



Travel Bugs - Travel Skills & Beginning Trips for Daisies & Brownies

INTRODUCTIONS & HOUSEKEEPING

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WHY DO GIRL SCOUTS TRAVEL?

- Learn life skills – budgeting, map reading, self reliance, meeting new people
- Work toward a common goal with other girls on the trip
- Understand world problems in new ways & feel connected to the global community
- Learn about our sister girl scouts and guides around the world
- Practice languages, learn history, get exposed to art, music and culture.
- Have Fun!

GETTING STARTED WITH DAISIES AND BROWNIES

"What's your Troop's Dream?"....mention those dreams occasionally in troop meetings...ideas become goals...goals become reality!

Set Goals - Something you can do now like taking the ferry to Coronado for a picnic. Something you can plan for 2 years from now like camping at the beach!

Thinking Day - "Try on" different travel ideas each Thinking Day!

In Meetings - "Learn, taste, listen!" - Learn about other countries and cultures, try new foods, listen to music in another language. Expose the troop to the exciting differences in people around the world!

Integrate travel into Journeys and Badges - Daisies can take the bus to the local Senior Center and visit with seniors to be "considerate and caring", a transportation field trip might qualify for being "courageous and strong", take the bus to the police station or fire station to talk to authorities about



"respecting authority". Brownies can earn the hiker badge while taking an urban or nature hike on a field trip, visit the gardens at Cuyamaca College to learn about saving water as part of earning the Household Elf badge, go to Balboa Park to watch the San Diego Youth Ballet when you earn your Dancer badge, take the trolley to Fashion Valley to the Microsoft store for a computer workshop when you earn your Computer Expert badge. You can come up with a field trip idea for ALL the badges! Let your girls brainstorm where to go!

GIRL PLANNING

Every Meeting - Girl Planning should be part of *Everything* you do together! It's essential to Girl Scout Travel!

Progression in GP - Girls make simple choices...come to consensus...be independent.... brain storm...make a plan...do research....budget...fundraise...divide and conquer...take turns leading

BEGINNING TRAVEL SKILLS - *Travel develops Girls of Courage, Confidence and Character!*

TIME

Reading a Clock (make paper plate clocks - use one each meeting to indicate when you'll finish an activity.)

Budgeting Time (How long will it take us to do this? Agreeing to spend more time on something if you're having fun. How long will it take to get there? What are the hours of the place we're visiting? When will we get back?)

Meeting at a Certain Time (Practice things like "pick up trash in the school yard with your buddy and meet back here in 10 minutes, for Brownies - visit the zoo and see the reptiles and meet back here in 20 minutes...does every group have a watch?" Post adults in strategic spots but don't hover or follow each group...See - Independence)

MONEY

Understanding Denominations (play store with empty boxes and cans and make change, sell cookies to each other with real money so you learn what denominations look like)

Budgeting Money (we have this much...what can we afford to do? Explain the cost of things in terms of # of boxes they have to sell. Difference between wants and needs.)



Saving (When you're budgeting, put aside money for a future activity (not too far in the future for young girls)..talk about adding to your savings, talk about how it's growing, celebrate finally using the money you've saved. Perfect during cookie goal setting. Make a trip one of your goals!)

INDEPENDENCE

Safetywise Numbers (have many events that *are not* Mom and Me events! The girls will learn to be safe with a buddy and to learn to look after each other better without moms jumping to the rescue.)

Freedom with Boundaries (plan events like day camping and camping where girls can have freedom within boundaries, where they are safe to explore with a buddy.. "stay within the field" "stay where you can see me" "explore this area and meet back in 30 minutes", See - Meeting at a Certain Time.)

Sleepovers and Camping (overnights are a great way to practice independence! Learn to pack your own things, keep your things together, learn to have fun with the group, learn to be away from parents. Stay overnight when you go someplace like Disneyland -there is a great Girl Scout Property nearby. Visit a local hostel for a fun day or overnight program. See training and paperwork)



PACKING

Keep it Light (games carrying heavy and light suitcases. Learn to roll up a sleeping bag. Learn to follow a packing list. Learn to pack for the weather.)

CULTURAL AWARENESS

Embrace Differences (try the game about different cultures - slips of paper that tell you to act a certain way...smile when I'm talking...bow when we meet...stand close...stand farther away.)

Thinking Day is a good excuse to...Learn dances from other countries, listen to music in other languages and try new foods.

Watch a **foreign movie**....The Red Balloon in French is great for Daisies!

Learn to say some things in **other languages**...use "please and thank you" in other languages at troop meetings.



Become Adventurous Eaters (field trip to a farmer's market, Intl Cottages Balboa Park or Chinatown in LA and try little bites of different foods - figs, ethnic foods, dim sum..get one and share it, try of lots of different things. Cultural Kitchen program at Point Loma Hostel.)

