

# Tips for Brownie Meetings

**Be prepared:** Set up materials, make sure all adults involved know their roles at the meeting.

**Pre-Meeting Activity:** Allow girls to learn to work independently, gives leaders a chance to greet each girl and family members. Puzzles, drawing, books, a game everyone knows.

**Connect with Each Girl:** Take the time to greet each girl and find out how she is feeling. If the girls are full of energy, you may want to save that quiet activity for another time.

**Five & One Minute Warnings:** Transitioning can be difficult for girls of this age group. Time warnings help.

- **Establish Routines:** Lets girls know what to expect, and gives them ownership of their meeting. Use Kaper Charts, let them know where things are kept, off limit areas, etc.
- **Opening Ceremony:** Single flag ceremonies, group cheers, singing favorite songs, reciting the Promise and Law, etc. Use kapers to involve girls in planning the opening ceremony.
- **Brownie Ring:** Involve the girls in planning.
- **Snack Time:** Girls can take turns bringing the snack, and passing them out. This should be an enjoyable and informal time when the girls can relax and enjoy bring together.
- **Clean Up:** Clean up is a troop responsibility, and a real chance for the girls to learn to be responsible. All of the girls should help with the clean up, and one or two girls can be assigned as checkers on the kaper chart.
- **Closing Ceremony:** Friendship circle and squeeze, say good-bye in other languages, group hug, sing a song, etc. Use kapers to involve the girls in planning.
- **Goodbye:** Make sure to learn who is responsible for picking up each girl.

## Snack Bucket

Your daughter has brought home the Brownie Troop Snack Bucket. Please send it back with your daughter to our next meeting with enough healthy snacks for \_\_\_\_\_ girls. Girls in our troop are allergic to: \_\_\_\_\_

**“Helping Hands”** – attach some gloves to a ribbon and let girls with “clean up” as a kaper wear these around their shoulders. OR, trace hands on heavy paper and cut out, staple to some yarn.

### **Tips for Leaders on Behavior Control**

- Be honest with the girls. You have some expectations that are not negotiable - health and safety standards.
- Work towards creating a positive team atmosphere in the meeting.
- Girls can learn to discipline themselves if:
  - They feel secure, trusted and valued
  - They understand the rules, help make the rules, know the rules and know why the rules exist.
  - They are involved in planning their activities.
- If you believe a girl is at risk of hurting herself or others, your role is to get her the expert assistance she needs:
  - Contact staff members at your local Girl Scout Office and find out how to refer girls and their parents/guardians to experts at school or in the community
  - Share your concern with the girl's family, if this is feasible.
  - More information is available in your "Volunteer Essentials Resource Guide"