# **VOLUNTEER TOOLKIT USER GUIDE**

### Demo Access

The Volunteer Toolkit provides volunteers everything they need to deliver easy, fun troop meetings year-round! With this step-by-step guide, you can start your year strong and spend more time adventuring with your Girl Scouts!

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### WHO HAS ACCESS

**NOTE:** If you hold multiple roles, you'll have a Volunteer Toolkit account for each—all under one login! Look for the gray drop-down box in the upper-left corner of your screen to navigate between accounts.

#### **TROOP CO-LEADERS**

Active volunteers registered for the current Girl Scout membership year in a troop leadership role. There should be at least two volunteers with access to the same troop account in the Volunteer Toolkit.





Active volunteers registered for the current Girl Scout membership year in a troop finance/administration role. This role will only have the ability to edit and submit the finance report found on the Finances tab. All other tabs will be read-only.

#### **CAREGIVERS OF GIRL SCOUTS IN A TROOP**

Each primary caregiver has access to see their troop's Volunteer Toolkit account. They have readonly permission for the meeting schedule and agendas, plus additional resources. (Caregiver accounts can only be accessed if the troop leader has set up a year plan.)

### **CAREGIVERS OF INDIVIDUALLY REGISTERED GIRLS (IRG)**

Each primary caregiver of a currently registered Girl Scout who is not part of a troop will get troop-leaderlike access with their Girl Scout(s). Access is granted through the council based on confirmation of individually registered status.

#### **DEMO ACCESS**

Available for supporting volunteer and staff roles that need access to the Volunteer Toolkit for training purposes. Demo access mirrors troop functionality but does not contain individual or troop information. These users will have two demo accounts under the gray drop-down ("Troop Demo – Troop Leader" and "Demo – Parent") and can see both sides of the troop experience. Access is granted through the council based on placement in designated support roles.

### WHERE TO FIND THE VOLUNTEER TOOLKIT



The Volunteer Toolkit can be used from any computer, tablet, or smartphone with internet access. For best results, use a Toolkit-friendly browser, such as Chrome or Firefox, with a cleared cache, and visit <u>gsdakotahorizons.org.</u>

In the upper-right corner of your screen, click MyGS and login using the credentials provided when you registered. Once logged in, from the My Account page, select "Volunteer Toolkit" from the left menu.

# **BASIC NAVIGATION**

The Volunteer Toolkit is divided into tabs that each have unique tools to help you plan your year and manage each meeting with ease. If you're on a computer, you'll see the green tabs across the top of your browser window. Mobile users will see a gray drop-down menu at the top with tabs beneath.



You'll notice three icons on almost every page of the Volunteer Toolkit:

**Print** allows you to print a copy of your current screen.

**Download** allows you to download calendar appointments (from the Year Plan tab), pages, and resources.

Seek additional **help** by clicking the green question mark icon or by clicking "Take a Guided Tour."

girl scouts	
Hello test Test SIGN OUT	≡
CT DAISIES : 1-DAISY	•
MENU	
<ul> <li>MY TROOP</li> <li>EXPLORE</li> <li>YEAR PLAN <ul> <li>MANAGE CALENDAR</li> <li>ADD BADGE / JOURNEY</li> <li>MANAGE ACTIVITY</li> <li>DELETE PLAN</li> <li>DOWNLOAD CALENDAR</li> </ul> </li> <li>MEETING PLAN</li> <li>RESOURCES</li> </ul>	
• REPORTS	
• FINANCES	

### My Troop

Demo – Troop Leader View	Demo – Parent View
Here you will see sample information for	Here you will only see the information
placement only, which is not tied to any	for a specific Girl Scout associated
specific troop or individual. Click the green	with this parent or caregiver, just like
arrow next to each name to expand and see	a caregiver in a a real troop. Click the
additional information, including a snapshot of	green arrow next to the name to
achievements and attendance.	expand and see a snapshot of
	achievements and attendance.
From this tab, you can also see examples of	
how a troop leader can email caregivers,	A dashboard of images will show for
download and print a roster with individual	each achievement (badge, Journey,
achievement and attendance information,	award), once they have been earned
renew memberships, and customize the page	and marked in the Volunteer Toolkit.
with a troop photo.	

