

WORLD THINKING DAY 2026



Celebrated since 1926, World Thinking Day is a day of international friendship. It is an opportunity to celebrate the Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting Movement speak out on issues that affect young women and fundraise for 11.2 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in 153 countries.



2026 - Our Friendship

Celebrating 100 years of World Thinking Day. This day began with the birthday celebration of our founders and evolved into landmark event for our Movement. This is a chance to be **curious and creative**, to form meaningful connections with our sisters in Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting and beyond.



Friendship –

'the emotions or conduct of friends; the state of being friends.'



Thinking Day Challenge Pack

We have created this badge pack to do within your units, focusing on all things 'friendship'. We hope you have lots of fun completing this with new and old friends!

We have 3 sections;

Creating New Friendships

Celebrating Existing Friendships

Friendships within Girlguiding

We haven't put any guidelines for how many tasks you need to cover for this badge. Complete as many as you would like and celebrate friendship along the way.



A stylized illustration of a globe with pink flowers and green leaves. The globe is light blue with light green continents. It is surrounded by green leaves and pink flowers. The text "Creating New Friendships" is written in pink across the globe.

Creating New Friendships

Friendship Rocks



Method:

1. Prepare: Wash and dry smooth, relatively large stones.
2. Paint: Apply a base coat of acrylic or spray paint.
3. Decorate: Use acrylic paints, paint markers, or permanent markers to add designs and messages.
4. Seal: Once dry, seal the rocks with a clear sealant like Mod Podge or a spray to protect the paint.
5. Hide them in public places for others to find to spread joy, kindness, and positive messages throughout the community.

What you need:

- Small rocks or pebbles
- Paint (waterproof) or acrylic pens
- Modge podge or waterproof spray
- Googly eyes and other decorative items (optional)



Pen Pals



Method:

Write a letter to another unit. Here are some ideas:

1. You could ask for a list of first names from the other unit so you can write girl to girl
2. Or write as a unit - each girl do a small letter/question and make a little book.
3. Share a little bit about your life/Guiding and ask them some questions about theirs
4. You could include some photos of what you have been up to in your unit. (Check permissions)
5. Ask them what they are doing to celebrate World Thinking Day
6. Post them and wait for the response! You could continue to be Pen Pals over time.

What you need:

- Paper
- Pens
- Envelope
- Stamp

LEADERS NOTE

SOCIAL MEDIA IS A GOOD PLACE TO FIND A UNIT TO WRITE TO, THERE ARE PRIVATE GROUPS FOR EACH SECTION YOU CAN JOIN.



'My ideal friend'



Method:

Have a think about what your 'ideal friend' would be like. How would they make you feel? What would you do together? Do you have friends like this in reality?

We are going to make a puppet to represent your 'ideal friend'.

1. Design your friend. Imagine their face: decide on the shape and features you want, such as eyes, a nose, and a mouth. Plan the body; consider what they'll wear and any accessories they might have.
2. Add details and features. Some ideas are:
 - Eyes: Glue on googly eyes, buttons, or cut out fabric for eyes.
 - Hair: Attach yarn, pompoms, or felt for hair.
 - Mouth: Add a plastic spoon handle for teeth, or use felt for a more detailed mouth.
 - Clothing: Add felt pieces or fabric to give your puppet an outfit.
3. Make it talk! Place your hand inside the puppet, using your thumb to move the jaw.

What you need:

- A sock
- Scissors
- Glue (hot glue or craft glue)
- Decorating supplies: Googly eyes, buttons, felt, feathers, yarn, pompoms
- Markers or pens



'Gift Box Exchange'



Method:

You are going to decorate a box and fill it with 'things' that you think your new friends in another unit would like to know about you and your unit.

