

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest Program & Camp Guide Spring/Summer 2024



Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

Greetings from our CEO

It has been an exciting year to support our Girl Scouts, helping them grow in a safe environment. For more than 111 years now, Girl Scouts has given girls the tools they need to lead, break barriers, and create positive change. Girl Scouts gives girls more opportunities to try something new than ever before.

It is a judgment-free zone and an all-girl inclusive environment where no girl must prove anything to anyone but herself. Girls are free to explore their curiosities and discover their passions. Having the ability to learn from mistakes is key and encouraged. Every girl gets to define who she is and what leadership means to her. It prepares her for what comes next in her future.

I look forward to seeing more girls attending our programs this year, learning something new, reinforcing knowledge, sharing their skills and talents with other girls, and potentially finding new passions.

Yours in Girl Scouting,

Patty Craven, CEO
Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest

Organizations

World Association of Girl Guides & Girl Scouts (WAGGGS)

A global association supporting the female-oriented and female-only Guiding and Scouting organizations in 152 countries.



Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA)

A national organization supporting the work of 111 councils across the United States for more than 110 years.



Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest - Southern New Mexico & West Texas

An Independent 501(c)3 non-profit chartered by GSUSA operating under the direction of local staff and board members, which oversees all the service units, troops, and independently registered girls (a.k.a. “Juliettes”) within a given geographic area.



Service Units

Volunteers who create a sense of community and support troop volunteers within a given geographic area.

Troops

Groups of girls led by volunteers who participate in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.

Individually Registered Girls

Also known as “Juliettes,” are individually registered Girl Scouts who participate in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience but are not in a troop.



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Using This Guide

Girl Scout programs follow the four pillars of Girl Scouts (Life Skills, Outdoors, STEM, Entrepreneurship). Each GSDSW program includes a date, location, and Girl Scout level (i.e., Brownie). Resident camp at Camp Mitre Peak is found starting on page 14.

Daisies Grades K - 1

Daisies learn they can care for animals and themselves and to protect Earth's treasures. Along the way, they'll use their energy and spirit to help others and take pride in making the world a better place.



Brownies Grades 2 - 3

Brownies are excitement personified. They can't wait to explore their world, play new games, and share interests with friends. They'll go on a quest to find the three keys to leadership as they explore their place in the wide world of girls.



Juniors Grades 4 - 5

If there's one thing Junior Girl Scouts have, it's confidence. Together with other Junior Girl Scouts, they put their skills to use, improving their community and earning the Girl Scout Bronze Award in the process.



Cadettes Grades 6 - 8

Cadettes got this. From camping with friends to earning the Program Aide and helping other troops, they're sure of their abilities and use their growing independence to realize their dreams. They can research a community problem and take action to solve it, they can earn the Girl Scout Silver Award.



Seniors Grades 9 - 10

Whether they're learning to change a tire, discovering their dream job, or packing bags for an foreign trip, they're on their way. They're also making a mark on the world. When they create a plan and put it into action to make sustainable improvements in their community and beyond, they can earn the Girl Scout Gold Award.



Ambassadors Grades 11 - 12

Ambassadors don't just follow in others' footsteps - they carve their own paths. Their innovative thinking, optimism, and ability to bring people together inspires everyone. When they combine their passions with a plan, they are a real world force. Their vision and dedication are all they need to get on the path to becoming a Gold Award Girl Scout.



Programs At-A-Glance

Our programs explore all four pillars of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience (GSLE). Each program listing includes the date, location, and Girl Scout grade level (i.e., Brownie).



March 2024

Date	Event	Location	Girl Scout Level
2	Girl Scout Birthday Party	El Paso, TX	
2	Girl Scout Birthday Party	Midland, TX	
5 - 8	Program Aide Training	Las Cruces, NM	
11 - 14	Program Aide Training	Midland, TX	
12 - 15	Program Aide Training	Odessa, TX	
10 - 16	Girl Scout Week	On your own	
16	Train the Archery Trainer	El Paso, TX	
March 19 - May 8	Archery Club (on Tues or Wed weekly)	El Paso, TX	 *3rd grade Brownie
30	Girl Scouts Get Outdoors	El Paso, TX East Region	

April 2024



















Date	Event	Location	Girl Scout Level
1	Early Bird Registration Begins	All	
2	Gold Award Training	Virtual	
5 - 7	She & Me	Camp Mitre Peak	
April 6 - May 18	Archery Club (weekly)	Midland, TX & Las Cruces, NM	 *3rd grade Brownie
13	P.E.A.R.L.S.	El Paso, TX & Midland, TX	

Solar Eclipse - Monday, April 8, 2024

There will be a total solar eclipse passing over Texas in April. While our council is not in the path of totality (like we were in October 2023), we will be able to see a partial eclipse in most places. The council has solar sunglasses for safe viewing of the eclipse. If your troop is planning on viewing it, we would be happy to get glasses to you.* Please email info@gsdsw.org with the number needed. Deadline to request glasses is Friday, March 1, 2024.

