



Windows to the Past

1920 – 1929

Girls Scouts was founded in 1912 by Juliette Gordon Low. In 1911, Juliette met Sir Robert Baden-Powell, who introduced her to the Boy Scout and Girl Guide movement. Juliette brought the movement back to the United States and started the first troop on March 12, 1912. The Windows to the Past program will let your troop experience some of the activities that Girl Scouts did during the decade we are working on. Girls need to complete four activities to earn the 1920 – 1929 lapel pin that can be purchased at the council shop.





What was going on in the world during 1920 – 1929?

1920	The new Girl Scout Handbook, <i>Scouting for Girls</i> , is the first handbook prepared by the national organization rather than by Juliette Low.
1920	<i>The Rally</i> , a monthly publication for Girl Scouts and their leaders, is renamed <i>American Girl</i> and is geared for all girls.
July 23-28, 1920	The first International Conference of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts is held in Oxford, England.
October 31, 1920	Juliette Low's birthday is officially designated as Founder's Day.
November 1920	U.S. women vote for the first time in a national election.
September 7-8, 1921	The first Miss America pageant is held in Atlantic City, New Jersey.
1922	<i>The Brownie Book</i> , a manual for leaders, is released as experimental material – representing progress towards a standardized Brownie program.
1923	The <i>Girl Scout Leader</i> magazine begins publication.
April 23-27, 1923	The first statement of Girl Scout camp standards is adopted at the National Council session in Washington, D.C.
January 25, 1924	The first Winter Olympic Games are held in the French Alps in Chamonix, France. The United States wins four medals.
November 6, 1924	Illustration by Norman Rockwell that publicizes the early Girl Scout appears on the cover of <i>Life</i> magazine.
January 5, 1925	Nellie Tayloe Ross of Wyoming is inaugurated as the first woman governor in the United States.
1925	Girl Scouts living outside of the United States register for the first time in Troops on Foreign Soil (TOFS).



Norman Rockwell's One of Uncle Sam's Assets - A Girl Scout (1921)

1926

The Brown Book for Brown Owls, the first official leader's guide to program for Brownie Girl Scouts, is published and Brownie Girl Scouts have their own insignia.

January 17, 1927

Juliette Gordon Low died of breast cancer in her home in Savannah, Georgia.

August 10, 1927

Work begins on the gigantic sculpture at Mount Rushmore. It was completed 14 years later.

September 28-
October 1, 1927

The Juliette Low World Friendship fund is formed to help finance projects for Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world.

1927

A recipe for Some Mores (later known as S'mores) is published in *Tramping and Trailing with the Girl Scouts*.

May 3-17, 1928

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) is formed at the 5th International Conference in Pared, Hungary.

May 15, 1928

The first appearance of Mickey and Minnie Mouse on film occurs with the release of the animated short film, "Plane Crazy."

June 17, 1928

Amelia Earhart becomes the first woman to fly over the Atlantic Ocean.

1928

New uniforms of "Girl Scout green" are adopted for Girl Scouts and adults to replace the earlier khaki uniforms.

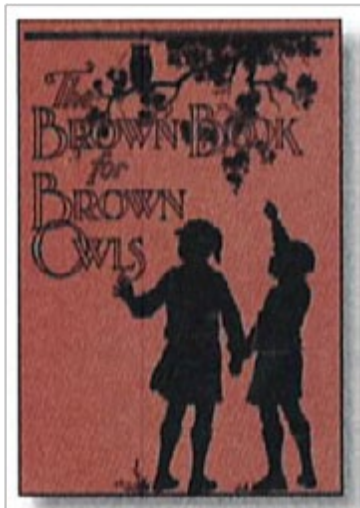
1928

The earliest known sale of commercially baked cookies by Girl Scouts takes place in Paris, Texas.

1929

Total Girl Scout membership is over 200,000.

To learn more about the history of Girl Scouts visit www.girlscouts.org.



