

Brownie Girl Scouts Through the Years



Brownie Girl Scouting got started in the late 1920s. Many of the appliances we take for granted today had not yet been invented. Few people flew in airplanes, or used a phone to call long distance. Many of the other medicines people use today had not been discovered.

Choose from the following activities to learn more about the past.

Try It!



1960's



1950's



1940's



1920's

1. Meals

Travel back in time with your Girl Scout troop or group. Choose a decade (1920s, 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, 1960s) and create a snack that Brownie Girl Scouts would have eaten then. If your period is the 1920s, you don't want to serve frozen foods, since they weren't available until many years later. And don't use plastic cups or plates. Plastic dining materials weren't in common use until the 1950s.

2. Clothes

Pick a time period and create outfits that would have been in fashion then. As you wear your outfits, try to imagine being in those same clothes years ago. How should you move and sit in them? How is your outfit different from the clothes you wear today?

Find out what girls' hairstyles were like back in the decade you've chosen. Wear your hair in that same fashion.

3. Entertainment

Up until the 1940s no one had television sets. Even in the early 1950s not too many people had them. People played card games and word games, told jokes, and listened to the radio together. But movies have been a popular form of entertainment since the silent films in the early part of the 1900s. Pick a time period (1920s, 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, 1960s), and choose songs to play and movies to watch from those years. (For example, *Snow White* was playing in theaters in the 1930s.) With your friends, learn a card game that people were playing back then. Or find a game that your parents or grandparents remember playing.

4. Sing a Song

Travel back in time. Choose a decade (1920s, 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, 1980s) and learn a song that was popular then. Sing it for your troop or group, or your family. Then teach it to them.

5. Language of the Times

Ask people of different ages about expressions they used as children. Look at movies, TV shows, or magazines from those years. How did girls your age talk? What were the “cool” words or sayings? How did girls your age act? What were other manners of the time you’ve picked?

6. Service to Others

Pick a time period, and plan and carry out a service project Girl Scouts would have done back then. Did you choose the 1920s? Girls packed and dedicated holiday baskets for the Salvation Army. In the 1940s, they rolled bandages for the American men and women serving in World War II. They also ran paper and aluminum drives. In the 1980s, girls your age contributed to food drives for local food pantries. Today, a service project might involve recycling paper or cans or collecting children’s videos to donate to a local hospital.

