

Glossary of Girl Scout Terms



GSGLA Glossary of Girl Scout Terms

ALF	Adult Learning Facilitator. One who guides the learning process.
<u>Alumnae</u>	Female adult who had a Girl Scout experience as a girl, volunteer, or as a staff member.
<u>Application</u>	The form used by volunteers to complete the on-boarding process to become a volunteer for GSGLA
Award Certificate Template	Template available for use to make certificates for volunteer recognition at any level.
Baden-Powell, Robert	Lord Robert Baden-Powell was the founder of the Boy Scouts and Girl Guide movements for boys and girls. Olav, his wife, was the first World Chief Guide.
Badges	Embroidered Girl Scout earned proficiency badges. Used to indicate increased knowledge and skills in a particular subject.
Bridging	When girls move from one program grade level to the next; may include an award for the girls completing the bridging award requirements, and likely will include a ceremony.
Bridging Ceremony	Ceremony celebrating the transition from one program grade level to the next.
Bronze Award	The highest award Girl Scout Juniors can earn. Earned by girls in the 4th-5th grades. It recognizes efforts in a wide range of Girl Scout experiences and a commitment to working to better ones' life and the lives of others.
Brownie	Girl Scout in 2nd-3rd grade.
Brownie Ring	Form of troop government used by Girl Scout Brownies. The girls sit in a circle; all share in planning, problem solving, and decision-making.
Buddy System	Safety practice that groups two or three girls together to keep watch over each other in an activity (for example, swimming, hiking). The system places girls of equal ability in the same group.
Campout	Overnight camping with outdoor trained and experienced volunteer leaders.
Campus Girl Scout	Girl Scout who belongs to a campus Girl Scout group while attending college.
CEO	Chief Executive Officer, the head administrative officer for the entire Council.

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Circles	Physical formations to help create an inclusive “safe space”.
Color Guard	Girl Scouts who carry, guard, raise, and /or lower the flag.
<u>Cool Tools</u>	Resource page on website to find ideas, tools, and information on anything Girl Scouts.
Cooperative Learning	All members of a group work together towards a common goal that can only be accomplished with the help of others. One of the three "processes" integral to a high-quality Girl Scout experience.
Core Business Strategy	Provides a vision for the transformation of Girl Scouting by creating one consistent national leadership experience for girls that ties activities to outcomes. The strategy calls for closing the gap between the "present state" and a desired "future state". Many of the changes in the future state relate to taking Girl Scouts' past strengths and traditions and focusing renewed energy on them.
Core Camp	Camping event for which the council provides the site, facilities, and administrative staff, including Level II first aider and program staff.
Council	Corporation chartered by Girl Scouts of the USA that is responsible for the development, management, and maintenance of Girl Scouting in a defined geographic area.
Council Orientation	Council Orientation teaches basic Girl Scout knowledge, responsibilities, and is the final step in the onboarding process for new volunteers.
Counselor in Training (CIT)	Girl Scout Senior or Ambassador who has taken a training course to learn camp counselor skills.
Court of Awards	Ceremony to distribute earned awards and recognitions to Girl Scouts.
Court of Honor	Troop/group decision-making and planning body that represents all members of the troop/group. Composed of patrol leaders, troop/group officers, and leaders/advisors.
Criminal Background Check (CBC)	Process used to verify a volunteer’s background information. At GSGLA, the safety of the girl is the most important consideration in the appointment of volunteers.
Daisy	Girl Scout in kindergarten or 1st grade. The nickname of Juliette Gordon Low.
Daisy Circle	Girl Scout Daisy's introduction to troop government where she learns the formal group decision-making process.

