

  
girl scouts  
of the missouri  
heartland

CELEBRATING

**100**  
**TRAILBLAZING**  
**YEARS**  
1912-2012

SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM GUIDE  
**2012**

*Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland, Inc.*

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# contents

## Getting Started

FAQs .....	4-5
About the Program Centers .....	5
Are You Ready? .....	6
Camper Quiz .....	7

## Camp Sessions and Program Units

Girl Scout Daisies .....	7
Girl Scout Brownies .....	8-10
Girl Scout Juniors .....	11-13
Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors & Ambassadors .....	14-17
Summer Camp Calendar .....	24-25

## Additional Information

Join the Team! .....	26
Send Your Stories & Pictures! .....	26
Girl Scout Shops .....	27

## Camp Registration Information

Registration Procedures .....	18
Registration Form .....	19-20
Additional Payment Forms .....	23
Financial Assistance .....	21-22

Whether you are new to Girl Scout camp or will be returning to a familiar place this summer, we hope to see you at our camp open house day on **April 21!** If you register for camp at the open house, you will receive the **\$10 early bird discount** on the registration fee! Got a **buddy** who might want to join you? Bring her along - we'd love to meet her!

save  
\$10!

Make a day of it and plan to attend the camp service day, too! Details for both programs are below.

**DISCOVER.** Girls seek challenges in the world.

## Camp Open House & Preview

**gs** Thinking about summer camp? Join us for this fun event! You and your family can spend time exploring program centers, enjoy a snack, and register for camp!

If you pay a \$40 camp registration deposit on this day, you will receive a \$10 discount on the remaining camp fee. Bring a buddy (does not have to be a Girl Scout); she will also receive a \$10 discount! \$40 deposit must be paid this day for the \$10 discount.

**NOTE: You do not need to register for this event.**

Date:	Saturday, April 21, 2012
Option 1:	10:00 am to 12:00 pm, Cherokee Ridge
Option 2:	10:00 am to 12:00 pm, Mintahama
Option 3:	10:00 am to 12:00 pm, Silver Meadows*
Option 4:	3:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Finbrooke
Option 5:	3:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Latonka

\*Note: Silver Meadows is not a resident camp site, but staff will be on hand to provide information about resident camp locations.

**TAKE ACTION.** Girls advocate for themselves & others.

## Camp Service Day

**gs** Girl Scouts take action to make the world a better place! Girls and adults can give back to GSMH program centers, helping to keep them beautiful and safe for all to use, then enjoy a hotdog roast immediately following the event!

Date:	Saturday, April 21, 2012
Option 1:	9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Cherokee Ridge
Option 2:	9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Mintahama
Option 3:	9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Silver Meadows
Option 4:	1:00 pm to 5:00 pm, Finbrooke
Option 5:	1:30 pm to 5:30 pm, Latonka

Min/Max: 10/100 Girl Cost: \$2.00 Adult Cost: \$2.00

**Registration Deadline: 4/06/12**

**Please complete a GSMH Program/Event Registration form for the camp service day. The form is printed in our girl newsletters (Adventures, Choices, and Impact) and is available online at [www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org](http://www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org).**

SAVE  
\$10

with our Early Bird discount when you register by April 1!

family  
discount

Save \$10 per camper when siblings both register for camp (see page 18 for details).

# celebrate 100 years...

Dear Girl Scouts,

This year is extra special for Girl Scouts – it is our 100th anniversary.

For 100 years, Girl Scouts have been making lifelong memories as they explore the outdoors and all of the exciting adventures it holds.

The first Girl Scouts carried their bedrolls over their shoulders as they marched to camp, where they learned semaphore, first aid and outdoor cooking skills. While today's Girl Scouts arrive at camp a little differently and ride horses, slide down the zip line or build a robot, they still share the amazing experiences of building independence, learning to be leaders and having a great time in the outdoors with their friends - just like girls in 1912!

Girl Scout camp is a safe, fun and affordable option for summer. Whether you are looking forward to another summer as a veteran camper or considering your first summer at Girl Scout camp, please take some time to look through this guide to see all of the fun that awaits at camp! Summer will be here before you know it ... and what better way to celebrate Girl Scouts' 100th summer than by joining us at Girl Scout summer camp!

Don't want to do it alone? Invite your BFF to camp; she can register too, even if she doesn't do other Girl Scout activities during the year! Make sure to follow the buddy registration procedures on page 18. The registration deadline is **May 1**. However, if you register by April 1, you will receive a \$10.00 *Early Bird* discount.

There is something for every girl at Girl Scout camp. We will encourage you to try new things and to experience activities that you would not normally do - like sleeping in a tree house, staging your own play, horseback riding, ropes courses, and more! We hope you will join us during this special 100th anniversary summer for memories that will last a lifetime!

Yours in Girl Scouting,



Anne Soots  
Interim CEO



Carolyn Imhoff  
Sr Manager Leadership Program

**MARCH 31, 2012**

## Get ready for a big day!

### Believe in Girls Expo

11:00 am - 5:00 pm. \$10 per person.

