

# Troop 5384: First Meeting for 2010-2011

## 6:45pm – 7:00pm Pre-Meeting

Girls will be decorating their name tags with markers and stickers and stringing them on a cord to hang around their neck. Snack will be served while they are working.

## 7:00 – 7:15pm Daisy Circle and Troop Business

To transition into the Daisy Circle, we will sing the “Make New Friends” song as we are sitting and settling in.

*Make new friends, but keep the old,  
One is silver and the other's gold.*

The Leader will explain what a Daisy Circle is: this will be the time of the Troop meetings when the group will make decisions together and learn about what activities are coming up. The Leader will then explain the purpose of the talking owl – only the person holding the owl is allowed to talk. Each girl will introduce herself and tell us one activity she really likes to do.

The Leader will then introduce the first decision the girls need to make. We will be decorating canvas bags during the next meeting to carry our Girl Scout “stuff,” but we need a symbol to represent our Troop to put on the outside. Girls will nominate symbols and then vote.

## 7:15 – 7:25pm Break/Physical Activity

Everyone will stand up and the Leader will explain the quiet sign (see picture). The girls will then play a game where they are supposed to run around and make noise until they notice the Leader making the quiet sign, and then stand still and be quiet. We'll repeat a few times to see if we get better at getting quiet faster.



## 7:25pm – 7:40pm Reading Time

The group will make a Daisy Circle again, and the Leader will describe the Girl Scout Promise and the hand sign. The girls will make the hand sign and practice the Girl Scout Promise together:

*On my honor I will try  
To serve a higher cause and my  
country,  
To help people at all times,  
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.*



The Leader will then read *Horton Hatches the Egg* to demonstrate the concepts of honor and service and the girls will discuss what the promise means:

- “On my honor” means that I am always telling the truth when I say my Promise.
- “I will try” means that I may not always be perfect but I will always try to do my best.
- “To serve a higher cause and my country” means that I will be the best person and the best citizen that I can be by being good to my family and my community.
- “To help people at all times” means to be helpful and to look for ways to help other people.
- “And to live by the Girl Scout Law” is a big thing and it will take all year to learn how to live by the Girl Scout Law.

### **7:35pm – 7:55pm Main Activity**

Girls will split into groups of 3-5 and develop a short skit about one of the first two pieces of the promise. They will have about 10 minutes to prepare the skits and then each group will perform their skit in turn.

### **7:55pm – 8:00pm Closing Activity**

The Leader will teach the girls how to do a friendship squeeze (right arm goes over the left!). Children will be sent home with a description of the Police Station visit and a permission slip for Police Station visit on November 1.



## Troop 5384: First Meeting Make-up Lesson (to be completed at home)

The main items from the lesson that can be learned at home are the quiet sign, the hand sign, and the Girl Scout Promise. The Daisy Circle and Friendship squeeze are also taught, but the Leader will explain these again for a few meetings anyway.

To make up the lesson, your daughter will need to complete three activities. They don't have to happen all at the same time or even in the same day, but please do the first two activities before the third (the coloring sheet). Before you begin, please read the following to your daughter:

*Welcome to Girl Scouts! My name is Jana Asher, but in the past children have either called me "Mama Jana" or "Ms. Jana." I am the Leader for your new Girl Scout Troop! A Girl Scout Troop is a group of girls that become friends and do things together that help them learn and grow and help the world at the same time too. We are planning to have lots of fun this year, and I am looking forward to meeting you!*

*I am sorry you weren't able to be at our first meeting, but please don't worry; I've asked your family to do a few things with you to help you prepare for when you can join us. You are going to learn about the Quiet Sign, which a grownup uses to tell everyone that it is time to stop what they are doing and listen to her, and the Hand Sign, which is a special way Girl Scouts hold their hands when they say something called the "Girl Scout Promise."*

*I bet you have a lot of questions, and I promise to answer them as soon as we meet each other. In the meantime, I hope you have some fun playing with your family!*

1. **The "Quiet Sign" Game:** your daughter can play this with other siblings and family members, or just by herself, but I think it is more fun with other people. The Quiet Sign is made by an adult by holding her left hand up high in the air (see the first picture in the lesson plan). The game is similar to the one we are doing during the meeting: everyone except the "designated adult" is supposed to run around making noise and acting silly. The designated adult waits until it looks like folks have become involved in their silliness and aren't paying as much attention to her, and then she makes the sign. As soon as the players see her make the sign, they are supposed to stop what they are doing, stand still, and make the sign themselves until everyone is quiet and still. The group repeats the activity a few times, trying to become better (faster) at noticing the quiet sign and becoming quiet and still. An alternative version is that the first person who notices the quiet sign during one round becomes the "designated adult" in the next round. In either case, repeating about 3 times is sufficient, unless of course your family is having so much fun they don't want to stop! 😊
2. **The Girl Scout Promise:** Show your daughter how to make the Girl Scout Sign (right hand at about head height, thumb holding the pinky down, remaining fingers straight up). Practice the Girl Scout Promise together:

*On my honor I will try  
To serve a higher cause and my country,  
To help people at all times,  
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.*

Ask your daughter if she understands what the promise means. If she asks about the Girl Scout Law, tell her that we will be learning about the Girl Scout law at another meeting. Discuss the meaning of the promise with her, using the following as a guide:

- “On my honor” means that I am always telling the truth when I say my Promise.
  - “I will try” means that I may not always be perfect but I will always try to do my best.
  - “To serve a higher cause and my country” means that I will be the best person and the best citizen that I can be by being good to my family and my community.
  - “To help people at all times” means to be helpful and to look for ways to help other people.
  - “And to live by the Girl Scout Law” is a big thing and it will take all year to learn how to live by the Girl Scout Law.
3. **Coloring Sheet:** Attached to this packet is a coloring page that shows several types of Girl Scouts making the hand sign used when saying the Girl Scout Promise. Please print the coloring page and show it to your daughter. Ask her which girl is a Daisy (center short girl; if she is curious, the girl on the far left is a Junior, the one in the back is a Cadette, and the one on the right is a Brownie). Please also ask her what the girls are doing in the picture (they are making the hand sign for reciting the Girl Scout Promise). Note that some girls have their hands positioned so their thumb is holding their pinky down, and some do not—in our Troop we will teach the girls to hold their pinky down with their thumb!

Please then have your daughter color in the picture, put her name on it, and bring it with her to the next meeting as her “homework” for the lesson. The “correct” colors for the uniforms are shown on the page following the coloring sheet, but your daughter can color in the page with the colors she likes. The main point is for her to see what the hand signal looks like and to be able to recognize the Daisy in the picture!



