

JUNIOR: SOCIAL BUTTERFLY

Hey Girl Scout! Do you get nervous around new people? This is the badge for you. Have fun practicing the social style and good manners that will make you comfortable in any situation. When you have earned this badge, you'll know how to act at many types of events, from picnics to weddings to parties.

Step 1: Hold a conversation.

1. It is easy to have a conversation with your best friend, but what about people you don't know well? Conversation skills will help you in your job one day and make you seem more open to new friends.
2. Practice conversation starters. First, make a list of 10 great questions to start a conversation. Think about the different conversations you might have.
3. Then, role-play with your questions to practice starting and continuing a conversation.

Supplies:

1. Paper
2. Pencils

Step 2: Use table manners.

1. Manners can be important at mealtime. Practice feeling at ease at the table.
2. Set the table. Find out where silverware, glasses, napkins, and plates go. Make paper "reminder" place mats that show outlines where everything should go - one for formal dinner and one for a casual meal.
3. You might make the place mats from fabric and trace your "cheat sheet" on the back! Then, try setting the table for a week.

Supplies:

1. Fabric
2. Pens
3. Computer

Step 3: Be prepared for special occasions.

1. Special occasions all have their own rituals. When you know what they are, you know how to act. Research weddings and find the answer to the following questions.
 - Why is the ceremony important?
 - What important rituals are in the ceremony?
 - How should you dress?
 - What's one helpful skill you should know before attending?
 - Why is the occasion usually held?
 - Is there something that is especially nice to say to the host or guests of honor?

Supplies:

1. Computer
2. Pencil
3. Paper

Step 4: Say thank you.

1. When you receive a gift or are invited somewhere, it is good manners to say thank you. There are other times when thanking someone is less obvious, but just as important.
2. Handwrite a thank-you gift. Kind words written by hand show you took time to share your thanks. Handwrite three thank-you notes in the next month. Include why you are thankful.
3. If it is for a gift, tell the giver how you use it, or your favorite thing about it.

Supplies:

1. Paper
2. Pencils
3. Crayons (for card decorating)

Step 5: Practice being at ease.

1. Hold a party to practice all you have learned. Invite your family to your party so you can really practice being at ease. Make introductions, make conversation, show good table manners, and thank guests for coming.