

Merriam Park GaGa Pit

Margaret Blinzler has been a Girl Scout for ten years and is a member of Troop 1905 in Service Unit 639. She is currently a junior at Shawnee Mission South.

Margaret's Gold Award project focused on getting more students involved in physical activities during recess. She wanted to provide Merriam Park a GaGa Pit by building one for the school. Margaret's project helps students who have felt left out and those who have been bored during recess due to not having a game to play. By teaching children how exercise will help them to have a more fun and healthier lifestyle in the future, it allows them to see exercise in a more positive way. As this project helps to get up and moving, it also brought kids together in a bigger group setting helping them meet new people.

Margaret worked with Home Depot to receive donations for materials and supplies to build the GaGa Pit. She meets with incoming students explaining how to use the pit and to encourage them to bring their families enjoy the pit as well. With a poster of rules kept nearby, Margaret hopes other schools benefit by creating their own GaGa Pit.

Because of Girl Scouts... I have learned how to better represent myself in front of adults and make a good first impression. I know how to guide and encourage younger Girl Scouts so that they feel empowered to accomplish great things both inside and outside of Girl Scouts. I have also discovered so much about myself **that I didn't know was there through volunteering**, helping out at Camp, and being challenged by the Bronze/Silver/Gold Award.



Margaret Blinzler

Overland Park, Kansas

