

# ☘ Manitoba Girl Guides ☘

## Try Guides Night



## How to Set Up a Try Guides Night

As an organization for girls, led by women, Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada always needs girl members from a variety of communities. All girls should have the opportunity to experience the fun, friendship and new adventures of Guiding.

Host a Try Guides night in your Unit to show what Guiding has to offer to more girls in your community.

**Purpose of kit:** The purpose of this kit is to encourage an increase in membership in your Unit or in your District. Use the resources in the Try Guides night Kit to plan an effective and fun night and showcase Guiding to those who are not yet members. Try Guides Night should be simple, fun, active and informative about Guiding.

**Setting up your evening:** Review the kit materials. Let your Area Membership Adviser know you are hosting a Try Guides night. She will be able to assist you.

Discuss with the girls in your Unit what their ideas are on inviting their friends to a meeting. Get the entire Unit involved in planning and running this special event.

**Set the date of the meeting:** Complete the invitations for your girls to pass on to their friends fill in the information section on the hand outs and posters and drop them off at your local schools, libraries, grocery stores and community centers. Consider how many invitations each girl should get to hand out. Have the girls create or write up the invitations provided by the Province.

Customize the Unit information sheet to distribute to your guests.

Request PR material for your branch from your Area or District Commissioner to distribute to your guests in the goody bags:

Spark, Brownie or Guide brochure  
General brochure  
Coloring sheets

Bookmark  
balloon

Give each guest information on your Unit: how to join your Unit, along with PR material suggested. (See the Unit Information Sheet.)

Follow up with girls who attend the meeting to encourage them to join. If your meeting is late in the year encourage them to pre-register for next year. Invite them to another meeting if they are interested but not ready to commit.

Give the names of the girls who come to your Area Membership Adviser so that the family can be added to a mailing list to let them know about registration or other special events (Area days, etc).

**Membership Advisers:** Make sure you follow up with the Guiders to ensure that everyone has been called or sent a follow up letter. Compile a list of contacts that can be sent invitations to other events or registration information.

If you are doing the event as an Area you will have to find a community club to have the event, or a large enough meeting space.

## Time Lines

Three weeks before	Invitations out to your girls Include date of the event in your unit newsletter Inform your Area Membership Adviser that you are hosting a Try Guides night.
Two weeks before	Purchase supplies needed for meeting Remind girls to distribute invitations Get PR material for guests Copy evaluation forms and Unit information notices
One week before	Remind your girls to call their friends to remind them about the meeting Compile PR packages to distribute to the guests.
At the event:	Make nametags for all the friends remember to keep blank nametags for girls that drop in. Make them big enough so you can see them from across the circle. Calling the girls by name will make them feel welcome and part of your Unit.  Set up a display at your Unit meeting. Display could include such things as Girl Guide doll, world flag, posters, pamphlets, bookmarks, stickers, samples of cookies, camp blanket, crafts you Unit has worked on, Unit photo album, etc.  Give the girls a goodie bag when they leave – with a bookmark, and flyer, etc for the appropriate age group.
After the event:	Complete the Try Guides night kit evaluation form and submit to the Provincial Office. Send a list of the names of potential contacts to your Area Membership Adviser. Follow up with those girls who expressed an interest in joining by calling their parents. (See the script attached for an idea on what to say.)

## Questions and Answers/Myths:

- 1. Can girls join in the middle of the year?**  
Definitely. A girl can join at any time.
- 2. How much do they pay if it is the middle of the year?**  
Check with your District Commissioner to see if there is a discount in membership fees after a certain date in your Area.
- 3. But if girl joins in the middle of the year she will be behind in the program!**  
That is fine. You do not have to catch her up. She can just start from where you are. If she wants to complete items at home she can. Remember to be flexible. Our focus is on the girl.

## Script For Talking To Parents

Hello this is \_\_\_\_\_. I am the leader of the \_\_\_\_\_ Unit. Your daughter recently attended our Try Guides night. At the meeting you/and your daughter expressed an interest in continuing to attend our meetings. We would love to have her as a member of our Unit. We meet every \_\_\_\_\_ night from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ p.m. Do you have any questions about our Unit or the program that I could assist you with?

