

# **Brownie Journey**

## **Wonders of Water**

In this Journey we are going to learn about the many ways that we use and enjoy water and its importance to everyone in our world. Then we are going to learn how to protect our water and keep it clean in the communities where we live. We will also make a promise to protect it ourselves and share that promise with the people we know.

1. Love Water requirements:
  - Show two things they know and love about water
  - Make and carry out one personal promise that protects water
2. Save Water requirements:
  - Brownies team up and speak up as advocates to protect water or keep it clean in their community
3. Share Water requirements:
  - Girls earn the third award as they create an even bigger ripple by sharing their efforts for water with others, educating and inspiring them to join in and asking them to commit to a water promise
4. WOW requirements:
  - They earn the award by showing proof of their SHARE Water efforts, and by describing how their efforts relate to the Girl Scout Law and how they have had an impact as leaders.

**9:40am**

**Brownies Love Water (10 minutes) - LOVE Water Award**

Supplies Needed: blue waterdrop shapes / pens / scissors / tape

1. Have everyone stand in a circle. If you have a large group, have them split into smaller groups to save time.
2. Have girls start by saying, "My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I love water because..." As each girl finishes the sentence, have her perform an action showing why she loves water. For example, "My name is Pam and I love water because I can go swimming" and make a swimming action. As each girl lists the reasons she loves water, have an adult write that reason on a blue raindrop to add to the WOW map later.
3. Have the next person in the line repeat what the first girl said, with the actions, and then add their own description and action. For example, "Her name is Pam and she loves water because she can go swimming" and make a swimming motion, "My name is Jenny and I love water because I can drink cold lemonade on a hot day" and pretend to drink from a straw.
4. Continue around the circle. By the time you get all the way around the circle, you will likely have to help girls remember some of the things said.

5. As a group, repeat all the reasons the girls love water with the actions.
6. Other examples include: swimming, sailing, lazy river, water park rides, going to the beach, skiing, sledding, ice skating, making hot chocolate, taking a bath or shower, washing hands, cook, water plants, wash dishes and clothes, grow watermelons, keep cows for milk, make ice

**9:50am**                      **Create Our "Team WOW" Map (15 minutes)**

Supplies Needed: large piece of paper or poster board / markers / crayons / creative art supplies / glue

1. Create a Team WOW map by drawing their favorite water activity on a large piece of paper (river, lake, bathtub in the house, in the kitchen making hot chocolate, etc.).
2. Add their favorite water places to their WOW map.
3. Have the girls cut out their blue water drop shapes from the Brownies Love Water activity.
4. The girls can use any creative art supplies to make their map shine!
5. Invite the girls to add their own names to their WOW map.

**10:05am**                      **Playing with Raindrops (15 minutes)**

Prep Needed:

- Gather materials and supplies.
- Fill spray bottles with water.
- Cut a one-foot by one-foot square of wax paper for each girl.

Materials Needed: wax paper / spray bottles / water / plastic drinking straws / paper towels / plastic trays(?)

1. Give each girl a sheet of wax paper and a straw.
2. Spray each girl's sheet of wax paper with a spray of water.
3. Have the girls move their water droplets around with the straw. They should notice that the smaller water droplets stick to each other. The more they play with the water, the more likely they are to have fewer, larger droplets. Explain that this is what happens to water droplets in clouds. Eventually they become large enough to fall to the ground as raindrops.

**10:20am**                      **Song (Baby Shark) & Snack Break (10 minutes)**

### **Baby Shark**

Baby shark, Doh-doh, doh, doh

Baby shark, Doh-doh, doh, doh

Baby shark, Doh-doh, doh, doh

Baby shark

Repeat with:

Momma Shark

Daddy Shark

Grandpa Shark

Going Swimming

Swam way too slow

Shark Attack

Happy Sharks

That's the end

**Snack suggestions: popsicles, watermelon, ??? hot chocolate to see the steam**

**10:30am**

**Thinking About Water Around the World (30 minutes) - SAVE Water**

1. Begin a discussion about how important water is to all the activities the girls talked about. You might say, "Those of you who said that swimming is your favorite water activity: How would you feel if there wasn't enough water to fill any pools or lakes for you to swim in? Give the girls plenty of time to answer.

