

## Fun Appreciation Awards

You do not have to apply for a formal award to show your appreciation of the Guiders you work with! These awards are meant to be mounted on heavy paper or poster board, and presented at a district event. Don't forget to add the person's name, date and their meaning. What is really special about these awards is that you can choose one that says something about the person you are giving it to. Is she new to the district? Give her a 'Welcome Aboard' award. Is she the mediator when disagreements arise? Give her a 'Static Guard' award, since she removes the static on council. You get the idea!

Have fun with this!

- **Air Freshener:** Thanks for the fresh ideas.
- **Batteries:** You've really added energy to our group. (AA batteries)  
Thanks for charging us up.
- **Ball:** For being 'on the ball'; We had a ball (Styrofoam ball with pipe cleaner person on top; ball of any kind)
- **Banana:** For having the greatest a-peal (wax or plastic banana)
- **Bean:** You've been (bean) wonderful! (lima or other large bean)
- **Bear:** For bearing up under pressure (plastic bear with a tire gauge)
- **Berry Good Job:** For the person who did a "Berry Good Job" (a wax or plastic berry)
- **Best Foot Forward:** You always put your best foot forward. (Wooden ruler; sock with the toe cut off)
- **Big Heart:** For real dedication; You have a big heart (red heart pillow or red heart candy box)
- **Bounce:** For one who bounced back and softened our hearts (sheet of fabric softener)
- **Candles:** No one holds a candle to you. Thanks for your leadership.
- **Car Decal:** To promote the Guiding spirit wherever the road may lead you.
- **Cheer:** You make our meetings more fun with your cheerful personality. (Box of Cheer laundry soap)
- **Covered the Topic:** For a workshop presenter (large plastic lid)
- **Crutch:** For being someone we can always lean on. (toy crutch, make one with toothpicks or pipe cleaners)
- **Dog:** For someone worked like a dog (dog biscuit or rubber bone)
- **Eggs:** For an eggs-cellent job or an eggs-citing idea (egg shells or plastic egg)

- **Eye-opening Performance**: That was truly an eye-opening performance (Box of toothpicks)
- **Eyes on U**: We're keeping our eyes on you (googly eyes mounted on a large felt letter "U")
- **Fizz**: For adding pizzazz to our undertaking (container of Alka Seltzer tablets)
- **Football**: For being willing to tackle the job (toy football)
- **Fresh Air**: For bringing a fresh approach (roll of mints or Certs)
- **Funny Bone**: For entertaining us;  
Resolving a situation with humor (feather mounted to a rubber/plastic/  
real bone)
- **Glosette Raisins**: Thanks for raisin the tough issues. (small box of Glosette raisins)
- **Glue Stick**: Thanks for sticking to the job till it was done.
- **Gold Kiss Award**: For those who really deserve a kiss! (Hershey's pecan kiss –  
gold foil)
- **Grapes or Bananas**: Thanks a bunch! (plastic toy bunch of grapes)
- **Hat's Off**: Our hats are off to you (real hat; toy hat)
- **Head and Shoulders Above the Rest**: You are head and shoulders above the  
rest! (Upper part of plastic doll mounted above a piece of wood so the head  
is above the wood)
- **Helping Hand**: You are always there with a helping hand (Outline of a hand traced  
on construction paper; stuffed glove on a dowel)
- **Ice Cream**: For someone who can lick any job (cotton wadding in sugar/wafer ice  
cream cone)
- **Jelly Bears or Graham Bears**: Our thanks to you bears repeating. (Candy Jelly  
Bears or Graham Bear cookies)
- **Knocked Yourself Out**: You really knocked yourself out (Small hammer/mini bat)
- **Knot**: For someone who tied it all together (square or over-hand knot sprayed gold)
- **Key**: You've been the key to our success. (old recycled key)
- **Lollipop**: We can lick any problem with your help. Thanks! (large sucker)
- **Marbles**: For a marble-ous job; (bag of marbles; two or three marbles)
- **Million Thanks**: Thanks a million (Play money in denominations adding up to  
\$1,000,000)
- **Mints or Certs**: Thanks, you are a breath of fresh air.  
Your ideas take my breath away.
- **Needle and Thread**: For keeping us in stitches. (needle & thread with a few  
stitches done)

