

5 Minute Global Enrichment

September 2024

Learning Opportunity for
Volunteers & Girls

Travel Progression



What is a "5 Minute
Global Enrichment?"

It's a short learning
opportunity focused on
global topics. Each is
unique, and will add a
global aspect to your

Girl Scout

programming.

So be sure to share
with other Girl Scout
members!



Have you met older Girl Scouts and heard of their awesome travel adventures to such places as Washington, DC, Savannah, GA, Costa Rica, or beyond? What was involved in getting Girl Scouts ready for that level of travel? Girl Scout Travel Progression is not just for girls, but leaders as well.

What is Travel Progression?

Progression is defined as the process of developing or moving gradually towards a more advanced state. Travel Progression allows girls to learn the skills they need to become confident travelers and increasingly gain proficiencies needed to take on larger trips. From day trips to globe-trotting, Girl Scouts become competent travelers—learning how to plan and organize trips at all levels.

Why do Girl Scouts need Travel Progression?

Girls need the courage and confidence that travel progression builds for trips of increasing length and distance from home. When moving through the levels of progression, consider girls' independence, flexibility, decision making skills, group skills, and cross-cultural skills. Girls should have experience at every level of the progression before moving on to the next level.

How do we get them there?

- **Local Day Trips** - Walk to a nearby garden, visiting the local police or fire departments. Keep it Girl-led by letting the girls:
 - Choose the local trip
 - Creating a 'what to bring' list
- **Day Trip** - Plan an all-day trip. Try a GSCO event, or local attraction. Girl Scouts are maturing, ready to take on more responsibility and can take longer trips. Keep it Girl-led by adding to the previous level and let the girls:
 - Choose the location and activities
 - Make a plan for lunch.
 - Create a packing list.
- **Overnight** - Help Girl Scouts plan their first single overnight. Start with one night, maybe at a camp or a museum. Or an overnight to a Girl Scout camp, city, or state park. Always keep it Girl-led by adding to the previous level and let the girls:
 - Plan the activities and meals
 - Pack their own overnight bags from the list of supplies they helped create!
- **Short Trip** - Spend 2-3 nights away, somewhere in Colorado, or up to a six-hour drive away from home. Always keep it Girl-led by adding to the previous level and let the girls:
 - Plan the budget and schedule.
- **Extended Trip** - The whole U.S.A. is open to you, so travel the country! These trips may last four or more nights, take place more than a six-hour drive away from home, have multiple routes of travel and/or overnight locations. Always keep it Girl-led by adding to the previous level and let the girls:
 - Plan entire trip, and even add a community service or Take Action project.
- **International Trip** - Travel the World! These life-changing international trips usually take one to three years for Troops to plan and prepare. Consider visiting a **WAGGGS World Centre!** Always keep it Girl-led by adding to the previous level and let the girls:
 - Use the many resources available and plan their entire trip including learning about the language and culture, passports and visas, exchange rates, and budgeting!
- **Independent Trip** - **Girl Scout Destinations!** Meet new friends and discover new places!

What can leaders and volunteers do?

Share this with your Girl Scouts. Explain to the girls that travel progression helps them learn the skills for longer and more complex trips while becoming confident travelers. Get in touch with GSCO as you start thinking about planning a trip to find out more about the approval process for overnight and extended travel. There is leader training that will raise your confidence as a chaperon. If you're planning any kind of trip, check out the "Travel" section on the GSCO Website.

As you progress through travel opportunities, ask the girls questions. Find out what they've done with their families and how far they've traveled with family members. You'll find a vast array of experiences. Girls with more travel experience will be able to support and help girls with less become more confident travelers. Keep your role limited to facilitate the girls' brainstorming and planning—never do all the work for them. Share your ideas and insight and ask tough questions when you have to. Support all their decisions with enthusiasm and encouragement!

Resources

- **Travel Progression Chart**
- **Letting Girls Lead**
- **Girl Scout Guide to U.S. Travel**
- **Girl Scout Guide to Global Travel**
- **Safety Activity Checkpoints**

Looking Ahead

Next month's Global Enrichment will be about International Day of the Girl.

Questions?

Have questions about GSUSA's Travel Progression? Or need additional resources? Send an email to inquiry@gscolorado.org, and they will put you in touch with a member of GSCO's Global Action Team.



Travel Progression



Local Field Trip

Visit a nearby spot, possibly during your regular meeting time.

Recommended for: Daisy, Brownie

Minimum age: Daisy

Day Trip

Plan an all-day trip. Try a council event or local attraction.

Recommended for: Daisy, Brownie, Junior

Minimum age: Daisy

Overnight

Help Girl Scouts plan their first single overnight—maybe at a council event, camp, or nearby attraction.

Recommended for: Brownie, Junior

Minimum age: Daisy (with Day Trip experience in Girl Scouting)

Short Trip

Spend two to three nights in your region, up to a six-hour drive away from home. Girl Scouts plan budget and schedule.

Recommended for: Junior, Cadette

Minimum age: Brownie (with Overnight experience in Girl Scouting)

Extended Trip

Travel the country! Extended trips last four or more nights OR take place more than a six-hour drive from home.

Recommended for: Cadette, Senior, Ambassador

Minimum age: Junior (with Short Trip experience in Girl Scouting)

International Trip

Travel the world! These life-changing trips usually take two to three years to save for, plan, and prepare.

Recommended for: Senior, Ambassador

Minimum age: Cadette (with Extended Trip experience in Girl Scouting)

Individual Travel

Individual Girl Scouts can sign up for independent travel and meet new Girl Scout friends through council-offered travel opportunities or GSUSA's Destinations program.

Recommended for: Senior, Ambassador

Minimum age: Cadette (with Extended Trip experience in Girl Scouting)

When moving up to the next step, consider each Girl Scout's independence, ability to work well in groups, flexibility, and experience with cultures other than their own.



Through progression, Girl Scouts build skills to become lifelong travelers and global citizens. Girl Scouts take the lead in planning a new adventure at every level.