

## A Tradition of Fun – Sharing the Promise and Law

Every family has its own special traditions, and Guiding is no different. These traditions are what make us unique, and they are also what connect us to other Guiding and Scouting groups across Canada and around the world.

Traditions in Guiding include everything from the Promise and Law to the songs we sing at campfire. Some of these traditions, such as campfire songs are easy to share in a fun way. Others, such as the Promise and Law can be more difficult. To make these important Guiding traditions relevant to girls today, presentation is the key. While it is still important for girls to know the words to the Promise and Law, it is more important that they understand their meaning, and are able to apply that meaning to their daily lives and actions.

Teaching the Promise and Law through age-appropriate games and crafts helps create a fun atmosphere that encourages girls to see this as a positive part of their lives.

### Sparks & Brownies

- ☆ Make puppets and act out the Spark or Brownie Story from the Program book. Use the time while the girls are making their puppets to have an informal discussion about the words of their Promise, and what they mean. Encourage the girls to come up with examples of how they can follow the Promise and Law every day – opportunities to share, what makes a good friend, how they can help others, and so on.
- ☆ Make a craft such as the Promise Door Hanger that the girls can take home and display to remind them daily of the words to their Promise and encourage them to act on them.
- ☆ Play a simple game such as the Duck-Duck-Goose Promise Game to help the girls learn the words to their promise.

### Guides & Pathfinders

- ☆ Write each part of the Guide Law on a slip of paper. Challenge the girls to act out a situation with their Patrol that demonstrates how this part of the Guide Law could be applied in every day life.
- ☆ Play an active game such as the Promise and Law Relay to help reinforce the words to the Promise and Law.
- ☆ Make a craft to represent the Promise, such as a Promise bookmark. Use the symbols chosen to represent the different parts of the Promise to start a discussion on its meaning.

Whatever method you use to teach the Promise and Law, remember to make it fun and relevant to the girls. As Robert-Baden Powell wrote in his book, *Lessons from the Varsity of Life* - “The Scout Law was not framed as a list of DON'T'S. Prohibition generally invites evasion since it challenges the spirit inherent in every red-blooded boy (or man). The boy is not governed by DON'T, but is led on by DO.” Show your girls what they can DO to put the promise and Law into action in their own lives, and let the great Guiding tradition continue!