🔻 TR	OOP 30078 INFO					
	Addison Test13User	VTKScenario3 Test			(555) 777-8622	
	DOB: 1/4/2007 AGE: 15 GRADE: 10	3 Fake Street Fake , AK 99997	Text	ail Opt In Opt In ne Opt In	Photo Opt In Postal Opt In	
		Achievements: Attendance:				
			RENEW NOW	UPDATE	CONTACT INFO	

### ✓ ACHIEVEMENTS FOR DEMO



Becoming Me for Girl Scout Seniors 08/02/2021



Shapes in Nature 08/06/2021



Design with Nature 08/06/2021

### Explore

Demo – Troop Leader View	Demo – Parent View
You'll find exciting options under the Explore tab, including prebuilt tracks for all program levels. You can also browse individual badges and meeting types to build a plan from scratch. Once you've made a choice, your year plan will be automatically populated. Selecting a year plan is required before other features become available, but don't worry— you can always change your plan as you go, one meeting at a time.	Under this view you will not see the Explore tab.
From this tab, you can also preview prebuilt tracks of badge and Journey activities, preview individual badge or award requirements, and download or print an overview of each preselected track.	

### Year Plan

Demo – Troop Leader View	Demo – Parent View
From this tab, you can set a meeting schedule, add or swap out badges or awards, and fine-tune your Girl Scout year. For a walk-through of all the tools at your fingertips, click "Take a Guided Tour" on the Year Plan tab.	This view will show a read-only version of the year plan once it has been set up from the Demo – Troop Leader view.
From this tab, you can also change individual meeting dates and locations, add more custom and council activities, preview requirements, and view previous years and important milestones (in orange) from your local area.	

# **Meeting Plan**

Demo – Troop Leader View	Demo – Parent View
Here you'll find the tools to make each badge, award, meeting, and activity a success. We've provided meeting prep information, materials lists, and even suggested scripts for many activities.	This view will show a read-only version of the meeting plan that has been set up on the Demo – Troop Leader view.
From this tab, you can also find virtual meeting resources, customize meeting schedules, track attendance, and check off completed badges and awards.	

#### Resources

Under this tab, you'll find answers to your pressing Girl Scout questions—like where to put pins or badges on a uniform, which special awards can be earned, or how to lead well-loved Girl Scout traditions—along with national and local resources by topic.

From this tab you can also gain access to the Girl Scout Shop from each program level, download reference documents for all the awards a Girl Scout can earn, and explore tips for troop leaders and other volunteers. All user types can see this tab and interact with it in the same way.

#### Finance

Demo – Troop Leader View	Demo – Parent View
From this tab, you can see an example of the troop	This view will show a message that
finance report that must be submitted at the end	the troop leader has not yet
of the year. You can also simulate adding the	submitted the finance report. This
required check register and bank statement to	will not change, because the Demo
your form and sending them directly to your	– Troop Leader view does not
council. You cannot actually submit a report—	allow real submission.
only sample how the form works up to	
submission.	

**Troop Co-Leaders** will have full access to edit and submit this tab for their troop.

**Troop caregiver users** will see a read-only version of the final report once it is submitted.

**Troop treasurer users** will have full access to edit and submit this tab for their troop.

Individually registered girl users will not see this tab.

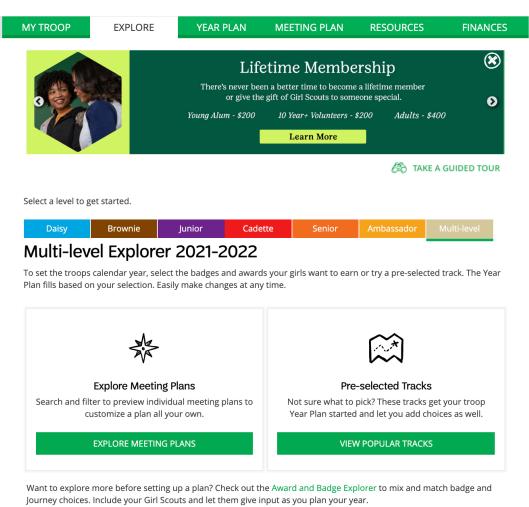
# FIRST-YEAR TROOP LEADER EXPERIENCE

The First-Year Troop Experience supports new leaders with additional guidance to get them acquainted with the Volunteer Toolkit. After logging in, you'll be prompted to follow a guided path with recommended steps to simplify the onboarding process.

