

**Founder's Day
Celebration for Daisies,
Brownies, and Juniors**

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION FOR DAISIES, BROWNIES, AND JUNIORS

Founder's Day takes place on October 31 each year to honor and recognize Juliette Gordon Low, the founder of Girl Scouts, who was born on that day in 1860. These celebrations can take place at any time around that date.

Founder's Day is an opportunity for girls to learn about Juliette Gordon Low and the world-changing impact she had by starting Girl Scouting in the United States. We recommend including a variety of activities based on the targeted age group for your event. These activities should include ones that help the girls:

- Learn about Juliette Gordon Low (also known as: Daisy) and the history of Girl Scouting
- Celebrate Daisy with some birthday fun
- Honor Daisy's legacy and commitment to making the world a better place
- Share Girl Scout traditions through ceremonies

Below are suggested activities that would work well virtually. Select the activities that make the most sense for your event and interest of the girls attending.

Activities to Learn About Juliette Gordon Low

Kim's Game – Juliette Gordon Low Edition

This is a classic Girl Scout game that can easily be adapted to run virtually if needed. See Appendix for directions.

Juliette Gordon Low Scavenger Hunt

Girls will learn about Juliette Gordon Low through a fast-paced scavenger hunt. You can either have printout photos cutout of the items and taped throughout the room for girls to find, or if meeting somewhere where moving around may be difficult, provide each girl with a printout of the items to point at.

For this activity, each girl will need:

- Printouts of the following, which can be found in the appendix: *pumpkin, daisy, telephone, rope, birthday cake*
- Pens, crayons, markers, or colored pencils

Explain to the girls that you will give them a clue for an image they need to find (or point at) that is hidden nearby.

1. Juliette Gordon Low was born on Halloween. What is something orange that we typically see around Halloween? Find that item to get the next clue. (*pumpkin*)
2. Juliette loved to draw and paint pictures. Decorate your pumpkin by drawing a nose, mouth, and eyes to make a jack-o-lantern.
3. Juliette's nickname was _____ (have the girls guess). That's right, *Daisy!* Find the daisy.
4. Juliette, AKA Daisy, started Girl Scouts in Savannah, Georgia in 1912 by telephoning a friend. Find this item (*telephone*).
5. The first Girl Scout handbook had instructions on how to tie up a burglar with 8 inches of rope. Find the *rope*.
6. Learn to tie an overhand knot, or practice tying one if you already know how.
7. The Girl Scout movement grew and grew. Now there are Girl Scouts all over the United States as well as the world. We honor her life and work by starting Girl Scouting every year by celebrating Founder's Day. Find a symbol representing birthday celebrations. (*birthday cake*)

Girl Scout Pictionary

Girls will be given a Girl Scout/Founder's Day themed item to draw. The rest of the girls have 60 seconds to try to guess what she is drawing. Some options include: *paint brush, pumpkin, book, rice, necklace, fishing pole, daisy or flower, rope, telephone, horse, tree, tent, wedding ring, bandaid*. After the girls guess the item correctly give a little information about each item and how it is related to Founder's Day.

Daisy Tea Party

If just for Daisies, hold a Daisy tea party and have each girl decorate a cookie and then eat it while you read, *Here Come the Girl Scouts* by Shana Corey.

The Story of Juliette Low

In this activity, the girls will help act out the story of Juliette Gordon Low and how she started Girl Scouts. It can be done as a whole group or in smaller groups based on the size of your event. You will want at least eight girls in the group.

You can divide up the roles in a variety of different ways based on what makes the most sense for your event. It does not matter if the groups are even. Here are the roles:

- **JULIETTE LOW:** Make a muscle and say, "Together we can make a difference!"
- **GEORGIA:** In your best southern accent, say "Hey y'all!"
- **HORSES:** Say "Neigh!"
- **LONDON:** Sing "London Bridge is Falling Down..." (that line only)
- **LORD BADEN POWELL:** In your best English accent say, "How do you do?"
- **GIRLS:** Jump up and down and shout, "We want to have fun too!"
- **GIRL SCOUT or GIRL SCOUTS:** Sing "Make new friends" (that line only)

Explain to the girls that as you read the story they should make the motion/action/saying for their part. After you assign the roles, run through them all so girls can practice.