*while supplies last












May 2024

Date	Event	Location	Girl Scout Level
3 - 5	Howl at the Moon	Bonita Park, NM	     
12	Girl Scout Day at the El Paso Chihuahuas	El Paso, TX	     
May 31 - June 2	Archery Club camp	Camp Mitre Peak	      *3rd grade Brownie

June 2024

Date	Event	Location	Girl Scout Level
1	Outdoor Training	El Paso, TX	
4	Gold Award Training	Virtual	  
7 - 9	Archery Club camp	Camp Mitre Peak	      *3rd grade Brownie
June 25 - July 3	EF Tours Galapagos Islands	International Travel	  
23 - 29	Resident Camp Session 1	Camp Mitre Peak	    
June 30 - July 6	Resident Camp Session 2	Camp Mitre Peak	    
30	Early Bird Registration Ends	All	     

July 2024

Date	Event	Location	Girl Scout Level
7 - 13	Resident Camp Session 3	Camp Mitre Peak	    
13	Service Unit Summit	Virtual	
26 - 28	T.W.Y.G. Camping - Lincoln National Forest	Ruidoso, NM	    

Date	Event	Location	Girl Scout Level
6	Gold Award Training	Virtual	S A A
10	Back to Troop Event	El Paso, TX	D B J C S A A
10	Back to Troop Event	Odessa, TX	D B J C S A A
24	P.E.A.R.L.S.	El Paso, TX Odessa, TX	A
31	Outdoor Training	Odessa, TX	A

Monthly Challenges

Monthly Challenges are fun, free activities girls and troops can do to earn a fun patch to wear on their vest or sash. Many troop leaders do the Monthly Challenge as a meeting activity.

Once you do the activity, complete a short online report with a photo of the girl doing the challenge, and the fun patch will be mailed to you 3 - 4 weeks after the end of the challenge.

While the current Monthly Challenge is posted on our website (https://bit.ly/MC_gsdsw), here is preview of the Monthly Challenges coming up.

January

Chip Ring

With a can of Pringles chips, can you make a chip ring with no glue or tape?



February

Leap Year

It only happens every four years, so make it memorable.

March

Leprechaun Trap

Put your engineering skills to the test by making a fool-proof trap.

April

Bike Ride

Get those pedals into gear with bike safety and maintenance.

May

Pancake Event

Pancakes are fun to make and more fun to eat so make it an event!



June

Edible Fire Building

Get ready for summer by learning how to make a campfire.

July

Citizen Scientist

Become a Citizen Scientist by helping researchers on their projects.

August

Exploring Careers

What do you want to be when you grow up? What does it take to get there?

Registration Information

How to Find and Register for Events

Our events can be found on our Event Calendar on our council website page - https://bit.ly/GSDSW_events or www.gsdsdsw.org - Discover - Activities - Event Calendar.

We use Doubleknot as our registration platform. We encourage you to create a Doubleknot account so you have a record of your registrations. After you have registered for a program or event, you will receive a confirmation email from Doubleknot. Check your spam folder!

Please be sure you have all the correct information needed for each girl or adult before you register, as you cannot make any changes after registration has been completed. This includes dietary information, buddy requests, t-shirt sizes, and other special circumstances or information for the event. Unfortunately, staff cannot change this information once it is submitted.

Fees

Event fees are charged to cover the cost of events and are due at the time of registration. Registration fees can be paid individually, through troop funds, or with Desert Dollars.

If using Desert Dollars, please complete the Desert Dollar submission form and mail to:

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest
225 E. Idaho, Ste. 9
Las Cruces, NM 88005

Or contact info@gsdsdsw.org to make other arrangements. Opportunity funds may be available; contact info@gsdsdsw.org.

Cancellations

If an event is cancelled by council, the person listed on the registration form as the troop or parent contact will be notified by phone or e-mail.

For troop registrations, it will be the responsibility of the troop contact person to notify all girls registered for the event.

Cancellations initiated by the council or program partner will result in a full refund of fees paid.

Registration Deadlines

Please be mindful of event registration deadlines! Early registration is encouraged, as many events fill quickly. Fees may increase past the registration deadline, or spots may not be available.

If you are registering for your troop or multiple people, it is imperative to register early!

Event Etiquette

It is important to have directions to the event venue and plan on arriving with enough time to walk to check in before the start time. Please be sure to dress appropriately for the event and the weather. Wear your Girl Scout uniform. Let girls take the lead, while all adults should be nearby to supervise. Allow girls to do the activities with minimal adult intervention. Sometimes event leaders need extra help to manage activities. If you have extra adults or self-sufficient girls, consider asking how they can help. Be sure to thank your event leaders for sharing their time and skills with you.



Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest **puts the FUN in FUNdraising!**

To engage our communities and expand our Girl Scout family, we have a great lineup of fundraising events in the coming year. From the highly anticipated Women of Distinction to the premier of our Cookie Classic Golf Tournament, make sure you mark your calendars and spread the word!

Make sure you watch our social media and website to save your spot and support Girl Scouting in the desert southwest!

Saturday, March 9, 2024

Butterfield Trail Golf Club
1858 Cottonwoods Drive, El Paso, TX 79925

Registration begins.....7:00 AM Shotgun
Start.....8:00 AM

Lunch and Awards immediately following.

Proceeds generated from the Cookie Classic Golf Tournament provide programs that teach practical life and leadership skills to girls. Golf and Girl Scout cookies. Nothing better!

Cookie Classic
GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday, March 22, 2024

Petroleum Club
501 W. Wall Street, Midland, TX 79701
6:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Honoring four amazing women in the Permian Basin
Dinner, Live and Silent Auctions, Cocktail Attire

To Nominate a Woman of Distinction:
<https://bit.ly/WOD2024>



Friday, March 22, 2024

32nd Annual

Women of Distinction
Save the Date

Honoring Four Amazing Women in the Permian Basin
Dinner, Live and Silent Auctions, Cocktail Attire

Petroleum Club
501 W. Wall Street, Midland, TX 79701
6:00 PM - 11:00 PM

To Nominate a Woman of Distinction:
<https://bit.ly/WOD2024>

girlscouts
of the desert southwest
southern new mexico
& west texas



Meet the 2023 Gold Award Recipients and Scholarship Awardee



Rebecca S.