Homelessness and Poverty (you'll encounter people who are poor and homeless when you travel. It's great to learn compassion and to be "street smart" as a troop.)

*Daisies and Brownies read a book like: Train to Somewhere - Eve Bunting, The Family Under the Bridge-Natalie Carlson, The Can Man- Laura Williams, Fly Away Home - Eve Bunting.

*Learn Safety - stay with a buddy, be aware, keep valuables safe.

*Learn Compassion - Sign up to serve a meal at a shelter, min age 10 at Father Joe's Village.



COMPROMISE

Learn to Take Turns (talking feather, kapers, leader for the day, tour guide)

Learn about Choices (game "hot dogs - hamburgers" "orange juice - milk" "dogs - cats", use information to make an informed choice...have each girl take turns advocating for something)

Brainstorm and Vote (all ideas are good, voting games - write choices on posters and vote with stickers, Agree: wave both your hands in the air ✓ No opinion: Fold your arms across your chest ✓ Disagree: put both thumbs down and stamp your feet)

Disappointment (What to do if one girl is not happy with the choice? Take turns getting your way, take turns leading the meetings)

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Reading Maps and Timetables (make it a game to see who can figure it out first, figure out how to get from here to there using bus, trolley, train and ferry. "Flip a coin" walk. Zoo maps are great for learning how to read a map!)



Learn Public Transportation Safety (What could happen...how can we prevent it? What will we do if it happens? stay with your buddy, stay alert, stay together, what to do if you forget to get off? What to do if we get separated? What if you forget something on the bus? How to recognize helpers by uniform. How and when to call 911.)

Learn Public Transportation Etiquette (how to safely stand, avoid being touched, be attentive, let others off before you get on, no open drinks, no music, elderly seats, talking quietly, have exact change, thank the driver.)

FUN FIELD TRIPS TO PRACTICE SKILLS - *It's the Journey not just the Destination!*

Transportation Field Trips Take the bus, trolley, ferry or train anywhere in San Diego County! Take a trip to get ice cream cones. Ride the trolley to the Children's Museum or to a Padres Game downtown. Take a bus to a park for a picnic and to take an urban hike around the neighborhood. Take the short ferry ride from downtown San Diego to Coronado, get pizza at the ferry landing and walk around to the bridge and back along the bay. The key is to use the trip to practice lots of travel skills so the girls are learning how to buy their own tickets, read a bus or trolley map, and to discover that it's fun to explore new places!

Hostelling International Programs Cultural Kitchen is a cooking and overnight program great for Brownies or Juniors! World Travel 101, Travel Bug Workshop, Discover the World.

Places To Go - ANYWHERE! You can reserve a campground site for around \$20-\$30 and just go camping for the day. Enjoy the outdoors, have a picnic and take a hike, build a campfire and sing some songs and go home. It's a wonderful adventure! Try Sweetwater Summit, Dos Picos, San Elijo, Mission Trails or Campland on the Bay for a Day Trip. Go to Fiesta Island for some fun flying kites. The KOA in Chula Vista has fun little log cabins to rent for beginning campers (after you've had a backyard sleepover). Look at the badges you're doing as opportunities to plan a field trip. Think about ways to get out of your meeting site to do one of the activities. Encourage good Girl Scout value trips, not places like Disneyland where they've gone with their families many times.



PAPERWORK AND TRAINING

Timeline

Get Training before you begin to plan...use the skills and games to teach your girls!

Parent Meeting...why we travel, independence, money, packing, trust your leader.

Girl Planning takes much more time...start early. Little bit at each meeting.

Progression is for Girls *and* Leaders...take small trips and small steps and learn together

Go on Overnight Adventures and Travel Adventures -Progression

Beginning Travel - *Training for Leader* - First Aid/CPR and take Basic Overnights and Let's Have a Campfire
example Daisies - Field Trips and Backyard Sleepover, Encampments, Adventure Weekends, Day Camping

Intermediate Travel - *Training for Leader* - additionally take Let's Camp, Let's Cook 1 & 2 for "cooking skills"
example Brownies - Cabin Camping (Girl Scouts or KOA), Campsite Camping

Advanced Travel - *Training for Leader* - take Troop Tripping for travel and overnights outside our county,
example Juniors staying in Hostels (San Diego, Orange County, Santa Monica, San Francisco Bridging), trains, planes and road trips!

Adventure Camping - *Training for Leader* - take Let's Tent and Backpacking Training.
example Cadettes and up Tent Camping (rugged experiences or rustic cabins - mountains and beach adventures, for "roughing it" skills)

Paperwork (see the back of the Activity Approval for when to use!)

Trip Permission Slip

Transporting Girl Scouts

In-Town Contact List of Emergency Numbers

Accident Report Form

Activity Approval

Safety Management Plan

Health History & Annual Permission

Additional Insurance