



Bridging Resources and Ideas

Bridging is when a girl advances from one Girl Scout grade level to the next. This ceremony is an important one to demonstrate the transition to the next level.

Girls bridge after first, third, fifth, eighth and tenth grades. At twelfth grade they become an adult member, and there are ceremonies for that as well. The ceremony can be done at the beginning of the year or at the end of the year. It is up to you and the girls.

The basic bridging requirements are:

- 1) Pass it on!** Girls share talents and skills they learned in Girl Scouts with younger girls.
- 2) Look ahead!** Girls find out what girls at the next grade level are doing.

To find more information on Bridging, and activities to fulfill these requirements, go to girlscouts.org, and search for Bridging. You will see the bridging awards, which are rainbows, each grade level having a different rainbow bar. You can order them from your local Juliette's Boutique. The activities listed have all been aligned with the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.

We have included some samples of bridging ceremonies that you could use, but there are dozens of ceremonies that could be used, or the girls could come up with their own! The resources below include ceremony ideas, and you can find more at girlscouts.org.

Other resources:

www.scoutingweb.com This site is under reconstruction at the moment. You can use this site for all kinds of things. It does have sample ceremonies on it.

gsleaders.org At this site you will need to click on File Cabinet on the left and then click on Ceremonies on the left. When that page comes up you will click on Bridging. It gives you ideas for each Bridging level. It also has ideas for other ceremonies and activities.

www.kidslist.uc.edu/gs/neil/cerem.html This site gives more bridging ideas, as well as other ceremony ideas. It even has Girl Scout poems.

Daisy Bridging Ceremony

First Grade to Second Grade



Bake a New Batch of Brownies

Set the stage:

2 tables lying on their side length-wise, with a LARGE cardboard box in the middle (a refrigerator box works well).

On the box, cut an oven door, with a handle made from cardboard or foil.

"Old" Brownies (this could be the troop they are entering or a troop who is just helping you) do all the motions, and fly-up girls stay behind the tables.

You will also need 2 bowls, 1 large, and 1 small flat baking pan, mixing spoon, measuring bowls, sifter, measuring spoons, and kitchen timer.

Current Brownies are in an open horseshoe.

1st Brownie: Let's bake something.

2nd Brownie: Yes, what should we make?

3rd Brownie: I know, let's make some new Brownies!

All girls: Yes, Yes, Yes

4th Brownie: Let's look in our Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting for the recipe (one girl pulls out the book).

5th Brownie: Here it is! To make Brownies, we must mix 4 basic ingredients - Promise, Law, Brownie Journeys and the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.

6th Brownie: In a large bowl, cream together 1 cup of a promise to serve God, my country and mankind.

7th Brownie: To this mixture add 2 cups of honesty and 4 tablespoons of fairness. Mix together until well blended.

8th Brownie: Stir in 1 cup of friendliness and 2 cups of helpfulness.

9th Brownie: Beat together 1/2 cup of thoughtfulness and 1/2 cup of caring and add to the mixture.

10th Brownie: Sprinkle over the mixture 2 tablespoons full of the sisterhood of Girl Scouting and mix well.

11th Brownie: Add 1 cup of respect for authority and 1 cup of respect for myself and others. Stir until well blended.

12th Brownie: Sift together 1/2 cup of wise use of resources and 6 tablespoons of a promise to make the world a better place. Stir into mixture.

13th Brownie: Blend together 1/2 cup of each of the following Journeys: Brownie Quest, Wow! Wonders of Water, and A World of Girls.

14th Brownie: Into the Journeys mixture add the 3 Keys to Leadership: 4 tablespoons Discover, 4 teaspoons Connect, 4 teaspoons Take Action, and add to the mixture.

15th Brownie: Spread batter into the pan and bake at a moderate temperature until done.

16th brownie: (after timer rings) They're done!

(Open door and new Brownies start to crawl out of the oven.) Look!! A NEW BATCH OF BROWNIES!!! (It looks really good if the new Brownies are already in the Brownie Uniform but they don't have to be)

Leader: I would like to present to you Brownie Troop _____.

(Or if adding to a troop that already exists then you would say)

I would like to present to you the new Brownies of Troop _____.

Brownie Bridging Ceremony

Third Grade to Fourth Grade



Brownie Fly-up

Set Up:

Brownie troop in horseshoe on one side of bridge; receiving Junior troop on other side.
Sometimes the Brownie takes off her sash/vest and gives to Brownie leader who gives the girl a flower
Brownie starts across the bridge, stops at apex to say what she is looking forward to as a Junior.
Brownie continues across the bridge and is greeted by 1 or 2 Juniors who give her a Girl Scout handshake, welcome her to Juniors, and put on her vest/sash. Sometimes the sash is made from ribbon. All of her pins, badges, etc. are on the new uniform (which makes the ceremony move faster than having the girls struggle with pins). Finally, the girls all together sing a song.