The Brown Book for Brown Owls was published in 1927 as the first official leader's guide to program for Brownie Girl Scouts (7-9 years).



The Brownie Promise

I promise to do my best,
To love God and my country,
To help other people every day,
Especially those at home.

The Law

The Brownie gives in to the older folk and does not give in to herself.

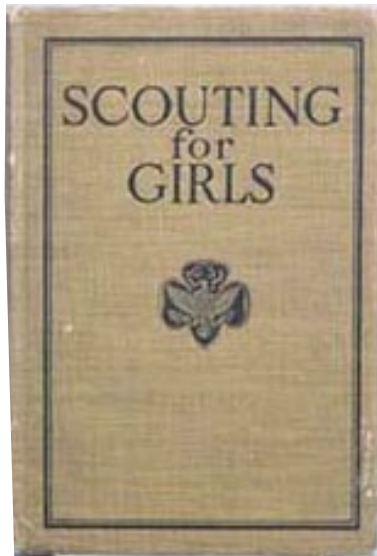
The Motto

Lend a Hand!



1927 Brownie Uniform

Interesting Things from the First Handbook, *Scouting for Girls*



The Girl Scout Promise was Changed Three Times in Seven Years!

1920, *Scouting for Girls*, first edition

The Promise and Laws were reorganized and slightly reworded.

The Girl Scout Promise

On My Honor I will Try
To be true to God and my country.
To help others at all times.
To obey the Scout Laws.

The Laws of the Girl Scouts

- I. A Girl Scout's Honor Is to be Trusted.
- II. A Girl Scout Is Loyal.
- III. A Girl Scout's Duty Is to be Useful and to Help Others.
- IV. A Girl Scout Is a Friend to All, and a Sister to every other Girl Scout.
- V. A Girl Scout Is Courteous.
- VI. A Girl Scout is a Friend to Animals.
- VII. A Girl Scout Obeys Orders.
- VIII. A Girl Scout Is Cheerful.
- IX. A Girl Scout Is Thrifty.
- X. A Girl Scout Is Clean In Thought, Word and Deed.

The Girl Scout Law

1. A Girl Scout's Honor Is to be Trusted
2. A Girl Scout is Loyal
3. A Girl Scout's Duty is to be Useful and to Help Others
4. A Girl Scout is a Friend to All and a Sister to every other Girl Scout
5. A Girl Scout is Courteous
6. A Girl Scout is a Friend to Animals
7. A Girl Scout obey Orders
8. A Girl Scout is Cheerful
9. A Girl Scout is Thrifty
10. A Girl Scout is Clean in Thought, Word and Deed

1920, *Scouting for Girls*, second edition

The laws of the Girl Scouts remained the same, but the promise was changed to:

To do my duty to God and my country.

1927, *Scouting for Girls*

The Laws of the Girl Scouts remained the same, but the promise was changed to:

To obey the Girl Scout Laws.

Highlights from the book

- National membership dues are raised to 50 cents a year.
- Five new "home arts" badges are added, the naturalist badge is expanded and new Drummer and Bugler badges are added.



Program

Complete four of these activities in order to earn the 1920-1929 lapel pin.

Feel free to make modifications to the activities to fit your age level.

1

The Golden Bar Brownie

Complete three activities from those listed below. Adjust accordingly for age appropriateness.

In 1926, *The Brown Book for Brown Owls* was written. This book designated three ranks of Browniehood: Brownie, Golden Bar and Golden Hand. Each rank had specific requirements in the areas of nature, handcraft, health and service, all requiring a combination of simple skills. The significance of the Golden Bar is that it is a bit of the ground the Brownie stands on ready to lend a hand.

Intelligence

Before wearing the Golden Bar a Brownie should know and love out-of-doors things. She may show her interest by:

- Planting something and watching it grow, such as a small garden plot, window-box or plant – or observing and telling about trees and flowers she has seen.
- Feeding pets and watching their ways

Handcraft

A Brownie should be able to do something with her hands. She may show her ability by:

- Making two things: Sewn, knitted, woven, carved, built or modeled.
- Doing up a parcel neatly and securely, using a square knot.