If you're an experienced troop leader who needs a refresher or would like to simulate this experience, click "Take a Guided Tour" on any of the Volunteer Toolkit tabs to see the same guidance that a new leader would. To skip this question, just select "I am not a Troop Leader."

### SET UP YOUR YEAR PLAN

When you log into the Volunteer Toolkit, you'll always go to your Demo – Troop Leader view first. The first time you log in, you'll be taken to the Explore tab. From here you can visit the My Troop, Resources, or Finances tabs, but to activate the Year Plan and Meeting Plan tabs, you need to first make a selection under the Explore tab.



Before setting up a year plan, you can also check out the Award and Badge Explorer from the bottom of the tab to mix and match potential award options in a PDF and to share or make girl-led decisions. Once they've decided, you can always come back to build out the schedule for those

July 2022

badges and awards.

#### **Explore Meeting Plans**

Build a year plan that's completely customized to your troop's interests! You can mix and match meeting plans that work toward the badges, Journeys, and activities that excite your troop. You can also search through all badges and Journeys for all program levels. Use the available filters, or search for specific meetings and simply select the ones you'd like to use in your year plan. Each year you can use the "New for [Insert Year]" filter to find all the new programming released in the Summer. Once you're finished, click "Add to Year Plan" at the bottom to move forward in the system.

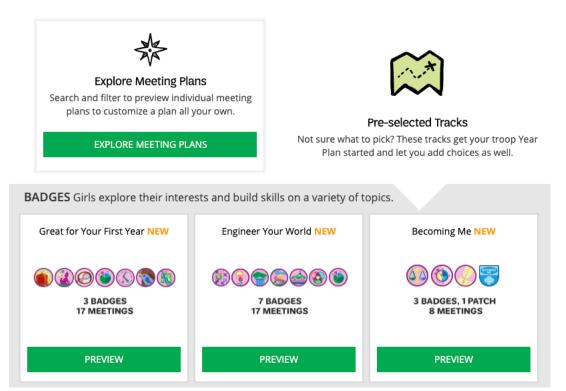
	Brownie				
	V	DESIGN WITH NATURE 1 Brownies calculate the age bees.	e of natural objects and learn about tessellations and	PREVIEW	
	V	DESIGN WITH NATURE 2 Brownies build a bird feed	ier, make bird food, and go bird-watching.	PREVIEW	
	BECOMING	BECOMING ME FOR GIRL S Brownies start the Becomi their future selves.	SCOUT BROWNIES 1	PREVIEW	
			SCOUT BROWNIES 2 ning Me program series by reflecting on the program t shape who they are and what they will become.	PREVIEW	
	DESIGN WITH Brownies cal bees.		tural objects and learn about tessella	ations and	PREVIEW
					x
Badge Overview					
Meeting Overview	N				
Meeting Plan					
Materials List					
Meeting Planner					•
1 2 Select a	Arrival and Open n activity	ing Ceremony	00:15 00:20		

#### **Preselected Tracks**

You can also choose from a preset collection of meetings with the preselected tracks option instead. First, select a program level from the multicolored options at the top. Then, click "View Popular Tracks" to preview each combination of awards and download them, if needed. Once you've decided, click "Select Track," and your year plan will be created. You can bundle Preselected Tracks too by returning to the Explore tab and adding another one to your plan.

### Junior Explorer 2021-2022

To set the troops calendar year, select the badges and awards your girls want to earn or try a pre-selected track. The Year Plan fills based on your selection. Easily make changes at any time.



**New for 2022-2023:** You can come back to the Explore tab throughout the year to add more meetings, or even combine pre-selected tracks without resetting your whole plan! The delete button has been moved to the year plan, and you have even more access to Explore and build a plan as unique as your Troop!