Here are some ideas that you could include in your box (feel free to get creative!):

1. Make your favourite craft with some instructions how to make it, they could have a go.
2. Include a list of your favourite games and activities that you do with your unit - could you send them some photos?
3. You could tie this in with the 'Pen Pals' activity and include some letters with some information about you and some questions you have for them.
4. Badge exchange. Have you got any spare non-programme badges you have done that you could swap with them.

What you need:

- A box (this could be one from the whole unit or one per patrol)
- Scissors
- Glue
- Decorating supplies
- Markers or pens

LEADERS NOTE

WE WOULD LOVE TO DO THIS WITHIN OUR COUNTY, PLEASE ASK THE COUNTY TEAM IF YOU NEED A UNIT TO EXCHANGE WITH!



'Bring A Friend Night'

Method:

Host a 'Bring a Friend' night at your unit.

Here are some 'getting to know you games' that you could play to make new friends are;

1. Human Bingo (see worksheet). Try and find a name for each box by asking questions.
2. Challenge the group to get into a line in order. It could be by age, height, alphabetical. Make it harder by doing it in silence!
3. Toilet Roll game. Tell each member to pull off as many toilet roll squares as they want. Don't tell them why! When everyone has got theirs, go round the circle and each person has to tell as many facts as pieces they tore off!
4. Smarties game. Give everybody 3 smarties at random. Decide on a question for each smartie. E.g. Red: how many siblings do you have? Green: Do you have any pets? etc. Go round the circle and answer the questions for the smartie you have.

What you need:

- You choose!

LEADERS NOTE

MAKE SURE THAT YOU ARE WITHIN RATIOS AND ARE COMFORTABLE WITH THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS PRESENT. YOU COULD ASK A PARENT TO STAY AND HELP OR ASK IF ANOTHER LEADER IS AVAILABLE TO HELP.





**Celebrating
Existing
Friendships**

'Friendship Awards Ceremony'



Method:

A friendship awards ceremony is a great way to recognise people for the things that they do and the way that you act.

1. Decide as a unit what category's you are awarding for and have a voting box for each one.
2. Each participant can then vote for anyone within the unit who they think deserves to win that award.
3. Once all the votes are in, leaders or young leaders fill out the certificate with the award and the winners name.

4. Hold an awards ceremony! You could decorate your unit place, set out the chairs like you're at the BAFTA's. You could announce the nominees (everyone who was voted for) and then announce the winner. Invite them up for a speech!

Award Category Ideas

- **Funny Bone:** For bringing laughter and joy to others and uplifting the spirits of everybody in your unit.
- **High-Five:** For consistently showing enthusiasm, positivity and a spirit of encouragement
- **Social Butterfly:** For consistently demonstrating friendliness, sociability, and interacting positively with peers.
- **Future Leader:** For demonstrating exceptional leadership potential by exhibiting qualities such as initiative, responsibility, effective communication and the ability to inspire and motivate others.

(there are lots of ideas online if you need inspiration!)

LEADERS NOTE

YOU COULD GET SOME SMALL TROPHIES TO AWARD ALONGSIDE THE CERTIFICATE

What you need:

- Certificates (see worksheets)
- Voting boxes
- Paper and pens



'Friendship Treats'



Method:

Friendship treats give an opportunity to talk as a group about 'what characteristics make a good friend' while making a snack they can all enjoy together afterwards.

1. Ask each member to bring a snack from the selection at the side.
2. Sit in a circle and put a large bowl in the centre.
3. Ask each girl what they think makes a good friend'. This question is open to individual interpretation.
4. Their snack is a representation of this value. Add some of it in to the bowl.
5. Once you have been round the circle, this is our 'friendship treats', made up of all the things we can be as a friend to others.
6. Mix the bowl together and split it between small bags or cups. You could eat this with your friends or take it home for later.

