

Girlguiding Hertfordshire

The land at the top challenge



To raise funds to support young members, who may otherwise be unable to afford them, to experience residential events with Girlguiding Hertfordshire.



Welcome to Girlguiding Hertfordshire's The land at the top challenge.

Thank you for taking an interest in our challenge badge, which has been created to support young members to experience residential events with Girlguiding Hertfordshire.

Inspired by the enchanting lands at the top of Enid Blyton's "Magic Faraway Tree", this badge invites young adventurers to explore creativity, teamwork and imagination through crafts, games, baking, celebrations, outdoor fun and more. From potion-making in the land of enchantments to upside-down antics in the land of topsy-turvy, this badge is suitable for young members from all sections.

Whether you're planning a themed meeting, a term of activities or a residential, this badge links brilliantly with several Girlguiding interest badges, UMAs and skills builders – making it both magical and meaningful.

We are grateful for any contributions to our fundraising to make residential accessible to all. Thank you for your time in reading this pack.



How to complete the challenge

There are 6 sections to this challenge badge, each representing a different **Land at the top**, with 10 suggested activities per section. We would encourage members from all ages to take part. Additional resources can be found at the back of the pack.



The land of
topsy-turvy



The land of
toys and
games



The land of
presents



The land of
enchancements







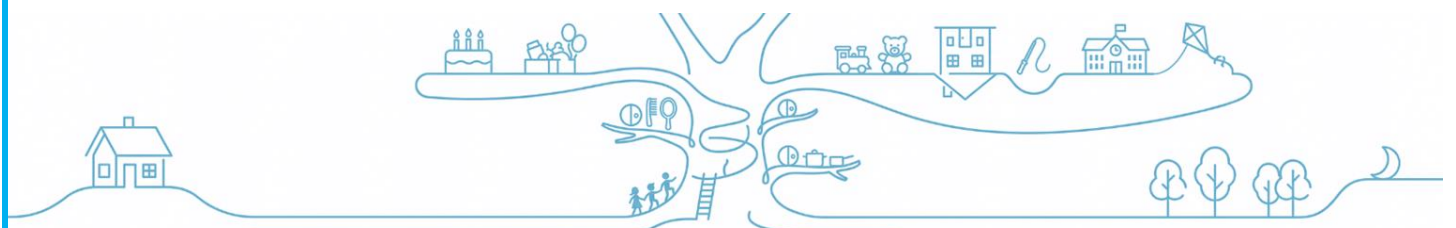
The land of
celebrations



The land of
dreams

How much should each section complete?

	Complete 1 activity from 4 sections.
	Complete 1 activity from each of the 6 sections
	Complete 1 activity from each of the 6 sections, plus 2 more.
	Complete 1 activity from each of the 6 sections, plus 4 more of your own choice.



Getting started

This challenge badge is suitable for young and adult members, who have a spirit of adventure, creativity and imagination. However, you won't be able to start your adventure until you have a magical tree to climb.

- Make 1 out of card, wood or paper.
- Use natural materials to make 1 out of sticks.
- Use handprints from your group to create a tree collage.
- Use papier-mache to create a 3D tree.
- Make a tree per six or patrol.

Don't forget to add a ladder and a slippery slip to get up and down!

There are many magical people who live in this tree. Why not complete some activities to get to know them a little better.

Saucepan man

Saucepan man is 1 of the most beloved and chaotic characters: he is perfect for inspiring fun, noisy, creative activities.

1. Make your own noisy hat

Use foil, string, bottle tops and mini pans to create a wearable "saucepan hat".

2. Saucepan puppet

Use cardboard tubes, foil and collage to build a mini Saucepan Man.

3. Saucepan relay or water challenge

Perfect for a summer evening – create a water challenge or relay using saucepans to carry items from one end to the other.

4. Echo game

Mishear and repeat silly phrases like Saucepan Man

5. Pan popcorn party

Make popcorn in a pan with different toppings inspired by the lands at the top of the tree.



6. Saucepan sweets

Make simple, no-bake treats in a saucepan e.g. chocolate crispy cakes, fudge or marshmallow mix.

Moon-Face

Moon-Face is clever and resourceful, known for his perfectly round bald head that resembles the full moon. He lives in the tree and acts as a close friend to the children.

1. Slippery-slip relay

A non-slip mat or tarpaulin becomes the slide as teams race to deliver messages to Moon Face. *

2. Giggle challenge

Have some silly face competitions, joke battles or “try not to laugh games”.

3. Toffee tasting

In the Magic Faraway Tree, Moon-Face introduces the children to fantastical foods, including Toffee Shocks. Make or sample different types of toffee. Could this be part of the Kitchen creations or Baking badge?

4. Slippery slip smoothies

Blend colourful layered smoothies inspired by the magical lands.

5. Design the next land

Draw or build a model of a new land that arrives at the top of the tree.

Man on the moon

Guides could complete the “Man on the Moon” UMA and discuss the themes of inclusion and loneliness.

Brownie badge link – Kitchen creations

Are your Brownies a whizz in the kitchen? Make links with smoothies, toffee and other sweet treats while getting creative with your Brownies.

1. Try it out – is there a (recipe) you’ve been wanting to try?
2. Flavour master – explore different flavours
3. Twist it up – pancake time but with a twist...



Silky

Silky is a beloved, kind-hearted fairy and key resident of the Magic Faraway Tree. She becomes a close friend and guide to the children who enjoy the tree's adventures.

1. Sparkle jars

Make calming glitter jars or "kindness jars" with positive messages inside.

2. Fairy wing decorations

Create mini wings from card, tissue, paper and ribbon to hang in trees.

3. Potion lab

Mix safe "magic" potions using coloured water, biodegradable glitter, herbs and flowers.

4. Autumn leaf fairies

Combine with an autumn woodland walk or with young members gathering leaves ahead of time. All you need is a paper cut out of a fairy (see resources) and some leaves to make these magical fairies who would not be out of place in the Magic Faraway Tree.



5. Woodland trail

Take part in a scavenger hunt for natural treasures. Silky might use feathers, smooth stones and flowers. Depending on the time of year, you could also add acorns, conkers and berries.