Hydration

**GSUSA 2023 Scholarship Awardee
Awarded May 2023**



Drinking enough water is an important aspect of physical activity, however hydration is oftentimes overlooked. I created a hydration challenge within P.E. school programs that would encourage more water drinking among elementary age students. I learned that I can follow through on big ideas. I accomplished my Bronze and Silver Awards with my troop, but this was a much more individual venture.



Madilynn G.
Art Therapy



Mikaela J.
Teacher Safe
Space



Carlyann C.
Blood Drive

Awarded May 2023



Samantha C.
Legacy Patch



Brooklyn C.
Nature Trail



Morgan Z.
Literacy



Reagan A.
Litter



Leah S.
Stress
Management

*Awarded
December
2023*



Orlyanka T.
Female
Leadership

What are the Highest Awards?

For Girl Scouts who earn a highest award, adding the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Award pin to their vest or sash is a monumental achievement. Each one shows that the individual Girl Scout identified a problem in their community and worked to solve it. They wear them like badges of honor.

Bronze Award

The Girl Scout Bronze Award is a leadership adventure for more than half a million other Girl Scout Juniors across the country and around the world. Imagine what can be accomplished when girls team up and use their special skills and interest to take action and make a difference in the world! The Girl Scout Bronze Award adventure is big; in fact, this award is the highest honor a Girl Scout Junior can achieve.



Earning the Girl Scout Bronze Award involves completing a Journey, and then spending a minimum of 20 hours from creating a team to completing the project. You're a Girl Scout, which means you will earn your award with courage, confidence, and character, and make the world a better place.

Silver Award

The Girl Scout Silver Award is the highest award a Cadette Girl Scout can earn. It takes her ideas and passions and puts them into action. After earning her Bronze Award and completing a Cadette Journey or two Cadette Journeys, a Cadette can earn her Silver Award. Then, in small groups (or be bold and go solo!) complete 50 hours of Silver Award work.



The Silver Award takes it from idea to action: Find an issue; explore the community and think of how that issue affects the community; choose a project that can lead to lasting change, then develop the project and make a plan and put it into action. Reflect, share the story, and celebrate. This award showcases passions and highlights skills.

Gold Award

The Gold Award is the highest award in Girl Scouts, and those who earn it set themselves apart through their perseverance and grit. Close to 3,200 Girl Scouts in the 2023 Gold Award Class found meaningful ways to address some of the most pressing issues facing their communities, acted on issues they are passionate about, and discovered they have the power to create the future they want.



Dedicating more than 80 hours to her project, the Gold Award Girl Scout leaves a legacy to benefit her community and the world. More than a community service project, the Gold Award is a Take Action project that looks at the root cause of an issue and then puts into place a solution that leaves a legacy with her council and her community.

Trifecta Award

The Trifecta Award is a GSDSW award given to a Girl Scout who has completed her Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards.



Travel Opportunities with GSDSW



Summer 2024 - Galapagos Islands

9 days - with EF Tours

June 25, 2024 - July 3, 2024

El Paso, TX to Quito, Equator

Visit a flamingo habitat, see giant tortoises, snorkel, beachcomb, straddle the equator, and more!

https://bit.ly/GalapagosIslands_2024



Summer 2025 - Iceland

8 days – with WorldStrides

Late June 2025

El Paso, TX to Reykjavik, Iceland

Swim in the Blue Lagoon, hike to waterfalls and black sand beaches, visit folk museums, and bake bread in a geothermal beach! https://bit.ly/Iceland_2025



Girl Scout Destinations

Destination are the ultimate travel opportunities for Girl Scouts! Destinations are GSUSA sponsored group travel. Decide where you want to travel to, then complete an application.

Destinations are individual travel for Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors. Scholarships are available to girls who have been accepted to a GSUSA Destination trip.



Volunteer with Girl Scouts

Service Unit Volunteers

Service unit volunteers are the network of support throughout your community. They empower troop leaders and troop volunteers to be the role models that Girl Scouts need and connect them with the resources for unforgettable troop experiences.



Troop Volunteers

Troop volunteers help Girl Scouts become stronger, kinder, and braver than they ever thought possible. Troop leaders, volunteers, and other roles, like Cookie Chair, engage regularly with their Girl Scouts and guide them through activities like earning badges, exploring the outdoors, or running their own businesses through the Girl Scout cookie program.



Short-Term Volunteers

If you want to get a snapshot of Girl Scout life, you can find short-term volunteer opportunities at the troop or council level. Be a trainer, help with large events, support fundraisers, and more!



The best part is that there is no one “type” of volunteer. If you believe that Girl Scouts can change the world, you belong here. Contact info@gsdsw.org for more information on volunteering with us.

All About Cookies



The product program is an integral part of a Girl Scout's journey toward leadership, learning, and developing these five skills:

Goal Setting

Girls set cookie sales goals individually and with their team, create a plan to reach them, and develop cooperation and team-building skills along the way.

Decision Making

Girls help decide how the team will spend their cookie money, furthering their crucial thinking and problem-solving skills.

Money Management

Girls learn to budget for their goals, take cookie orders, handle customers' money, gain mathematical and practical life skills, and financial literacy.

People Skills

Girls learn to talk to, listen to, and work with all kinds of people while selling cookies. These experiences help them develop healthy relationships and conflict resolution skills they will use throughout their lives.

Business Ethics

Girls are honest and responsible at every step of the cookie program. Business ethics are developed here to reinforce the positive values they are developing as Girl Scouts.



All About Cookies

Where does the \$6.00 per package go?