### SET UP YOUR CALENDAR

You're almost ready to unlock everything the Volunteer Toolkit has to offer—your last step is setting up your meeting dates. On the Year Plan tab, click "Manage Calendar," select a start date for your meeting cadence to begin, and choose the frequency of your meetings and a general start time. Dates and times can be changed meeting by meeting after this step; simply select any combination to get started. Changing the calendar and location is only available to the Troop Leader and won't be available in parent view.

MEETING DATE AND LOCATIONS	X MEETING DATE AND LOCATIONS X
CALENDAR LOCATION ACTIVITIES	Add, delete or edit locations to assign to your meetings.
	Location Name Location Address ADD
Start Date 🛗 04:00 PM - biweekiv -	the Library 120 SW 5th St, Des moines, IA 50309
C O November 2020 O Ind your families and adjust your meeting dates accordingly as you go.	✔         08/19/2021         09/02/2021         09/16/2021
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Indigenous Peoples' Day	✓ 09/30/2021 12/09/2021
1         2         3         4         5         6         7           8         9         10         11         12         13         14         12/25/2020         Image: Christmas Day           15         16         17         18         19         20         21         Christmas Day         New Year's Day           22         23         24         25         26         27         28         02/15/2021         05/31/2021           29         30         Presidents' Day	✔         01/06/2022         ✔         02/03/2022         02/17/2022           REMOVE         SELECT ALL         SAVE
✓ 06/19/2021     ✓ 07/04/2021     Independence Day	Virtual Troop Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ocuqvqTMiH
	08/19/2021 09/02/2021 09/16/2021
UPDATE CALENDA	09/30/2021 10/28/2021 v 12/09/2021
	01/06/2022 02/11/2022
Location	REMOVE SELECT ALL SAVE

#### Location

Now that your dates are set, you can add a physical address or virtual meeting link to all meetings. If you're meeting in different locations or a combination of in-person and virtual meetings, add each address or link, then connect them to the appropriate meeting(s) using the checkboxes. Click "Assign" or "Apply," and then close out of the window. You can change the location for a meeting in multiple ways—by clicking on a date in your year plan, quickly changing a date, selecting "See More Calendar Options," or going through the Meeting Plan tab.

In the DEMO – Parent view, you will see the locations you have added and can click on them to access virtual links or physical address maps; however, locations cannot be edited from this view.

MY TROOP	EXPLORE	YEAR PLAN	MEETING PLAN	RESOURCES	FINANCES
E VIEW YEAR PLA	N REPLACE	THIS MEETING DELETE I	MEETING		5 0
		MEETING SEPTEMBER			
		of stories-both fiction Des moines, IA 50309	and non-fiction.	(	
Add, delete or ed	lit the location for th	is meeting.		x	Scribe
the Library		120 SW 5th St, D	es moines, IA 5030	SAVE	
Badge Steps:	Girls find out how vo	u can encourage, ente	rtain, and excite people	e with their	

writing.

# ADDING MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

#### Add or Change Meetings to Your Year Plan

Girl Scouts are ready for whatever comes their way—and that includes changes in meetings or their year plan. Start by using the green "Add Badge/Journey" link at the top of the year plan or the "Search to Add Meetings" link at the bottom of the year plan. Use the search feature or filters to sort through available meeting types and choose which ones to add to your year plan. Meeting titles with numbers at the end are part of a series, and you'll want to add all of these to meet the requirements for the award. Meetings already in your plan will be clearly marked. Once you've made your selections, click "Add to Year Plan."

ADD /	A PETAL, BADGE OR	JOURNEY			x
	Search to Add	a Petal, Badge	or Journey Me	eting	
	Q Search for a bad	ge or journey award by na	ame		
	Or Use Filters 🔻				
	1. Select your Girl Scout Lev	rel(s)			
	Daisy	✔ Brownie	✓ Junior	Cadette	
	Senior	Ambassador	Multi-level		
	2. Select the type of meetin	g plan you want			
	Journey	Journey: Cadettes - Ambassadors	Journey: Daisies - Juniors	Award Earning	
	Badges Petals	Closing/Bridging	Intro/Family Meeting		

#### **Edit Meeting Dates and Times**

Select the green calendar icon to the left of each meeting date to change the date or time of that specific meeting. You can also choose to cancel one or more meetings, or to combine meetings. To combine meetings, select the two meetings you'd like to combine, then select the new date on which you would like that meeting to occur. After you've made changes, click "Save" and your year plan will be updated. After you've clicked the date of the meeting to the right, you'll see a green gear icon. This takes you back to the original view of the Meeting Date and Location widget, where you can reset the entire cadence of your meetings, if needed.