6. Build a fairy house

Use sticks, leaves, moss and imagination to create tiny homes.

Badge link: Wayfinder

Brownies could take on the role of nature detectives by completing challenge 1 of this badge. They could take pictures or draw what they see.



Dame Washalot

An endearing figure with an overwhelming obsession with laundry, Dame Washalot often pours soapy suds down the branches of the tree, soaking whoever is below her.

1. Bubble bonanza

Make giant bubble wands and create huge floating bubbles like Dame Washalot's suds.

Washing line of pride

Guides could use the washing line of pride to showcase their greatest guiding achievements and plan more exciting events for the future.

2. Laundry line challenge

Race to hang up washing with pegs.

3. Suds and spat

Perfect for a warm summer's evening! Throw wet sponges at targets or a chalk-drawn Moon-Face.

4. Make your own soap

Melt and pour soap with different colours, scents and shapes. You could make soap from other soap or start from scratch. Some ideas can be found in the resources section at the back of the pack.

5. Washalot waterfall

Create a "washing waterfall" using buckets, funnels and pipes. Can the girls get the water from one end to the other without spilling any?

All section book badge links

There is now an interest badge focused around reading for each section. Why not encourage your units to read *The Enchanted Wood* or *The Magic Faraway Tree* and become a book lover, reviewer, critic or "booktivist."





The land of topsy-turvy

1. Backwards uniform challenge

Wear part of your uniform backwards or inside-out for the meeting.

2. Role reversal

For all or part of a meeting, leaders and young members should swap roles. Any instructions given could be in a silly topsy-turvy way.

3. Upside-down art

Tape paper under tables or clipboards to the underside of their chairs. Girls could draw or paint while lying on their backs.

4. Backwards storytelling

Create a mini book that starts with "The End" and works backwards from the beginning. For older sections, teams could act out a story backwards, starting with the ending and making their way to the beginning.

5. Backwards Relay Race

Teams run backwards, pass items backwards, or complete tasks in a reverse order.

6. Opposite instructions game

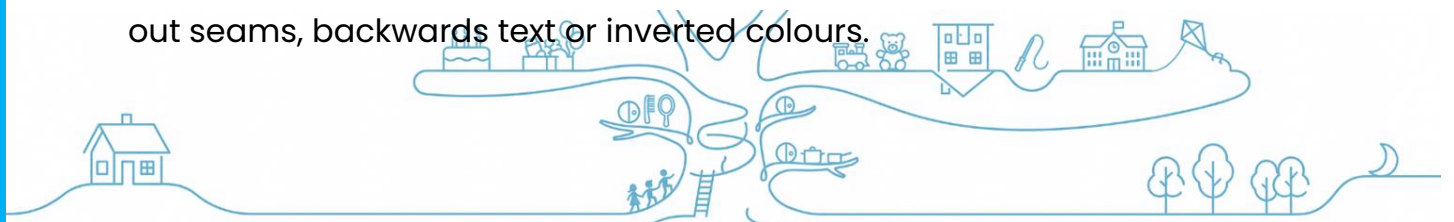
Leader gives commands and girls must do the opposite. UMA FLIP IT.

7. Inside out fashion challenge

Create a fashion accessory using materials "wrongly". For example, inside-out seams, backwards text or inverted colours.

Badge link: Drawing

Drawing materials at the ready! Don't worry about making drawings perfect or colouring between the lines. This is all about Rainbows having fun!



8. Reverse photography or videography

Take photos or videos that look normal or exaggerated but were staged backwards. For example: jumping out of a swimming pool, catching falling water, or putting a broken item back together again.

9. Backwards engineering

Guides and Rangers could be given a finished object e.g. a small model, gadget or craft and the challenge is to figure out how it was made. They could then follow their instructions to see if they create the finished object.

10. Unit trip

Why not go on a unit trip to a trampoline park or indoor play area for an evening of endless fun!



6. Pinecone fairy

This colourful pinecone fairy is great for spring and summer, using items from nature to create these small fairies. Considering this challenge for Christmas? With a little tweak, these could be Christmas angels, ready for any Christmas tree.



7. Mystery ingredient challenge

Provide each group with a cauldron of ingredients to invent a magical snack.

8. Colour changing flowers

Magically change the colour of a daffodil or a carnation. Adding food colouring to the water in the vase will change the colour of the petals if they were white to begin with.

9. Magical crystal ball craft



This DIY crystal ball craft is so easy for children of all ages to make. Whether making at Halloween, or throughout the year, this can fit any theme. You could even use glow in the dark paint to make it really special! Find out more in the back of the pack in the resources section.

<https://sugarspiceandglitter.com/magical-crystal-ball-craft/>

10. Fairy dust slime

Iridescent chunky glitter can give slime a spectacular sparkle and this slime leaves little mess as no food colouring is needed. Check out the resources section for the recipe and instructions.





The land of toys and games

1. Human Hungry Hippos

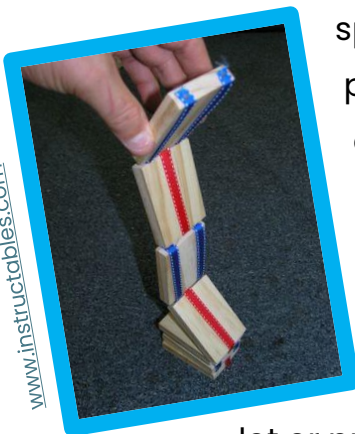
A live-action, timed team game where players on skateboards are pushed by partners to collect as many balls as possible from a centre pile into their team's basket. The team with the most balls collected in their corner wins.

2. Escape room

Girls to visit an escape room or complete an escape room style activity in their meeting place or residential building. This could be linked to the Codebreakers Guide interest badge.

3. Build your own edible game

Create noughts and crosses, or draughts boards, with different sweets, biscuits or cake. These could be made from scratch if you have time and space or using bought ingredients. Older sections could plan their game in advance before creating and enjoying it with their Guiding friends.