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Day Camp	Program conducted within a 12 hour period for a minimum of 2 days. Girls register as individual participants and are placed in temporary units for program activities. Day camping also includes programs run at urban centers, city centers, and schools.
Destinations	Trip or event beyond girls' own troops and councils. For Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors. For more information go to www.girlscouts.org or www.studio2b.org .
Direct Volunteer	Volunteer who works directly with girls. Usually a troop/group leader; can be involved in other pathways such as travel, series, camp, virtual, and events.
Early Bird Registration	Registration period for existing troops/groups for the upcoming membership year.
eBiz	Online registration process used to register for GUSA membership, girl programs and adult learning courses
e-Learning	Electronic learning opportunities; internet, webinars, etc.
Emergency Contact Person	Person to call in an emergency or for guidance and advice who is not at the activity or function. This person should have all pertinent information to assist in an emergency.
Facilitator	Individual skilled in helping adults learn. A specially trained volunteer who conducts leaning opportunities at the council level.
First Aider	Adult who has completed training and is currently certified in pediatric, and/or adult first aid/CPR. See <i><u>Volunteer Essentials</u></i> Chapter 4 Safety Wise for more information.
Fly-Up	When Brownies bridge to Juniors, it's called "flying up". This is how they earn their Brownie wings. Girls who fly up from Brownies can wear their wings on their vest/sash at every future program grade level.
Friendship Circle	Symbolic gesture in which Girl Scouts form a circle by clasping each others hands, right arm over the left arm and sing a song. Often used as a closing ceremony.
Friendship Squeeze	Within a friendship circle, one person gently squeezes the hand of the next person and the squeeze is silently passed around the circle.
Fund Raising	Annual giving events and fund raising programs run by adults in the Council.
Girl Guide	Original name for Girl Scouts which is still used in WAGGGS member countries around the world.

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Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting	A handy binder system with sections that work with the national leadership Journeys, a handbook, badges, and accessory pages for girls' personal contributions.
<u>Girl Scouting 101</u>	An online orientation that introduces new volunteers to the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE), Journey resources, The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting and much more.
Girl Scout Birthday	March 12th is the Girl Scouts of the USA birthday. It marks the first meeting of Girl Scouts in Savannah, Georgia in 1912.
Girl Scout Grade Levels	Daisy (K-1) Brownie (2-3) Junior (4-5) Cadette (6-8) Senior (9-10) Ambassador (11-12).
Girl Scout Group	Group with a specific interest, i.e. sports, outdoor activities, literacy, robotics, etc. or multiple grade levels.
Girl Scout Handshake	Formal way of greeting other Girl Scouts by shaking with the left hand, while giving the Girl Scout sign with the right hand.
Girl Scout Junior	Girl Scout in 4th - 5th grades.
Girl Scout Law	Girl Scout Law is the credo of Girl Scouting. A girl lives the 10 parts of the Girl Scout Law to fulfill the Girl Scout Promise.
Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE)	The engine for everything girls do in Girl Scouting. The experience identifies all the elements that need to be in place for Girl Scouting to achieve its mission; Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. When Discover, Connect, and Take Action activities are combined with the Girl Scout Processes of Girl-Led, Learning by Doing, and Cooperative Learning, girls achieve the desired and expected short-term leadership outcomes, ultimately resulting in Girl Scouting achieving its mission.
Girl Scout Sign	Official Girl Scout greeting. The right hand is raised shoulder high with the three middle fingers extended and the thumb crossing over the palm to hold down the little finger.
Girl Scout Slogan	"Do a good turn daily"

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Girl Scout Troop	Basic unit in Girl Scouting consisting of girls, adult leaders, and troop committee members. One of 6 pathways girls can participate in Girl Scouting.
<u>Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles (GSGLA)</u>	Our Council that covers Los Angeles County including parts of San Bernardino and Kern counties. The result of the realignment of six former legacy councils.
Girl Scouts' Own	Quiet inspirational ceremony planned by girls, having a central theme chosen by the girls.
<u>Girl Scouts of the USA GSUSA</u>	National organization of Girl Scouts. Headquartered in New York, NY. Membership dues are paid to GSUSA. Website is www.girlscouts.org
<u>Girl Scout Safety Guidelines</u>	12 safety guidelines derived from the 35 standards from <i>Safety-Wise</i> . Every adult in Girl Scouting is responsible for the physical and emotional safety of girls, and we demonstrate that by agreeing to follow these standards at all times.
Girl Scout Week	Annual celebration during the week of March 12, (the Girl Scout Birthday) to celebrate the beginning of Girl Scouts in the USA.
Girl/Adult Financial Assistance	Scholarship program for girls and adults who need financial assistance to participate in Girl Scout activities and training.
Girl-Led	Girls play an active role in planning activities, while adults provide guidance, ensuring that planning, organization, and set-up are age-appropriate. Evaluation of all activities is done jointly with girls and is integral to a high-quality Girl Scout experience.
<u>Gold Award</u>	Highest award a Girl Scout Senior or Girl Scout Ambassador can earn. It recognizes efforts in a wide range of Girl Scout experiences and commitment within the community. Girls must complete specific requirements and community service to earn this highest of awards.
Gold Award Mentor	Adult volunteer who mentors and advises a girl who is in the process of earning her Gold Award.
Grade Level	Progressive grade levels of the Girl Scout program for girls aged 5-17. Daisy (K-1), Brownie (2-3), Junior (4-5), Cadette (6-8), Senior (9-10), Ambassador (11-12).
GSGLA Regions	Three geographic regions used to organize and administer the Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles. Southeast, North, and Southwest.
<u>iCalendar</u>	Calendar application used to coordinate calendars on smart phones. Available for GSGLA program, adult learning, other events, and office holiday closures.

