

Dare to Share!

2007-'08 National Girl Scout Cookie Activity Challenge for Girls in Grades 1-5

This year's National Cookie Activity Pin for girls in grades 1-5 invites you to "Dare to Share" a picture or poster related to your cookie activity participation in one of three categories: **Discover**, **Connect** or **Take Action** (to make the world a better place). Girl Scouts of the USA will feature the most awesome examples on the Girl Scout Web site for all to see, and will create a special display for the Girl Scout National Meeting in October 2008, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Imagine: more than 10,000 Girl Scout adults and girls might see what you "dare to share"!

Did we mention prizes? Besides a special patch for those entries chosen as the best by their councils, we have something special for the "finalists," those selected best in category by GSUSA. More on that later—watch the Cookie Activity Web page for more details in the months to come!

So, Ready, Set, Go! Show us your stuff—photographs of your team in action, posters that describe your goals, or things that you are doing—what you think will tell a story about what you learn and do during the Girl Scout Cookie Activity.

For starters, we suggest you review everything in this packet as a group and with your Girl Scout adult. Then start on your road to fun and sharing.

Part 1: DISCOVER

Why Do Girl Scouts Sell Cookies?

- ✓ Create a top 10 list of why Girl Scouts sell Girl Scout cookies. Be sure to identify how the cookie activity helps your council, your troop, and yourself.
- ✓ Interview an older girl who has sold Girl Scout Cookies and ask her why and how she sold cookies

Divide into teams to do the following and share with your group at learning stations, "commercial breaks" in meetings or in other fun ways to:

- ✓ Explore online and offline cookie company resources
- ✓ Learn about your product—labels and varieties, and maybe even taste!
- ✓ Practice money handling with real money and taking orders

Set Group Goals

- ✓ Brainstorm activities and come up with group goals for something that you would really like to do this year as a group.
- ✓ Include a goal for doing service project or setting money set aside for philanthropy, part of TAKING ACTION.

What's philanthropy? Philanthropy means that you help others through giving money. You don't have to be rich to give money to others in need. Can you think of some organizations that help others in your community that might need money? Philanthropists usually give their money to charities that help others or protect things. It is the job of the charity to make sure the money is not wasted but is spent wisely to make the world a better place.

What's a service project? A service project is when you do something to make a difference in your community. It can be something as simple as keeping a park clean or it can be something big like building a playground. You volunteer or give your time to do the service. Sometime you need to set aside money to do the project, such as providing food for a meal you cook at holiday dinner, or sometimes the materials are provided or donated for the project and you do the work.

Part 2: CONNECT

Create a plan

- ✓ Make lists of who you can sell to and where you might sell—family and friends, neighbors, people who bought from you last year, places you spend time
- ✓ Decide how many cookies you need to sell to make your goals
- ✓ Decide how you will sell: neighborhood walks, team and/or booth sales, etc.
- ✓ Invite your parents to a cookie training and show how they can support you as you work toward your goals
- ✓ Talk about safety and how you should present yourself as a Girl Scout to others
- ✓ Decide how you can thank your customers when you hand over the cookies

Practice makes perfect!

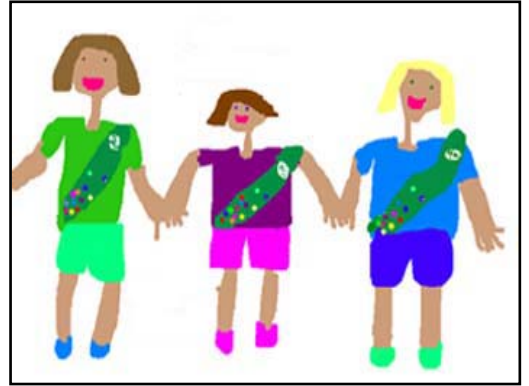
Act out the following, with one person as the customer and two girls as the sellers:

- ✓ Explain what a package of cookies really buys—for your group, for your council, for your community
- ✓ Explain the cookie varieties to someone who doesn't know about them
- ✓ Sell up—convince a customer to purchase more cookies than they ordered

- ✓ Be polite to someone who is not polite and doesn't want to purchase cookies
- ✓ Get an offer to follow the customer to their car to make a sale to a friend

Go for It!

- ✓ Carry out your plan for selling cookies
- ✓ Thank your customers



"Girl Scout Friends" by Miranda, age 10

Part 3: TAKE ACTION!

- ✓ Find out how much money from your troop went to your Girl Scout council and how it will help your council serve all girls
- ✓ Complete your service or philanthropy project and talk about how you have "made the world a better place."

Part 4: DARE TO SHARE

You have until April 1 to submit your entry to your Girl Scout council, but it's good to get those brain cells working on a plan early. Here's something to get you started:

Do you think you can pose or take some pictures of what you do during the cookie activity, or do you want to focus on making posters? Or maybe you can combine what you want to show using both photos and poster. (And you can take a picture of the poster.) How can you show yourselves discovering, connecting or taking action? Or all three?

Think about it! Remember that what you do will be seen by many people who are not Girl Scouts. How might that make a difference in how you create your entry?

Finally, send in your team's best pictures of your cookie activities electronically* to your council in the following categories no later than April 1, 2008:

- ✓ Discover
- ✓ Connect
- ✓ Take Action

*More info for adults on how to do this follows.

P.S. It's OK to work with an adult or Girl Scout teen who takes the pictures. But girls need to select the picture(s) to send AND create the words that tell about the picture. All art work must be done by girls.

How to Send in Your Entry

- For each entry submitted electronically, complete these simple steps:
 - ✓ Fill in the attached entry form, including team information, a title and a caption of how the picture relates to Discover, Connect, or Take Action (See "Taking Great Pictures").
 - ✓ Include photo releases, signed by parent/guardian or adult pictured, for all girls and adults in your photos.

What's Next?

- All girls who take part in submitting an entry to their council are eligible for the 2007-08 Cookie Activity Pin.
- Pictures will be displayed in your council. Two pictures from each category (six pictures total) can be sent to GSUSA by your council¹ for consideration and to share on its Web site in a special cookie picture gallery.
- A special "Dare to Share" patch will be awarded to those groups chosen to represent their council.
- A special award will be given by GSUSA to the teams submitting the top three pictures in each of the three categories. So there are nine possible winners. The winning pictures will be chosen in June 2008 and will appear online in a special section to help girls and the public learn more about the cookie activity. They'll also be a part of a special entrepreneurial exhibit at the Girl Scout National Meeting in October 2008.



¹ For this purpose, a council is defined by its legal status on October 30, 2007. Those councils officially merged by that date should submit nine presentations each.