Health

A Brownie should be able to:

- Throw a ball ten yards with right and left hand. Catch a ball well thrown from a distance of six yards, four out of six times.
- Skip in good form a figure-eight course.
- A Brownie should take care of her teeth, hair, hands, nails, should breathe through her nose and know why she should do all of this.

Service

A Brownie should be dependable. She should know how to:

- Pour a glass of water without spilling.
- Carry a shallow pan of water across the room without spilling.
- Set the table for two, neatly.

2

Semaphore Code

Semaphore flags were used for quick signaling over short distances. Signaling was one of the requirements for the Second Class rank in the 1920's. To complete this activity, make your own semaphore flags using the following patterns and the key for each letter of the alphabet. Then use the semaphore flags to spell out your name with your friends.

As taken from the 1920s Handbook...

The semaphore is a machine with two arms which may be moved into various positions to make letters. It is the quickest method of flag signaling for short distances, seldom over a mile, unless extra large flags are used.

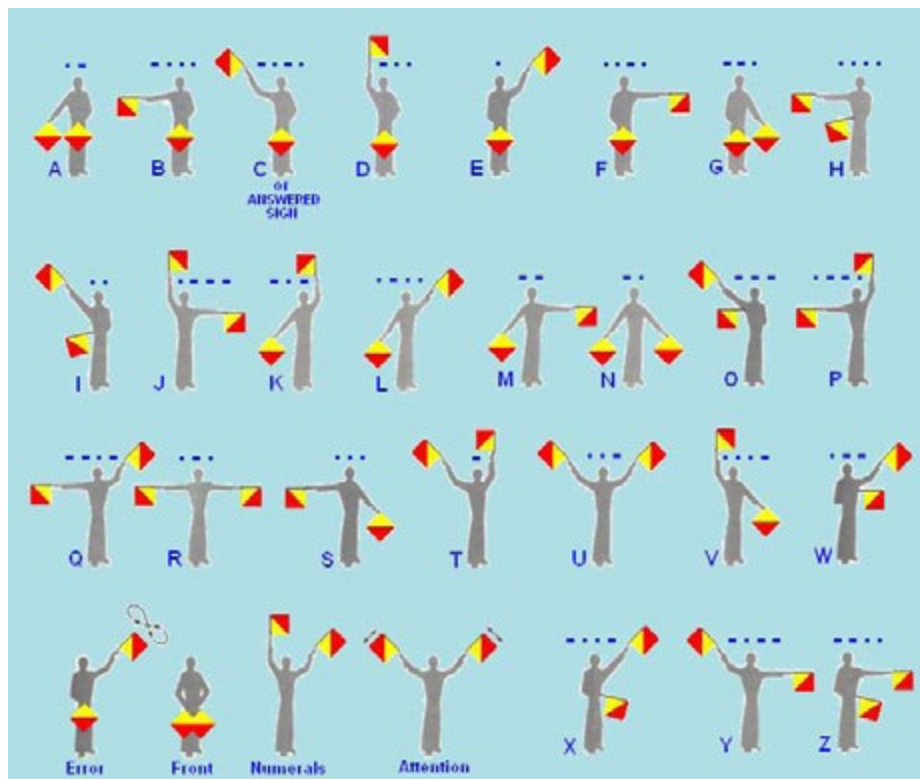
The regulation flags were 18 inches square, either divided diagonally into two triangles of white and red, or square of white with a small square of red in the center, or red with a small square of white.

These flags were fastened on poles 24 inches long and 1/2 inch in diameter.

The flags must be carefully held so that the sticks make, as it were, a continuation of the arm bone; a bent wrist will cause the flags to make an entirely different angle, and consequently a different letter from the one intended.