**\*\*If they are not ready to commit now to joining ask if you can get in touch with them again in August for registration in September.\*\***

*Background information to assist you in talking to parents:*

## What Are the Benefits Guiding Offers to Girls?

A place to have fun, learn new things and make new friends.  
Rolling membership intake – can join any time of year.  
Adventurous, activity-based programs where girls can challenge themselves in a safe environment.  
An accepting and nurturing all-girl atmosphere.  
Scholarships and opportunities for international travel.  
Mentorship and role models.  
Membership in a worldwide organization for girls and women from 144 countries with 10 million members.



## Unit Information

Hi! We are the \_\_\_\_\_ Unit

We meet at \_\_\_\_\_

from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. Thank you for coming to our

Try Guides Night tonight. We hope that you enjoyed  
visiting our Unit. We enjoyed having you and would like to  
invite you to join our Unit.

Please talk to the Leader \_\_\_\_\_

Her phone number is \_\_\_\_\_



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# Try Guides Night – Nature BINGO

## All Branches

Sparks, Brownies, Guides

Nature BINGO is a game that girls of all ages will enjoy playing.

In this kit you will find

- ❖ Nature BINGO playing cards
- ❖ Calling Cards
- ❖ BINGO chips

Try to make the game more fun by using a large bag and fill it with some of the real nature items on the BINGO cards, for example in the bag you can put a twig, feather, toy bee, cotton ball for clouds. Make it fun and include the girls in the game, for Spark age girls how about making the sounds of the animals instead of saying the names.

# Try Guides Night – Fire Truck Cookies

## Sparks and Brownies

These snacks can be a lot of fun for Sparks or Brownies to make. This activity might be a little messy, so putting plastic tablecloths on preparation surfaces is recommended.

- ❖ 1 whole graham cracker per Spark
- ❖ Red icing
- ❖ 2 Chocolatey Mint Girl Guide cookie per Spark
- ❖ Black string licorice

Cut off the top right corner of the graham cracker. Spread red icing over the cracker. Position the two cookies on the truck as wheels. Use the black licorice to make a ladder on the truck. (If black licorice is not available, use black icing instead.)

Apple Slice Flames

- ❖ Slice red apples for flames.
- ❖ Douse the “flames” in pineapple juice and/or use cinnamon.

(Source Girl Guides Ontario Council Fire Hall Meeting)

# Try Guides Night – Camp hat craft

## Guides

You will need

- ❖ 2 brown pipe cleaners
- ❖ 1 yellow /crème colored felt

Directions

Take one pipe cleaner and start rolling it around and around to make a flat circle (this will be the top of your chocolate cookie)

Repeat the same thing with your second pipe cleaner; this will be the bottom of your cookie

When you are done rolling, cut a piece of felt just a little bigger round than the cookies (this way the crème filling will be visible)

Glue both cookie pieces one on each side of the piece of felt icing

When dry thread a safety pin thru the edge of the icing and pin onto your camp hat

# Try Guides Night – Girl Guide Cookie

## Flower

### All Branches

Sparks, Brownies, Guides

You will need

- ❖ Chocolate and vanilla cookies
- ❖ Spearmint jelly candies
- ❖ Meat skewer
- ❖ Clear plastic saran wrap
- ❖ Ribbon

Directions

Carefully slide 2 spearmint jelly candies onto a meat skewer as leaves

Gently place just enough of the sharp end into the middle (icing) of the cookie

Your cookie and leaves should be fairly close to one another

Wrap your flower in a clear piece of either saran wrap or cellophane

Add a touch of ribbon for decoration

# Try Guides Night – Cookie Songs

## All Branches

Spark, Brownie, Guide

### **Itsy Bitsy Girl Guide (sung to the tune of The itsy bitsy spider)**

The itsy bitsy Girl Guide  
Went walking down the street  
Out came the customers to say  
“I’ll buy a treat!”  
Up spoke the Girl Guide  
“There four dollars each”  
And the itsy bitsy Girl Guide skipped happily down the street.

