

The Boomerang Patrol

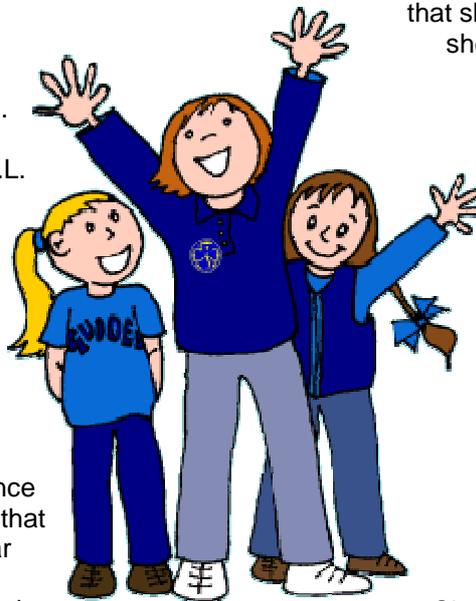
NO TWO PEOPLE ARE ALIKE – and at times that makes it hard to run a patrol. Like all other P.L.'s Jackie is finding it hard to cope with the Boomerang Patrol, so went to her leader for help – here is the advice she was given...

Miss Chatty

How maddening this Guide can be, talking through patrol time about what the boys at school said, and never listening to what the P.L. is saying. The one hope is to keep her busy and interested in what she is doing. Ask her to help the new recruit, to teach some of the girls while the P.L. takes the others, or to run a game.

Miss Show Off

The Guide who is always drawing attention to herself can be a nuisance to her P.L. but she is also a Guide that needs help. She is often unpopular with the others and so the P.L. will have to lead by trying to make friends with her. If she finds herself becoming more liked she may not feel the need to show off so much. Try to give her opportunities to do things really well – like being in charge of patrol property instead of being the one to mess it up.



Miss Bossy

She wants to take the lead but is much too young and doesn't know enough to be a leader yet. Squashing is seldom the answer with a girl of this type – the more you squash her the more she'll bounce back. Give her a chance now and then to air her ideas – they may be good ones. Use her when you can, and when you get the opportunity explain to her that she has to learn to follow before she can lead and that she is more likely to be elected a leader if she doesn't make herself too unpopular by being too pushy in the meantime.

Miss Shy

Draw her into things gently. Go out of your way to get to know her. Don't make her do things alone or you may put her off forever. Find something she is good at and let her show someone else, this will give her confidence to try other things.

Miss Bored

Why does she come to Guides at all? She won't get on with badges and doesn't really seem interested and yet still keeps on coming. Can you discover just one thing that really does interest her? Sometimes if a Guide of this sort finds she has passed even one bit of a badge it gives her the drive to go on and try another bit. Or sometimes she needs to learn that she is needed to help someone else, and not always thing of herself.

WHY NOT...

Try a bit of role playing. Give each girl in your Patrol to draw one of these personalities from a hat. Get them to do the activities you planned for patrol time, playing the personality they received. Afterwards, have a team talk – how it did it feel to be that person, how did it feel dealing with the other personalities, did the patrol get much done?