Swing the arms smoothly and without hesitation from one letter to another. Hold each letter long enough to make it clear to the person receiving it. Every word begins and ends with "intervals," the hands crossed downward in front of the body, arms nearly straight, right hand always over the left.

Indicate the end of a sentence by one "chip-chop" made by holding both flags to the right, horizontally, and moving them up and down several times; not altogether, but one flag going down as the other comes up, making the "chopping" motion.

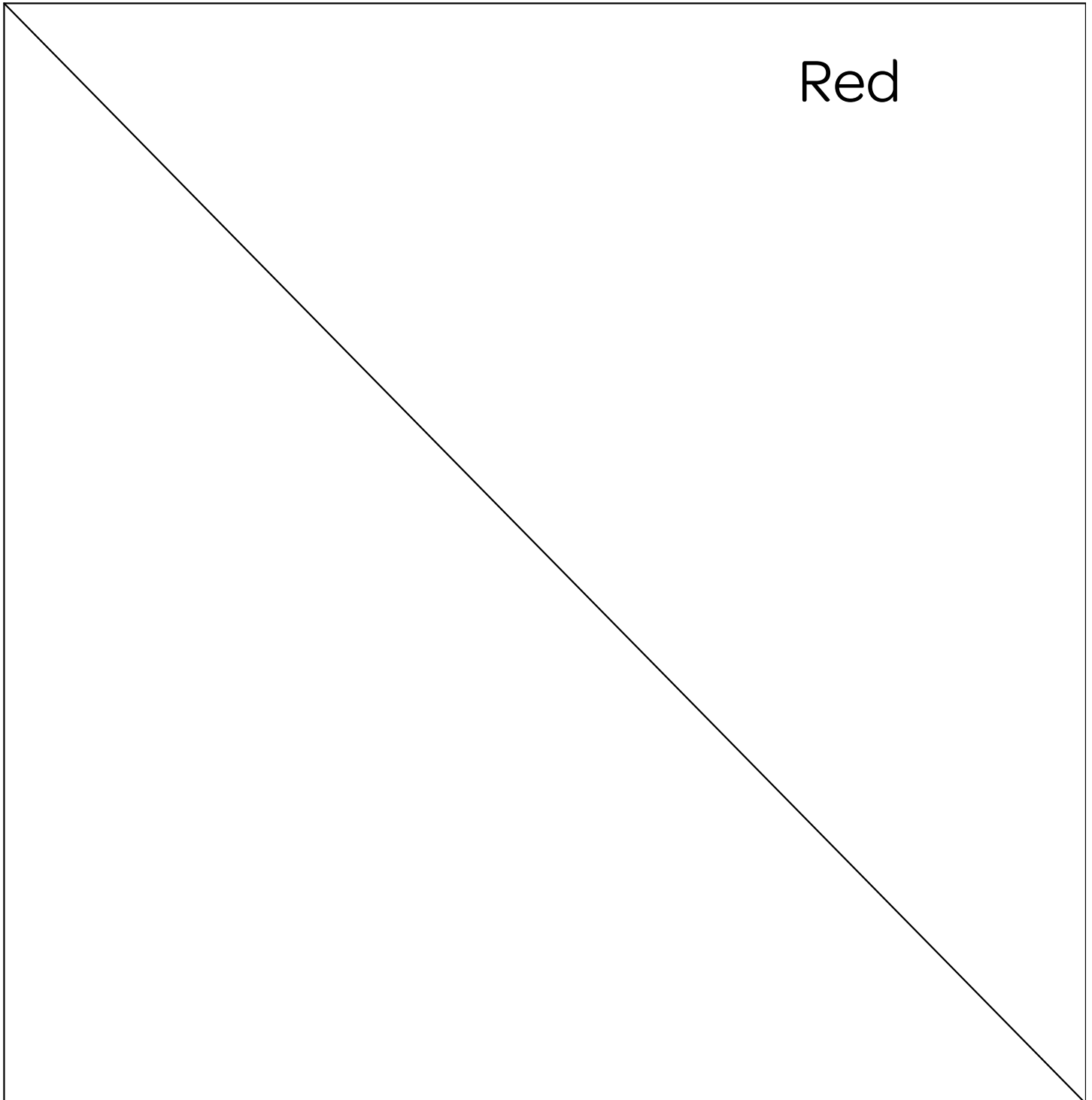


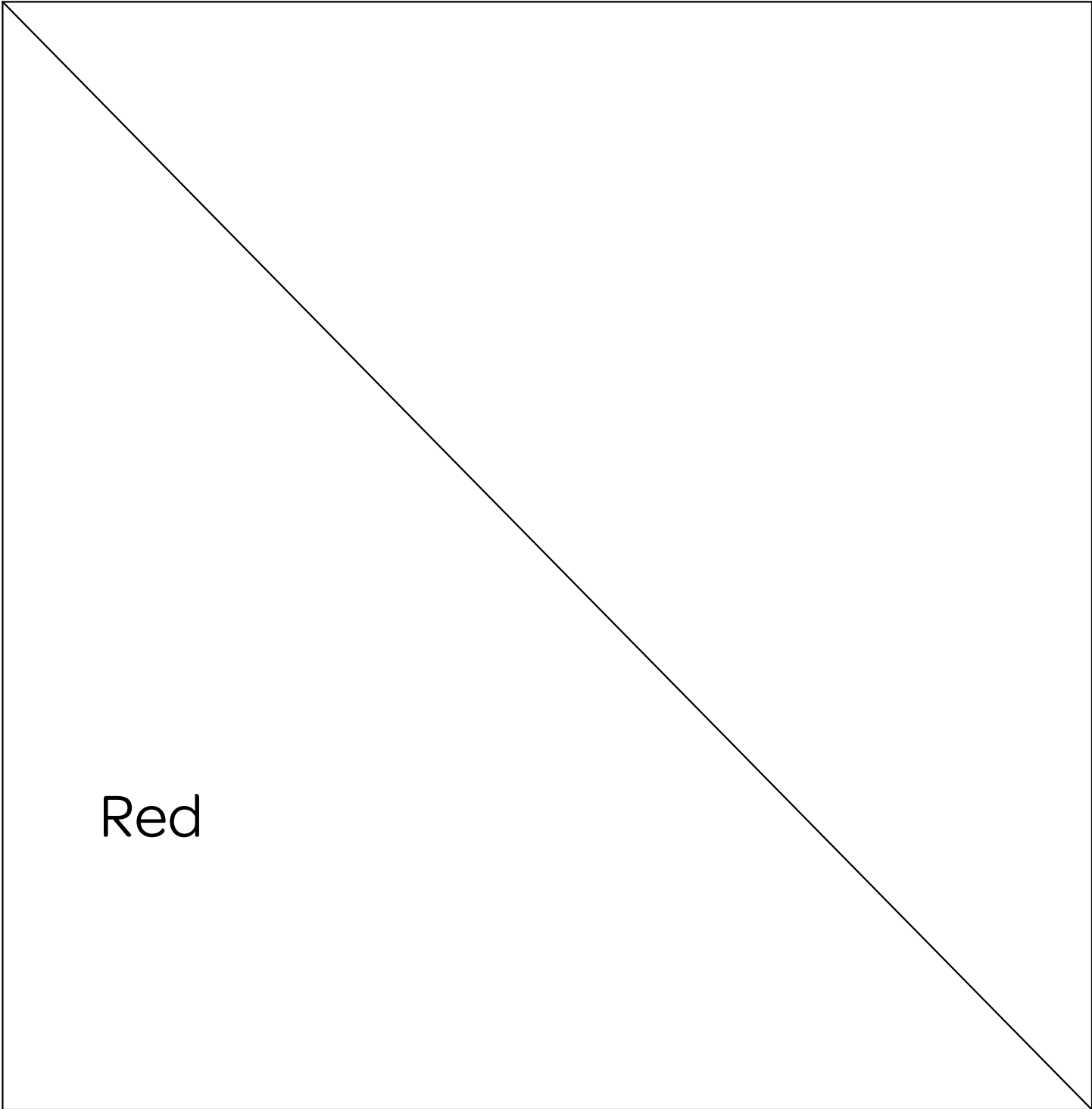
Semaphore Flags

Way back before cell phones, Girl Scouts used semaphore flags to communicate with someone they could see but could not hear. Make your own semaphore flags and send a message to your friend.