(Source BC Council)

### **Cookies in the Box (sung to the tune of Farmer in the Dell)**

There are cookies in the box,  
Cookies in the box,  
Chocolate and vanilla too  
There’s lots, and lots, and lots.

For crafts, and camp, and fun,  
Please help us sell a ton!  
Chocolate and vanilla creams  
There are lots for everyone.

(Source BC Council)

### **Oh When the Mints (sung to the tune Oh when the Saints)**

Oh when the mints,  
Oh when the mints,  
Oh when the chocolate mints arrive,  
You will love to taste our cookies  
They are just four bucks a box!

So do come buy,  
So do come buy,  
Oh when the chocolate mints are in,  
You will love the taste of our Cookies  
They are just four bucks a box!

(Source BC Council)

# Try Guides Night - Recycled Tin Cans All Branches

Sparks, Brownies, Guides

You will need

- ❖ Tin cans in assorted sizes
- ❖ Wallpaper remnants, scrapbook paper, gift-wrap paper or fabric
- ❖ Ribbon
- ❖ Acrylic craft paint
- ❖ Craft glue

## Instructions:

First, take the labels off the cans carefully; these labels will be your templates. Wash and dry the cans thoroughly. The cans can be any size you wish, large, small, and medium.

Take your label templates and trace them onto wallpaper, paper, or fabric - whatever you want to use to cover the cans. Cut out each traced template and glue around your cans. Let dry. You can decorate these with fun foam, glitter, rhinestones, or even use markers and draw on some pictures, or your name.

For each can, glue a matching ribbon around the lip of the can, with each end meeting in the front, then make a matching ribbon bow and glued that on to cover the first ribbon ends.

# Try Guides Night – Timmy the CD Turtle All Branches

Sparks, Brownies, Guides

You will need

- ❖ Old CD's
- ❖ Dark green and light green felt
- ❖ Green paint
- ❖ Small amount of cardboard
- ❖ Green craft fun foam
- ❖ Fabric paint
- ❖ Goggle eyes
- ❖ Small strip of magnet

## Instructions

Paint the front of the CD with the green paint

Trace the CD onto the darker green felt and cut out the circle. Set aside.

Cut a stop sign shapes out of lighter green felt (this is an 8 sided shape) or any shape that you like.

Cut four green fun foam shapes for the legs - these are like large Popsicle stick shapes, or rectangles with curved ends. Cut a similar, but longer shape for the head. You'll also need to cut a triangle shape for the tail.

Glue the fun foam head, legs and tail to the back of the CD. Cover all these parts by gluing on the green circle that you cut out earlier.

Glue the goggle eyes on the top of the head.

Glue on all the shapes that you cut out of the felt.

After all the paint and glue is dry, glue a magnet to the back of Timmy the CD Turtle. Stick him on the fridge to make you smile or to hold a little note in place!

## **Try Guides Night – Picture Yourself in Guiding Picture frame**

### **All Branches**

Sparks, Brownies, Guides

You will need

Sheets of fun foam

Utility knife or scissors

Jewel decorations

Fun foam decorations

Markers

Glue

Small strip of magnet

Print out small stickers that say “Picture Yourself in Guiding”

#### **Instructions**

Cut the fun foam into pieces of 8 ½ “ x 6”

Cut a small square 3” x 5” hole in the middle to fit a 4x6 picture

Give each girl one of the frames to decorate, if you have a digital camera there you can take pictures of the girls and print them out to put in the frames

Glue a small magnetic strip on the back to hang on the fridge.

## **Try Guides Night – Reading/Story tent**

### **Sparks and Brownies**

If you have the room set up a real tent, if you are having your Try Guides Night at a location where you are not able to set up a tent, why not try...stacking up some chairs and covering it with a large table cloth or sheet, or set up a table and cover it with a sheet.

