

Songs

Raise your voice!

Whether singing around a campfire or joining a chorus of voices on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., Girl Scouts have always enjoyed the fun and fellowship that music creates. In fact, the first *Girl Scout Song Book*, a collection of songs put together by girl members, was published in 1925. Since then, the organization's love of music has grown along with the girls it has empowered.

Songs can be used to open or close meetings, enhance ceremonies, lighten a load while hiking, or share a special moment with other Girl Scouts. The tradition of Girl Scouts singing together has been passed on through generations by teaching songs to friends, both new and old, and spreading the joy around.

Love to sing, but not sure how to start teaching others? Here are some great tips to begin with.

Start with learning the song yourself!

Check out our GSCSA YouTube page for some Girl Scout songs to learn. There are also lots of online resources listed in this tip sheet.

Once you know the song, you will be able to teach the girls in your troop! If the girls are new to singing you may want to begin with a repeat-after-me song. This type of song is always sung in a call-and-response manner. Check out songs like, "The Princess Pat" and "The Moose Song."

If the girls are better versed in the realm of tunes you can teach them songs that they can sing together. To teach these songs: sing the song through once, then go through line-by-line in a call-and-response manner once or twice to allow the girls to learn the words and tune. Once everyone feels mostly comfortable with the song, try singing it all the way through together. Check out songs like, "Barges."

Once girls know the songs they can lead themselves!

Songs add fun to all activities, from road trips to hikes! Singing helps foster a special bond between the girls and allows time to be silly and open with each other.

Not a songbird yourself?

- Not everyone can carry a tune and even talented singers may not be comfortable in front of a group. However, we're just singing for fun and it's okay!
- Ask other volunteers in your Troop Team or service unit to help lead songs. This is an activity that becomes more fun as more people get involved!
- Our local council has a great resource in the Appalachian Trefoil Guild, a volunteer group for registered adult Girl Scouts or Girl Guides. The Trefoil Guild is happy to

attend troop meetings to teach songs to girls and their volunteers; just email info@girlscoutcsa.org to find out how to contact a Trefoil Guild representative.

Songbooks Available for Purchase on [girlscoutshop.com](http://www.girlscoutshop.com)

Girl Scout Pocket Songbook,

http://www.girlscoutshop.com/CAMP-AND-SPORTSWEAR_2/GIRL-SCOUT-POCKET-SONGBOOK

Brownie Girl Scout Songbook,

<http://www.girlscoutshop.com/gsusaonline/GSProductDetails.aspx?ProductID=BROWNIE+SONG+BOOK>

Online Resources for Songs

<http://gsuniversity.girlscouts.org/resource/song-leading-workshops/>

<http://100.gscnc.org/songs.html>

http://www.girlscouts.org/program/journeys/your_world/daisy.asp

http://www.girlscouts.org/program/journeys/your_world/brownie.asp