**Brownie Celebrating Community Badge**

**Activity Plan 1**

**Badge Purpose:** When girls have earned this badge, they'll know about communities, how communities celebrate and what makes them special.

**Planning Guide Link:** Global Citizenship and Girl Scout Sisterhood

**Fun Patch Link:** Parade

**Activity Plan Length:** 1.5 hours

**Resources**
- This activity plan has been adapted from the Brownie *Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* Celebrating Community Badge, which can be used for additional information and activities.

**Activity #1: Community Collages**

**Badge Connection:** Step 1—Explore community symbols

**Time Allotment:** 20 minutes

**Materials Needed:**
- Plain paper and/or construction paper
- Coloring utensils
- Scissors
- Glue
- Old magazines

**Steps:**
1. Ask the girls to define a “community” and to talk about what makes something a community. Instruct the girls to think of all the communities they are a part of. Some examples may include Girl Scouts, schools, families, sports teams or recreation groups.
2. Pass out one sheet per girl and instruct them to create their own community collage by drawing one symbol or using one picture to represent each community of which they are a part.
3. As girls finish, encourage them to share what they created with a partner or gather back as a large group to share.

**Activity #2: Snack Chat and Singing Symphony Swap**

**Badge Connection:** Step 2—Sing Together

**Time Allotment:** 15 minutes

While enjoying snack, talk with the girls about how songs are ways communities celebrate who they are or make them unique and special from other communities. As a large group, ask the girls for examples of some songs that represent different communities. For example, “What songs do we sing in Girl Scouts?”
Other examples include:

- The National Anthem, Star Spangled Banner—represents the U.S.A.
- Take Me Out to the Ball Game—represents an American Baseball tradition

After snack is finished, divide girls up into small groups and instruct them to brainstorm, teach each other and rehearse one song that represents a community. After 10 minutes, they will perform it for the large group.

- If girls have a hard time getting started, ask them the following questions to help them get started:
  - Are there songs only your class or school knows?
  - Is there a special song a family member taught you?
  - Is there a song or chant that you learned at a particular camp or activity?

- Since each group will only showcase one song, tell the girls this may require one girl to teach the song to the rest of the group. Encourage the girls to be considerate and caring by allowing all ideas to be shared as their group chooses which song they will prepare and perform.

After 10 minutes, ask each group to share and perform their community song to the larger group.

**Activity #3: Brownie Pride Parade Party**

Badge Connection: Step 3—Follow the parade

Time Allotment: 25 minutes

Materials Needed:

- Paper grocery bags
- Large-roll sheet paper or newspaper
- Scissors
- Tape
- Optional: Candy
- Optional: Music player

Steps:

1. Prepare a walkway/space that will be the parade route.
2. Tell the girls that they are going to be a part of the Brownie Pride Parade and split the girls into small groups in separate corners of the room.
3. Instruct each group to determine a team name, which will be represented in the Brownie Pride Parade.
4. Tell the girls to choose one person in their group to be the parade walker. The parade walker will be dressed up by the other girls in her group. The remaining girls get to be the parade designers who create the parade walker’s outfit and get to watch the parade.
5. Next, the parade designers will create an outfit for their parade walker. The girls can use the paper and tape to create a fashionable outfit and accessories that represents their whole team. The parade walker will not participate in creating the outfit.
6. Allow the girls to design and dress up their parade walkers for 15–20 minutes. Then, line up the parade walkers for the parade, and the designers along the parade walkway.
7. Play music (if applicable) and allow the parade walkers to march through and showcase their team pride through the parade route, tossing candy to the parade designers.
More to Explore

- Field Trip Ideas:
  - Visit a local museum or a famous landmark in your town.
  - Go to a local parade or annual festival in your community.

- Speaker Ideas:
  - Invite an experienced marcher, military member, city mayor or an older Girl Scout troop to your meeting to talk about the importance of communities.

Customize It!: If your group wants to expand work on this badge or simply try different activities, go for it! There are many ways to earn this award, including: Completing the activities as listed in the Brownie Girl’s Guide to Girl Scouting, completing two of these activity plans, 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 award if:

  - They can identify a community and its characteristics, such as symbols and songs
  - They can demonstrate ways that communities celebrate or showcase their pride
  - They have participated in a community celebration

Family Follow-Up Email

Use the email below as a template to let families know what girls 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 today learning about communities and how they are special, and we are on our way to earning the Celebrating Community Badge.

We had fun:

- Thinking about the communities we are a part of and creating a community collage
- Singing and performing songs that represent different communities
- Having a fun “Brownie Pride Parade” of our own

Continue the fun at home:

- Take your Girl Scout on a hike or tour of your local community. Identify and learn together about the places, landmarks, museums, statues, plaques or gardens that make your hometown special.
- Attend or participate in a celebration in your local community together, such as a parade, festival or a grand opening ceremony.
- Look through the Girl’s Guide to Girl Scouting with your Brownie to find other activities you can try at home.

Thank you for bringing your Brownie to Girl Scouts!

This activity plan was adapted from Girl Scouts River Valleys.