



Manners and You

Junior Badge

Gold Award Project by Jamie Alexander

1. Years ago, young girls were expected to learn the proper behavior for entertaining guests. This included making invitations, planning, receiving, introducing, and bidding goodbye to guests. These same things are important in today's society. Learn the way the above were done in the early 1900's and how they are done now.

2. Go online to research charm schools from the past. What were they like then? Are there charm schools in existence today?

3. Gossip is a nasty thing. It is never nice or polite to talk about others when they are not present. How do rumors spread? Play a few games of telephone, with different people putting in different messages. How do the messages change throughout the trip from the beginning to the end? Remember this when you are tempted to pass on rumors.

4. Introductions are very important. Look at old Girl Scout books and other resources to see how they would have introduced people at different times throughout the 1900's. If you can, find out about introductions all the way back through the Revolutionary War. Act out these scenarios and use the proper introduction from the different periods.

- * Your friend and your parents are meeting for the first time
- * Your parents and your teacher
- * Your grandparent and a friend
- * Two adults you know
- * Yourself to anyone
- * Someone with a title

5. Respect is a very important manner. It is necessary in every interaction from school to work to home. How should the following be respected and why? A friend? A teacher? A peer? An employer? A parent? A sibling? What is considered disrespectful?

6. Plan a cultural party for your troop or group. Set it up in a traditional manner. During your planning, research customs and appropriate behavior in the culture, and be prepared to teach it to others at the party.

7. Create a skit for a Brownie troop/group to teach them basic table manners. Remember things like "elbows off the table", "chew with your mouth closed", etc... Come up with creative ways for them to remember a couple of the rules you give them.

8. Everywhere you go, people are watching you. You are setting an example for younger girls who look up to you. Remembering the phrase, "There is a time and a place for everything," make a list of what is appropriate in places such as the mall, your house, your place of worship and school.

9. There are basic manners for when you are with people. When around the elderly, what should you do to be courteous? How about around people with disabilities? Make sure you exercise these behaviors to make a good impression and make people feel comfortable when you are around.