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Indirect Volunteer	Volunteer who does not work directly with girls. Can be a board member, facilitator, service team member, etc.
Insignia	Girl Scout official emblem, buttons, badges, pins, and other official forms of recognition which may be worn on the uniform by registered members
Badge formally known as Interest Project Award (IPA)	Official awards earned by Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors for proficiency in a specific area.
Investiture	Special ceremony in which a new member accepts the Girl Scout Law and Promise and receives the membership pin.
<i>It's Your Journey, Customize It!</i>	Along with the tips and suggestions in the girls' book and the adult guide on how to customize a journey, the GSUSA resource, <i>It's Your Journey—Customize It!</i> can guide volunteers and council staff in bringing the excitement of the journeys to girls in ways that best suits their interests and needs. <i>It's Your Journey—Customize It! Planning Guide</i> (aka "the stripey book") offers tips and examples for amplifying leadership journeys.
Journey Guide for Adult Volunteers	"How to" book for adults that corresponds to the girls' book at every grade level. Journey guides include information on how specific activities and experiences tie to leadership outcomes by using the Leadership keys and the three Girl Scout processes. They include sample sessions for adults and girls to customize to bring the journey to life.
Journeys	Process used to engage girls at each grade level in exploring the three keys to leadership, earning awards, experiencing Girl Scout history and tradition, while having fun adventures and challenges. Journeys are planned purposefully toward specific leadership outcomes. An accompanying "how to" guide for adult volunteers is available for each Journey.
Juliette Girl Scout	Girl who has chosen to be an individually registered Girl Scout of any grade level. This term is no longer in use, these girls are now known as Individually Registered Girls.
Juliette Gordon Low	The founder of the Girl Scout Movement in the United States.
Juliette Gordon Low's Birthday	Special Girl Scout day celebrating Juliette's birthday on October 31.
Juliette Low World Friendship Fund	Fund set aside to help Girl Scouts travel to events in other countries and to bring Girl Guides to the United States. All Girl Scouts are encouraged to contribute annually.

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Kaper Chart	Chart that divides the jobs within the troop/group. It usually rotates the jobs in some way. So that everyone experiences each job and has the opportunity for leadership.
Leader/Co-Leader	Trained adult volunteer who meets regularly with and gives guidance to a troop or group of girls.
Leadership Keys: Discover, Connect, Take Action	Term encompassing the Discover, Connect, and Take Action components of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. In Girl Scouting the definition of leadership is: Discover + Connect + Take Action = Leadership. Discover - Girls understand themselves and their values and use their knowledge and skills to explore the world. Connect - Girls care about, inspire, and team with others locally and globally. Take Action - Girls act to make the world a better place, using critical thinking skills to get at the roots of an issue and strive toward lasting change.
Learning by Doing	"Hands-on" learning process that engages girls in cycles of action and reflection resulting in deeper understanding of concepts and mastery of practical skills. One of the three processes integral in a high-quality Girl Scout experience.
Learning Modules	Training designs that help facilitate adult learning.
Mission Delivery Specialist	Staff specialists that deliver the Girl Scout mission of "Building Girls of Courage, Confidence, and Character who make the world a better place". Specialist work in one of the three delivery areas of Membership, Program, or Volunteer Development.
Membership Dues	\$12 fee paid annually to Girl Scouts of the USA for registration which goes directly to National Headquarters. One of the requirements for becoming a member of GSUSA.
Membership Pin	Either of two pins; the trefoil with three faces (contemporary style) or trefoil with eagle (traditional style) pin. These pins signify the acceptance of the membership requirements.
Money Earning Activity	Way for troops/groups to earn money for troop/group activities. Troops/groups must receive permission before beginning a money earning activity. For complete information click here .
Motto	"Be Prepared"
Multi-disciplinary Programming	Connecting skills and knowledge from multiple sources and experiences; applying skills and practices in various settings.