When you buy Girl Scout cookies, you are supporting Girl Scout entrepreneurs and investing in the lives of our future female leaders. Each package of Girl Scout cookies enables Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest to build girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place within your own communities.

2024 Cookie Program Important Dates

Monday, December 11, 2023 - Troop/IRG initial order due in Smart Cookies

Monday, January 1, 2024 - Digital Cookie (Direct Ship) Program begins

Sunday, January 14, 2024 - In-person order taking begins

Saturday, January 20, 2024 - Booth portion of the program begins

Sunday, March 3, 2024 - Cookie Program ends



Girl Scout Camp

Girl Scout camp is an opportunity for girls to grow with courage, confidence, and character while making friends and memories that last a lifetime. New this year, each program earns at least one Girl Scout badge. Campers will be given the badges at the end of camp. See the program description for specific badge(s) earned.

At camp, our Girl Scouts disconnect from screens and technology, stepping out of their comfort zone and opening their minds and hearts to new experiences.

Camp Mitre Peak is located between Alpine and Ft. Davis, TX. The iconic Mitre Peak watches over camp and brings Mitre Magic to every camper. Once you experience Mitre Magic, your Girl Scout life will be forever changed.



Are you ready for camp?

Girl Quiz	Yes 3 points	Maybe 2 points	No 1 point
I can stay overnight at a friend's house without calling home.			
I remember to brush my teeth and hair.			
I can keep track of my belongings.			
I like to try new things even if I may be a little nervous or scared.			
I will be okay without any electronics.			
I can be brave when I hear strange noises or see bugs at night.			
I am willing to help with kapers like sweeping your cabin and setting tables.			
I can speak up when I need something.			
Total Points			

Caregiver Quiz	Yes 3 points	Maybe 2 points	No 1 point
You relax and enjoy yourself when your girl is at a sleepover.			
You would be ok following the policies that apply to camp.			
You're prepared to not see your girl for several days.			
You trust the camp director and counselors with your girl's safety.			
You believe Girl Scout camp builds girls of courage.			
You are confident in your girl's ability to maintain her hygiene.			
You're confident your girl will question foods that might contain her allergies.			
You believe your girl is confident sleeping in a cabin with other girls without a nightlight.			
Total Points			

Add up your points!

8 - 13: You may not be ready for a full-week at camp. Talk with your parents about letting you stay overnight with a friend or going for an overnight trip with your troop.

14 - 18: You are ready to try resident camp. Pack your adventurous spirit and we'll see you this summer!

19+: You hear the call of camp or you must be an experienced camper! We can't wait to have you join us! What are you waiting for? Register today!

Caregivers of campers with special needs may contact info@gsdsw.org, attn: Resident Camp, in advance of registration so proper placement and appropriate accommodations can be made.

How Resident Camp Works

New This Summer

Every girl in every session will earn a Girl Scout badge corresponding to that particular program! Some programs will complete more than one badge. Girls will receive their badges at the end of the session.

All girls entering grades 3rd - 12th in the fall of 2024 are eligible to attend camp. To help ensure a great camp experience, register your camper for a session that is appropriate for her age, Girl Scout level, and area of interest. For example, if your camper is currently in 3rd grade and will be entering 4th grade in the fall, the camper should register into a 4th grade Junior program, even if they have not officially bridged.

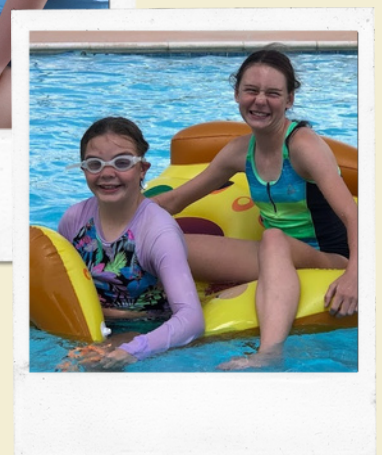
Campers swim every day at camp, weather permitting. On Sunday, after check-in, the girls demonstrate their swimming skills, learn about horse safety and barn procedures, and sign up for YOYO's ("Your On Your Own" - the afternoon choice activities they want to participate in during the week). These activities are in addition to the main program they are registered for. Please note, not all programs have YOYO's every afternoon.

Girls who are currently not Girl Scouts are welcome to join in the camp fun! Become a registered Girl Scout for \$25 and then register for the camp program of your choice. Being a current Girl Scout meets our standard covering every girl with the required insurance.

Camper Transportation Outside of Camp: Some programs involve taking a field trip off camp property. Permission to transport is included at the time of registration. Look for 🚌 for programs that have field trips.

A Day at Camp

7:00 AM Rise and Shine
7:45 AM Flag Ceremony
8:00 AM Breakfast
9:00 AM Camp Activities
12:00 PM Lunch
1:00 PM Me Time
2:00 PM Afternoon Activities
5:45 PM Flag Ceremony
6:00 PM Dinner
7:00 PM All Camp
9:00 - 10:00 PM Bedtime



Camp Registration and Financial Assistance Information

Registration

It is easier than ever! We have lowered our prices, and the complete registration process is online! Visit <https://bit.ly/GSDSWeventcalendar> for sessions and registration. If you can't register online, call 915-566-9433, ext. 2241, for assistance.

Registration and Payment Deadline

Registrations are accepted until the camp session is full or two weeks prior to the session start date, whichever comes first. A \$75 non-refundable deposit is required to secure your camper's spot. Desert Dollars may be used for deposit. Payment in full is due 30 days prior to the camp session start date. If full payment is not received 30 days prior to your camper's start date, her slot will be forfeited and opened up to other campers. Your deposit will not be refunded. If you register for camp within 30 days of the session start date, payment in full is required.

