Brownie Making Friends Badge Activity Plan 1

**Badge Purpose:** When girls have earned this badge, they’ll know how to be good friends.

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

**Fun Patch Link:** Friendship

**Activity Plan Length:** 1.5 hours

**Resources**
- This activity plan has been adapted from the Brownie Skill-Building Badge set for the *It’s Your Story—Tell It!* which can be used for additional information and activities.

**Activity #1: Hey, Me Too!**

**Badge Connection:** Step 1—Make friendly introductions

**Time Allotment:** 15 minutes

**Steps:**
1. Instruct the girls to stand and form a circle. Choose one girl to start in the middle.
2. Instruct each girl that when in the middle, she should introduce herself to the rest of the girls and then say something about herself.
3. Any girl(s) in the circle who shares in common the statement made by the girl in the middle must yell, “Hey, me too!” and leave her spot in the circle, give a high five to someone in the middle and run to find a different spot. The last person to find a spot is in the middle.
   - **Rule:** A girl cannot move to a spot that is directly next to her original spot.
   - **Tip:** If a girl gets caught in the middle twice in a row, have her switch with someone who has not been in the middle.

**Activity #2: Friend or Not? Game**

**Badge Connection:** Step 3—Share favorite activities

**Time Allotment:** 15 minutes

**Prep Needed:**
- Gather materials and supplies.
- Gather a deck of playing cards and remove all face cards and from the deck, leaving only cards 2-10.
- Place a masking tape loop on the back of each card.
- Write on the flipchart paper/easel or board:
  - Unpopular group: 2, 3, 4
  - In the middle: 5, 6, 7
  - Popular group: 8, 9, 10

**Steps:**
1. Tape one card to each girl’s back. Tell the girls not look at their card or to tell others what number they have on their back. Make sure all the girls can see the flip chart or board so they can refer to it during the game.
2. Explain to the girls that they are going to walk around and try to find and link arms with new
friends, and that the number on their back determines what group they are in. Numbers 8, 9 or 10 are the “popular” group. Numbers 2, 3 and 4 are the “unpopular” group. Numbers 5, 6 or 7 belong to neither group and are somewhere in the middle.

3. Instruct the girls that when you say “go,” to roam around the room looking at the numbers on other girls’ backs to try and find/link arms with new friends. If a girl finds a girl who is an 8, 9 or 10 (“popular girl”) she should say “Hi!” and try to link arms with her. Girls should say “Hi!” back to the girl and link arms if they are an 8, 9 or 10. If a girl is a 2, 3, or 4 (“unpopular girl”), she should turn her back on that girl and ignore her. If she is a 5, 6 or 7, she has a choice to accept/link arms or ignore the girl.

4. When distinct groups have formed, stop the game. Ask everyone who thinks they are an 8, 9 or 10 (“popular”) to raise their hand. Repeat the question for the other two groups. Have the girls look at their cards to see if they guessed their numbers correctly.

5. End with a group discussion:
   • Ask each group what it felt like to be in their group (accepted, not accepted or in the middle)
   • How is this game like making friends in real life?

**Activity #3: Friendship Role Play**

Badge Connection: Step 4—Learn how to disagree

Time Allotment: 15 minutes

Materials Needed:

- Pre-written scenario notecards
- Scenario examples:
  - Your friend wants to play soccer but you want to play dolls.
  - Your friend beats you in a game you are playing together.
  - Your friend says something to you that hurts your feelings.
  - Your friend is ignoring you because she is mad at you about something.
  - You and your friend both want to use the same jump rope at the same time.
  - Your friend forgot to bring a toy to play with at recess today.
  - Your friend is sitting all alone with no one to play with.

Steps:

1. Partner girls up into pairs. Have each pair draw a scenario card.
2. Give girls five minutes to quietly prepare the scene they are going to act out, including how to resolve their scenario. The scenes should be brief—no longer than one minute each.
3. Gather as a large group and allow each pair one minute to act out their scene in front of the rest of the group. After each skit, allow the group to discuss briefly what was acted out and the characteristics of good and bad friends.

**Activity #4: Snack Chat and Friendship Pledge**

Badge Connection: Step 5—Practice friendship!

Time Allotment: 15 minutes

Materials Needed:

- Snack
- Plain paper or construction paper
- Markers

Steps:

1. While enjoying a snack, review with the girls some of the things they learned about friendship today.
2. After snack is finished, pass out one sheet per girl and have everyone grab a marker. Tell the girls
they are going to find two girls and trace their handprints anywhere on their paper.

3. Next, tell them to grab a different color marker and search for two other girls and trace their handprints anywhere on the paper. Handprints should begin to overlap.

4. Once the handprints are traced, have girls shade in the shapes created from the overlapping hands with a variety of colors or designs.

5. Have the girls write, “I will be a good friend!” anywhere on their sheet and sign the bottom of their pledge. Encourage girls to display their friendship pledge in a place where they can see it everyday.

More to Explore

• Field Trip Ideas:
  o Coordinate with another Girl Scout troop to visit and attend their next troop meeting.
  o Attend a Girl Scout gathering, such as a council-sponsored program event or camp.

• Speaker Ideas:
  o Invite another Brownie troop or an older girl troop to your troop meeting.
  o Invite a camp counselor, teacher or an after-school program specialist to your troop meeting.

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 how to be a good friend and are on our way to earning the Making Friends Badge.

We had fun:

• Practicing introducing ourselves and getting to know one another better through a game called “Hey, Me Too!”
• Learning the challenges of acceptance and rejection within friendships in a game called, “Friend or Not?”
• Creating and decorating a “Friendship Pledge” to hang up at home.

Continue the fun at home:

• Help your Girl Scout make something special for a friend of hers, such as a card, poem or a small gift.
• Talk with your Girl Scout about her friends in real life, and how she can be a good friend.
• 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.