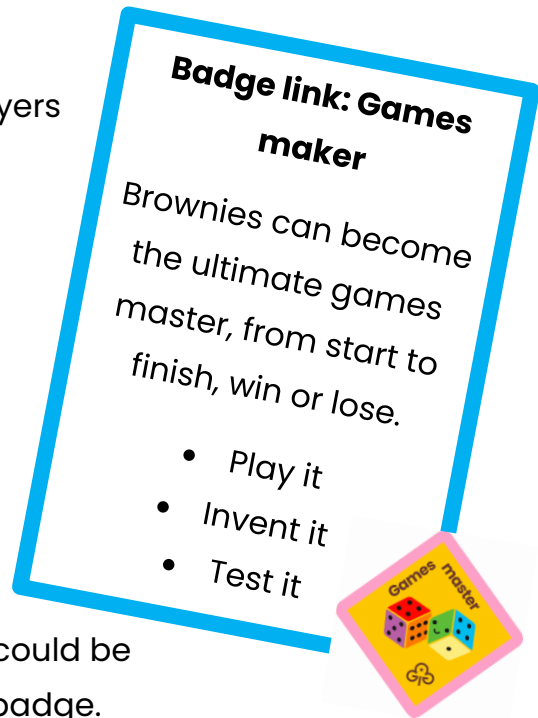


4. Make a traditional Jacob's ladder

Traditional toys have been enjoyed for decades. This wood-and-ribbon children's toy is great for Guides to make but will need assistance and time as there is a lot of preparation.

5. Design a board game

Girls could invent a board game inspired by the Magic Faraway Tree with magical lands, silly rules and enchanting challenges.



6. Felt animal hand puppets

Puppet making isn't just a craft: with just a few scraps of fabric and a splash of colour you can bring a character to life. Whether crafting a monster, queen, sidekick or even Moon-Face, puppets have been loved for generations. Now it's your turn!



7. Parachute games

No matter which section you volunteer with, parachute games are exciting, entertaining and energetic. Look at the resource section for some suggestions of new games to play.

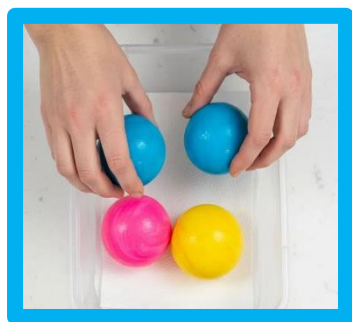
8. Large games

Create a large-scale version of a favourite game. Whether this be noughts and crosses, snakes and ladders or even a giant marble run, consider repurposing large items to involve each six/patrol or even the whole unit in the game.

9. Story stones

Paint symbols or characters onto cobble stones to represent the different lands and options within the Magic Faraway Tree. These can then be used in storytelling games: maybe your unit will end up creating a new challenge for the young adventurers to overcome?

10. Bouncy balls



Where craft meets chemistry! This simple bouncy ball experiment is mind-blowing and is quick and simple to do. Young members will be able to watch a gooey mixture transform into a solid bouncy ball right before their eyes. Check out the resources for the instructions!

<https://playpartygame.com/>





The land of celebrations

1. Jam making

Everyone loves delicious jam and it plays a key part in an afternoon tea. While this needs a bit of planning, paired with other activities such as “Can’t Believe it’s Butter” UMA or some cardboard box oven scones and you have everything you need for a quintessentially British celebration. Find a recipe for autumnal apple and blackberry jam in the resources.

2. A year in a weekend

This is a fantastic theme for a residential or camp. Include all the best celebrations and festivals from across the year in your residential. Who wouldn’t want Chinese New Year, Easter, Halloween and Christmas all included? There are endless possibilities to explore further.

3. Celebration bunting

In groups, young members could design and make the decorations for their event, or just to decorate the meeting place. This could be made from paper or sewn as part of the Guide Stitcher badge.

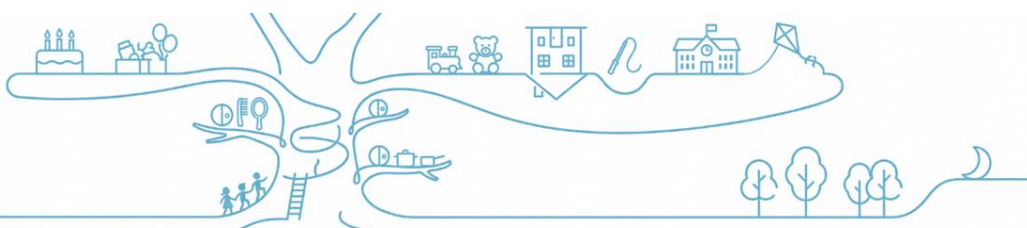
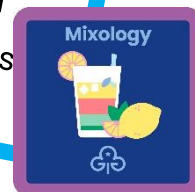


4. Celebration cupcakes or mug cakes

Whatever the facilities of your meeting space, there is always space for cake. Girls could make and decorate cupcakes, decorate pre-made cakes or create a quick microwave mug cake for a sweet treat. No mug cake is complete without squirty cream!

Badge link: Mixology

No celebration is complete without something special to eat and drink. Guides can get their creative juices flowing by designing and making delicious mocktails!





5. Salt art

Salt crafting is simple and enjoyed by children of all ages. It involves either drawing or templates, gluing and painting. This suggestion would be perfect to tie in with the autumn term, new year or any other celebration or time where fireworks are enjoyed.

Find the instructions in the resources section.

6. Host a celebration or party

Plan, prepare for and host a celebration or party in your meeting place. This could be for a pre-existing event or festival, to celebrate an achievement, to bid farewell to young members moving up to the next section or just for fun. Planners could decide on a programme of games, music, activities and – of course – the menu, sending out invites to friends or family, before enjoying an evening of fun.

7. Fruit firework skewers

Healthy but fun. Add grapes, strawberries, pineapple stars and other fruit to skewers. Combine with melted chocolate, honey, sprinkles or marshmallows for new flavour combinations. Rainbows could use this as part of their Tasty Treats interest badge.