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My Own Badges	A badge earned only once per year, individual girls will work with a volunteer or advisor to create and complete a Make Your Own Badge. Developed for girls to learn how to learn and teach themselves any skill throughout their lives, these badges can be designed and ordered online through GSUSA.
My Promise , My Faith	An annually earned award, " My Promise, My Faith" is Girl Scouting's own national faith recognition. Girls of all faiths can earn the pin and view it as a significant award that complements the current religious recognitions PRAY offers.
National Proficiency Badges	National proficiency badge categories within <i>The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting</i> will include Legacy, Financial Literacy, Cookie Business, Skill-Building, and Make Your Own badges. Daisy's still have Petals and four new Leaves for Financial Literacy and Cookie Business.
<u>National Program Portfolio</u>	A nationally consistent Girl Scout leadership experience utilizing Journeys and the Girls Guide to Girl Scouting.
<u>Outcomes</u>	There are 15 outcomes identified by the Girl Scout Research Institute and directly linked to the three GSUSA Leadership Keys - Discover, Connect, and Take Action. To evaluate whether these outcomes are being achieved, Girl Scout program activities will determine effectiveness and specific relevance through measurable indicators. The indicators will assess whether the program activities are meeting our goals, for and the needs of, our Girl Scouts and will help drive future program development.
Patches	Unofficial recognitions for participation in a troop/group or council-wide event. Worn on the back of the sash or vest.
Pathways	Various ways girls and adults can participate in Girl Scouting. Girl pathways include: Camp - girls can participate in a day or resident camp with a focus on the outdoors and/or environment. Events - girls participate in events (i.e. career day). Series - girls participate in a series of programs with the same group of girls relating to a specific theme or purpose. Travel - girls plan, earn money, prepare, and participate in trips. Troops - girls participate in a troop setting with the same girls over the course of the year. Virtual - girls participate using the internet.
Patrol	Small group of girls that plans and carries out activities within the troop/larger group.

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Patrol System	Form of troop government composed of patrols and a Court of Honor. Usually used by Girl Scout Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors.
Petals and Promise Center	Earned awards by Girl Scout Daisies. Girls earn the Promise Center by showing they understand the Girl Scout Promise. Girls earn Petals by showing they understand the 10 parts of the Girl Scout Law.
Policy	Established course of action determined by the Board of Directors of any Girl Scout Council. Policies must be followed. GSUSA policies are found in the <i><u>Blue Book of Basic Documents</u></i> .
Program Aide	Girl who has completed the 6th grade, who has taken a specialized training to help troop/group leaders with activities for their girls. Program Aides also help at day camps and core camps.
Purposeful Leadership	Purposeful leaders in Girl Scouting understand who they are and what they want to achieve for the benefit of girls. By discovering who you are on the inside, this knowledge can be used to effectively partner with girls.
Quiet Sign	Girl Scout signal for silence in a group situation. The person in charge raises her/his right hand and Girl Scouts fall silent as they raise their right hand also.
Recognition	Acknowledgement of accomplishment in the Girl Scout program. It may be a pin, certificate, patch, badge, letter, or other creative idea.
Recruiter	Adult Girl Scout support team member who actively attempts to involve new girls and adults in Girl Scouting.
<u>Safety Activity Checkpoints</u>	Used in conjunction with <u>Volunteer Essentials</u> , the checkpoints help you ensure the safety of your girls as you do activities throughout your Girl Scout adventures. The check points are formatted at checklists. They can be downloaded individually for your specific needs and planned activity.
<u>Safety Guidelines</u>	12 safety guidelines derived from the 35 standards from <i>Safety-Wise</i> . Every adult in Girl Scouting is responsible for the physical and emotional safety of girls, and we demonstrate that by agreeing to follow these standards at all times.

