



May 2020 – Troop 7687: Virtual Fun & Fundamentals!

Like many Girl Scouts, the girls in Lisa LeBlanc-Kobus & Beth Crider's 1st grade Daisy troop were apprehensive when they heard that they were no longer allowed to meet at the familiar neighborhood Clubhouse for their regular meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Lisa shared, "When we were not able to continue to meet in person, many of the girls said they felt nervous and sad, and a couple even said they were mad about the change in routine."

The troop parents were feeling the loss as well. Through a group text conversation, the families shared how much they and their daughters missed their Troop 7687 friends. Determined to retain the troop bond, Lisa faced the challenge head on. She says, "I am not a techie but I loved the idea of us trying this and resuming our meet- ups. I didn't want my fear to hold the girls back and figured we had nothing to lose!"



With troop co-leader, Beth Crider setting up [ZOOM](#) as their virtual meeting place, Lisa quickly got to work planning an engaging series of [virtual meetings for Daises](#) to continue earning their petals. Beth then planned progress towards their Journey work so the second year Daises could complete it on time.

Using her resources wisely, Lisa kept the virtual program aligned with the 10 lines of the Girl Scout Law. There are great online meeting resources to help you do this available for all Girl Scout levels on the Volunteer Toolkit. Lisa also joined a Facebook group "Troop in the Loop - Virtual GS Troop Meetings" to get ideas on what works and how to keep it fun.



Troop 7687 learned that keeping meetings both fun and fundamental was the key! The girls described feeling happy, saying that they were “excited for their Friday meetings” again.

Even if completing a badge seems like too daunting a task in the virtual environment, the troop still benefits from a simple connection, a hangout or a dance or song party! Lisa suggests, “Keep the meetings short, fun and try to incorporate some of the routines that you would do if you met in person. We start with snack and chat and we end with songs like we do at meetings and always have a girl lead us in Promise and Law.”

What is next in Lisa’s Girl Scout world? Lisa says, “I am currently putting together an Animal Habitats virtual meeting for my older daughter’s Junior troop. We were supposed to do a field trip in June, but just in case we are starting to plan now!”

Girl Scouts of Orange County would like to extend a HUGE THANK YOU to Lisa, Beth and all the other Girl Scout adults for their commitment to continue the Girl Scout leadership opportunities, friendship and life skills for our girls during this unusual time. Thank you for showing what it means to be GIRL SCOUT STRONG!

There are many opportunities to engage with your Girl Scouts online.

Check out:

Virtual Troop Meeting Guidance

Holding virtual troop meetings creates an array of new challenges and exciting opportunities to deliver a powerful Girl Scout experience into the lives of girls. As with all the special experiences that Girl Scouts offers, meeting virtually creates not only the ability for girls to get comfortable and tech savvy, but to gain character, confidence and courage by expressing themselves and learning leaderships skills to take them into the virtual world. Read [guidance from GSUSA](#) to help you make the most of your virtual troop meetings.

Girl Scouts at Home

K-12 Activities and Experiences to Keep Her Inspired and Engaged

Bring the exploration, fun and learning of Girl Scouts to your family even when circumstances are keeping Girl Scouts from meeting up in person. After all, Girl Scouts isn't somewhere girls go or something they do—it's who they are day in, day out. Use these self-guided, free activities to keep your girl, your troop, and your community connected.

[Learn More](#)

Use the online Award and Badge Explorer tool to find out about every award, badge, and pin your girl can earn as she explores her interests and learns new skills as a Girl Scout! Get all the latest details and shop links for every topic and grade level in the [Award and Badge Explorer](#).

We're looking forward to sharing stories of local Girl Scouts and volunteers in our Program in Action Section. Tell us what you're up to and you might be featured! [Submit your story](#) today!