Ranger badge link – Event planning

All good celebrations need an event planner. If your young members have a sharp eye for detail, have tonnes of ideas and know how to make a good event great, why not encourage them to complete this event planning badge as part of this section.





The land of presents

1. Design a magical present

Young members could invent a magical gift from the land of presents. They should draw it, name it and explain its powers. For example: a box that gives you courage, a kite that makes you fly...

2. The gift of kindness

Kindness makes the world go round! While suitable for all sections, there is now a Brownie Kindness badge where young members can spread joy in their homes, community and afar through thoughtful actions and crafts. There are endless possibilities for spreading kindness, but this could be through:



- A good deed at home – spending time with someone, offering to help around the house, doing something helpful without having to be asked...
- Spread joy in the community – hide a book (somewhere dry) for someone to find and enjoy, leave a card, drawing, or small plant for a neighbour, create kindness rocks and leave them around your local area...
- Make something to be kind – create a clay, wooden or woven pocket hug to give to a friend, make a combined piece of artwork about kindness, make thank you cards to give to people who support you...

3. Upcycled gifts

Guides and Rangers could create high-quality upcycled gifts to be donated to a local charity, given to friends and family or used for fundraising. Candles, soap, decorate tote bags, jars or tea light holders make great bases for upcycling.



4. Wrap station

This could be a great unit fundraiser or just an enjoyable craft evening. Young members could design and make matching gift tags, mini origami boxes and wrapping paper ahead of a celebration or calendar event.

5. Enchanted key chains

Create an enchanted key chain with charms representing the different lands, such as moons, stars, presents and animals. These could have names added to them.

6. Chocolate bark

Edible gifts are always well-received! Create the edible bark of the Magic Faraway Tree by melting chocolate, swirling in colours and toppings and allowing to cool before breaking into shards. This can be enjoyed within unit, by family and friends or as a random act of kindness to someone within the community. See the back of the pack for this recipe.



7. Pressed flower lanterns

A pretty pressed flower craft is a versatile gift idea that can be adapted for many occasions. This simple idea, using pressed flowers, jam jars, and Modge Podge adhesive, makes a gorgeous candle holder, centre piece or vase. Full instructions are in the resource section of the pack.

Brownie badge link – Crafts

There are so many Brownie badges that can fit with this theme. Crafts badge allows young members to explore different materials and what fun things they can do with them. Whether it is through papercraft, stitching or by making something edible, all can work with the land of presents!





The land of dreams

1. Dream catchers

Originating from indigenous North American cultures, dream catchers are traditionally hung over beds to filter out negative dreams, while allowing good dreams to pass through the web and slide down the feathers. Young members can create their own dream catchers by following the instructions in the resources section.



Count bubbles not sheep

Brownies and Guides could complete this UMA to discover why sleep is important – and enjoy bubbles of course!



2. Night sky constellation hunt

Whether done inside or outside, members can learn more about the night sky through completing a constellation hunt.

- Outside, give each patrol/six a constellation card showing the major constellations. Challenge them to find it in the night sky above. Once found, they could sketch it in their logbook or recreate it using torches on the ground.
- Inside, girls could complete a torchlight constellation quest: hide laminated constellation cards around the space. Girls could search for these using torches and, once found, recreate them with glowsticks, torches or counters.

3. Dreamy dessert pots

In a glass or clear plastic pot, layer yoghurt, fruit puree, sprinkles and edible glitter to create dream clouds. Pair this with the Guide Mixology badge to create some truly special concoctions.



4. Sleepover

Host a sleepover with your unit. This could be in your usual meeting place, a Girlguiding residential centre or somewhere more peculiar. Sleepovers on HMS Belfast, in Clip n Climb centres or at wildlife parks are popular.

5. Dream jars

The Magic Faraway Tree isn't the only book to inspire or mention dreams. These jars are inspired by Roald Dahl's BFG and are really simple to make. All you need is a jar, paint, glitter, sequins or stars, and anything sparkly you can find! Find the instructions in the back of the pack.

6. Mini vision boards

Using magazines, art materials, fabric or recycled material, girls should cut out images, words, and colours that represent their aspirations. These could be related to careers, adventures, hopes, or places to visit. These could be displayed in the meeting place or taken home as a reminder of their dreams for the future.

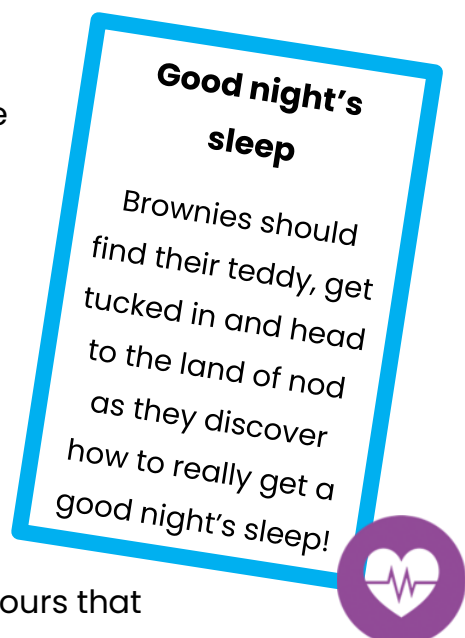
7. Affirmation pebbles

Girls could paint stones with words of affirmation such as brave, curious, strong, kind, determined and honest. These could be shared between the girls or taken home as a personal reminder.

8. Aspiration bracelets

Aspiration bracelets and meaningful daily reminders of goals, intentions and dreams. Whether you want to manifest a goal or keep a calming thought close at hand, you can easily design and craft your own using these simple steps and ideas:

- Have a base material e.g. stretchy elastic cord, waxed cotton or nylon thread.



- Use letter beads, small word charms or gemstones that resonate with your goals.
- Have scissors, a ruler and a bit of clear nail polish or glue to secure your final knots.

9. Night sky lanterns



These gorgeous tissue paper lanterns originate from the Autumn Equinox lantern festival, but give members a chance to show their creativity outside as the nights draw in. Stars, moons and other shapes or creatures are an option as long as they can be crafted from wooden skewers or sticks and covered in tissue paper. You could even have a lantern parade.