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Service Center	Council facility where staff offices and some council shops are located. GSGLA has seven service centers. Southeast- Arcadia and Montclair, North Region – Woodland Hills, Palmdale, Santa Clarita, Southwest Region – Marina Del Rey and Long Beach GSGLA Headquarters - Downtown Los Angeles.
Service Unit	Geographic unit of troops/groups within a region which facilitates delivery of services and the Girl Scout program to girls and adults.
Service Unit Manager (SUM)	Adult volunteer manager or co-managers who manage the service unit support team and service unit. Responsible for directing the work of the service unit.
Service Unit Team	Group of adult volunteers who provide direct service to troops/groups within a service unit or local geographic unit.
<u>Silver Award</u>	Highest award earned by Girl Scout Cadettes. It recognizes efforts in a wide range of Girl Scout experiences and a commitment to working to better one's life and the lives of others.
Sister Troop	Troop that participates in activities with another troop.
Sit-Up-on	Lightweight pad or mat the girls make to "sit-upon" when the ground is dirty or damp.
Skill Building Badge Sets	Used within Journeys to build skills .While Journeys offer a broad view of leadership, badges offer a focus on one topic. Skill-Building Badge Activity sets were developed so girls could add on badges that reflect their interests.
Sponsor	Business or community organization or individual offering a troop/group assistance with financial support, resources, personnel, meeting locations, uniforms, book, etc.
Tag-a-long	Child who is not a registered Girl Scout or a registered Girl Scout not of the grade level for the specific program or event.
<u>thepixielistla.com</u>	Originating with Girl Scouts of Nation's Capital, the Pixie List serves as an online "classified" listing for community members, Girl Scouts and Girl Scout volunteers in the Greater Los Angeles area. Offer your services. Find a helping hand. Or gather materials needed for a Girl Scout project. This open source format helps people connect with others throughout the Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles.

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Thinking Day	Official Girl Scout day where girls traditionally learn about the cultures and traditions of WAGGGS member countries. This day also commemorates the birthdays of Lord and Lady Baden-Powell the founders of the Scouting Movement worldwide.
<u>Transforming Leadership</u>	Girl Scout Research Institute publication that identifies and explains 15 anticipated outcomes, or benefits, of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. This resource shows how to use the Leadership Experience as the engine for everything girls do in Girl Scouting.
Trefoil	International symbol of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting. The trefoil represents the three parts of the Girl Scout promise.
Troop Consultant	Volunteer service unit team position that provides on-going help and advice to the troop/group leader.
Badges formally known as Try-Its	Official earned awards by Girl Scout Brownies to show achievement.
<u>Volunteer Essentials</u>	Resource guide from GSUSA with guidelines for the health and safety of girls. Also contains council specific information. For all volunteers.
<u>Volunteer Match</u>	Website for volunteers looking for volunteer opportunities throughout the non-profit world.
Volunteer Recognition Event	Spring event held by GSGLA to honor and recognize our many outstanding volunteers. Honorees are nominated by their peers in Girl Scouting.
Volunteer Recognition Handbook	A resource for all National and GSGLA awards, criteria, and nomination forms used for council and service unit recognition events.
<u>Volunteering for Girl Scout Series and Events</u>	Online training from GSUSA for volunteers who will be volunteering with series and event programs.
<u>Volunteers of the Month</u>	A GSGLA online recognition venue for volunteers to recognize their peers for a job well done.
Welcome Session	A flexible and easy process for new volunteers to begin volunteering with girls. Information on Girl Scouts and responsibilities. This is the first step in the on-boarding process.
<u>World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS)</u>	Worldwide organization of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts with over 144 member countries of which GSUSA belongs to. WAGGGS headquarters are in London, England.