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### **Girls beat the heat and stay cool at Girl Scout summer camp**

TALLAHASSEE, FL – Record high temperatures haven't stop girls from enjoying week long overnight sessions at Girl Scout camp this year. Girls have been cooling off by enjoying water games, pool parties, and canoeing all summer long. This year's "What Did You Do Today?" theme is keeping girls motivated with new experiences from learning about archeology in "Scouting the Past," being fashoinistas in "Fashion Flare," and working with horses in "Out on the Range."

Girl Scout camps' week long sessions started the second week of June and each week has different sessions for girls to choose from according to their grade level in school. Girls who have Harry Potter fever even had a special camp just for them focusing on learning and reading all things Harry.

Girls in the 2-3<sup>rd</sup> grades had a special visit from an albino corn snake, Heidi Linkylong; who is a returning favorite at Girl Scout camp. Girls were able to hold her and learn about these misunderstood reptiles and how they are important to the eco-system of Florida. Heidi has spent twelve summers at Girl Scout camp and keeps surprising girls with her charm.

"Spending a week at resident camp is something that many girls look forward to all year long," said Raslean M. Allen CEO of Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle. "Girls at resident camp have

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the chance to experience traditional camping as well as participating in activities that they may not have the chance to do during the school year.”

Some of the best things about Girl Scout camp? Girls said they love the food, being around horses (at horse camp), roasting marshmallows and cooking over the campfire, creating marshmallow taffy, making new friends... everything!

Lexi a rising fourth grader and first time camper said “I love Girl Scout camp! Everyone should come at least once!”

An all-inclusive girl camp gives girls the opportunity to grow in a safe environment. Girls have to opportunity to try new things and gain valuable life experiences; camping helps develop a sense of community and appreciation for nature and the world girls live in.

The Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle invites girls from kindergarten to twelfth grade, to join the adventure and empower themselves through courage, confidence and character, to make the world a better place. Currently, the council serves 6, 024 girls and 1,980 volunteers across 19 counties of the Florida Panhandle. To volunteer or join Girl Scouts, contact the local council office at 1-888-271-8778 or visit [www.gscfp.org](http://www.gscfp.org). Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle is a United Way Agency.

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