

Key things you need to know to help your Rainbows move up to Brownies

Brownies*

Rainbows

- Encourage Rainbows to look at pages 24-26 of Ready for Rainbows. The 'Moving on to Brownies' and 'Becoming a Brownie' sections will support them as they move up.
- Many girls have a leaving or 'Pot of Gold' party to celebrate their time as a Rainbow. This not only encourages girls to move up, but it's also a way to celebrate all the great things they have done as Rainbows. Remember to schedule these parties into your programme.
- Start to explore some of the unit meeting activities (UMAs), skills builders and interest badges that are available to Brownies - this will help girls to learn what they can expect at Brownies.
- It's important to build relationships with local Brownie leaders and units. You could hold joint meetings, activities or events to help the Rainbows and Brownies mix together to make moving on easier. Why not try arranging a taster visit to a Brownie unit?
- Part 3 of the Rainbow Gold award, 'Get ready for Brownies', gives Rainbows the opportunity to learn more about being a Brownie and what they can get up to!
- Remember, not all girls will want to or will complete their Rainbow Gold award, and it's important to help these girls to find out more about Brownies and what they could look forward to.
- Explain some of the terms that are used in Brownies, such as Brownie Sixes; you could even see if a Brownie will come to your meeting to talk about it!
- Invite a Brownie and/or her leader to come to one of your unit meetings and explain the opportunities available to Brownies, such as going away on a Brownie holiday or camp, or attending a national Girlguiding event.
- Why don't you get in touch with the unit your Rainbow will be going to and help find her a buddy? This will help her get to know somebody else in Brownies and make the settling-in period easier.
- Talk or write to a girl's parent or carer when the time comes for her to move; this ensures a parent is engaged in the process and knows what is happening. Discuss with parents which Brownie unit is most appropriate and suitable for their daughter (remember this may not always be the closest unit).
- Invite the Brownies and their leaders to run a meeting for the Rainbows, to give them a taste of what Brownies might be like. Remind the Brownies that activities need to be age appropriate and to involve all Rainbows. They can use skills builders and UMAs for inspiration.