You can read some Guiding stories to the girls, how about Crystal’s Dream, The new Girl. Both these stories can be found in the Go Sparks Go Activity Book.

For Brownie age girls why not try The Brownie Story found in the Brownies Can Do It! Program book.

# Try Guides Night – Knot Tying Guides

You will need

A couple of bags of string licorice

Knot tying cards

Have the girls tie the knots using the licorice

Here are a few knots that can be done

## Bowline (pronounced boh-linn)

### Use a bowline:

- to make a loop that won't slip
- as a rescue knot on the end of a rescue line to reach someone who has fallen in the water or down a cliff
- in a series up a rope, to use as footholds and handholds in climbing.

1



2



3



4



3. Tuck the working end back down through the loop.
4. Pull to tighten.

An easy way to remember how to tie a bowline is: make a rabbit hole. The rabbit comes up out of her hole, around the tree and down into the hole again.

If your rope is a slippery synthetic, you can make the bowline more secure by making a half hitch at the end.

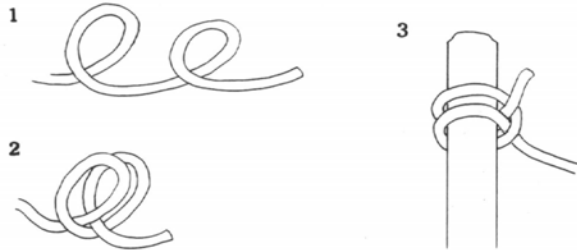
1. Make an overhand loop in the standing part of the rope, like writing the number 6.
2. Bring the working end of the rope up through the loop, and around the standing part of the rope.

**How did the bowline get its name?** The bow (pronounced as in bow-wow) is the front end of a boat. The bow line is the rope used to tie the front end of a boat to a dock. A bowline at the end of the rope can be slipped over a post on the dock.

## Clove Hitch

### Use a clove hitch:

- when raising a flag up a flagpole, to join the toggle on the flag to the halyard (rope) on the flagpole
- to tie a rope to something when there is no moving object on the other end. It can be used to tie a clothesline to a pole, but *not* to tie up a boat or an animal.



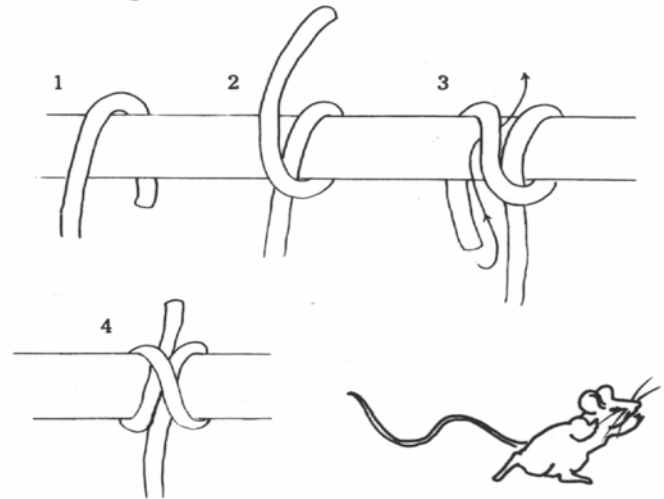
There are two ways to tie a clove hitch.

**Quick Method:** use if you can drop the hitch over the object, such as a post or the toggle on a flag.

1. Make two overhand loops like this.
2. Place the second behind the first.
3. Slip both loops close together over the post or toggle.
4. Pull to tighten.

### Second Method:

1. Pass the end of the rope right around the post.
2. Cross the rope over itself and around the post again.
3. Tuck the end under the loop you just made.
4. Pull to tighten.



**How did the clove hitch get its name?** If something is cloven it has two parts, like the two overhand loops of this hitch.