10. Dream creature sculptures

Using air-dry clay, pipe cleaners, or recycled materials, girls should design their own “dream creature” – something that could only exist in a dream. It should be planned, named and given a magical ability.

Brownie badge link – Imagination

Misty shores, hidden treasure, daring sword fights, the most feared pirate captain... Let your imagination take you anywhere.

3 clauses, stories, new worlds and creativity – let your Brownies’ imagination run wild!



Guide badge link – Aspirations

Dreams don’t just happen while asleep! This badge helps Guides to set goals, smash them, and repeat! Day-to-day commitments can make it hard to prioritise goals. Guide them to take the time to aim high and achieve their dreams.





Make an easy mushroom fairy house

www.paperglitterglue.com

Suitable for Rainbows and above,
Paperglitterglue.com have such easy-to-follow instructions on how to make a mushroom fairy house with a simple structure around a toilet roll tube.

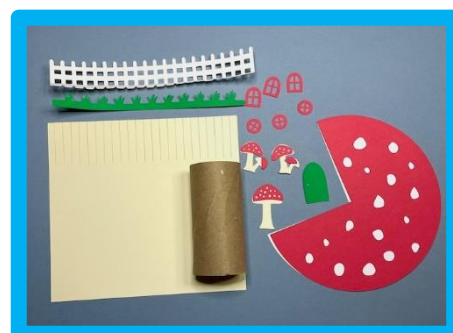


Resources

- Card.
- Toilet roll tube.
- Cardboard.
- Acrylic paint.
- PVA glue.
- Scissors or a craft knife for more intricate shapes.

Method

1. Patterns are available at <https://paperglitterglue.com/paper-library/> which is listed in the website instructions (No.165).
2. Cut out the pattern for the house, roof and mushroom decorations.
3. If you use cardboard for this house, prime and paint the pieces.
4. Glue the structure together around a toilet roll tube.
5. Make a cone-shaped mushroom cap.
6. Make a circular base for the mushroom fairy house.
7. Decorate the house with window and doors.
8. Glue the fence to the base.
9. Glue the red mushroom cap to the stem and stick the house to the base.
10. Decorate the base with small mushroom cut outs.



Magical crystal ball

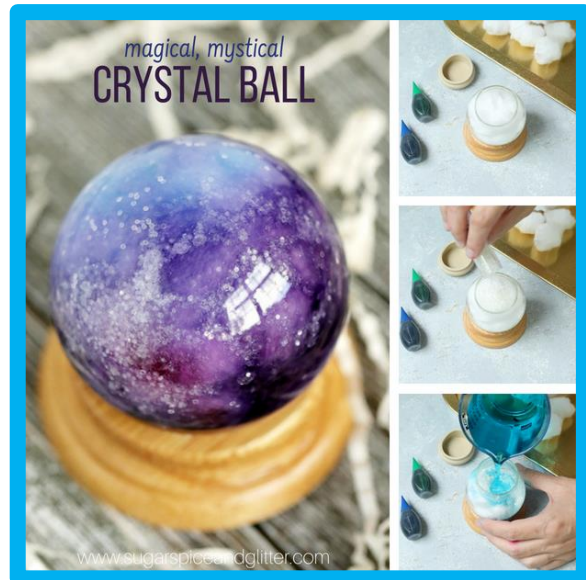
<https://sugarspiceandglitter.com/magical-crystal-ball-craft/>

This gorgeous crystal ball craft is so easy for all ages and skill levels to make and makes a gorgeous addition to a bedroom or themed residential.

Resources

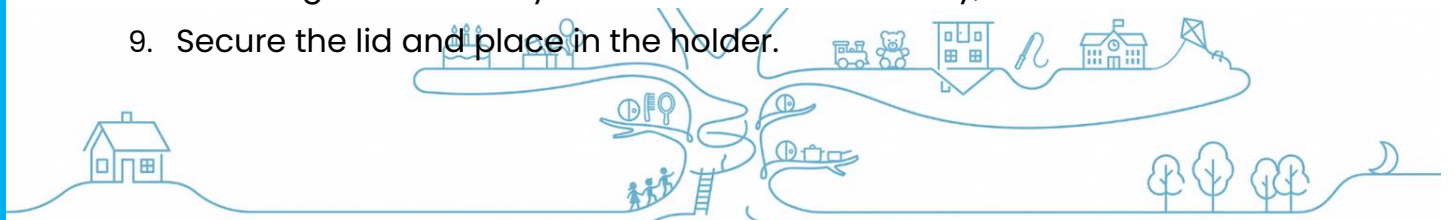
- Plastic water globe.
- Cotton balls.
- Water – try to use distilled or filtered water for this craft.
- Food colouring.
- Glitter.
- Strong glue (hot glue).

Tip: make sure that your globe is waterproof before starting this craft by adding water, securing the lid, hanging upside down and shaking.



Method

1. Stretch and tear apart your cotton balls.
2. Sprinkle glitter into your plastic globe.
3. Place your shredded cotton balls into your globe. You want to fill it to the top and you may want to add more after adding water so make sure you have plenty to hand.
4. Add more glitter to your globe, using a cocktail-stick to push glitter into other areas.
5. Place your water in as many cups as you want colours of water.
6. Dye each cup of water to your preference. Dye a little darker than you want the end product as the cotton balls lighten the colour.
7. Add a bit of coloured water to the globe. Alternate colours so that you get nice swirls of colour.
8. Fill the globe. You may want to do this over a tray, container or sink.
9. Secure the lid and place in the holder.



Pinecone fairies

www.thebestideasforkids.com/pine-cone-fairy

Resources

- Pinecones – 1 per fairy. These are approximately 2 inches in size.
- Acorn tops – for fairy hats.
- 1" wooden beads.
- Pressed flowers.
- Card for wings.
- Paint – bright coloured for hats and bodies.
- Paintbrushes.
- Scissors.
- Hot glue gun.
- PVA glue.
- Cocktail stick.