- **N'ice Job**: You did a N'ice job on that project! (Box of N'ice cough drops)
- **A Note to Start On**: You really got us going (musical note)
- **Noteworthy**: What you did was truly noteworthy. (Small notepad)
- **Nuts**: We're nuts about you  
You had to be nuts to take on this task (bag of nuts; 2 or 3 nuts on a string)
- **Ovation Chocolates**: You deserve a standing ovation take a bow
- **Pkg. of Dried Soup Mix**: Your leadership has put together the right mix on our committee. Thanks.
- **Plunger**: For plunging right in (small sink plunger).
- **Raisin Pay**: You're so great, we're giving you a raisin pay (a pyramid of raisins, glued to a backing)
- **Record-breaker**: (Split vinyl record)
- **Ringy-Dingy**: For phoning moms (plastic toy phone; two cans on a string)
- **Right Arm**: You are my strong right arm (Cardboard arm with hand in the Guide sign; doll's right arm)
- **Right Foot**: For starting us off right (outline of a foot traced on construction paper)
- **Rock**: You are our rock on Council.(small rock, heart-shaped if possible)
- **Rose**: You rose to the occasion (artificial or ribbon rose).
- **Rubber Band**: For banding us together. Expanding our knowledge. Showing Flexibility (large coloured rubber band)
- **Salad dressing**: You really dressed up the occasion. (packet of salad dressing)  
You're the cream of the crop.  
Thank you for addressing the idea.  
You've tossed out some good ideas.  
Things would be pretty plain without you.
- **Guiding Spirit**: You show true Guiding spirit (Make a ball-and-rag ghost doll).
- **Seashell**: For a 'shell' of a good job (large seashell)
- **Shining Example**: You are a shining example to others (Mirror, mylar, or metal foil)
- **Small Gillette Shaving Foam**: You've helped us smooth over the rough edges, thanks. (travel size shaving foam)
- **Small Bottle of Scope**: Thanks for your involvement; please don't leave with a bad taste.
- **Small Hair Spray**: Thanks for helping us get things under control. (travel size hairspray)
- **Small Flashlight**: Your leadership helps us see the light at the end of the tunnel.

- **Spark**: For someone who supplied the spark to get the project going (spark plug; sparkler)
- **Spoon**: For a banquet organizer (wooden spoon)
- **Stake**: For those with a stake in the Guiding program (a tent stake; certificate for steak dinner)
- **Static Guard**: The static has vanished since you joined the group.  
Since you've joined our committee the static is gone (dryer static sheet)
- **Stuck With It**: It was a tough job, but you stuck with it. (A roll of tape; glue stick)
- **T-rific**: You are T-riffic! (Golf tee or tea bags)
- **Target**: For keeping us on target.  
Making our target (facsimile archery target)
- **Tea**: Since you've joined our team, things are really brewing. (packaged tea bag)  
A toast to a job well done
- **Toilet Paper**: For managing the all-important paperwork.  
Thank you for helping clean up a messy situation.  
With your help we're really on a roll.  
Thanks, we can always count on you to get the paper work done.  
We value your role on our committees.  
(roll of toilet paper around 1" long piece of drinking straw)
- **Toothpick**: Apologize for being picky.  
Thanks, you really stimulated the group today.  
Thanks for your input, sorry I was so picky.  
We'd be really stuck without you.  
You have a knack for getting at the little bits.  
Thank you for stimulating this meeting. (one or a box of toothpicks)
- **Trix**: For utilizing your bag of tricks (Trix cereal in a bag)
- **Udderly Fabulous**: What you did was udderly fabulous! (Blown up latex glove).
- **Welcome Aboard**: (Strip of wood with word "Welcome" painted on it)
- **Well Done**: Job well done! (Burnt slice of toast, preserved)
- **Whale**: For doing a whale of a job (toy plastic whale)

## Informal Appreciation Awards

Here are a few inexpensive and fun ways to say thank you. These ideas are meant to be used in a timely manner. When you know someone has “done good”, let them know right away that their efforts are appreciated. Some items can be prepared ahead of time – like the “You Done Good” or “Bravo” cards so they are ready to hand out at any time.

**“You Done Good” Cards:** make up some cards that say “You Done Good” on one side with the other side blank. You write in what they did on the blank side.

**Phone:** Just to thank her and don’t discuss anything else.

**Put a Thank You Note:** some place where she’ll find it (ie: in file folder at a meeting).

**Business Cards:** Carry a supply with you and when you “catch people doing something right” immediately write “Thanks”, “Good Job”, “Keep it up” and what they did specifically on the card. Put the persons name on it and sign it.

**Informal Awards:** Have everyone rate for the “Most Helpful”, “Nicest”, etc. Guiders vote and DC’s make the presentations.

**“Bravo” Cards:** same ideas as “You Done Good” cards.

**One Minute Praising:** Praise people immediately  
Tell people what they did right – be specific  
Tell people how good you feel about what they did right and how it helps the organization and all other people in it.  
Encourage them to do more of the same

**Use their Name:** Use her first name when delivering the comment. Tell her why the behaviour or result is important to you.