Step 1.

Cut out each square. Color the triangle with the red in it red. Color both sides of the paper.





Step 2.

Cut along the dotted lines. You should have two pieces of paper. Roll the paper the long way and secure with tape so it makes two sticks. Attach the flags to the your sticks using the letter R signal to make sure you attach your flags correctly.

Step 3.

Using the chart, spell your name, send a message to your friend or just sign the alphabet.

A large grid of dotted lines for writing. The grid consists of a horizontal dotted line at the top, a vertical dotted line on the left, and a vertical dotted line on the right, creating a central rectangular area for writing. The dotted lines are spaced evenly and extend across the width and height of the page.

3

Second Class Scout Test

Head

1. What is the history of the American Flag, and for what does it stand?
2. Describe six animals, six birds, six trees and six flowers.
3. What are the sixteen points of the compass? Show how to use a compass.
4. How may fire be prevented, and what should a Scout do in case of fire?
5. Send and receive the alphabet of the General Service or Semaphore Code.
6. Demonstrate ability to observe quickly and accurately by describing the contents of a room or a shop window, or a table with a number of objects upon it, after looking a short time, (not more than ten seconds).

Hands

7. Lay and light a fire in a stove, using not more than two matches, or light a gas range, top burner, oven and boiler, without having the gas blow or smoke. Lay and light a fire in the open, using no artificial tinder, such as paper or excelsior, and not more than two matches.
8. Cook so that it may be eaten, seasoning properly, one simple dish, such as cereal, vegetables, meat, fish or eggs in any other form than boiled.
9. Set a table correctly for a meal of two courses.
10. Make ordinary and hospital bed, and show how to air them.
11. Present samples of seaming, hemming, darning, and either knitting or crocheting, and press out a Scout uniform, as sample of ironing.

Health

12. Demonstrate the way to stop bleeding, remove speck from eye, treat ivy poisoning, bandage a sprained ankle, remove a splinter.
13. What do you consider the main points to remember about health?
14. What are your height and weight, and how do they compare with the standard?

Helpfulness

15. Present to Captain or Council the proof of satisfactory service to troop, church or community.
16. Earn or save enough money for some part of personal or troop equipment.

4

Girl Scout Compass

A Girl Scout in the 1920s used her compass to navigate when hiking or camping. Besides orienteering, nature studies and other camp craft skills, increasingly popular camp activities widened to include folk dancing, music, pageantry and dramatics.

Learning to Use a Compass

1. Learn the four basic directions: north, east, south and west. An easy way to help remember these is “Never Eat Shredded Wheat” or “Never Eat Soggy Waffles.” See how each letter in the phrase stands for a direction (the “n” in “never” represents “north”), and they are in the same as the rotation of a clock’s hands.
2. Look at a basic map, and introduce the compass rose (a one-dimensional representation of a compass typically featured in the corner of a map). The compass rose marks both the four directions and the four intermediary directions (northeast, southeast, southwest and northwest). Provide opportunities to practice reading intermediary directions on the map.
3. When you look at a compass you will notice it will always point to the north. Practice turning your body in different directions and moving the compass to various locations, noting which direction the compass points each time.
4. Practice finding directions other than north. South is the easiest to find, since it’s simply the opposite of north. If you want to go south, you just go the opposite of the way the compass is pointing. To find east, go to the right of the direction the compass points. To find west, go to the left of the compass arrow. You can play a “Which Way?” game in which you take three steps in one particular direction, then three steps in another direction, and so on, ending in a special predetermined location.
5. Once you are proficient at reading basic maps and using a simple compass, you can combine the two skills and begin using the compass to get from one location to another. This can be done by creating imaginary treasure hunts or embarking on trips to “mystery destinations” or through other fun practice games.
6. A variety of compass activities including how to make your own compass can be found in resource books found in each of our GSHOM regional center resource libraries or by searching online. Some of our regional centers and camps even have compasses that can be rented to be used by your troop.