Method

1. Glue the bead to the pinecone using the hot glue (adult assistance).
2. Holding the bead in 1 hand, use the other hand to paint the pinecone a bright colour. Take care not to get paint on the bead.
3. Paint the acorn top to create a colourful hat for your fairy.
4. Paint the face details onto the bead, painting around the edge of the bead to make the fairy's hair.
5. Use a toothpick to carefully draw 2 eyes and a mouth onto the fairy's face.
6. Glue the hat on using the hot glue gun (adult assistance).
7. Cut out the wings – a free printable wing template is at the bottom of the webpage.
8. Arrange the pressed flowers onto the wings and stick with PVA glue.
9. Hot glue the wings to the back of the pinecone.



Homemade soap

<https://liviolee.com/melt-and-pour-soap-recipes>

Perfect for a residential when you have more time than normal, these soap recipes are perfect for complete beginners and gift makers!

Resources

- Melt and pour soap base (clear, white, goat milk or shea butter).
- Soap-safe fragrance oils or essential oils.
- Liquid soap colourants.
- Optional add ins.
- Rubbing alcohol in a spray bottle.
- Microwave-safe measuring cup.
- Silicone soap moulds.
- Small bowls for mixing colour.
- Knife or soap cutter.
- Spoon or spatula.



Method

1. Prepare your workspace. Melt and pour soap cools quickly. Having everything within reach keeps the process calm and enjoyable.
2. Cut your melt and pour soap base into evenly sized cubes – roughly 1 inch in size.
3. Place the soap into a microwave-safe measuring cup or heatproof bowl.
4. Microwave for 30-second intervals, stirring between each round. You want a fully melted, smooth liquid not boiling. If you see steam, stop heating and stir.
5. Allow the soap to cool for about 30-60 seconds, then add fragrance slowly and stir gently but thoroughly.
6. Add liquid colourant and stir slowly to avoid bubbles.
7. Pour into moulds from a low height to reduce bubbles.
8. Once poured, lightly spray the surface with rubbing alcohol.
9. Let the soap cool completely for 1-2 hours at room temperature.
10. Once fully firm and cool, gently peel the mould away from the soap.
11. If needed, trim rough edges with a knife.
12. Let soaps rest unwrapped for 12-24 hours before packaging.



Magic rainbow ice

This experiment is bright, bubbly, and full of wow moments as you turn plain ice into a vibrant masterpiece with the help of some great colours.



Resources

- Ice cubes.
- Salt.
- Food colouring – multiple colours.
- A pipette.
- A tray or plate to catch the drips.

Method

1. Take your ice cubes out of the freezer and place on a tray. Look closely – you may be able to see tiny bubbles trapped inside.
2. Gently shake salt all over the ice. Watch as it starts to melt in streaks and cracks. Why does this happen?
3. Add some colour! Using a pipette, carefully drip different colours of food colouring onto the melting ice. Watch as the colours swirl, mix and flow through the cracks.
4. Observe the magic – keep adding more colours and see how they move through the melting patterns. What happens when colours mix?



Parachute games

Have a go at these new parachute games with your units.

1. Treasure under the sea

Place a variety of treasures such as tokens and pretend money into a treasure box. Place the treasure box under the parachute in the middle of the space. Everyone should hold the parachute at waist height and make waves by lifting the parachute up and down. When a storm has been started and everyone is in a steady rhythm, call out names and send these people under the parachute as divers to grab items one by one from the box. To make it harder, you could ask people to grab a specific item, play in teams, give a time limit or challenge them not to touch the parachute.

2. Popcorn

Everyone should hold the parachute at about waist height. Place a few soft and lightweight items, such as beanbags, small plastic balls or ping pong balls, in the middle of the parachute. Then, when you give the signal, everyone should wave the parachute fast and hard to make the items “pop”, just like popcorn. The aim is to pop all the items out of the parachute.

3. Snakes

Everyone should hold the parachute at waist height. Place a few soft-handled skipping ropes or soft ropes in the middle of the parachute. The aim is for the people stood around the parachute to make sure that the ropes don't touch them. Everyone should shake the parachute up and down for a set length of time, while trying their best to keep the snakes from touching them.

4. Parachute volleyball

Everyone holds the parachute at about waist height. Split everyone into 2 teams, such as a red team and a blue team. Place a ball in the middle of the parachute.



In this game, one team is aiming to try to keep the ball on the parachute, while the other team is trying to knock it off. However, no-one can touch the ball with their hands – they can only move the parachute.

5. Circus tent

It's time to make a big circus top from the parachute. Everyone holds the parachute at waist height and then lifts it high in the air. Everyone needs to quickly bring the parachute to the floor behind them and sit on the inside of it, trapping the air inside. You could then take it in turns to dance, sing songs or tell some stories.

6. Cat and mouse

Everyone should hold the parachute at about waist height. Choose 1 person to be the cat and one person to be the mouse. The cat should take a blindfold. The cat should be on top of the parachute and the mouse should get below or underneath the parachute. When you're ready, ask the cat to put on a blindfold. Both players can be blindfolded to make the game harder. The remaining players are the wave makers, and they should gently flap the parachute. The cat must find the mouse below the parachute, but the cat will be blindfolded, so will have to listen for clues. Give the players a time limit, such as two minutes, and see if the cat can catch the mouse.

7. Climb the mountain

Everyone should hold the parachute at about waist height, then lift it high in the air. Everyone needs to quickly bring the parachute to the floor and hold it down against the floor to quickly keep the air inside. It should look like a mountain. The person leading the activity should call out someone's name. This person will be the explorer and needs to 'climb' the mountain. They should start crawling across the parachute before it deflates. Can they make it to the middle?



Chocolate bark recipe

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/sweet-shop-bark>



Ingredients and equipment **(serves 10):**

- 400g dark or milk chocolate.
- 100g white chocolate.
- Assortment of toppings.
- A4 sized baking sheet.
- Baking paper.
- Saucepan.
- Large glass bowl.
- Palette knife and skewer.