- Juliette Low
- Georgia
- Horses
- London
- Lord Baden Powell
- Girls
- Girl Scout or Girl Scouts

Now, let's read the story (on the next page)!



The Story of Juliette Gordon Low

During the early 1900's, there lived a woman named **JULIETTE LOW** in Savannah, **GEORGIA**, who loved **HORSES** and loved to travel.

JULIETTE LOW traveled to **LONDON** where she met **LORD BADEN POWELL**, the founder of Boy Scouts. When **JULIETTE LOW** saw what great things **LORD BADEN POWELL** was doing for boys through the Boy Scouts, she decided that she could start an organization like the Boy Scouts for **GIRLS**. Her organization would later become the **GIRL SCOUTS** of the USA.

After learning all she could from **LORD BADEN POWELL** in **LONDON**, she returned to Savannah, **GEORGIA**, where she started the **GIRL SCOUTS**. This was an organization where **GIRLS** could learn new skills and become independent during a time in history where **GIRLS** were supposed to be seen and not heard, where women could not vote, where women only wore dresses and stayed home most of the time.

JULIETTE LOW had **GIRLS** in a kind of trousers called pantaloons doing exciting activities indoors and outdoors! Her first **GIRL SCOUT** troop even rode **HORSES** regular style and not side saddle – which, at the time, was the “proper” way for **GIRLS** to ride a **HORSE**!

Aren't you glad that a strong, independent, kind woman like **JULIETTE LOW**, went to **LONDON**, met **LORD BADEN POWELL** and learned about Boy Scouts, got excited for America's **GIRLS**, went back to **GEORGIA**, and founded the first **GIRL SCOUT** troop with **HORSE** saddles blazing so we could all be here today!

Birthday Bash

Juliette Gordon Low loved breaking gender stereotypes and having fun. Play a quick game or activity to get moving and have fun like Juliette would have done.

- Try to stand on your head like Juliette did. One of Juliette Gordon Low's skills was standing on her head. She would stand on her head every birthday to prove that she still could. She even stood on her head in the board room at National Headquarters once to show off the new Girl Scout shoes!
- Play a game of Flip the Pancake like Juliette would have done. The rules are simple – see how many times you can flip a pancake in a row without it falling. Each girl would need a small pan or plastic plate and an overly cooked pancake or slice of bread. The girls place the pancake/bread on their pan/plate and on the count of three gently flip the pancake with a light toss up and try to catch it again in their pan/plate. This was a common game when Juliette was alive.
- Decorate pumpkin cookies as a birthday treat.

Honoring Juliette Gordon Low's Legacy

Juliette Gordon Low believed that Girl Scouts should work to make the world a better place. To honor her legacy, work on a simple community service project from the list below, or create your own based on the needs in your community.

- **T-shirt dog toys:** <https://safeyoutube.net/w/qf4M>
- **DIY Dog Treats:** <https://www.puppyleaks.com/simple-dog-treat-recipes/>
- Make cards for veterans, nursing homes, or other groups
- No-sew fleece blankets for Project Linus or local shelter
- Have a Secret Mission project for the girls. During the event the girls can make their own “calling card”: <https://www.melissaanddoug.com/blogpost?postId=the-secret-service-activity-a-lesson-in-kindness>

Closing Ceremony

As part of the closing for the event, hold a candle ceremony with the girls. Since families might not feel comfortable with the girls using real flames, they could use an LED candle or cut out a pretend candle stick and flame out of construction paper or card stock.

You will need to have four girls agree to help with this ceremony ahead of time by reciting one part of the ceremony and lighting a candle. Then, each girl will need their own candle for the last part of the ceremony.