19 Lif 04:00 PM Ju		SEP 02, 2021 SCRIBE 1 Change meeting date and time							BECOMING
2 SEP		•	Septe	mber 2	2021			Start Time 4:00 PM •	
02	Su	Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa		
04:00 PM				1	2	3	4	CANCEL SAVE	
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
3 SEP SC	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	DELETE SEE MORE	
16	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
04:00 PM Gi	26	27	28	29	30				

#### **Adding Other Types of Activities**

Meetings and badges are only part of a go-getting Girl Scout's troop year! You can add things like field trips, service projects, or cookie booth sales to your year plan as well. The Volunteer Toolkit connects to your council website and gsEvents so you can browse and add local council events, too. Any activity you add will appear in blue and show up chronologically. At the top of the year plan, click "Add Activity."

#### **Custom Activity**

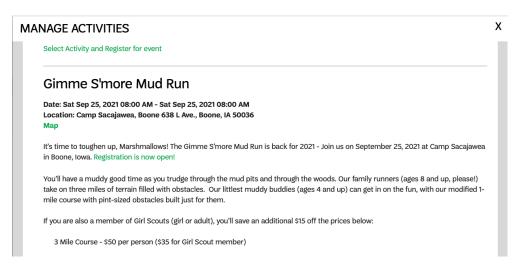
Add your activity name, date, time, location, and details to your year plan. Remember: caregivers will see this information too, so be sure that event details are clear and any special instructions are included here.

MA	NAGE ACTIVITIES							Х
	CUSTOM ACTIVITY	COUNCIL ACT	IVITY		MAN		5	
	Going to the Zoo	08	3/07/202	04:30	PM	• 06:00	PM -	
	Blank Park Zoo	32	208 SW 34	th St				
	20.00	Be	whind the s	scenes tour.			4	
						ADD ACT	IVITY	

#### **Council Activity**

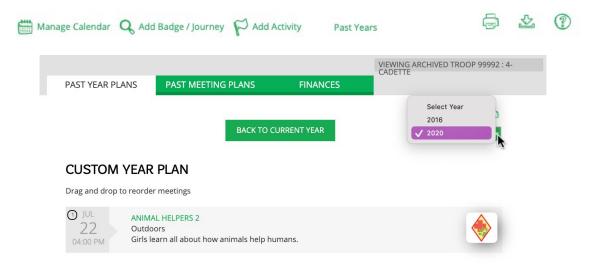
Search or filter through council events and add them to your year plan. This feature does not register you or your group for the event; it only adds the event to your year plan.

From the DEMO – Parent view, you will see these meetings and activities that are added to the year plan and can open them; however, you will not be able to edit them.



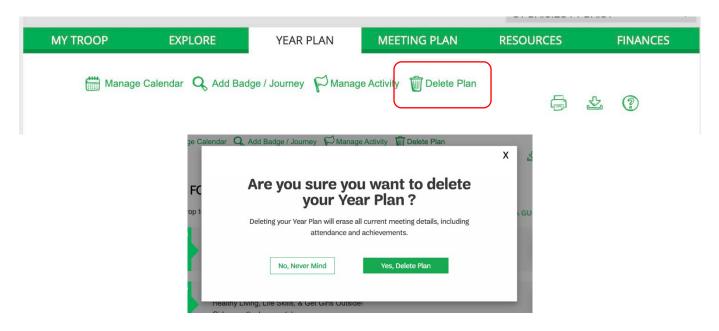
### **VIEW PAST YEAR PLANS**

Each July, the Volunteer Toolkit resets and archives your year plan. At that point, you'll no longer be able to make changes to any of your meetings. However, you'll still be able to view the plan through the green "Past Years" link at the top of your Year Plan tab. **Note that achievement and attendance records do not archive;** please download a copy of this information for your records. You will see "Past Year Plans" in both views. Caregivers can also download a copy of their own Girl Scout's achievements from the My Troop tab.