5

The Neckerchief

To complete this activity, use a neckerchief (or bandana) to learn at least three of the suggested uses below.

In 1922 *Uses of the Neckerchief* was published in the *American Girl* magazine published for girls in Girl Scouting.

First Aid (Triangular bandage uses)

- Arm sling
- Ankle Sprain Dressing
- Hand Bandage
- Head Bandage
- Foot Support
- Compress
- Smoke Mask for fire

General

- Mosquito covering for your head
- Sweat band for games
- Identification for teams in games
- Tie for three-legged races
- Substitute for hat



I used a neckerchief/bandana as _____

Other ways the neckerchief/bandana could be used are: _____

6

1920s Proficiency Badges

To complete this activity, do at least 4 or the following 11 activities for the Gardener Proficiency Badge or 4 activities from any other proficiency badge from the 1920 handbook. The contents can be found online at <http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/28490> as an online ebook.

With publication of the 1920 Girl Scout handbook, the number of proficiency badges a girl could "win" increased to 47, reflecting the expanding opportunities and challenges for girls. New Girl Scout badges included Economist and Interpreter, and revisions already were being made to the Journalist and Motorist badges.

A girl had to be a Second Class Scout before receiving a Merit Badge in any subject. However, this did not mean that she couldn't begin to study her subject and plan for passing the test at any time.

“ It is important that every Girl Scout should understand that the winning of any one of the following Merit Badges does not mean that she is a finished expert in the subject.

What does it mean then? It means three things:

1. She has an intelligent interest in the subject.
2. She has a reasonable knowledge of its broad principles.
3. She is able to present some practicable proofs of her knowledge, so that a competent examiner can see that she has not simply "crammed it up" from a book. Doing, not talking or writing, is the principle of the Girl Scouts.

One of the great things about these Merit Badges is that they require a definite amount of perseverance. This is a quality in which women are sometimes said to be lacking; if this is a fair criticism, the Merit Badges will certainly test it. ”



Gardener

1. What are the necessary things to be considered before starting a garden? List them in the correct order.
2. What exposure is best for the garden? Why? At what season of the year is it best to prepare the soil? What care should be given garden tools?
3. Why is it necessary to fertilize the soil for a garden? What kind of fertilizer will you use in your garden, and why?
4. Do all seeds germinate? What precautions must be taken when purchasing seed? During what month should seed be sown in the ground in your locality? What are the rules for sowing seed as regards depth?
5. What does it mean to thin out and to transplant? When and why are both done?
6. What does it mean to cultivate? Why is it very important? How is it best done? What should be done with pulled weeds?
7. When is the proper time of day to water a garden? Is moistening the surface of the ground sufficient? If not, why not?
8. Name five garden pests common in your locality and tell how to eradicate them. Name three garden friends and tell what they do.
9. At what time of day is it best to pick flowers and vegetables? Mention two things to be considered in both cases.
10. What are tender and hardy plants? Herbaceous plants, annuals, perennials and biennials? Bulbs and tubers?
11. Select a garden site, or if space is lacking use boxes, barrels, window boxes, tubs and so forth; prepare the soil, choose the seed of not less than six flowers and six vegetables that will grow well in the soil and climate in which they are planted; take entire care of the garden and bring to blossom and fruit at least 75% of the seed planted. Keep and submit a record of the garden, including size, time and money spent, dates of planting, blooming and gathering of vegetables, or colors of flowers and so forth.

