

# Century time travel



**Guiding** traditions



45 mins





# Aim of activity

Take a trip back over a century and step into the shoes of an early Brownie - have a go at the activities Brownies did with their units in this time travelling activity.

## What you'll get out of it

- Find out about traditional Brownie activities
- Understand what early Brownie meetings were like
- Communicate with others

## What you'll need

- Activity cards with instructions on them (see 'What to do' overleaf)
- Picture of the Union Flag, cut into six puzzle pieces
- 2 chairs
- 2p pieces, 1 per Brownie
- Metal cleaner you could also use vinegar or lemon juice, 2 or 3 bottles
- Cloths, 5 or 6

## Before you start

Set up the four activity areas around your meeting space. If you have more than four Sixes make sure the activity stations have enough resources for two groups at a time. Alternatively, you can do each activity all together, as a unit.









## What to do

- Get into your Sixes, and go to an activity station.
- You have ten minutes to do both activities at each station with your Six.
- After you've finished, find another Six at another station, teach each other your activity and swap over. Keep going until everyone's tried all the activities.

#### **Activity stations**

- 1. Brownies were expected to know about the world around them.
- Put the Union Flag together and identify which parts of the flag belong to the different countries in the UK: England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Wales wasn't incorporated into the Union Flag because Wales was united to England when the first version of the Union Flag was designed in 1606. Your Leader will come over to check you have matched it correctly.
- Name five types of flower, tree, bird (or your choice). Can you name more?

### 2. Brownies were tested on their fitness.

- Try this stretch: Stand or sit and breathe in. Put the backs of your hands together in front of you and bend forwards as you breathe out. Take a big breath in through your nose as you gradually raise your arms and hands to the sky. Lower your arms slowly to the sides, breathing out (Brownies breathed out the word 'thanks' when they did this). Do this 12 times!
- Make a figure-of-eight course with chairs and hop round it, or come up with a new movement and try that!

### 3. Brownies played games and had fun.

- Play The Brownies' Smiling Game. Sit in a circle. One Brownie starts by smiling, then 'wipes' the smile off her face and throws it to someone else. She smiles and also wipes the smile off and throws it to someone else. No Brownie may smile until she is thrown the smile (even if others are trying to make her!)
- Play Brownies and Broomsticks. Form two lines – one line are Brownies and the other Broomsticks. One Brownie calls 'Br....ownies' and the Brownies move quickly away chased by the Broomsticks. When she calls 'Br....oomsticks' the Brownies chase the Broomsticks. This was an Army game and thought to be good training in alertness.
- 4. Brownies held ceremonies and celebrated special events.
- Brownies did 'Grand Howls' to welcome visitors. Form a circle around the 'Visitor' and squat down, touching the floor between your feet with your hands in a Brownie Salute. Everyone rises up halfway together then crouches back down, calling out softly 'twittoo, toowoo'.
  Repeat, a bit louder and rising up further. On the third time, jump in the air, clapping your hands over your heads, and calling out loudly.
- Shine coins to be 'Brownie Gold' using a cloth and metal cleaner (or suitable alternative) some packs did this to the money Brownies brought in each week.
- Come together as a group. What do you think of the activities Brownies used to do? Do you think you'd have liked going to Brownies back then?