Cookie Rewards and Desert Dollars

If your camper sells 3,000+ packages of Girl Scout cookies and chooses a free week of camp, she must register following the standard camp registration process to reserve her spot. All camp registrations require a \$75 deposit payment at the time of registration to hold the camp session. Once the Girl Scout Cookie Program is complete and all prizes are confirmed, campers who elect a free week of camp will be refunded the deposit paid to hold their camp spot. If your camper plans to pay with their Desert Dollars, she must register following the standard camp registration process to reserve her spot. A completed Desert Dollar redemption form with Desert Dollars must be mailed to GSDSW Attn: Desert Dollar Redemption, 225 E. Idaho, Suite #9, Las Cruces, NM 88005.

Financial Assistance for Camp

GSDSW is committed to making sure that camp is accessible to our Girl Scouts. Families requesting financial assistance for camp still need to register for camp and pay the \$75 deposit. To apply, please go to www.gsdsww.org or https://bit.ly/CMP_FA. Typically, financial assistance covers up to 50% of camp fees.

Refunds and Program Transfer

Requests for refunds must be submitted in writing to info@gsdsww.org at least four weeks in advance of the program date for consideration. The \$75 camp deposit is NON-REFUNDABLE. Refunds are not issued for campers who do not attend. Refunds are not issued for cancellations occurring less than four weeks in advance of the session start date. Refunds due to illness or injury require a doctor's note for consideration. If a camper needs to change which week or program she is attending, please contact info@gsdsww.org as soon as possible. There is a \$25 fee for transferring from one session or program to another.

Confirmation

Immediately following your camp registration, you will receive an email confirmation with your receipt from Doubleknot. You will receive another email in approximately two weeks with a Camper Registration Packet that includes health history forms, permission forms, Health Exam form, buddy request, alternate adult pick-up form, and a packing list.

Cancellations

GSDSW reserves the right to cancel a camp program due to insufficient registration, acts of nature, or other reasons beyond our control. In the event a camp program is canceled, a full refund will be issued. For cancellations, an email notification will be sent to each registrant. Phone numbers and emails can be updated at any time in your myGS membership account.

All program offerings have a six-camper minimum. If the minimum is not met two weeks prior to the start of the session, then parents and campers will be contacted to select a different program or receive a full refund.

Cell Phone Policy

Camp Mitre Peak follows a no cell phone policy to ensure Girl Scouts safety and inclusion. This means that visible cell phones will be collected by camp staff, powered down, and held until checkout for safekeeping.

This policy may apply to other technology or devices if it is deemed a safety issue or a distraction to group activities. If your Girl Scout uses technology as an assistive device, please contact us at info@gsdsw.org to ensure we have the best possible support in place. We welcome adult campers' use of cell phone for photos, but reliable cell service is rare at camp.

 **Register for camp before March 1, 2024, and your camper will receive \$15 Trading Post credit* to be used while she is at camp!** 

*one credit per girl

Important Dates to Remember

Session	Last Day for refund consideration (minus \$75 deposit) ----- Registration Balance Due ----- Health Record & Doctor Exam submitted	Last day to register with full registration payment required ----- Last day to change session/program ----- Minimum number of campers needed
Session 1 June 23 - June 29	Sunday, May 26, 2024	Sunday, June 9, 2024
Session 2 June 30 - July 6	Sunday, June 2, 2024	Sunday, June 16, 2024
Session 3 July 7 - July 13	Sunday, June 9, 2024	Sunday, June 23, 2024

Sessions at a Glance

Session and Dates

Program Name, Grade (Fall 2024), Cost

1	June 23 - 29 <i>Sunday - Saturday</i>	Camp Mess-ology Grade 3 \$300	Camp Life Grades 3 - 5 \$300	Water Fun Grades 4 - 5 \$300	Outdoor Adventure Grades 6 - 10 \$300	Into the Night Grades 7 - 12 \$450
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2	June 30 - July 6 <i>Sunday - Saturday</i>	Camp Life Grades 3 - 5 \$300	Badge-a-Day Grades 4 - 5 \$450	Equestrian Delight Grades 4 - 5 \$600	Mitre Quest Grades 6 - 10 \$450	Trail Dust Grades 6 - 12 \$600
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3	July 7 - July 13 <i>Sunday - Saturday</i>	All About Animals Grades 3 - 5 \$450	Bulls Eye Grades 4 - 5 \$300	Equestrian Delight Grades 4 - 5 \$600	Badge-a-Day Grades 6 - 8 \$450	Trail Dust Grades 6 - 12 \$600
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June 23 - July 13
3 weeks

Counselor-in-Training I (CIT I)/Wrangler-in-Training II (WIT I)
Counselor-in-Training II (CIT II)/Wrangler-in-Training II (WIT II)
Grades 11 - 12
\$725

Camp Buddies

If two campers want to ensure they are together at camp, they should register for the same program. A camp buddy is requested in the Camper Registration Packet. If a troop or large group (four or more) sign up to attend camp together please note, campers are only allowed to pick one buddy to bunk with.

YOYO's (Your On Your Own)

These girl-chosen activities offer a variety of experiences ranging from arts and crafts, to free swim, to hiking, and more. Not every program has YOYO's every day.

Session 1

June 23 - June 29

Camp Mess-ology

Grade 3

Min 6 / Max 16

\$300



Do you love making messes, building things, and getting dirty?

This week is for you! Create your own sparkle slime, compete in a Lego building challenge*, and explore the creek bed for hidden treasures. You take the lead with trying something new during the YOYO's.