What you need:

- Dried fruits: raisins, yogurt covered raisins, banana chips, dried apricot bits, dried cherries
- Nuts (optional): peanuts, almonds, pecans, walnuts etc. (check for nuts allergies)
- Sweets: M & Ms, gummy bears, chocolate chips, peanut butter chips etc.
- Crackers and cereals: pretzels, Cheerios, Rice Crispies etc.
- A large bowl
- A wooden spoon
- Small bags or paper cups



LEADERS NOTE
CHECK ALLERGIES



'Friendship Bracelets'

Method:

Friendship bracelets

1. Measuring & Cutting. You need 6 strands to make your bracelet. Cut pieces of string to the same length as between your fingertips and shoulder. They could be different colours or the same.

(different colours may be easier to know which is which)

2. Starting your bracelet. Begin the bracelet by taking your cut strands of embroidery floss and tying an knot in one end.

Please see diagram worksheet below for the next steps.

3. You need to decide what order you want your strands to be in. This will determine the order of the colour of your rows.

4. Grab the first two strands. The strand farthest to the left is going to create your first row. You'll be knotting it around the other strands of floss/yarn to achieve this.

5. Take the first strand, and pass it over the second strand, and then behind as shown in the photo. It is important you knot OVER the second strand, it'll give it the right look.

6. Now hold the second strand taut, and pull the first strand up and towards the large knot. Pull until you meet resistance, but not any harder! This will create a small knot on on the second strand.

7. Make another knot by tying the first strand around the second strand again - just repeat what you did before!

8. Continue moving across to the right, using the first strand to create two knots on each strand of floss/yarn in the bracelet.

9. Once you've knotted all the way across to the right and reached the last strand of floss/yarn, begin again using the first strand on the left. Make sure you're making TWO knots on each strand.

10. When you have finished, knot the end.

What you need:

- embroidery string/thin yarn
- scissors
- tape or pins/safety pins



LEADERS NOTE

FOR YOUNGER GIRLS, YOU COULD DO A SIMPLE BEADED BRACELET

'Happy memories'

Method:

Make a short dance, video, performance or even Tik Tok with your unit friends about some of your favourite memories your friends within Guiding. You could do this as a unit or in smaller groups.

Show what you have done to the rest of the group.

If you are happy to share what you have made with us at county, we would love to see it!

Send to: pr@girlguidinglancsnorthwest.org.uk

What you need:

- Phone to video (optional)



'Friendship Flowers'



Method:

Friendship flowers are a fun craft that get us thinking about how we can be a good friend to others.

- 1. Cut the parts.** Cut out a circle for the flower's centre and several petal shapes from coloured paper. You'll also need a green strip for the stem and an optional green leaf.
- 2. Assemble the flower.** Glue or tape the petals around the centre circle to form the flower.
- 3. Add the stem.** Attach the green stem to the bottom of the flower.
- 4. Add the message.** Write your name in the middle. Then, on each petal, write a quality that makes a good friend, such as "kind," "funny," "sharing," or "loyal". You can also write compliments for a specific friend.

What you need:

- Construction paper or card in various colour
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Pen or marker.

LEADERS NOTE

You could do a giant unit flower where each member makes a petal.



A stylized heart-shaped globe with pink flowers and green leaves. The globe is light blue with light green continents. The text "Our Girlguiding Friendships" is written in pink across the center of the globe. The globe is surrounded by green leaves and pink flowers.

Our Girlguiding Friendships

'Crown of friends'



Method:

Make a crown of you and all your friends!

1. **Print out the template.** Then cut it out.
2. **Use the template to draw a crown.**
3. **Place the template on a sheet of construction paper.** Trace around the outline of the template 2½ times to create a chain of 5 people holding hands on the construction paper.
4. **Cut out the crown.** Cut out the small triangles as well.
5. **Create hair.** Draw and cut hair from construction paper. Glue the hair onto each person on the crown. You can also cut wool or strips of crepe paper and glue them on as hair.
6. **Draw details.** Use coloured markers or crayons to draw a face and clothes on each person.
7. **Add gems.** A crown is not complete without some bling. Create gems using glitter glue. You can also glue paper cut-outs or plastic gems, put gem-style stickers, or draw gems using coloured markers or crayons.
8. **Glue the ends together.** Once the glue dries, glue or tape the ends of the crown together so that the crown fits snugly around your head.