Method:

1. Line an A4 baking sheet with baking paper.
2. Break the dark or milk chocolate into a large bowl.
3. Bring a small saucepan of water to a slow simmer, then sit the bowl on top, making sure it doesn't touch the water.
4. Over a low heat, slowly melt the chocolate, stirring once it begins to melt. You can also melt this in short bursts in the microwave.
5. Pour the chocolate onto the baking paper and spread out evenly using a knife.
6. Melt the white chocolate using the same method and dot blobs of white chocolate on top of the dark chocolate. Swirl it through using a skewer.
7. Top the bark with any assortment of treats or dried fruit that you wish.
8. Leave to set at room temperature and then break into shards to serve.
9. This will keep for 2 weeks in an airtight container.



Apple and blackberry jam

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/apple-blackberry-jam>



Ingredients (makes 1.75kg):

- 500g bramley apples.
- 1 lemon.
- 500g blackberries.
- 1kg granulated sugar.

Method:

1. Put 2 small plates in the freezer ready to test the set of the jam.
2. Put the apples in a heavy pan or preserving pan with the lemon juice and 250ml of water.
3. Bring to the boil and then simmer for 5–8 mins until soft.
4. Add the blackberries and sugar and stir to combine.
5. Stir over a low heat until the sugar has dissolved. Then turn up to medium and simmer for 30–35 mins until the jam is at setting stage.
6. To test the jam, take 1 of the plates out of the freezer and place a little bit of jam on it. If it sets and wrinkles when you run your finger over it, it is ready.
7. Using a funnel, transfer the jam into a sterilised jar. Make sure you seal the lids once it's cold.
8. It will keep in the fridge for 6 months in a sealed, sterilised jar.



Firework salt painting

<https://crafting-news.com/firework-salt-painting/>



What you will need:

- Card.
- Pencil (if drawing).
- Printer (if using a template).
- PVA glue.
- Salt.
- Paintbrush.
- Liquid watercolours.



You will want to use heavy card. The colour is very dependent on the design.

Be creative with the design: this could be fireworks, snowflakes or other shapes that match your celebration. Lines need to be thin and spaced fairly far apart unless you are filling a large area. The salt will clump. PVA glue with a small nozzle tip works best.

Method:

1. Sketch the pattern or print off a template onto card.
2. Trace your pattern or shape with glue – you will want a nice thin line.
3. Once the pattern is traced, cover the glue with salt. Use a lot of salt to ensure all of the glue is covered.
4. Gently tap your project to remove the excess salt.
5. Take a paintbrush and dip it into watercolour paint. Lightly touch the bristles against the salt covered glue. The paint will absorb into the salt. The colours will mix creating a watercolour effect.
6. Let it dry flat for 1-2 days. It is important that the glue is completely dry. Once the glue is dry, you can display your artwork.

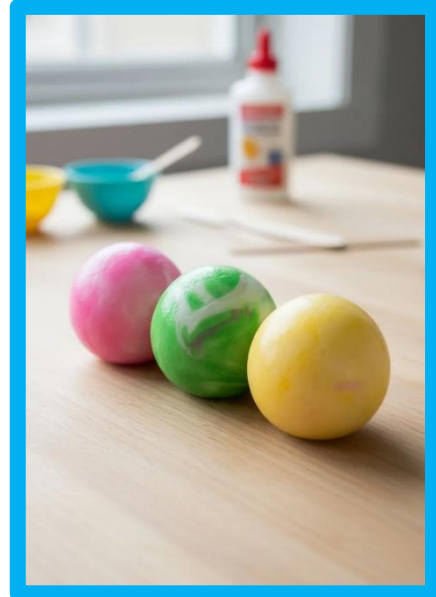


Homemade bouncy balls

<https://playpartygame.com/kids-party-ideas/how-to-make-bouncy-balls-diy-5-minute-kids-craft/>

What you will need:

- 1 tbsp of borax.
- ½ cup warm water.
- 2 tbsp of PVA glue.
- 1 tbsp of cornstarch.
- Food colouring.
- Measuring cups and spoons.
- 2 small bowls or cups.
- A fork or butter knife for stirring.
- An airtight container for storage.



Method:

1. In your first bowl, combine ½ cup of warm water and 1 tbsp of borax. Let the girls stir it until the borax dissolves completely. This is your secret ingredient that's going to transform liquid glue into a bouncy wonder.
2. In your second bowl, measure out 2 tbsps of PVA glue and 1 tbsp of cornstarch. Stir the glue and cornstarch together until fully combined.
3. Add a few drops of food colouring to your mixture and give it a stir.
4. Pour your coloured glue mixture into the bowl with the borax water and just let it sit for 10-15 seconds. Watch as the mixture starts to harden and transform!
5. Use a fork to lift out the gooey blob.
6. Squish, squeeze and roll the ball in your hands. It will feel sticky at first but keep rolling and it will smooth into a perfect bouncy ball.
7. Your homemade ball is ready for action. It won't bounce as high as a shop-bought ball, but it will be surprisingly springy!



Pressed flower lanterns

https://onelittleproject.com/pressed-flower-lanterns/?crafts-ideas-for-adults=&utm_source=Pinterest&utm_medium=organic

What you will need:

- Modge Podge adhesive.
- Pressed flowers.
- Glass jar.
- Paintbrush.
- Twine.
- Tealight or battery powered candle.



Method:

1. Paint a small area of the outside of the jar with a thin layer of Modge Podge. It is best to work in small areas as the Modge Podge starts to dry very quickly.
2. Press a dried flower onto the Modge Podge and cover it with another layer.
3. If the flower has layered petals, you may need to glue the top petal to the one beneath it.
4. Repeat the steps, covering as much of the jar as you would like with pressed flowers.
5. Once all of the flowers have been placed on the jar, let the Modge Podge dry for 5 mins.
6. Cover the entire jar with a thin layer of Modge Podge to ensure all the flowers stick. This creates an even texture for any glass that's showing on the lantern.
7. Loop the twine around the mouth of the jar several times. Make a knot and tie a bow out of the remaining twine.
8. Add a candle or battery-operated tea light.



Dream catchers

<https://www.muminthemadhouse.com/diy-dreamcatcher-tutorial/>

This website contains links to purchase all that you need to make these specific dream catchers.