2. Let the girls know that the way we experience water is not the way everyone in the world experiences water. You might say, "In some parts of the world, people don't have a lot of water. They don't have water flowing from the faucet anytime they want it." Then ask, can you imagine life without clean water?

3. Every person on earth has a right to clean water. A right is something that is necessary to have in order to live fully and be healthy and happy. Now let's experience a little of what life would be like if we did not have enough clean water.

4. Ask the girls to split up into small groups of 3-4. They are to consider the situation that you will give each group and come up with an answer as to what they would do. Make the scenario more tangible by giving them the appropriate props. Each group should have an opportunity to react to all three situations and if there are more than 3 groups, multiple groups can consider the situations at the same time in their own small group of 3-4.

Situation 1: You only have one pot of water for all your cooking, drinking and washing. You must share this water with your brother, sister, mom and dad. How do you feel? What would you do?

Situation 2: Each day, you only have enough water for washing to wet a small washcloth. That's all you have to wash yourself and anything you need to clean during the day. How do you feel? What would you do?

Situation 3: You don't have enough water to keep your hands clean and brush your teeth each day - about as much in a disposable water bottle. How do you feel? What do you do?

5. Ask the girls if they know how much water is used to make a pot of macaroni and cheese and what happens to that water when mom is done cooking the noodles? (6 cups, thrown down the sink). Then ask the girls how many times in a week they throw out a disposable water bottle that is not finished? Then ask what the girls can do to save the water that they have so that it is not wasted.

6. Place a gallon jug of water in front of each team and ask them to decide how they would complete four tasks only using the water in front of them: cooking oatmeal, washing dishes, bathing a baby and washing clothes. Ask them to decide how much water each task needs. You might ask, "which task will need the most water? Which task will use the least water? Which task do you want to do first - cooking or washing?"

**11:00am**                      **Rain in a Bag (10 minutes)** *if time is scarce this activity can be left out*

Supplies Needed: quart size Ziplock bags / markers / tape

The girls use the markers to draw a landscape on their Ziplock bag. When finished with their drawing, add water to the bag and zip closed. Tape the bag to a sunny window and report back what happened at the end of the camp day.

**11:10am**                      **Water Cycle Experiment (20 minutes)**

Supplied Needed: rotisserie chicken container (each girl to bring one) / large rock / aluminum foil / grass / refried beans / ice cubes / 1/2 cup boiling water

1. Make a small pond with the aluminum foil
2. Place the rock and grass in the container as shown
3. Fill the pond with water
4. Cover and place in a warm sunny spot
5. Observe how the water evaporates from the pond, collects at the top of the container, runs off the rock "mountain" and back into the land (the bottom of the container)

Alternative suggestions: put a mountain of refried beans on one side, leaving room for the lake on the other side. Before you start, ask the girls to describe what they see. Pour in a half cup of boiling water down the mountain. How does the water flow? Does

it form things that look like streams/rivers that merge together? Close the clam shell. Watch the steam build up on the roof like clouds. Next put 2-3 ice cubes in a zip lock bag (so it doesn't leak) or use a small cooler pack and set it on top of the clamshell over the mountain. See if the 'clouds' over the mountain start to rain as the water cools.



Mini Water Cycle



**11:30am**

**Lunch Break**

**1:00pm**

**Watercolor Painting (15 minutes)** *if time is scarce, these two activities can be done together or one of them can be skipped*

Supplies Needed: plastic tablecloths / watercolor paints / paint brushes / water cups / preprinted SAVE WATER certificates and rainbows to paint / wipes

Have fun watercolor painting! Once dry, they should add their finished painting to their Team WOW map.

**1:15pm**

**Water Jars (15 minutes)**

Supplies Needed: a special water jar (each girl to bring their own) / stickers / sharpies

1. Each girl should write her name on the bottom of her water jar with the sharpie.
2. Each girl may decorate her water jar with the stickers as she pleases.

**1:30pm**

**Snack/Hike to Dean Lake to fill water jars (30 minutes)**

Follow the Girl Scout motto: Be Prepared! Talk to the Brownies about how to treat plants and animals with care. Teach "Leave No Trace" principles which include never taking live plants or animals from their habitat. Ask them for ideas of what this means to them. Then teach them what "DO NOT DISTURB" means with plants and animals. "Would it include not flipping over rocks to look underneath? Not pulling up moss? Not ripping green leaves from bushes? Not stomping on holes that might house animals or insects?"