**Hands-on activities, a main stage area** abuzz with entertainment all day, including a historical uniform fashion show, great music, live animals, **and** more! Register by March 16 to receive a commemorative Believe in Girls Expo bracelet!

"Early Bird" registration deadline: 3/16/12.  
Registration open through 3/31/12.

### One Hundred, FUN Hundred!

Party for GS Daisies, Brownies & Juniors  
6:00 pm - 8:30 pm. \$10 per girl / \$8 per adult.

The fun keeps going at this party just for our younger Girl Scouts. A kid-friendly dinner, games, a special 100th anniversary craft, and lots of fun! Registration deadline: 3/16/12

**FOR COMPLETE EVENT DETAILS AND REGISTRATION FORM, PLEASE VISIT**  
[www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org/100th](http://www.girlscoutsmoheartland.org/100th).

All events are in  
Springfield, MO.

### 100 Years of Dreams Dance Party

for GS Cadettes, Seniors & Ambassadors  
6:00 pm - 8:30 pm. \$12 per girl / \$8 per adult.

At this party just for older Girl Scouts, we'll eat dinner and then dance the night away! Don't miss this evening full of fun and surprises. Registration deadline: 3/16/12

# FAQ

## FOR GIRLS

### How do I choose?

Each program center offers a variety of sessions for all ages. Take the time to read the different session descriptions and decide which one best meets your interests. Each session offers a theme that will be the focus of many of your camp activities, but you'll have the opportunity to participate in traditional camp activities like campfires, swimming and games at all camp sessions. Be sure to read the section called "about the program centers" to learn more about where you will be staying during camp! Of course, all of our camps are great places to meet new friends, try something for the first time and build memories to last a lifetime!

### Can I bring a friend?

Absolutely! You can even bring a friend who is not a Girl Scout! Just be sure to write your buddy's name on your summer camp registration form, and be sure she writes *your* name on *her* summer camp registration form. Also, check to make sure that you both sign up for the same program and session and send the registrations in the same envelope.

### I'm a Girl Scout Brownie this year, but will be a Girl Scout Junior next year. Should I register for Brownie or Junior programs?

Girls should register for programs based on the grade in which they will be enrolled for the 2012/2013 school year. Girls may attend a summer camp program unit for a younger age level, but not an older one. For example, if you are currently a third grade Girl Scout Brownie and will be a fourth grader in fall 2012, you may register for a Girl Scout Junior, Brownie, or Daisy session. However, a Girl Scout Brownie currently in second grade who will enter third grade in fall 2012 may only register for a Girl Scout Brownie or Daisy unit, not a Junior one. Girl Scout age levels are as follows:

Girl Scout Daisy	Kindergarten-Grade 1	Girl Scout Brownie	Grades 2-3
Girl Scout Junior	Grades 4-5	Girl Scout Cadette	Grades 6-8
Girl Scout Senior	Grades 9-10	Girl Scout Ambassador	Grades 11-12

## FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

### Is there a bus to camp?

Each family is responsible for getting its camper(s) to the camp location on the first day of camp, and for picking up camper(s) on the last day. We do not offer bus transportation to camps.

### What should my daughter bring to camp?

Confirmation packets will be mailed to each girl after the May 1, 2012 registration deadline. Packets will include a packing list, health history form, health examination form, medications form and directions to camp. All girls who attend camp for more than 1 day are required to have a health examination form completed, signed by a physician and brought to camp on the first day of camp. Girls will not be able to stay if they do not bring this with them.

### I'm not sure that I can afford camp on my own.

Girls may pay for camp with Girl Scout Cookie Credit from the Girl Scout Cookie Program (see page 18). It's a great way for them to learn about paying their own way! A limited amount of financial assistance is available as well. See pages 21-22 for guidelines and application forms.

## How long do we have to register for a camp session?

The registration deadline for all summer camp programs, regardless of the program date, is May 1, 2012. Registrations must be received by this date, and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Remember to include 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices for camp sessions in case we are unable to place you in your first choice session. If we are unable to place you in any of your choices, we will contact you to see if you would like to register for a different session.

## Can I call or email my daughter while she is at camp?

While campers are not allowed to have cell phones or receive calls or emails during their time at camp, you are encouraged to send letters to your camper (please do not send packages with food). Your camper's confirmation packet will include a mailing address for letters.

