquid? *Some water flows into lakes and rivers, but some evaporates into a gas.* Does anyone know what water is called when it becomes a gas? *Water vapor.* Where on earth can we find water vapor? *Everywhere! Even though we can't see it, it is all around us. That's why some days it feels really sticky outside because there is a lot of water vapor in the air.*
 - Does anyone know what it is called when water moves around the earth while turning from water into ice and water vapor and back again? *The water cycle.*
2. Optional: Give the girls water cycle coloring sheets to take home.

Activity #4: Water Conservation Charades

Journey Connection: Session 1—Protecting Water: Living the Girl Scout Law and Session 2—Send it Home: MY Water Promise

Time Allotment: 20 minutes

Prep Needed:

- Gather materials and supplies.
- Print and cut out the “Water Conservation Charades” cards at the end of this activity plan.
- Print and cut out paper water droplets at the end of this activity plan.

Materials Needed:

- “Water Conservation Charades” cards
- Stop watch
- Paper water droplets (one per girl)

Steps:

1. Have the girls split into groups of two–three. Give each group a “Water Conservation Charades” card.
2. Give the groups about five minutes to come up with a skit that demonstrates the water-saving strategy on their card and explains why it helps save water.
3. Have each group take turns acting out their skit. Have the girls watching guess the strategy. Give further explanation, if needed.
4. If time allows, repeat Steps 1-3 with different cards.
5. Have girls pick one way they learned to save water or come up with one of their own. They will each make a promise to do one thing to save water before the next meeting.
6. Hand out paper water droplets. On the front of the drop, have the girls write one thing they know about water and one thing they love about water. On the back of the drop, have girls write their water conservation promise.

Wrapping Up

Time Allotment: 15 minutes

Materials Needed:

- Optional: Water Everywhere Chant printed on poster board

Steps:

1. Instruct girls to get into a Friendship Circle. Have girls stand in a circle and cross their right arms over their left, holding hands with the person on each side of them.
2. Do the Water Everywhere chant. Use repeat-after-me or make a poster board with the words and have everyone say it as a group.

The Water Everywhere Chant
Water, water here and there We are Brownies and we care Liquid flows and vapor rises Snowflakes drift and ice disguises Water changes round and round Brownies watch the rain fall down.

3. After the chant, ask everyone to be quiet.
4. Assign a girl to start the friendship squeeze by gently squeezing her neighbor’s hand with her right hand. Then, that girl squeezes with her right hand. One by one, each girl passes the squeeze until it travels around the circle. When the squeeze returns to the girl who started, she says “Goodbye Sister Girl Scouts” and the girls unwrap and face outward instead of inward.
5. Optional: Have girls think about their water promise after their hand has been squeezed and before they pass the squeeze along. Girls can also put their right foot out into the circle when they receive the friendship squeeze, so that everyone can see it travel along the circle.

More to Explore

- Field Trip Ideas:
 - Visit a lake or water park and have water fun.
 - Visit a state or national park and learn about what they do to conserve water and keep it clean.
- Speaker Ideas:
 - Invite someone from the Department of Natural Resources, The Freshwater Society, your local watershed district or your local soil and conservation district to talk about how they protect water.
 - Invite an employee from the National Weather Service to talk about weather and the water cycle.

Suggestions

Do you have any suggestions to improve this activity plan? Do you have ideas for other possible badge-earning activities? Please email troopsupport@girlscoutsv.org.

Family Follow-Up Email

Use the email below as a template to let families know what you did at the meeting today. Feel free to add additional information, including:

- When and where you will be meeting next
- What activities you will do at the next meeting
- Family help or assistance that is needed
- Supplies or materials that girls will need to bring to the next meeting
- Reminders about important dates and upcoming activities

Hello Girl Scout Families:

We had a wonderful time learning about water and the water cycle on our way to earning the WOW! Wonders of Water LOVE Water Award. We also learned about ways we can conserve water.

We had fun:

- Getting to know each other and why we all love water.
- Playing with raindrops and learning about the water cycle.
- Performing skits about ways we can conserve water.
- Making a water conservation promise.

Continue the fun at home:

- Help your Brownie keep her water conservation promise.*
- Work on the water cycle coloring sheet with your daughter.
- Help your Brownie see the water cycle in action. Fill a small zipper bag about half full with water and tape it outside in the sun. Check on the bag occasionally to see what's happening.
- Look at the *WOW! Wonders of Water* Journey Book and read about the adventures of Campbell, Jamila and Alejandra, and the Brownie Elf.

*Completing this activity is part of earning the WOW! Wonders of Water LOVE Water Award. Please help your Girl Scout complete this step.

Thank you for bringing your Brownie to Girl Scouts!

Water Conservation Charades Cards

<p>Turn off the water while you're brushing your teeth. Just use the water to rinse the toothbrush and rinse out your mouth.</p> <p>Why: About one gallon of water per minute goes down the drain while you brush.</p>	<p>Keep water in the fridge instead of using the faucet.</p> <p>Why: If you leave the tap running while you wait for water to cold, you're letting water go down the drain.</p>
<p>Take a short shower instead of a bath.</p> <p>Why: A full bathtub is about 40 gallons of water, but a 10-minute shower (with a newer showerhead) uses only 25 gallons.</p>	<p>Collect rainwater from your roof to water plants.</p> <p>Why: Rainwater is normally absorbed into the soil, but buildings prevent it from happening. By using this water, you'll use less water from the tap.</p>
<p>Turn off the water while you wash your hands. Wet your hands, turn the water off and then turn it back on to rinse.</p> <p>Why: In the 30 seconds it takes to wash your hands, you save half a gallon of water.</p>	<p>Don't use your toilet as a trash can.</p> <p>Why: Every time you flush your toilet, you use about five gallons of water.</p>
<p>Help your parents check pipes for leaks (Under the sink, in the basement, etc.).</p> <p>Why: Even a slow leak can waste up to 2,700 gallons of water in a year and may cause water damage to your home.</p>	<p>Eat less meat and more plants.</p> <p>Why: Plants use water to grow. Animals eat plants that use water AND drink water themselves.</p>
<p>Teach others about water conservation.</p> <p>Why: If you teach two people, and they teach two people, and so on, eventually we'll get the message out to everyone!</p>	<p>Collect water when you're waiting for it to get hot/cold and use it for cooking.</p> <p>Why: You will collect about one gallon per minute of perfectly good water that would have gone down the drain.</p>

<p>Tell your parents if you notice a dripping faucet so they can get it fixed.</p> <p>Why: Even a slow leak can waste up to 2,700 gallons of water in a year.</p>	
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Extra

Visit <http://gsrv.gs/1Tuqjr5> to see how water moves through the hydrologic cycle.

Water Droplets