Have fun wearing your crown!



What you need:

- A4 or Letter size paper
- Construction paper (24" x 36")
- Crayons or colored markers
- Scissors
- Glue
- Glitter glue, stickers, plastic gems (optional)

'All my Friends'



Method:

Learn this traditional Guiding song and practice it with your unit friends.

The lyrics:

*Make new friends,
but keep the old.
One is silver,
the other is gold.
A circle is round,
it has no end,
That's how long.
I want to be your friend.*

What you need:

- Nothing!

Once you have mastered the lyrics, add actions!

1. Stand in a circle.
2. Everybody cross your right hand over your left and hold onto your neighbours hands.
3. As you sing, go round the circle un-twisting your arms one at a time. Don't let go of your partners hands.
4. You should end up in a circle holding your friends hands, facing outwards.
5. Sing the song again and twist back inwards.



'Friendship Time Capsule'

Method:

A friendship time capsule is a collection of items that friends create to remember their current relationship and experiences, sealed to be opened at a future date.

1. **Choose a container:** Find a sturdy box, jar, or other container to hold your items.

2. **Gather items:**

- Photos: Pictures of yourselves, significant places you've visited, or events you attended.
- Letters: Write a letter to your future selves or your friends about your hopes, dreams, and current feelings.
- Current trends: Include a newspaper published on the day you create the capsule to show future you what was happening in the world.
- Music: Create a playlist of songs that are meaningful to your friendship.
- Personal Items: Add a favourite item of clothing or a small piece of artwork.
- Badges:

3. **Write instructions.** Clearly label the container with the date it should be opened, future Thinking Days would be ideal!

4. **Seal and store it.** Place all the items inside the container, seal it securely, and store it somewhere safe.

What you need:

- A container: box, jar or another container to hold your items
- Photos
- Newspaper
- Artwork
- Personal Items
- Paper
- Pens



'Gratitude Exchange'



Method:

Spreading kindness, one note at a time!

1. Draw a heart on a piece of paper and cut it out. You can do more than one each if you would like! (for younger members you may want to pre-cut some hearts out.)
2. Ask all members to write a note of gratitude or positive words of inspiration on their heart.
3. If you have a display board, you could stick them all together to make a collage.

What you need:

- Coloured paper
- Pens

LEADERS NOTE

If you meet in the same place as other units, you could collate all units hearts to make a huge collage!



'Friendship within our promise'



Method:

Have a look at our promise.

Discuss what it means to us and where friendship fits into it.

Have a go at our promise colouring sheets,

Renew your promise as a unit.

What you need:

- Colouring pens or pencils
- Colouring sheets



Human Bingo

Has brown eyes.	Has a dog.	Wears glasses.	Is left handed.	Likes to read.
Likes pineapple on pizza.	Was born in January.	Can count to 10 in French.	Has been on a aeroplane before.	Has a younger sister.
Has more than 2 pets.	Who can whistle.	Who's name starts with the same letter as yours.	Who can play a musical instrument.	Is wearing green.
Has been camping.	Doesn't like pizza.	.Has an older brother.	Goes to your school.	Likes football.



