

Short & Snappy



What You'll Need

Leaders and Advisors

SWAPS brochure
Sample SWAPS
Supplies for participants to make a simple SWAP

20-30 minutes

What is a Short and Snappy?

- Short training/information segments provided at a Service Unit meeting
- Any interested volunteer may lead a Short and Snappy.
- Short and Snappy are 15-45 minutes in length.

A few ideas:

Felt trefoils with troop number written in fabric paint.

Pom-pom critters. Add eyes, feet and antenna if desired. Add beak and feathers for a bird, flippers for a seal, a trunk for an elephant, etc.

Use netting and yarn to make a mini dunk bag. Cut the netting in circles and have girls thread yarn through the top to make a drawstring. Maybe you can create mini dishes to put inside.

Make friendship pins with beads on a safety pin.

Mini sit-upons made from vinyl with plastic lacing.

Fuzzy dice made from soft foam cubes with marker dots hung from a pin.

SWAPS

Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere

SWAPS, the tradition of Girl Scouts exchanging keepsakes, started long ago when Girl Scouts and Girl Guides first gathered for fun, songs, and making new friends. SWAPS are a perfect way for Girl Scouts to meet each other and promote friendship. Each one is a memory of a special event. Girls Go Global will have a SWAP booth this year. There will be a SWAP area for girls/troops to share SWAPS they have brought, there will be a display board of SWAPS that troops have made, and will have a "Make and Take" table for those wanting a SWAP for participating at this event. Here is some general information on SWAPS and a brochure with ideas. Have fun!!!



What is a SWAP

Ask the participants: *Have you ever heard of SWAPS? Can anyone name what S.W.A.P. S. stands for?*

- Origin is from the Native American "Potlatch" which is a ceremonial exchange of gifts
- SWAPS stands for "Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere" or "Share With a Pal"
- Lord Baden-Powell started the idea of Scout SWAPS
- SWAPS are handmade, thus the girl is giving a part of herself to show friendship
- SWAPS are exchanged anywhere scouts get together: day camp, resident camp, special council events

Why We SWAP

Ask participants: *"Why SWAP?"*

- To promote friendship
- Learn to talk to other people
- To give and receive mementos of a good time
- To share something about where we live and what we do.

Swapping Etiquette

Ask participants: *Why do you think SWAP etiquette is important and what needs to be considered?*

- It is considered rude to refuse to swap with someone who asks.
- Always say thank you.
- SWAPS for trade are carried separately from ones you want to keep
 - One bag for Keepers
 - One bag, shoe box, ribbon for trade
- Most SWAPS are 1"-2" in size
- Make a few extras for those people who don't have any to give.
- SWAPS can be bracelets, necklaces, council patches, event patches, or other small items
- SWAPS should NOT contain edible food.
- Tags can be attached with the event name and date, with a troop number or council name, but not with the girls last name or personal information

Where SWAPS are worn

- Pinned on hats, bandannas, or a similar holder. There are examples of other types of SWAPS holder on the internet (necklaces, ribbons, etc.)

SWAPS

Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere

Short & Snappy continued

A few Ideas:

Wooden clothespins painted and made to look like different animals or people. A pin is glued to the back.

Shells—glue eyes on to make shell critters.

Nut shells are great for animals, baskets and many other things.

S'mores can be made from felt using 2 squares of tan, with white square and dark brown square in between.

Pizza made of tan felt with red, yellow and green felt craps glued on.

Campfire made from cinnamon sticks and red, orange, and yellow felt. Small rolled logs can also be made from brown grocery bags.

Mini potpourri using lace, ribbon and potpourri.

How SWAPS are made

Review some samples of SWAPS that you have brought

Ask participants: *Do some look harder than others? What needs to be considered when making SWAPS?*

- Make sure that the SWAP that is chosen is age appropriate.
- Try one yourself first to see how difficult.
- Consider what tools you will need to complete (glue gun, sharp tools, drills) and make sure you have enough help so everyone is supervised.
- Pre-cut some parts for younger girls or to save time.
- Do what is needed to SWAP and a few more for those that don't have any. Don't make so many that the girls get bored!
- Be accepting of what your girls do. Allow them room for creativity.
- Make SWAPS sturdy enough to be around awhile.

Supplies You may Need

- Basic crafting supplies: scissors, craft glue, low temp. glue gun, glue sticks, ruler, pencils, safety pins, permanent markers and cord or twine
- Extension cord
- Zip closing Baggies to hold the SWAPS
- Clothespins make good clamps
- Toenail clippers are great for cutting chenille stems, pipe cleaners or tie twists
- Dental floss is great for stringing, hanging or tying crafts
- Corn holders or pushpins can be used to punch holes
- Plastic tablecloths or newspapers for table covers

Make a SWAP

If time allows, make a SWAP for participants to take home. See example below or go to <http://www.makingfriends.com>

As a final thing, hand out the SWAPS brochure to everyone.

The WAGGGS Friendship Knot

This knot symbolizes the ties which bind the girls and adults who belong to the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts and is a sign of the continuous friendship they share.



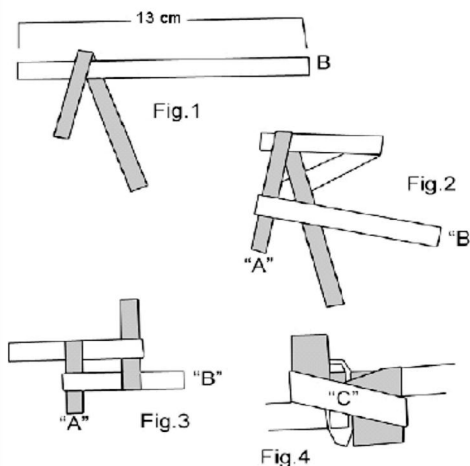
The four ends of the knot represent the Promise, the ten parts of the Law, the Motto and Service to others. The four squares stand for the four World Centres.

WAGGGS Friendship Knot

Supplies:
1/4" ribbon, cut 5" long
Small safety pin

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAKING FRIENDSHIP KNOT

Material: 2 pieces of grograin or velvet ribbon 6 mm (1/4") wide and 13 cm (5") long.
1 small safety pin.



Directions:

Fold end A over B (Figure 1).

Fold B behind A and around to the front and over A (Figure 2).

Weave long end "A" over B's end and under B's loop. Pull gently to make even the four ends of the knot (Figure 3).

Check to see that the front and back of the knot look like Figures 3 and 4.

Attach a small safety pin under C (Figure 4).