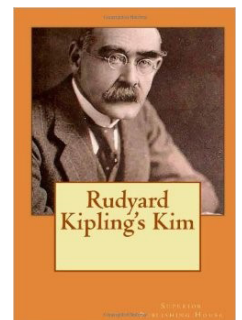
- **Speaker 1:** I light this candle for Juliette Low, our Girl Scout founder. Even though we lost the personal presence of our founder in 1927, her spirit has led us constantly to greater growth and fellowship. Today there are over three and a half million Girl Scouts in the United States. (light candle)
- **Speaker 2:** Juliette Low's heart's desire was to bring love and understanding to all girls in every land. Her dream is coming true, for today Girl Scouts and Girl Guides have members around the world. I light this candle to all Girl Scouts and Girl Guides the world over. (light candle)
- **Speaker 3:** When you became Girl Scouts, you made a Promise. Let us here rededicate ourselves by repeating our Girl Scout Promise. Hold Girl Scout sign and say the Girl Scout Promise together. (light candle)
- **Speaker 4:** Whenever we meet together, we strengthen our friendship and sisterhood. Let us all light our candles together as a symbol of this sisterhood. (girls "light" their candles)

End by singing "Make New Friends" before everyone extinguishes their candles.

APPENDIX

Daisy Low Kim's Game

Kim's Game is an observation and memory game played by Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Girl Guides. The name is derived from Rudyard Kipling's 1901 novel *Kim*, in which the hero, Kim, plays the game during his training as a spy. The training involved showing Kim a tray of stones and gems for one minute. After covering the tray, they would ask Kim how many stones he saw and what kind of stones they were. Rudyard Kipling was a good friend of both Robert Baden-Powell, founder of the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, and Juliette Low, founder of the Girl Scouts (USA).



Directions:

As you tell the story below, you will need the items in bold (or something similar) to hold up for the girls to see. You can use actual items or use the pictures. At the end of the story, lay all the items out on the table, or tape them on a wall or board and give the girls one minute to try to remember as many items as they can.

LEADER:

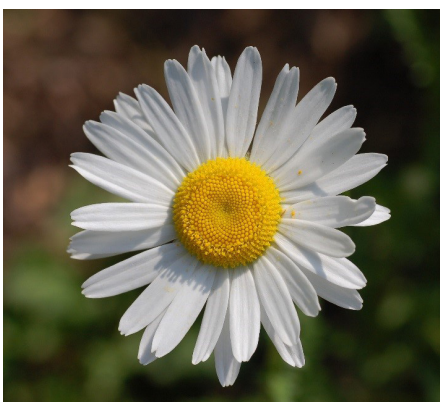
Juliette Gordon Low was the founder of Girl Scouting in the United States. I'd like to tell you a little about her life:

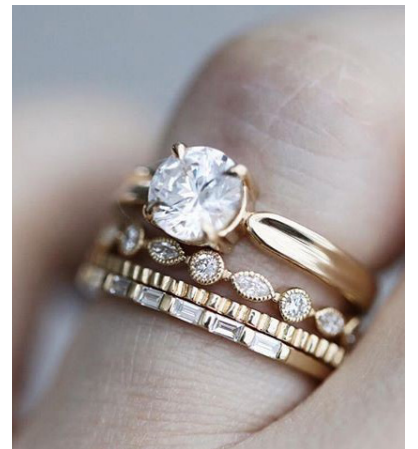
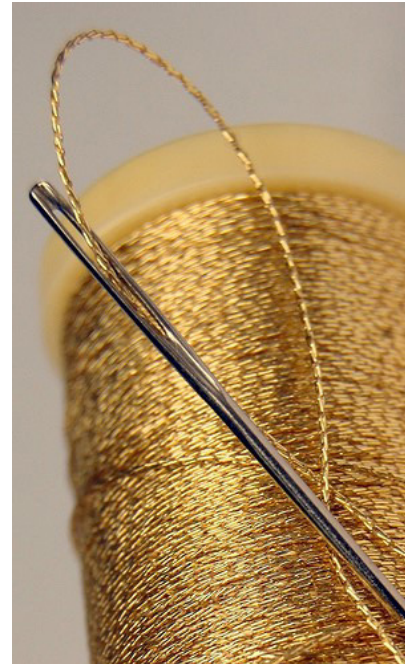
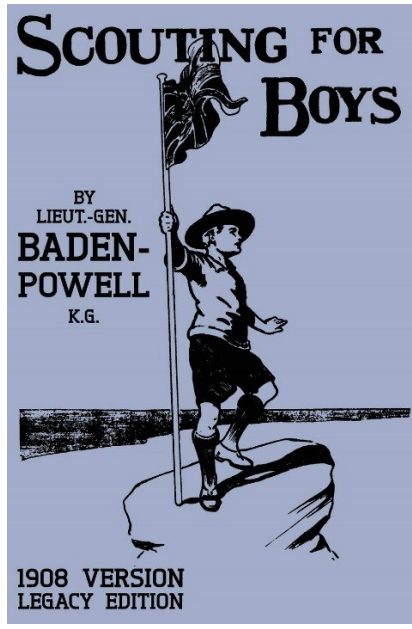
- Juliette Gordon was born in Savannah, Georgia, on October 31, 1860 – Halloween! (*toy or small pumpkin jack-o-lantern*)
- When her uncle saw baby Juliette, he said, "I bet she's going to be a daisy!" and the nickname stuck with her the rest of her life. (*artificial daisy*)
- Daisy loved to play outdoors, to run, swim, and climb trees. And she always loved animals, especially dogs and horses. (*toy horse or dog*)
- She also loved to make up plays and to draw and paint pictures. (*water color paint brushes, markers, or crayons*)

- After Daisy finished school, she traveled in Europe, where she met an Englishman named Willy Low. Daisy and Willy got married in Savannah in 1886. *(wedding rings or bell)*
- Some of the rice thrown at their wedding became lodged in Daisy's ear. It got infected and Daisy lost her hearing in that ear. Daisy had lost the hearing in her other ear as a teenager, and now she was almost totally deaf. *(bag of rice)*
- Daisy and Willie lived in England and Scotland for many years. After Willie died, Daisy traveled to other countries, taking her nieces and nephews and their friends with her. *(sail boat or cruise ship)*
- But Daisy wanted to do more with her life. Back in England, Daisy met Lord Baden-Powell and his sister, Agnes. They told her about the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides they had started. *(old book labeled Scouting)*
- Daisy wanted the girls in the United States to have the fun of being Guides too, so she returned to Savannah and made a famous phone call to a friend: "Come right over! I've got something for the girls of Savannah and all America, and we're going to start it tonight." *(telephone)*
- On March 12, 1912, Juliette Gordon Low started the first American Girl Scout group with 18 girls. Today there are 2.5 million American Girl Scouts, and we celebrate March 12 as Girl Scout's Birthday. *(calendar with March 12 circled or Happy Birthday, Girl Scouts sign)*
- It took a lot of money to get the Girl Scouts started, so Daisy sold the pearl necklace Willy had given to her as a wedding present. *(pearls)*
- The first American Girl Scout handbook showed girls how to tie up a burglar using 8 inches of rope! *(small piece of rope)*
- Daisy once said that Girl Scouting and Guiding could be the golden thread that linked the girls of the world together. *(gold thread or ribbon)*

When Daisy lived in England, she made friends with Rudyard Kipling, the author of The Jungle Books. Mr. Kipling taught the Scouts and Guides how to play an observation and memory game from another one of his books, Kim. We're going to play a Kim's Game about Daisy Low now.

- Give the girls a moment to try to remember as many items as they can.
- Have the girls cover their eyes as you remove one item.
- When you remove the item, have the girls open their eyes. Then, ask the girls to share what item they think you removed and share what it stands for.





Scavenger Hunt Items

