

Activity 1: As Girls Arrive

Time Allotment

5 minutes

Materials

Slips of paper with numbers for secret code (prepared in advance)

Container for slips of paper

Pens and pencils

Steps

As girls arrive, they pick and unscramble a secret code.

SAY:

Look at the secret code printout [or poster board]. You will see a number for each letter.

Now pick a paper from the container. You will see it has numbers on it. Use the secret code to figure what the word is. Write the letters [word] under the numbers on the paper. If you can't figure it out, work with a friend.

Activity 2: Opening Ceremony

Time Allotment

10 minutes

Materials

PDF of Girl Scout Promise and Law

Steps

Gather girls in a circle. Welcome them to the second Brownie Letterboxer meeting.

Girls say the Girl Scout Promise and the Girl Scout Law together.

SAY:

Some people who hide letterboxes will leave you clues to tell you exactly where to go,, like “go past the big tree” or “cross the stream.” Other “hidere” are more mysterious—they make up poems, riddles, or clues.

Did you solve the clue to the word when you arrived?

What does yours say? Say it out loud.

[Once girls have gone around saying what their word is, have them figure out what the whole clue is.]

Activity 3: Brownie Elf's Treasure Hunt

Time Allotment

15 minutes

Materials

Print out of Brownie Elf's Treasure Hunt, one for each girl

Pencils

Steps

Have girls find out where Brownie Elf's letterbox is.

SAY:

Use the same game code to fill in the letters and find out where Brownie Elf hid her letterbox.

Activity 4: Group Letterbox**Time Allotment**

20 minutes

Materials

2 small waterproof containers (plastic containers with air-tight lids)

2 small notebooks for logbooks

2 ink pads

2 rubber stamps (any)

2 labels

Stickers

Markers

Plastic baggies

Steps

Have girls form two letterboxing groups.

SAY:

Break into two letterboxing groups. Each group will create a letterbox to hide and make up clues so the other team can find it.

First, everyone stamp their personal stamp inside the group's logbook.

Put your items in the box. Write on it: Letterbox. Please do not destroy.

Put the logbook, a stamp, and inkpad into the plastic baggie, then put it in the letterbox.

Hide your letterbox!

[Inside the meeting room or outdoors if girls can go outside.]

Write your clues for where it is. Draw a map, if you want!

Activity 5: Letterbox Hunt**Time Allotment**

20 minutes

Materials

Pens and pencils

Girls' logbooks and personal stamps

Steps

Girls hunt for the other team's letterbox using the clues provided. Hand out personal logbooks and stamps to each girl [made at previous meeting].

SAY:

Now that you've hidden your letterboxes, exchange clues with the other team.

Read the clue and, as a group, find the letterbox.

Once you find it, each of you should stamp the logbook with your personal stamp. Then take the stamp that's in the letterbox and stamp your logbook!

Make sure to rewrap the items in the plastic and bury or hide the letterbox where you found it once you're finished with it.

[After girls are done]

Was it easy or hard to find the letterbox?

Will you give the clues to other friends or families to find your box and continue the adventure?

Which did you enjoy more, hiding your letterbox and writing clues, or searching for the other group's letterbox?

What are some other ways to write clues?

Activity 6: Snack Break

Time Allotment

10 minutes

Materials

Water or Juice

Granola bars

Apple slices

Steps

Girls enjoy a healthy snack. Girls can have their snack as they hunt for the letterboxes to save time!

Activity 7: Closing Ceremony

Time Allotment

5 minutes

Materials

Letterboxer badges, one for each girl

Steps

Girls form a friendship circle and get their Letterboxer badges.

SAY:

Congratulations on earning your Letterboxer badge. Now you know how to solve clues and go on a letterboxing adventure!

What did you like the best about letterboxing? [Solving mysteries? Hiding things? Being on an adventure? Collecting stamps?]

Ask a girl to end the ceremony by starting the friendship squeeze.