



## **Myth-Busters March**

Myth 1) Bridging is when a Girl Scout walks across a bridge at a Girl Scout ceremony.

Myth 2) When a Girl Scout bridges she enters the new age level at that moment.

The Reality:

Bridging is an important time in each Girl Scout age level. Before participating in a bridging ceremony girls have taken the time to learn about the new level they will be joining. The rainbow patch a girl receives indicates she has taken the time to learn about the next level of Girl Scouting and has completed the activities required to earn the patch.

The time girls spend preparing for their bridging ceremony is to help prepare them for “who they will be next” in Girl Scouting. Your troop may visit a troop of older girls, sometimes ‘sister’ troops are set up to help make the transition, or a group of girls in the next age level may make several visits to younger girls to help them learn about that next step.

Girls remain in their current age level for one full membership year: October 1 - September 30.

Many troops choose to bridge in May or June when the school year is over. In reality, the Girl Scout year is only 2/3 complete! More and more troops continue meeting throughout the summer to participate in fun outdoor activities and finish badge work started throughout the year.

Holding a Bridging Ceremony in August or September is a great time to invite girls’ families to help them kick-off the new Girl Scout year and new Girl Scout age level for the girls!

Bridging guidelines are found in the handbook for each age level.