BROWNIE LETTERBOXER BADGE – MEETING 1

**Badge Purpose:** When the girls have earned this badge, they will know how to have fun adventures by finding and hiding letterboxes.

**Activity Plan Length:** 1.5 hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Materials Needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>Getting Started</td>
<td>☐ (Optional) Girl Scout Promise and Law poster</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Girls recite the Girl Scout Promise + Law and sing the Brownie Smile song.</td>
<td>☐ (Optional) Brownie Smile song lyrics poster</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>Practice Your “Seeking” Skills</td>
<td>☐ Small objects</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Girls will use their seeking skills to find hidden objects.</td>
<td>☐ Notecards or slips of paper</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Pen</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td>Stamp it Out!</td>
<td>☐ Craft foam or pre-cut foam shapes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Girls create their own stamp to use for a future project.</td>
<td>☐ Jar lids or small piece of wood</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Glue (if foam is not self-adhesive)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Scissors</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>☐ Ink pad</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Paper</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Small notepads</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>Creative Scrambles</td>
<td>☐ Paper</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>• Girls create their own word scramble to use in writing clues.</td>
<td>☐ Writing Utensils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>Snack Chat</td>
<td>☐ Healthy Snack</td>
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<td>• Girls enjoy a healthy snack while discussing future strategies for letterboxing adventures.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 minutes</td>
<td>Wrapping Up</td>
<td>☐ (Optional) Make New Friends song lyrics poster</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Getting Started**

*Time: 15 minutes*

**Materials Needed:** (Optional) Girl Scout Promise and Law poster and (optional) Brownie Smile song lyrics poster

Welcome everyone to the meeting, recite the Girl Scout Promise and Law, and sing the Brownie Smile song.
Activity #1: Practice Your “Seeking” Skills

Time: 10 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 1 – Get started with letterboxing
Materials Needed: Small objects; notecards or slips of paper; pen
Prep Needed:
- Hide small objects (or candy) around your meeting location.
- Prepare some clues for the girls to use to find the objects (or candy).

1. Introduce letterboxing to the girls. Letterboxing is essentially a real-life hidden treasure hunt. To participate, look online for clues or set up your own letterboxes.
2. Split girls into pairs and give each pair a clue.
3. Have the girls practice their seeking skills using the clues to find the hidden objects.
4. (Optional) When girls have found one object, have them trade with another group to try and find another hidden object.

Activity #2: Stamp it Out!

Time: 20 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 2 – Find your own stamp
Materials Needed: Craft foam or pre-cut foam shapes; jar lids or small pieces of wood; glue; scissors; ink pad; paper; small notepads.

1. Explain to the girls that stamps are an important part of letterboxing and represent the person who made the letterbox. Anyone who finds your letterbox will have your stamp in their own notebook of stamps.
2. Have the girls create their own stamp by cutting a shape from craft foam, or use pre-cut shapes and let girls pick their favorite.
3. Have the girls glue the foam to a jar lid or piece of wood to make the stamp sturdy.
4. Have the girls test out their stamp by pressing it onto an inkpad and then firmly pressing it on paper.
5. Give each girl a notepad or make one by folding paper together. Girls can use these notepads to collect images from the stamps they find on their letterboxing adventures.
6. After girls have created their own stamps, have them work together to make a troop stamp that they will use in the troop’s letterbox. Save the stamp for a future meeting, where you will create your troop’s letterbox.

Activity #3: Creative Scrambles

Time: 15 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 2 – Practice solving clues
Materials Needed: Paper; writing utensils
Prep Needed:
- (Optional) Look up different types of word scramble codes or secret languages online. Check out Pinterest for some great ideas.

1. Give the girls some examples of world scrambles.
   - For example: The last letter of every word becomes the first and the first becomes the last.
   
   Kool ndue eht elds ta eht karp = Look under the slide at the park.
2. Have the girls create their own word scramble and ask others to try and solve their clue.
3. Ask the girls to brainstorm other ways to write clues.
Activity #4: Snack Chat and Friendship Pledge  

Time: 15 minutes

Badge Connection: Questions link to multiple badge steps  
Materials Needed: Healthy snack

1. While enjoying snack, here are some questions to ask the girls:
   - Where are the best places to look for a letterbox?
   - How many letter boxes do you think are out there?
   - Where would you hide a letterbox?

Wrapping Up  

Time: 15 minutes

Materials Needed: (Optional) Make New Friends song lyrics poster

Close the meeting by singing Make New Friends and doing a friendship circle.

More to Explore

- Field Trip Ideas:
  - Look on the internet for letterboxing locations near you and go on an adventure.
- Speaker Ideas:
  - Invite an older Girl Scout that has done letterboxing to talk about her experiences.