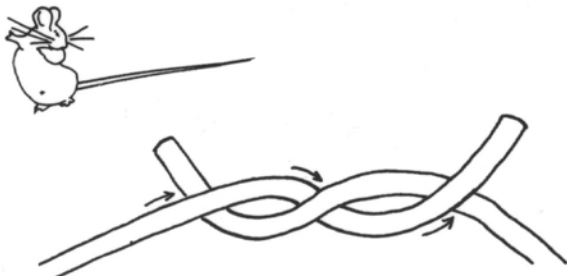
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## Reef Knot

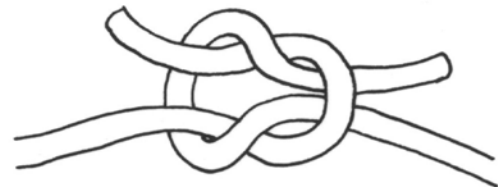
### Use a reef knot:

- to join the ends of the same piece of rope
- to join two pieces of rope or string of the same thickness
- when you want a flat, neat knot such as when tying a bandage
- to tie your scarf
- to fix a broken shoe lace
- to make a long string from several short ones.

**Don't** use a reef knot for joining two ropes of different thicknesses. **Don't** use a reef knot if your rope is made of a slippery synthetic, because it could slip undone.



1. Cross the left end over the right end, then under.



2. Cross the right end (it was the left end in step one) over the left end, then under.



3. Pull to tighten.

**Remember:** left over right and under, right over left and under.

**How did the reef knot get its name?** It's a knot used to reef a sail on a boat, to reduce the size of the sail.

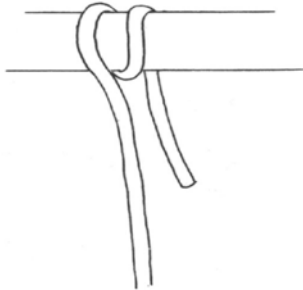
A reef knot is also called a square knot, because it looks neat and square.

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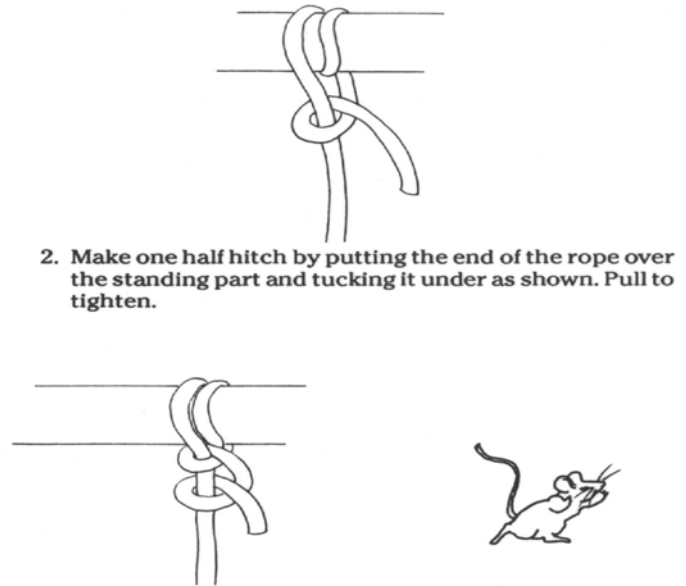
## Round Turn and Two Half Hitches

### Use a round turn and two half hitches:

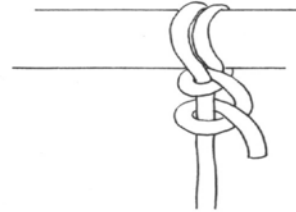
- to tie a moving object such as a boat or animal to a dock or post.



1. Pass the end of the rope around the post twice without crossing the rope over itself.



2. Make one half hitch by putting the end of the rope over the standing part and tucking it under as shown. Pull to tighten.



