



## Brownie Making Friends Badge

**Pillar:** Life Skills

**Purpose:** When you've earned this badge, you'll know how to be a good friend.



Friends are another kind of family. They're the people you have fun with and who help you when you need it. Friends not only help us feel connected to the wider world but talking with them can help us share our feelings, brainstorm solutions to a problem, or decide how we feel about an issue.

Try this badge to learn how to make new friends, keep old friends, and be the best Brownie friend you can be!

*"Make new friends, but keep the old, one is silver and the other's gold!"*

### Brownies will follow these steps to earn their badge:

1. Make friendly introductions. (Discover/Connect)
  - a. Practice introducing yourself to a doll or stuffed animal. When you meet someone new, what do you want them to know about you? Your name or nickname is important, but what other things do you want your new friend to know? Maybe tell them your favorite hobby or color, or that you don't like a particular food.
  - b. How would you introduce yourself differently in-person and online? If you play games online, talk with your parents about how you can introduce yourself while keeping your important identifying information private. You might want to use the Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge to start your conversation. <https://www.girlscouts.org/en/help/help/internet-safety-pledge.html>
2. Show friends you care. (Discover/Connect)
  - a. Think of a friend that might be having a hard time or that you haven't seen in a while. Brainstorm with an adult some ways you can show them that you care. You might write them a poem or a song, record a funny video, paint them a picture, make them a gift, or send them a card or letter. Be sure to tell them that you are thinking about them and love being their friend.  
If you mail something, make sure to learn the proper way to address an envelope or package. <https://ideas.hallmark.com/articles/card-ideas/how-to-address-an-envelope/>  
One great way to show a friend you care is by making a Friendship Bracelet. Check out our Friendship Bracelet Making patch for ideas and instructions. <https://www.gsksmo.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gsksmo/OtherDocuments/at-home/Friendship-Bracelets.pdf>
3. Share favorite activities. (Discover/Connect)
  - a. You and your friends may not have the same favorite activities – that's okay! Make a favorites list with one or more friends. Compare your favorite colors, books, TV shows, snacks, drinks, crafts, toys, sports, Girl Scout cookie flavor – or anything else you can think of. Compare lists and discuss the things you both love.



For the categories where your answers didn't match, pick one favorite each and introduce your friend to that item. You could play a game, try a new food, or twin by wearing your friend's favorite color one day. Have fun learning more about your friend's interests and sharing yours with them. Maybe you'll both discover a new favorite.

4. Learn how to disagree. (Discover/Connect)

- a. Even the best friends don't agree all the time. When a disagreement arises with a friend, make sure that you take time to listen to their concerns without interrupting. When it is your turn to talk, use words that will express how you feel in a nice way, without hurting their feelings. With an adult, list out some words that make you feel good, and practice saying them so that you're ready the next time you and your friend have a tense moment.

5. Practice friendship. (Connect/Take Action)

- a. Use all the skills you've learned in this badge (how to introduce yourself, how to show someone you care, sharing favorite activities, and using kind word when you disagree) and put them in action. Seek out new friends, at school, in a dance class or on a sports team, or at camp. Get to know one new person or someone you don't know well. You might even introduce them to your old friends and make your friendship circle bigger.

If meeting new people is difficult right now, ask an adult to help you set up a virtual meeting with a new friend. They might be in your town, across the country, or around the world! There is no limit to the friends you can make.

**When you're finished:** Congratulations, you have earned your Brownie Making Friends Badge! You can purchase online at <https://www.girlscoutshop.com/BROWNIE-MAKING-FRIENDS-BADGE>.



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You can also purchase your Girl Scout Virtual main patch and bars through our online store. Begin your shopping experience at

<https://www.gsksmo.org/en/our-council/shop.html>

