**Field trips**

* Fire Station
* Dunkin Donuts
* Bakeries-possibly Publix
* Pet Store
* 911 center
* Police Station- possibly can find a female detective. The one we went to fingerprinted the girls and let them keep the sheets.
* Animal Shelter-volunteer to clean cages or walk the dogs
* Hobby Lobby- turn them loose and let them find fun things they want to do in the meetings
* Dollar Tree- I gave the girls a budget and they picked out items for the residents of the nursing home. We made gift bags with the items for Christmas and for Valentine’s.

**Guest Speakers**

* Dance teacher
* Self defense instructor
* Coin Collecting/Finance- contact a coin club. One is [www.middlegeorgiacoinclub.com](http://www.middlegeorgiacoinclub.com)
* Paramedics/EMS- bring an ambulance
* Police- bring a K9 dog
* Sign Language Instructor- can teach the girls some basic signs and talk about what it’s like to be in the deaf community.
* Macon Rescue Mission, Methodist Children’s Home or similar organization-collect donations and they will come talk to the girls about their organization and pick up the donations
* Sewing instructor-make pillows or something small. We made joey pouches for the animals in the Australia wildfires. You could make blankets or toys for the animal shelter
* Project Linus-make blankets for an organization that gives them to kids in the hospital. Check with them first to see what is accepted. They do have some restrictions such as no knots because those are hard to lay on. [www.projectlinus.org](http://www.projectlinus.org)
* Check Hobby Lobby’s board at the front of the store for classes. The instructors will usually come to a meeting. We had a lady come teach the girls how to make journals and shaving cream bookmarks. Another time we had a lady bring scrapbooking supplies.

**Holiday Parties**

* Easter- we have done Easter egg hunts at the park. We always do it after the holiday so I can get plastic eggs and candy half off.
* Juliette Gordon Low Birthday/Halloween Party

Since JGL was born on Halloween we do a combination birthday and Halloween party

* Christmas Party- When the girls were younger they would always bring an inexpensive ornament and do an ornament exchange. Now they are older they want actual gifts so we set a $5-10 limit.

Saran Wrap ball was a big hit one year. We had a lot of girls so I made two and split them into two groups.

* Earth Day- clean up a park, plant a tree, make seed bombs- These are just a few ideas!

**Meeting Ideas**

Soap Carving-use plastic knives and popsicle sticks. As they get older transition to knives and teach knife safety. There are lots of videos online.

Whittling with wood. You can buy wood blocks online or get sticks at a campout. Again, incorporate knife safety.

Minute to Win it games or Board games- these are some of my girls’ favorite meetings.

Kindness Rocks- paint rocks with sayings and leave them around town or the park. Tag them #middlegarocks and you can join the FB group and watch to see if anyone finds and posts them. Put your troop number on them to promote GS!

Make slime! This will be oh so messy but the girls will LOVE it! We like to meet at the local park for really messy projects.

Cooking- if your meeting place doesn’t have an oven bring a couple toaster ovens and let the girls cook something simple! Follow your own recipe or look for online videos or classes they can follow. Also check out no bake recipes.

Cookie or Cupcake Wars- bring pre baked cupcakes or cookies and decorations and let them get creative! Take pictures and post them on your fb or in a GS leader group on fb for votes if you want it to be a competition.

Spa Day- paint nails, do face masks, make some bubble bath or bath bombs, or possibly learn to apply makeup depending on the age.

Talent Show- let all the girls show off what they do best! We’ve had girls sing, play guitar, violin, put on skits, and more! We don’t do prizes; we just make it fun and everyone gets cheered on and supported.

Tie Dye shirts- bonus to this is you can make them troop shirts! Or do a paint war to make shirts. Fill water balloons with tie dye and let them have fun! Each shirt will be unique and different. Make sure you don’t use washable paint or the paint will wash out. Be aware their skin will be dyed the color of the paint and takes a few days to wash off! Also make sure to practice Leave No Trace and clean up your balloon trash!

Water Day- water balloons, water guns, super soakers, slip n slides-they will love anything that gets them wet!

Field Day- play field day type games. You can tie this into the Cadette Field Day badge, and it can be a fun patch for younger girls. When our oldest girls bridged to Cadettes we had them plan an Olympic campout. They each picked girls for their teams and we had games complete with medals for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in each game.

Canvas painting- this website is full of video tutorials for paintings. Most of them will take two meetings. [www.stepbysteppainting.net](http://www.stepbysteppainting.net)

Movie night- show a movie and have popcorn and snacks. We had a movie night sleepover and made the girls movie theater admission tickets, and had a candy buffet they could choose from.

Face painting- you can buy face painting kits or just use acrylic paint. Let the girls do their own thing and also look for video tutorials online. My girls have done face painting as a fundraiser at festivals after practicing at meetings.

Online escape rooms- there are a lot online that you can choose from.

Escape room in a box- we bought some at Walmart and they were really fun! Check the age levels to make sure they will be fun for your girls. You want challenging but not so hard that they will be frustrated.

Free day- my girls love to just have a time to hang out and talk. Nothing planned, they can hang out and talk with each other, come up with their own games, or we play games they have learned at camp or school. Or we all sit around in a group and talk about anything. Make sure they aren’t forming cliques and that girls aren’t left out if you do this.

**Fun Patch Websites**

Snappy Logos [www.snappylogos.com](http://www.snappylogos.com) Sign up and they will send you a catalog. Give it to the girls and let them pick activities.

Mad About Fun Patches [www.madaboutfunpatches.com](http://www.madaboutfunpatches.com)

Making Friends [www.makingfriends.com](http://www.makingfriends.com) They have patch programs and also badge in a bag kits you can purchase.

Advantage Emblem [www.advantageemblem.com](http://www.advantageemblem.com)