3. Make a second half hitch the same way.



**How did a round turn and two half hitches get its name? Its name simply describes what it is.**

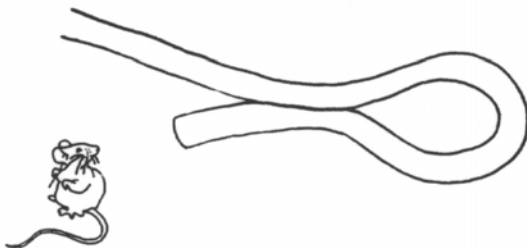
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## Sheet Bend

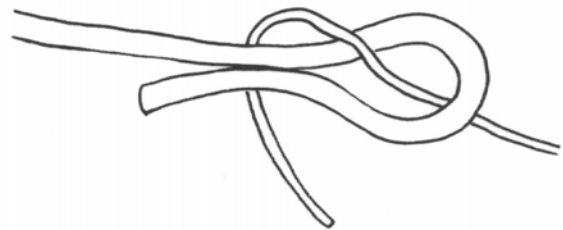
### Use a sheet bend:

- to join two ropes of different thicknesses
- to join a rope to a loop
- when raising a flag up a flagpole to join a flagpole halyard (rope) to the rope on a flag.

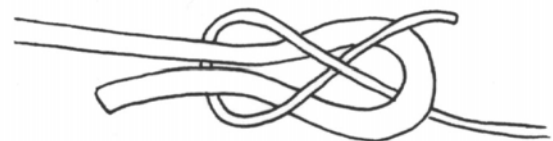
A sheet bend doesn't slip undone very easily. Pulling on it tightens it.



1. Make a bight like this with the end of one rope. Use the thicker rope if one rope is heavier than the other.



2. Bring the end of the other rope up through the bight, and around the standing parts.



3. Tuck the end under itself and then up over the bight.
4. Pull the standing parts to tighten.

**How did the sheet bend get its name? A sheet is what they call a rope used to manage the sails on a boat. A bend is a tie.**



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# Brownies are the Coolest!



**Brownies for ages 7 & 8**

**Manitoba Girl Guides** 

To join today, call us at 1-800-565-8111 or see us online [www.girlguides.mb.ca](http://www.girlguides.mb.ca)



**The most**

**fun**

**a girl can  
have!**

**How many  
words  
can you  
find?**

u l i y q s r q r d s v j b j  
 w g s t v c u o y r c y e s n  
 o s g t h o e n e a i o e d n  
 w y w k e a o d f t r p o i o  
 o k q j a w n r f l d i c l j  
 o a o n r i b o g p o k b b m  
 g u f x f p w w w h j w w m t  
 i f x h g i r l g u i d e s b  
 r v t s v c l d s a x y h r t  
 l a r f a z y q e k k i o s s  
 p f r o g s y l f n m w q k m  
 o s d n e i r f u j n e k r a  
 w p c y l j b f n i i s k a q  
 e b n r g e l y e h x g c p o  
 r z m a b v e s o w l g s s k

**brownies**  
**cool**  
**friends**  
**frogs**  
**fun**  
**funky**  
**girlguides**  
**girlpower**  
**groovy**  
**pathfinders**  
**sparks**  
**sunflowers**

**Manitoba Girl Guides** 

**To join today, call us at 1-800-565-8111 or see us online [www.girlguides.mb.ca](http://www.girlguides.mb.ca)**

# Sparks Jump Up!



**Sparks for ages 5 & 6**

**Manitoba Girl Guides** 

To join today, call us at 1-800-565-8111 or see us online [www.girlguides.mb.ca](http://www.girlguides.mb.ca)

# Try Guides Night - Science Experiments

## Guides

### **Make a Fossil from Glue!**

You will need

White glue

Modeling clay

Seashell or other hard natural objects like boned, or small tree branches

Instructions

- ❖ Have some objects available such as bones, small tree branches, and shells
- ❖ Place one of the selected objects on a flat surface like a tabletop. Press the clay into the objects. The impression should not be too deep (the deeper the impression, the longer it will take for the glue to dry).
- ❖ Slowly and carefully pull the object out of the clay. Try not to have the clay stretch or smear when you remove the object. The impression of the object in the clay forms a “mold” of the object even if the object is gone.
- ❖ Next, take white glue and fill in the mold. In a real fossil when animals rot beneath the soil, the space they filled can be filled with minerals from groundwater. The glue is like those minerals.
- ❖ Let the glue dry. The time it takes to dry depends on the depth of the impressions
- ❖ When the glue has dried, peel back the glue shape from the clay. The glue shape is a “cast” of the object. Many fossils are preserved as casts and molds. Sometimes there is excess glue around the “fossil”. Cut away the excess glue with your fingers or scissors. Many natural fossils have excess material around them and have to be cleaned to see the original fossil.