*suggested by Anna

Camp Life

Grade 3 - 5

Min 6 / Max 16

\$300



Enjoy the Camp Life - go swimming, cook a meal outdoors in a solar oven,* explore Fern Canyon while hiking, host a glow party for the camp, learn a new camp song and how to read a compass. Wrap up the week by sleeping under the stars.

*suggested by Jasmine

Into the Night 🚐

Grade 7 - 12

Min 6 / Max 16

\$450

Explore camp after dark when the stars fill the sky. Put on your hiking boots and head out on the trails to enjoy a midnight snack! Visit McDonald's Observatory for a star party and hop on a TX Parks & Wildlife safari truck to go spotlight exploring for animals at night! Campers in this session stay up until at least midnight every night, sleep in the next morning.



Outdoor Adventure

Grade 6 - 10

Min 6 / Max 16

\$300

Learn to pack and carry your own backpack, knot tying, Leave No Trace, campfire cooking, and trail side first aid.

Build an emergency shelter and practice survival skills*. Go on an overnight at the primitive campsite.

*suggested by Kenley



Water Fun 🚐

Grade 4 - 5

Min 6 / Max 16

\$450

Hop in and get wet! Host a pool party complete with water games, learn water safety and self rescue, and try new swim strokes. Take a field trip to Balmorhea State Park. On dry land its about camp with campfires and s'mores. Cooking breakfast over the campfire anyone?*

*suggested by Madeline



Session 2

June 30 - July 6

Mitre Quest

Grade 6 -10
Min 6 / Max 16
\$450

Step into your favorite story and make the adventure your own. Based upon Dungeons & Dragons, this week will be all action in an open-ended role playing game where you build the story! Head out on the trails to find clues, step up at the archery range for target practice, then explore the upper ponds for clues to the end of the quest!



Camp Life

Grade 3 - 5
Min 6 / Max 16
\$300

Enjoy the Camp Life - go swimming, cook a meal outdoors in a solar oven,* explore Fern Canyon while hiking, host a glow party for the camp, learn a new camp song and how to read a compass. Wrap up the week by sleeping under the stars.

*suggested by Jasmine



Badge-a-Day

Grade 4 - 5
Min 6 / Max 16
\$450

Find a new adventure each day this week! Explore nature as you earn Outdoor Art Explorer and your Musician badge as you make an instrument and perform playing it. Craft & Tinker badge has your creative juices flowing while Space Science Explorer badge takes you on a field trip to McDonald Observatory. Create your meals to earn your Simple Meals badge. You will also be able to enjoy all the traditional camp activities as you embark on your themed adventures each day.



Equestrian Delight

Grade 4 - 5
Min 6 / Max 16
\$600

Learn how to groom, unsaddle, and care for your horse. Learn the names of a horse's gait, the rules of riding on the trail, parts of the saddle, and more! Sit tall in the saddle as you navigate an obstacle course or explore a horse trail around camp. No prior riding experience is required.



Trail Dust

Grade 6 -12
Min 6 / Max 8
\$600

This is horses at the next level. Start your day at the stables - your horse eats before you do!* Learn hoof and tack care and what it takes to own a horse. Take a field trip to the Big Bend area for a trail ride and conduct a flag ceremony on horseback. This week is all about you and your horse!

*suggested by Moira



Session 3

July 7 - July 13

All About Animals

Grade 3 - 5
Min 6 / Max 16
\$450



Do you love animals? Visit sheep, cows, and goats on local ranches and learn what these animals give to humans.

Travel to the Alpine Humane Society Thrift Store where we make cat toys and play with the cats that are up for adoption and meet a local veterinarian to learn what it takes to care for our pet friends.



Bull's-Eye

Grade 4 - 5
Min 6 / Max 12
\$300

Nock, release, and let 'em fly! This week at camp is all archery - target practice, games, trail scavenger hunt targets, and by the end of the week getting a bull's-eye will be second nature. Enjoy other camp activities like campfire cooking, star gazing, and closing campfire songs and skits.

Badge-a-Day

Grade 6 - 8
Min 6 / Max 16
\$450

Find a new adventure each day this week! Earn your First Aid badge and learn personal safety. Get your creative juices going while you earn the Woodworking badge. Look to the stars for the Space Science Explorer badge and a trip to McDonald Observatory. Spend a night in the primitive camp area for your Primitive Camper badge. The GS Way badge happens while you enjoy all the traditional camp activities as you embark on your themed adventures each day.



Equestrian Delight

Grade 4 - 5
Min 6 / Max 16
\$600

Learn how to groom, unsaddle, and care for your horse. Learn the names of a horse's gait, the rules of riding on the trail, parts of the saddle, and more! Sit tall in the saddle as you navigate an obstacle course or explore a horse trail around camp.

No prior riding experience is required.



Trail Dust

Grade 6 -12
Min 6 / Max 8
\$600

This is horses at the next level. Start your day at the stables - your horse eats before you do!* Learn hoof and tack care and what it takes to own a horse. Take a field trip to the Big Bend area for a trail ride and conduct a flag ceremony on horseback. This week is all about you and your horse!



