

Camping and Adventure

- One of the foundations of Girl Scouts is an appreciation for nature and exposure to the great outdoors.
- Activities such as hiking, camping, canoeing, and archery offer girls opportunities to have exciting, girl-led outdoor adventures while learning important skills that teach valuable life lessons, like self-reliance, leadership, and perseverance.
- Most importantly, at camp, girls take the lead in an all-girl safe space where they're free to explore, learn, and have fun without the pressures and social anxiety that can result from a coed environment.
- That's why, for more than a century, camping has been a cornerstone of the Girl Scout experience. Our organization remains committed to ensuring that girls have opportunities to take part in everything that camp has to offer.
- According to the Girl Scout Research Institute, nearly 100 percent of Girl Scouts participate in at least one outdoor activity, and more than half participate in high-adventure experiences like canoeing, archery, and ropes courses.
- Through girl-led outdoor activities, the Girl Scout experience truly comes to life. Girls:
 - Seek challenges
 - Become resourceful problem-solvers
 - Work cooperatively
 - Develop a strong sense of self
- Girl Scouts also facilitates girls' outdoor experiences in unique ways. In our research:
 - 50 percent of girls said that Girl Scouts provided them with opportunities to experience the outdoors in ways they could not have otherwise.
 - About 75 percent said that Girl Scouts gave them the chance to build their skills or try new outdoor activities.
- Girls who participate in girl-led, girl-centered outdoor activities had the following to say about their experiences:
 - "I got over my fear of heights! I climbed the 35-foot tower!" —12-year-old Girl Scout, Florida
 - "It was my first time on the water, in a lake. I was scared at first, but when I started to paddle, I got the hang of it. I really loved it." —10-year-old Girl Scout, Missouri
 - "I was afraid because I don't like heights, but I tried and was able to do the zip line. I really had fun!" —10-year-old Girl Scout, California
 - "I go camping with Girl Scouts every year, and every year we get more responsibility, which makes it more fun! This year we did most of the cooking ourselves, and we also had more responsibility in cleaning our cabins." —11-year-old Girl Scout, Massachusetts
 - "I like camping because you can talk with your friends and do fun things and get to know everyone better." —9-year-old Girl Scout, Texas
 - "It was really fun to be out in nature." —12-year-old Girl Scout, Texas