CERTIFICATE OF FRIENDSHIP

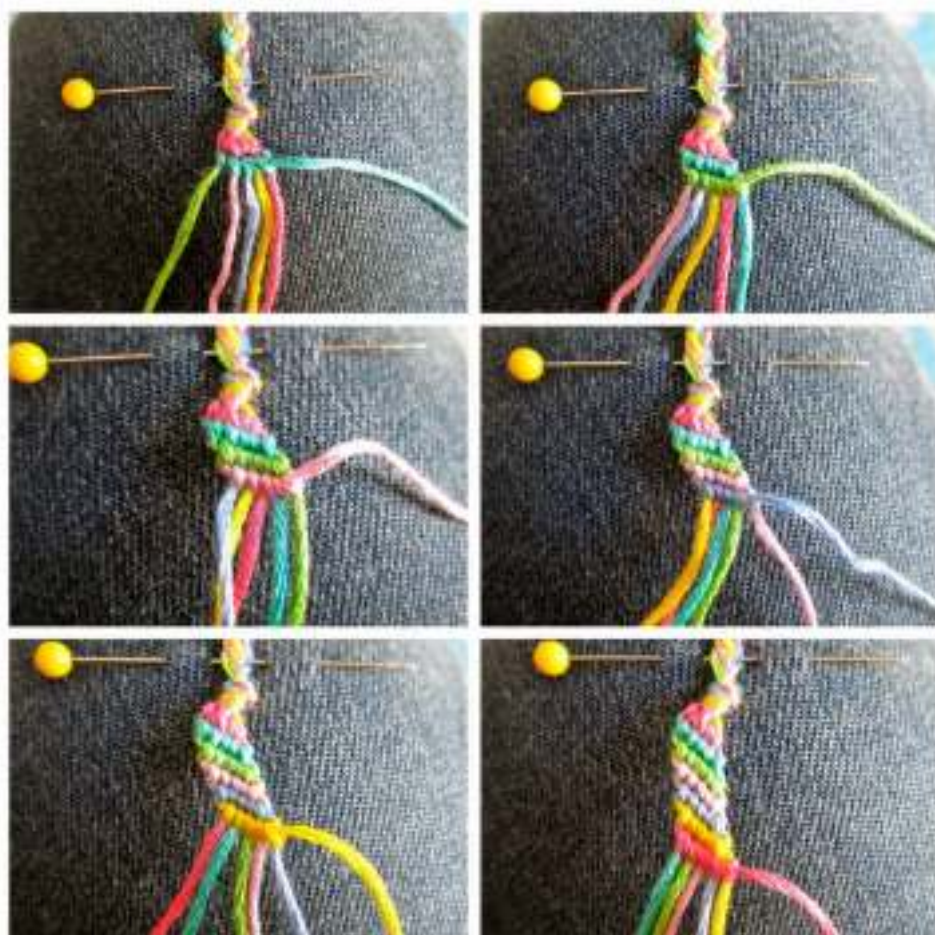
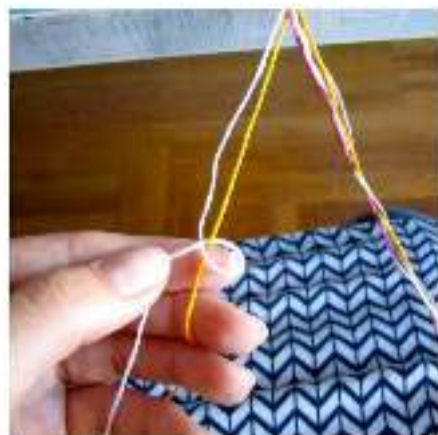
PROUDLY PRESENTED TO