*suggested by Moira

Session 1 - 3

June 23 - July 13

CIT/WIT and CIT II/WIT II 🚐

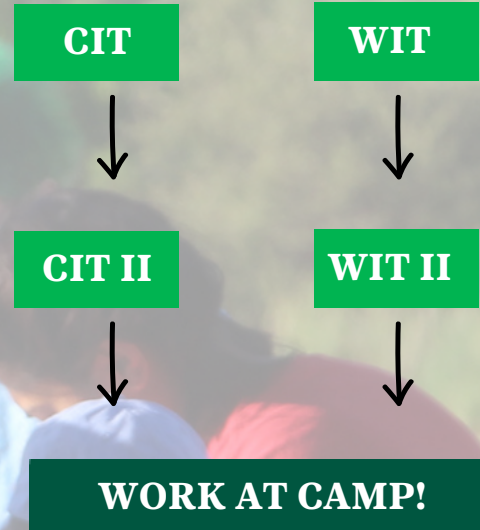
Grade 11 - 12

\$725

Girl Scout Camp leadership programs combine exciting summer camp activities with experiential leadership training, resulting in a unique, fun, and high-quality adventure for Girl Scouts who dream big! Leadership programs are progressive and are designed based on the ages and development of the campers.

Each session of a particular camp program will include similar foundational skills, but as every week's campers are different, at the end of the summer you will have the opportunity to experience and practice a wide range of skills.

Each level of the leadership program teaches new skills that are intended to be taken back after camp and applied at the troop, service unit, or day camp level.



CIT

CIT II



Camp Traditions

9 SQUARE IN THE AIR

New at Camp Mitre Peak -
All campers will be able to enjoy this new game as they try to become the champion of the squares.



CLOSING CAMPFIRE

The final night of camp is a special time where campers sing songs, do skits, share memories, and reflect how Mitre Magic has touched their summer.



YOYO's

Afternoon sessions called YOYO's (Your On Your Own) are activities selected by the campers on their first day of camp. Hiking, arts & crafts, guest presenters, and making special snacks are just a few things campers can select. NOTE: not every program has YOYO's every afternoon.



CLEANEST CABIN & UNIT AWARDS

Each day, campers unite to build character through the responsibility of tidying their cabins and unit home. The camp nurse gives this award to the cabin and unit that have shown the greatest respect and responsibility.



STAR FILLED NIGHT SKY

Camp Mitre Peak is located in the northern part of the Big Bend region. CMP has "dark skies," which means it has very little light pollution. Campers will see stars and planets at night that cannot be seen in other locations.

Be prepared to be amazed!



Camp Information

Arrival/Departure to Camp

Sunday Check-in: 2:00 - 3:00 PM CST

Saturday Check-out: 10:00 - 10:45 AM CST

Please respect check-in and check-out times as they have been developed to accommodate a smooth transition for all campers.

If an emergency arises and you need to deviate from the above times, contact the Camp Office at (432) 364-2314.

Arrival

Gate will open at 2:00 PM CST.

Parent orientation is at 3:30 PM at the Kiva, if you have questions. After the parent orientation, you can discuss any special custody arrangements or other important information with the Camp Director.

Departure

All campers must be picked up by 10:45 AM CST.

All adults picking up campers must show a photo id. Campers are not allowed to leave camp with anyone other than their parent or guardian without a signed, written statement from the parent authorizing the specific adult by name that is picking up the camper. This authorization should be discussed with your camper and the counselor at check-in and is included in the Camper Registration Packet.

Trading Post

The Trading Post has healthy snacks, toiletries, and camp souvenirs available for purchase, from 50¢ to \$20.00. You may deposit money into your camper's account during check-in with cash, check, credit card, or Desert Dollars.

Camper Behavior

Campers who consistently do not follow directions can endanger their own safety as well as the safety of other campers and staff.

A camper may be sent home early for consistently not following directions. A parent phone call will be placed prior to a final decision. No refunds will be given.

Stay 'n Play

Campers may stay overnight at camp between consecutive resident camp programs for free! Campers enjoy downtime, movies, special treats, and getting recharged for the next week. Their laundry will also get done during this time. Check "Stay 'N Play" in the Camper Registration Packet.

Birthdays

Birthdays are fun celebrations at camp. Special arrangements for giving a present or providing treats for your camper's entire unit can be made in advance with the Camp Director. Campers with birthdays while at camp are recognized during breakfast on "their" day.



Camp Information

Health Information

Doctor Exam / Camp Physical

All campers are required to have a completed Health Record & Doctor Exam form. This form must be completed after January 1, 2024, and submitted one month prior to the session start date. See chart on page 18 for deadlines. If registering less than one month prior, then the Exam form should be submitted as soon as possible. This Exam Form must be completed by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant with original signatures and dates. Exam forms may be duplicated, but each copy must have original signatures.

Medications

All medications, prescription or non-prescription (including vitamins), must be in the original container with dosage. Medications must be left with the health supervisor during check-in. Send enough of the prescriptions for her entire camp stay. Include medications that require only occasional use, such as epinephrine pens or inhalers.

Health Screening

Our on-site health screening ensures that campers are admitted to camp without a contagious illness or condition. We screen for 1) raised temperatures; 2) head lice; and 3) foot fungi. Campers remove their shoes, socks, and hair accessories (ponytails, braids, hair beads, etc.) for screening.

Contagious conditions will prevent a camper from being admitted to camp, and if detected, it is the responsibility of the parent to seek treatment. A camper may be allowed back into camp after receiving prescribed care. Camp fees are non-refundable when a camper arrives with a pre-existing condition.

Health Center & Local Services

The Health Center houses the camp nurse and includes an isolation ward and a med/clinic room. Campers' medications are properly stored and administered by the camp nurse. In cases of illness or injury, campers are treated at camp unless further care is needed. When necessary, campers are taken to a local physician or Big Bend Regional Medical Center, ten minutes from the camp in Alpine.

Camper Blues

Your encouraging attitude before and during camp will help prevent missing home, a.k.a "camper blues/home sickness." The feeling usually passes within a day, and the camper enjoys the rest of the session. If the blues continue or the camper is not actively participating, the counselor will inform the Camp Leadership Team.