*(Source [www.education.com](http://www.education.com))*

### **Ick Can Stick! Make Milk Glue**

You will need

A tall, clear glass

Non-fat or skim milk

White vinegar

Coffee filters or paper towels

2 pieces of paper

Instructions

- ❖ In a glass, put seven tablespoons of non-fat or skim milk. Make sure to use low-fat milk because whole milk contains more fat, which can change the experiment results.
- ❖ Add a tablespoon of white vinegar to the milk; you should see solids begin to form that are suspended in the liquid. The solids will have a grainy appearance.
- ❖ In about a minute, the mixture will separate and settle toward the bottom of the glass. Then drain the liquid off, using a coffee filter or paper towel.
- ❖ Now, pat the solids with a paper towel to absorb any excess liquid. You can use the resulting slimy substance as glue.
- ❖ Last, coat two pieces of paper with the milk slime, stick them together, and let it dry. How well does your homemade glue work compared to white glue.

*(Source [www.education.com](http://www.education.com))*



Girl Guides  
of Canada  
Guides  
du Canada

# Try Guides Night Questionnaire

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- |       |   | <i>Awesome</i> |     |   | <i>Not Great</i> |
|-------|---|----------------|-----|---|------------------|
| 1.    | How did you like your night with Girl Guides?                               | 1              | 2   | 3 | 4 5              |
| 2.    | Do you think you would like to come to another meeting?                     |                | Yes |   | No               |
| 3.    | What did you like best about your visit? _____                              |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| 4.    | Was there any part of your visit that you didn't like? _____                |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| 5.    | Have you ever been a member of Girl Guides?                                 |                | Yes |   | No               |
| 6.    | If <b>yes</b> , why are you currently not a member?                         |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| 7.    | If <b>no</b> , why have you never considered Girl Guides?                   |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| 8.    | What changes would you like to see made to Girl Guides?                     |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| 9.    | What other activities do you participate in at school or in your community? |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| 10.   | What other guiding activities would you like to be invited to?              |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| 11.   | How much do you think your parents know about guiding?                      |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| _____ |   |                |     |   |                  |
| 12.   | Do you want us to send you more information about Girl Guides?              |                | Yes |   | No               |



## “Try Guides Night” Evaluation Form

Please rate your answers from 1 (strongly agree) – 5 (strongly disagree)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

- |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Did you find the invitation was fun and inviting?                                    | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. Did the invitation target the right age group?                                       | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. Did you find the giveaways for the girls were appropriate?                           | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. What other types of giveaways would you like to have seen?<br>_____                  |   |   |   |   |   |
| 5. Were the resources easy to follow and informative?                                   | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6. What other resources would you have found useful in planning this event?<br>7. _____ |   |   |   |   |   |

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|--|-----|----|
| 8. Were the decorations appropriate?   | Yes | No |
| 9. What else would you have liked us to provide? _____                             |     |    |
| 10. Did you follow-up with the girls that attended?                                | Yes | No |
| 11. Were the follow-up cards/notes helpful?  | Yes | No |
| 12. Did you find this a good way to introduce new girls to Guiding?                | Yes | No |
| 13. Would you find this type of idea helpful for parents and potential volunteers? | Yes | No |
| 14. Any other comments about the “Try Guides Night”?                               |     |    |

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*Please forward to the Provincial Office after your Try Guides Night. We appreciate your assistance in evaluating this kit so we can improve upon it. Thank you.*