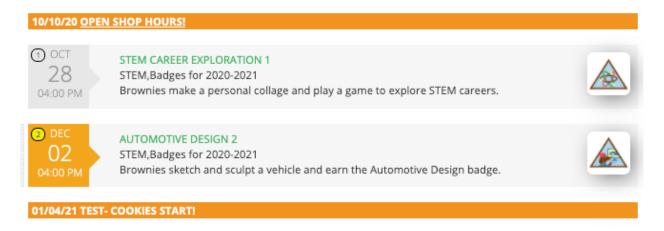
# **DELETING THE YEAR PLAN**

If you ever need to wipe the slate clean and start fresh, you can use the Delete button at the top of the year plan to do just that! Be careful though, deleting your plan will remove all meetings including the attendance and achievements you've tracked on them. It cannot be undone and is not recoverable, so use it carefully!



### **MILESTONES**

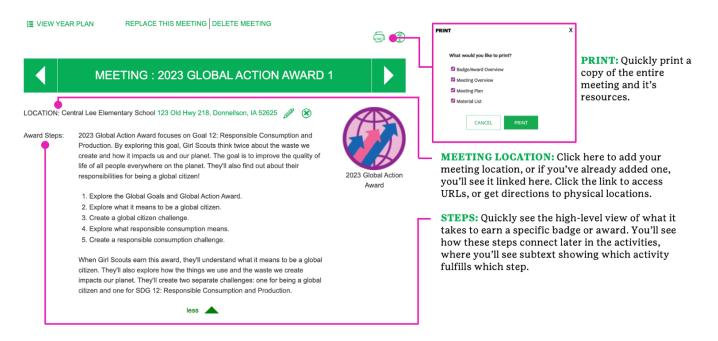
In both views, you might see orange bars across your Year Plan tab in chronological order with your other meetings and activities. These are important dates, events, or updates your local Girl Scout staff members want you to know about. These may also include links to additional information that relates to the date and title of the milestone.

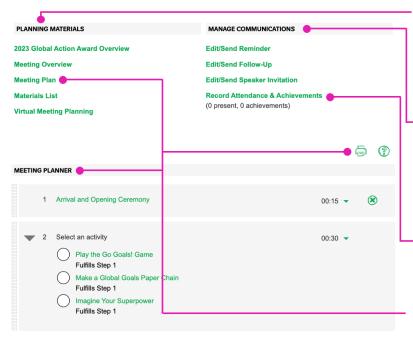


### **TOOLS FOR PLANNING YOUR MEETING**

The Meeting Plan tab has a robust collection of tools and information to help you plan an engaging meeting every time. If at any time you want to replace or delete a meeting, just use the appropriate links at the top of the meeting plan. You can also quickly print or download planning materials using the print icon in the upper-right corner.

Below is a detailed look at the Troop Leader view. Almost everything on the Meeting Plan tab visible in the DEMO – Parent view but cannot be edited.





#### MEETING PLANNER 1 Arrival and Opening Ceremony ۲ 00:15 🔻 2 Select an activity 00:30 🔻 Play the Go Goals! Game Fulfills Step 1 Make a Global Goals Paper Chain Fulfills Step 1 Imagine Your Superpower Fulfills Step 1 Select an activity 00:30 Create a Global Citizenship Challenge ۲ 00:30 Fulfills Step 3 Closing Ceremony 5 00:10 🤜 Follow Up with Families ۲ 00:10 🔻 2:05 Add to Meeting

**PLANNING MATERIALS:** A combination of overview and step-by-step resources show you from start to finish what your girls will learn while earning this badge or award (Overview), details specific to planning this meeting. (Meeting Overview), what you'll do and say (Meeting Plan), the meeting aids plus the materials you'll need (Material List) and virtual meeting resources. (Virtual Meeting Planning)

MANAGE COMMUNICATIONS: Send templated emails to caregivers to remind them of meetings and keep them up to date on what's happening. Use the Speaker Invitation to bring guests to your meeting and prepare them ahead of time with relevant information for the badge or award you're working on. You can attach meeting aids or other documents from your council website at the bottom of the email before sending.

**ATTENDANCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS:** Here you can use the checkboxes to mark who attended each meeting and if they earned a badge or award. You can see the full list of what each girl earned on the My Troop tab, with the option to download the report.

**MEETING PLAN/NER:** Here you'll find instructions and details for reach activity, material lists, estimated time to complete, and recommended sequencing. Download or print the entire plan with just one click of the printer icon.

**MEETING PLANNER (Cont.):** Find opening and closing activities to round out a meeting, along with activity choices for each step. There are a lot of ways to customize your meeting planner.

Drag and drop activities to reorder.

Use the drop-down on an activity to change the amount of time allotted for that activity.

Delete an activity by clicking the "X" to the right of the activity.

 Heads up: if you accidently delete a required activity for earning an award, you won't be able to add that activity back without first deleting the meeting.

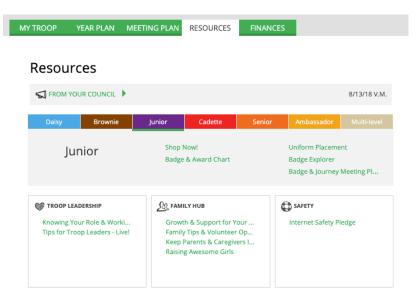
Click "Add to Meeting" to add your own activities.

MEETING AIDS (8)	•	MEETING AIDS: Once expanded using the green
Sort By FileType Global Goals Icon Grid and One-Sentence Global Goal Descriptions activity material		drop-down arrow, you'll see documents, videos, and links are the leg up you need to complete the activities in each meeting! Some are geared toward the adult supporting the meeting, and some are for girls
Mind Map Sample activity material		completing the activities. You can find more information on how to use these resources in the
Notes on Nutrition activity material		activity plan.
How An Urban Farm In Philadelphia Is Transforming Lives activity material	Г	Click "Add Meeting Aids" to add your own meeting aids.
UNICEF: World's Largest Lesson Live activity material		ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: Take your meeting to
#WhatDoYouCareAbout: Stories for a Sustainable Future activity material		the next level! These videos, documents, or suggested
Nations United: Rebuilding a Better World activity material		events go beyond the required steps for a badge or award, and they can help your troop take a deeper
Malala Introduces the World's Largest Lesson activity material		dive into the topics they're most excited about. You'll also find links to the Girl Scout shop to purchase
🕀 Add Meeting Alds		booklets and awards. These materials connect to the Manage Communications email templates, so you can
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES	_	share them with families.
Digital Games activity material volunteer resource		Click "Add Additional Resources" to save your own links here using a URL.
Add Additional Resources		links here using a OKL.
MEETING NOTES	-	<b>MEETING NOTES:</b> Add a note at the end of a meeting plan with any important reminders or details that you
C Add A Note		only want troop leaders to see.

### RESOURCES

Under this tab, you'll find answers to your pressing Girl Scout questions—like where to put pins or badges on a uniform, which special awards Girl Scouts can earn, or how to lead well-loved Girl Scout traditions—along with national and local resources by topic.

From this tab you can also gain access to the Girl Scout Shop from each program level, download reference documents for all the awards a Girl Scout can earn, and explore tips for troop leaders and other roles. All user types can see this tab and interact with it in the same way.



#### FINANCE

Troop co-leaders and troop treasurers have access to submit a year-end report of their finances. Default fields collecting your income and expenses are paired with custom questions unique to each council that help you wrap up your year. Shown below, once you submit your finance form, a snapshot can be viewed by all primary caregivers in your troop when they login to the Volunteer Toolkit.

Demo access provides a sandbox form that you can fill in and test, however it cannot be submitted. The parent view will not see anything under Finance, but below is a snapshot of what a typical parent user would see once a Finance report has been submitted.



### Annual Troop Finance Report 2020 - 2021

Troop ct juniors

INCOME	
Cookie Sales	\$ 10.00
Fall Product Program	\$ 20.00
Other Income	\$ 5.00
Troop Dues	\$ 1.00