Speaking Parts:

(Scouts form two horseshoes facing each other, Juniors in one, Brownies in the other, with the bridge separating them.)

Brownie Leader:

Brownies, you are just about
To become a Junior Scout.
Next year you will find
that Junior Scouts are true and kind.
So now I give you Brownie Wings
so you may fly to bigger things.
(She pins the wings on each brownie.)
(Brownies all take a few steps forward)

Junior Leader:

Hello there. Who are you all dressed in brown with such cheerful smiles and not one frown?

Brownies:

We are the Brownies and we like to have fun.
Junior Scouts we'd like to become.

Junior Leader:

By what right do you ask?

Brownies:

By the right of our wings. (Point to wings)

Junior Leader:

We welcome you to Juniors. Please cross the bridge one at a time.
(As each girl crosses, she is met by the Junior Leader and a Junior Scout.
She is given her Bridging Award or Uniform and led to the Junior horseshoe by the Junior Scout.)
(After all have crossed, the Brownies are in the Junior horseshoe.)

Junior Scouts:

Welcome to Junior Girl Scouts
you're a Brownie nevermore.
We'll have lots of fun and lots of games
as we teach you Girl Scout lore.
WELCOME BROWNIES!
(All sing, "Make New Friends")

Junior Bridging Ceremony

Fifth Grade to Sixth Grade



Candle Ceremony

Set Up:

Have 11 silver candles arranged in a straight line on a table. Have 11 poster board keys. On the keys are written: Personal Growth, Understanding, Friendship, Values, Integrity, Respect, Choice, Leadership, Service, The World, Silver Award. Tape the keys to the table. As each candle is lit, the key is flipped over the side of the table so the audience can see it and what it says.

- Leader:** Tonight we gather to honor those girls who have completed their journey in Junior Girl Scouts. These girls are ready to accept the challenges offered to them in Cadette Girl Scouts. The challenges are great, but the rewards are even greater. As they shed their green and don the khaki of the Cadette Girl Scout they enter a world of new friends, new travels, new discoveries and new dreams. This is not the end of their Girl Scout journey but rather the beginning of a whole new journey and tonight we offer them the keys to unlock doors to the world of Cadette Girl Scouts.
- Girl 1:** I light this candle to represent the key to Personal Growth. As I discover and develop all my talents and abilities, may I always try to help others discover theirs.
- Girl 2:** I light this candle to represent the key to Understanding. As I learn to accept who I am, may I always be accepting of who others are, no matter how different they may be.
- Girl 3:** I light this candle to represent the key to Friendship. As I make new friends, may I never forget the old, for one is silver and the other is gold.
- Girl 4:** I light this candle to represent the key of Values. As I discover what I value most, may I always protect my own values while respecting the values of others, no matter how different from my own.
- Girl 5:** I light this candle to represent the key to Integrity. As I learn to always do the right thing, may I remember to be honest and fair in everything I do.
- Girl 6:** I light this candle to represent the key to Respect. As I learn to give respect to those around me, and respect the rules I am given, may I gain the respect of others.
- Girl 7:** I light this candle to represent the key to Choice. As I make more choices in my life, may I always be guided by the Girl Scout Promise and Law and my own values.
- Girl 8:** I light this candle to represent the key to Leadership. As I learn to lead others may I lead them down the right path and remember that one day they shall also become leaders.
- Girl 9:** I light this candle to represent the key to Service. As I learn that I can do no greater good in this world than give of myself to others, may I never forget those less fortunate than myself.
- Girl 10:** I light this candle to represent the key to The World. As I learn to protect it and its resources may I better understand it and improve it through my words and actions.
- Girl 11:** I light this candle to represent the key to the Silver Award. As I work hard to achieve the highest award available to the Cadette Girl Scout, may I never forget those who helped me along the way.

(All girls cross the bridge and receive a silver key from the leader or older Cadette Scout, and have their green vests replaced by a khaki one.)

- Leader:** You have each received a silver key. Protect it and cherish it for it is your key to a whole new world. The key represents your challenge to look wider still in all you do while always remembering to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, responsible for what you say and do, respectful of yourself and others, respectful of authority, wise in your use of resources, and always trying to make the world a better place, while being a sister to every Girl Scout. If you are willing to accept this challenge, please raise your right hand in the Girl Scout sign and repeat the Girl Scout promise with me. **Welcome to Cadette Girl Scouts.**