Greet volunteers by name when you meet them in uniform or regular clothes.

Always give them credit for ideas or suggestions when discussing them with other people.

**“Travelling Award”:** buy an inexpensive “trophy” and present it to a Guider who has done something especially well. She can keep it until she sees someone else who she thinks deserves it and on and on ...

**Ask Five people:** go up to the person and say (*your name*) asked me to thank you for (*the task or achievement*). Good job.

**Write five or more Post-it-Notes:** thanking her for a job well done and hide them among her papers where she will find them.

**“Behind the Scenes Award”:** for those whose actions are not usually in the limelight. Make or purchase an inexpensive award and present it at a public occasion.

**Thank the families:** When a Guider is putting in a lot of time in Guiding activities/special projects, send a thank you note to her family.

**When you hear a positive remark:** about an individual, repeat it to the person as soon as possible. If necessary, seek out the person or leave a voice or e-mail message.

## **Guiders Cope Kit/Friendship Kit/Volunteer Kit**

This is a great idea for those who “aren’t crafty” or don’t have a lot of time to prepare recognition gifts. They can be used as “thank you’s” to the ladies who worked on an area or district event, as a Thinking Day or Volunteer Week gift or any time you want to give a little something to someone. They can be put into a small plastic bag and have the information about the contents written on a piece of colourful paper inside. You can also “fancy it up” by using a fabric bag, hand writing the information on a card and tying it all together with a satin ribbon. Or anything in between! Just use your imagination because whatever you do one thing is for sure, it will make someone’s day to receive it.

This can also be used to “Pause and Reflect” at a training/banquet/event. For this activity, you would put the items into a bag without the explanation. Once everyone is together ask them take out one item at a time while you read what it is for. It’s very nice to do at a Thinking Day Banquet.

Here are some suggestions for the contents of your Kit. When there was more than one explanation I have separated them so that you can use whichever one you prefer.

**BAND AID:** To cover and heal life’s “boo-boo’s”, yours and others too.  
For healing hurt feelings, yours and somebody else’s.  
To cover the little hurts that occur from time to time.

**BOX OF CHOCOLATES:** Because, when all else fails, EAT CHOCOLATE!

**BUTTON:** To help you keep your shirt on when you become impatient.

**CANDLE:** To remind you it is not necessary to blow out another’s light in order to let your own shine.

**COTTON BALL:** For the rough roads. Seek the cushioned support of family and friends.

**ERASER:** To remind you that we all make mistakes and that they can be always be corrected  
So you can make all your mistakes disappear.  
To remind you that every day you start with a clean slate.

**GUIDE STICKER:** To remind you to promote the Guiding Spirit wherever the road may lead you.

**GUM:** To remind you that Guiders stick together for help and support.

**HAPPY FACE:** Smiling not only increases your face value, it is also contagious!

**HUG AND A KISS** (the chocolate kind): To remind you that somebody is thinking of you.  
To remind you that somebody loves you!

**KLEENEX:** To wipe away the tears that may come with life’s lessons

**LIFESAVERS** (candy): To remind you of the many times others need help and we need theirs.

**MATCH:** To help you through the darkness of uncertainty.

**MARBLE:** In case someone tells you that you have lost yours, here’s a spare.

**MINT:** Because we're "mint" to be friends!

**PAPER CLIP:** To help keep your life organized.  
To help you keep it all together.

**PENNY:** For good luck  
So your Unit will never be flat broke.

**PIECE OF ROPE/STRING:** For when you reach the end of yours. This will help you to keep going a little longer.

- To tie things together when everything seems to be falling apart.

**PIN:** To remind you that you are only useful when pointed in the right direction.

**RUBBER BAND:** To help you bounce back from what life throws your way.

- To remind you to stretch yourself to the limit.
- To remind you to give of yourself and remain flexible.
- A reminder to stay flexible.

**SANDPAPER:** To help you file away the rough spots in your year.

**STAR:** Because that's what you are. Keep up the good work!

**SPOON:** Sometimes you have to stir things up a bit!

**STICKY TAPE:** Thanks for "sticking" to it and holding the district together.

**SWEET AND SOUR CANDY:** To help you appreciate the differences in others.

**TEA BAG:** To remind you to take a few minutes for your self to relax

**THIRTY-FIVE CENTS:** If you need a friend, call me!

**TYLENOL:** Thank you for your continued support. I know this job can be a real headache!

**WARM FUZZY (a pom-pom) :** For when you feel overworked and underappreciated, it will help remind you of the Guiding spirit and the fun we have together.

- To remind you of me when we are apart.