You may call and ask to speak with your child's counselor at any time; just know that it may be necessary to leave a message. The counselor will typically return the call at the next meal.

Summer Camp Information

Communication

Lack of mail is the chief cause of camper blues. Letters can be mailed prior to your camper's session OR left at our Trading Post during check-in. Please allow at least three to four days for the postal service to deliver mail to camp. If mail is left at our Trading Post, please make sure it is clearly marked with: camper name, program name, and delivery date.

When writing, avoid phrases like we miss you so much, wish you were here, your pet hasn't eaten for a week, or your friends ask about you.

Mailing Address

Your Camper's Name
Camp Mitre Peak - Program
PO Box 9680
Alpine, TX 79831

Camp Mitre Peak Location

200 Camp Mitre Peak Road, Fort Davis, Texas
from El Paso, TX - 3.5 hours
from Midland, TX - 3 hours
from Odessa, TX - 2.5 hours
from Las Cruces, NM - 4.5 hours
from Roswell, NM - 4.45 hours
from Carlsbad, NM - 3.5 hours



Work at Camp

Volunteer at Camp

Do you love camp but can't spend your whole summer at camp? Would you like to support camp with a smaller time commitment? We are looking for volunteers to help at camp.

Like cooking and feeding hungry Girl Scouts? You can help in the kitchen! Or would you rather spend a week guiding girls as they learn new skills, have new adventures, and capture Mitre Magic? Then apply to volunteer as a camp counselor! Have a fun skill or hobby you could teach the girls? Come to camp for the day and share what you know!

Tell us what you are interested in at info@gsdsw.org.



Join Our Staff

Gain professional skills while spending the summer outdoors! Join our summer camp staff and build skills in critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity while gaining experience valuable in youth development and many other career fields.

You'll strengthen your own leadership skills while helping campers become leaders through supervision, decision making, and behavior management.

Camp staff also have the opportunity to gain specialize training like First Aid/CPR.

Contact info@gsdsw.org for more information!

**Apply
Today!**

Packing List

CLOTHING

- Shirts/t-shirts (NO halter, spaghetti strap tank tops, mid-drifts, or tube tops)
- Sweatshirt, windbreaker, or warm sweater (it can get cool overnight)
- Shorts of mid-thigh length
- Long pants/jeans (2 - 3 pair for horse programs)
- Underwear
- Pajamas
- Swimsuit and towel
- Raincoat or poncho
- Socks that cover the ankle (a pair a day and a few extra)
- Hat for sun protection

TOILETRIES

- Sunscreen
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Comb and/or brush
- Sanitary supplies
- Deodorant (non-aerosol)
- Shower tote or bag
- Lip protection
- Insect repellent (non-aerosol)

SUPPLIES

- Sleeping bag/bedroll
- Washcloth and towel (two of each)
- Pillow
- Laundry bag for dirty clothes to be taken home (mesh or cotton work best)
- Mess kit and silverware for cookouts
- Flashlight/headlamp and extra batteries
- Refillable water bottle (at least 1 liter)
- Backpack/tote bag to pack daily items

FOOTWEAR

- Two pairs of sturdy sneaker or athletic shoes (no sandals, clogs, open-toed or open-heeled shoes)
- Shower shoes (typically flip-flops)
- Riding boots with a one-inch heel for horse programs (cannot have an inseam zipper, be made of all rubber, or have embellishments for safety reasons)

OPTIONAL

- Camera
- Sunglasses
- Bandana
- Cards, books, or quiet games
- Stationary, pen, pre-addressed envelopes, and stamps
- Inexpensive watch/clock (if your camper likes knowing the time)

PLEASE LEAVE THESE ITEMS AT HOME

- Cell phones - they are not allowed at camp for the safety of all campers and staff
- Snack foods and drinks except for special dietary need, i.e., gluten free or dairy free products - must be turned in upon check in at camp
- Alcoholic beverages
- Weapons
- Expensive electronic devices (tablets, mp3 players, etc.)
- Hair dryers/curling irons/straighteners
- Expensive watches or jewelry
- Personal sports equipment
- Pets

PLEASE LABEL ALL YOUR BELONGINGS!

Make A Girl's Summer - Send her to Camp

It is our goal to continue to provide opportunities for girls who want to go to camp. Camp scholarships provide life-changing experiences for girls who may not otherwise be able to participate because of their economic circumstances. Contributions to camp scholarships make it possible for all girls throughout the 33 counties we serve to attend camp and have the same opportunities and experiences regardless of their financial situation. In addition, camp scholarships help underwrite the cost of camp activities, keeping fees low for girls.

With your help, we will continue to give Girl Scouts the opportunities they need to become the leaders they want to be today and the leaders our community needs them to be tomorrow.

\$1,000 - One week of resident camp for two girls

\$500 - One week of resident camp for one girl

\$250 - half of one week of resident camp for one girl

Donations can be made at www.gsdsww.org or complete the form below and mail to:

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest - Camp Scholarship
9700 Girl Scout Way
El Paso, TX 79924

Thank you for your continued support!

Yes, I would like to help send a girl to camp!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Payment Information

☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ Other \$_____

☐ Enclosed is my check payable to Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest

☐ If you would like to pay by credit card check here and a staff member will contact you.

Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest -
Southern New Mexico & West Texas
9700 Girl Scout Way
El Paso, Texas 79924

A background image of a campfire at night. The fire is bright and orange-yellow, with flames rising from a pile of logs. In the background, several people are standing and watching the fire, their figures slightly blurred.

**Our Customer Care
team is always
happy to help with
program and camp
questions and
registration.**

info@gsdsw.org
(915) 566-9433
www.gsdsw.org