FOR

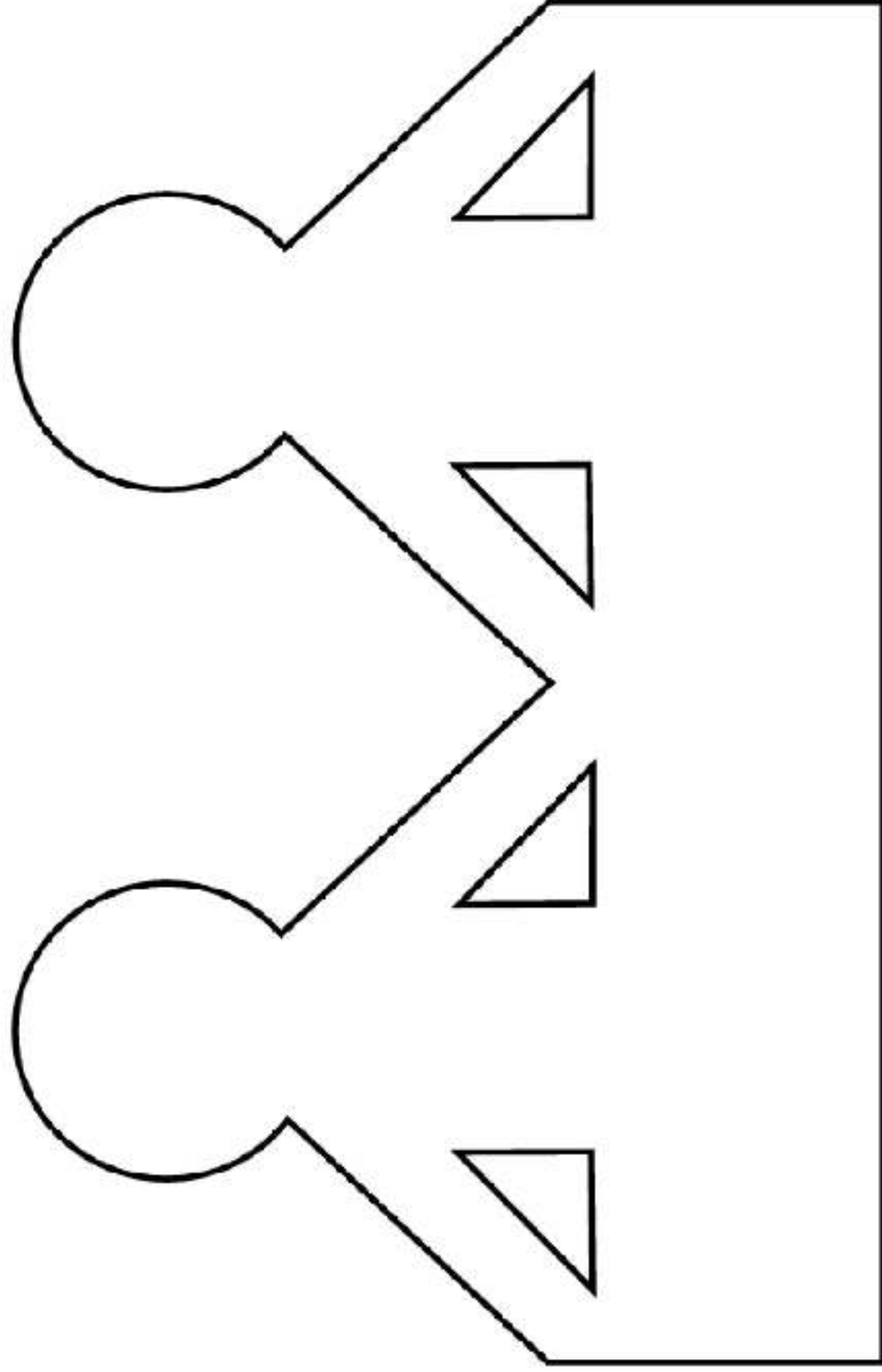
UNIT LEADERS

Friendship Bracelets



CROWN OF FRIENDS TEMPLATE

Print and cut out the template. Make a crown by following the directions in our Crown of Friends craft.





I

promise

that

I will do my best

to be true to myself

&

develop my beliefs

to serve the King & my community

to help other people

and to keep the Guide law

I promise that

I will do my best to

be
TRUE
to
MYSELF
and

DEVELOP
my
BELIEFS

to serve
the King
& my
community



to help
other
people

AND TO KEEP THE BROWNIE GUIDE LAW





I
promise
that

I will do my best to

THINK
about my
BELIEFS

and to be
KIND
and
HELPFUL

GT