What's In Your Day Pack? Ask the girls to come up with ideas of what they should each bring to make their hike safe. Some ideas include a water bottle, a first aid kit, a rain jacket, lip balm, sunscreen, bug repellent, a whistle, a buddy and a snack.

Snack ideas: GORP or another snack in a bag so they can eat it on the way to the lake or when they get there

While on the hike, discuss with the girls ways that they can protect water. Also ask the girls how protecting water fits with the Girl Scout Law - have a copy of the Law in hand so that you can offer suggestions on which parts of the law might fit.

**2:00pm**

### ***Gathering Water Game (30 minutes) - SHARE Water***

Supplies Needed: 2 bowls / cooler / 3 gallons clean water / mucky water with sticks and rocks / cloth for "sibling" and sling / 2 empty cups per girl

1. Have the girls discuss why it's important to save water and how some people don't have it piped into their homes. They have to fetch and carry it themselves - and this is often done by girls their age, who then don't have time to go to school. When they say, yay, no school, remind them that they wouldn't learn to read and therefore couldn't read Harry Potter (or another favorite book).
2. Tell the girls that to fetch water, sometimes the girls must walk miles sometimes to get to the water (compare this to how far they just hiked to get to the lake). Sometimes they might even have to carry a younger brother or sister while getting the water too!
3. Divide the girls into teams of three and hand out two empty cups per girl and an empty gallon jug to each team.
4. Have an adult set up three stations using the coolers and/or bowls or pots and pans to represent various water stops. The first stop should have a very small amount of water. The second stop should have muddy water with a variety of sticks and debris in it. The last cooler should be filled with plenty of water.
4. Then using strips of cloth, tie a bundle to one girl in each group to represent the younger sibling to be carried while fetching water. Ask the girls if they want to name their "sibling."

5. Invite the teams to take their empty cups and empty water jug and stop at the various points looking for clean water.
6. Encourage the girls to use their imagination while they walk. You might say, "imagine the hot sun beating down your head and your little sister crying and fussing because the walk is too long."
7. At the first station, an adult could be standing there and asking the girls if that is enough water to bring back for a family of six people. The girls should be responding no and going on to the next station. Other questions include, "Why might the well be dry? What does this mean for your family who is thirsty?"
9. At the second station, an adult could be standing there and asking the girls if the muddy water is good enough to drink and should they use this water to fill their jug?
10. At the third station, the girls can use their cups one at a time to fill their jug. It is likely that the teams will pile up at this station so that the line to get clean water is very long. Tell the girls that it could take "hours" for the girls to fill their gallon jug.
11. Invite the girls to walk back holding one cup of water on her head and hold the other cup by her side. Remind the water carrier that every drop is precious, and she cannot spill or slosh along the way.
12. When all the girls have returned, ask them "what was the hardest thing about transporting your two cups of water? How did you feel at each station? Were you frustrated? Angry? Happy? If girls are in charge of getting water, what opportunities are they missing? School? other forms of learning? Play? If they miss school, what does that mean for their future?"
13. End the discussion with the following: "That's why it is so important for you to learn to protect the Earth's water - and advocate (tell) your school mates, your family and others around you why it's important to protect the Earth's water and not to waste it."

**2:30pm**

***Water Pollution (15 minutes)***

Put some household trash, including vegetable oil, coffee grounds and solid wastes in a tub of water. Have the girls use tongs and a sieve to see how hard it is to clean the water.

**2:45pm**

***Water Pledge (15 minutes)***

Supplies Needed: Pledge Cards and pencils

Have an adult read the Make a Pledge for the Planet! and ask the girls if they agree with the pledge. If so, they should sign their names to the pledge!

**3:00pm**

***Closing Flag Ceremony***

**TAP ideas:**

- air cleaning plants to the nursing home or their teachers
- encourage people to use reusable water bottled PSA or poster campaign
- do's and don'ts to help save water - morning announcements or posters at school or church
- make rain barrels and donate to camp or school