## What if I have to cancel or change my daughter's camp session?

In order to request a program session change, parents or guardians should contact a Business Services Coordinator toll-free at 1-877-312-4764 to see if a change is possible. All program session changes must be made by May 1, 2012. Changes made after that registration deadline will be made on a case-by-case basis. The balance of camp registration fees is refunded only when written notice of cancellation is received at least three weeks before the camp program session starts, or when the camper is ill and a written notice of cancellation is accompanied by a statement from the camper's attending physician. NO refunds will be given after the registration deadline except in the following cases: - Death or emergency in the family - Camper's injury or illness (doctor's statement required) - Camper cannot be placed in her 1st, 2nd, or 3rd choice of program session - Camper does not receive requested financial assistance - Program session is cancelled by Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland - Camper fails health screening upon arrival at camp and she cannot be placed in a similar program at a later date. Refunds will NOT be made if a camper leaves camp due to homesickness, illness, behavioral issues or parent request. However, every effort will be made to place a camper who misses her choice of program session due to illness, injury, or family emergency in another program session.

# about the program centers

### finbrooke program center (christian county, missouri)

Finbrooke offers a variety of outdoor experiences on more than 260 acres. Sleeping units include small cabins, perma-tents and platform tents that each sleep 4. Units all have running water and a shower house with flush toilets. Activities include a ropes course, climbing tower, zip line, archery, a pool and canoeing on the river.

### mintahama program center (newton county, missouri)

Mintahama is just outside of Joplin. It has 180 acres, including a 12-acre lake for canoeing or paddle boating. Sleeping units include platform tents, screened cabins, tree houses and a bunk house. All units have running water and latrines. Shower facilities and flush toilets are located at the pool. Activities include boating, swimming, archery, and a nature center.

### cherokee ridge program center (wayne county, missouri)

Cherokee Ridge is situated on 1,100 acres. The three sleeping units have screened cabins with 4 beds each. All units have running water and latrines. Showers and flush toilets are located at the pool. Activity areas include a lake for canoeing, pool, horseback riding and archery.

### latonka program center (wayne county, missouri)

Latonka is located in a scenic lake cove. It offers a variety of activities, including hiking, canoeing, paddleboating and swimming in the lake, as well as a ropes course with low and high elements including a "zip line". There are three cabin units with easy access to a shower house with flush toilets. Sleeping cabins are screened and have electricity and ceiling fans; each sleeps up to 6 girls.



# a guide for girls: are you ready?

Take a minute to learn a little bit about what you can expect when you arrive at camp this summer...

Camp is kind of like a village built just for girls, and it means being outside every day and every night. There are a ton of fun things to do, and lots of cool, caring counselors who help guide each unit. Some of our campsites have flush toilets nearby, but many of our bathrooms are pit latrines (outhouses). Girls get lots of exercise during the day as hiking is how we get from place to place at camp!

Many of the meals are served family-style or buffet-style in the dining hall. Foods like spaghetti, pizza and chicken are dining hall favorites. Depending upon the length of your stay, many groups also have the opportunity to cook out! Cookout favorites include hamburgers, foil dinners, and taco salad.

At camp, you wake up every day about the same time, usually 7:00 or 7:30 a.m., eat breakfast, raise the flag and begin the day. While you're at camp, you'll be responsible for taking care of yourself, taking care of other people (like your friends and other girls in your group) and taking care of your environment. That means you'll work together with other girls to clean your sleeping area, showers, latrines and surroundings every day.

Arts and crafts, sports, Leadership Journey activities, swimming, canoeing, horseback riding...each camp offers different activities, so check the following pages for more information. Activities are also organized differently at each camp. Sometimes you decide what to do as a group and sometimes you decide as an individual. There is some downtime or "rest time" planned in each group each day. This is a good time to write letters home or catch some zzz's!

At night, you might have a campfire with other campers or do something special just with your unit. Sometimes there are talent shows or skit nights; sometimes there are all-camp activities like a scavenger hunt or game! At bedtime, counselors will come around and say good-night, and then it's lights out! Counselors do not sleep in the same cabin as you do, but they are nearby.

## Still not sure?

**Take our camper quiz on the next page!**

## A guide for parents: Is she ready?

Deciding if your daughter is ready to leave home for camp is sometimes a tough decision for parents. For many girls, camp is the first time and/or longest time they've been away from home.

Independent, youth-development experiences are a vital part of the growing up process. You are the best judge of when your daughter is ready for camp. Some 1st graders are ready, while other girls come to camp for the first time when they reach 4th grade. Others attend for the first time in their teens.

Girls who have developed these traits are most likely ready for camp:

- Independent: She can choose her own clothes, brush her teeth, and take care of chores without a lot of supervision.
- Confident: She handles new situations without becoming overly anxious.
- Aware: She has already stayed overnight away from her family and knows she can do it.
- Social: She has been with other girls her own age while apart from her family.
- Self-reliant: She knows her own mind and is able to make decisions for herself.
- Enthusiastic about going: She really wants to go and looks forward to being out-of-doors.

It is perfectly normal for girls to miss their families, but most of the time, they are too busy to miss them! Your daughter will be more comfortable in her camp experience if she knows you are confident in her ability to succeed while she's away. For many parents, sending a child to camp for the first time is an emotional experience. Before sending your daughter to camp, take time to evaluate whether YOU are ready for her to go.