What you will need:

- Hoop – plastic embroidery hoop approximately 7inches.
- Yarn/wool.
- Beads.
- Feathers.
- Scissors.
- Large eye needles.

Method:

1. Wrap wool around the hoop until it is completely covered. You could tape the beginning of the yarn to the hoop or tie a knot around it.
2. Then start to lace the web of the dream catcher. Instructions are on the next page. The trick is to keep the gap between each of the web joins on the first round approximately the same distance apart.
3. Once the first round of the web is done, start again but lace around the centre point of the web loop you made initially.
4. Keep going until you get to the centre.
5. When you get to the centre, you can tie it in a knot or add a bead.



6. Next, add a couple of feathers or pom poms to dangle below. Tie the yarn around the feather and add a bead to hide the join.
7. Add another feather, or more beads as you wish.



Figure 1



Figure 2

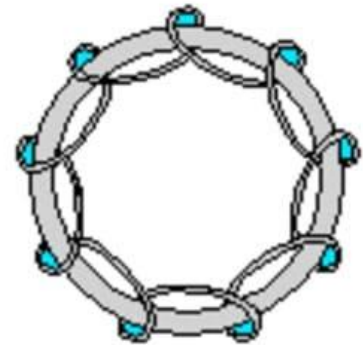


Figure 3

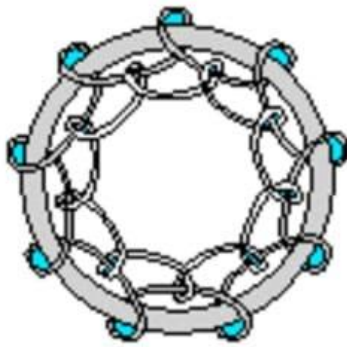


Figure 4

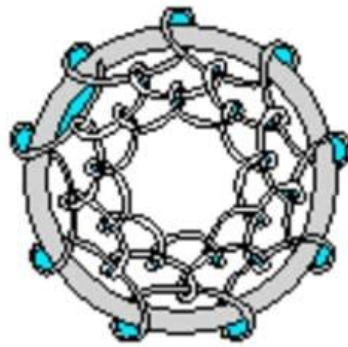


Figure 5



Figure 6

<http://weheartit.com/entry/56969733>



Dream jars

https://www.whimsicalmumblings.co.uk/2019/09/bfg-dream-jars-matilda-bookmark-crafts.html?m=1&utm_source=Pinterest&utm_medium=organic



What you will need:

- Clean jar with a lid
- Ready mixed children's paint.
- Glitter glue/glitter/sequins or stars
- Cotton wool or polyester toy stuffing.

Method:

1. Fill the jar to 1/3 full of water.
2. Add a squirt or two of paint in a dark colour – silver, dark blue or purple work well.
3. Add a small amount of cotton wool or toy filling to represent the clouds.
4. Add a few sparkly bits to the jar. Try to add them to the inner edges of the jars for full effect.
5. Add another colour to the jar so it is now 2/3 full.
6. Lastly, add a dash of water to the top and add the final colour of paint.
7. Once happy with the way the jars look, glue the lids on tight.
8. Add a label to the jar as a finishing touch.

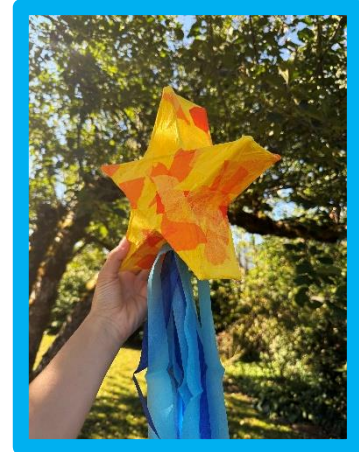


Night sky lantern craft

https://www.oliviasua.com/blog/star-lantern-craft-for-kids?utm_source=Pinterest&utm_medium=organic

What you will need:

- Tissue paper.
- Wooden skewers.
- Scissors.
- Hot glue gun + glue.
- PVA glue and water.
- A cup and paintbrush.



Method to create a star:

1. Gather 12 wooden skewers and carefully cut off the sharp ends.
2. Take 2 skewers and cut them in half and then cut those in half again to give 8 short skewers.
3. Hot glue 2 full length skewers together in a V shape.
4. Add 2 more skewers to the bottom of the V to start forming a star.
5. Glue a 5th skewer in place to complete a 5-point star.
6. Glue 5 of the short skewers upright to the tips of the star point.
7. With the 3 remaining short skewers, glue them across the centre intersections for extra stability.
8. Repeat steps 3-5 to make another 5-point star. Place this on top of the first star, lining up the points and glue the skewers together where they overlap. This will give you a 3D star frame.
9. Cut tissue paper into manageable strips and pieces.
10. Glue the first layer of tissue paper onto the frame, covering each side of the star.
11. Once dry, add a second layer using watered-down glue and a paintbrush.
12. When you're happy with the look add a final coat of watered-down glue over the whole star and let it dry.
13. Add strips of paper as a tassel and a stick and your lantern is ready.





Order form

The land at the top challenge

Contact name	
Unit	
Telephone number	
E-mail address	
Postal address	
Postcode	

Number of badges	
@ £1.50 each	
P&P 1-12 - £1.00 13-30 - £1.70 31+ - £2.50	
Total	

Payments can be made by bank transfer to:

Girlguiding Hertfordshire

Account number: 00013524

Sort code: 40 52 40

If paying by bank transfer, please add your unit name/land as the reference.

If you wish to pay by cheque, please contact
lizacc@girlguidinghertfordshire.org.uk for further details.



Branding approval



Branding Matters <BrandingMatters@girlguiding.org.uk>

To:



Wed 25/03/2026 13:19

Hello Liz,

Thanks for adjusting the badge design for 'The lands at the top', Girlguiding Hertfordshire badge.

I can confirm the updated design meets our refreshed branding requirements. It is OK to produce in Masterbrand (White Trefoil on Girlguiding dark blue Pantone® 2766 C background).

Good luck with the new challenge badge. It's a lovely design.

Kind Regards
Branding Matters team

