girl scouts

Celebrate International Day of the Girl with Girl Scouts

October 11

What It Is?

On International Day of the Girl (IDG) the global community comes together to celebrate the power of girls and highlight, discuss, and take action to advance the rights of and opportunities for girls everywhere.

Why Do We Celebrate?

We know that each girl has the power to exercise her potential. We recognize the importance of amplifying girls' voices and advocating for their inclusion in change-making spaces. By supporting and investing in girls, we can make the world a better place. We celebrate IDG not only to give girls a platform to speak out, but to share girls' achievements, triumphs, and contributions as we build towards a brighter and more equitable future for girls everywhere.

Activities for All Grade Levels

Every year, Girl Scouts celebrates International Day of the Girl with a special campaign around the annual theme. This year we will be giving a few suggestions for how you can participate below! We look forward to seeing how you participate in the International Day of the Girl.

Daisy/Brownie/Junior Activities

Explore the theme. This year marks the 12th annual celebration of the International Day of the Girl Child. Learn about the history of IDG and how it came about. Talk with girls about what International Day of the Girl means for them and for girls everywhere. Why do they think it is important? Why do they think girls have a specific day dedicated to them? What are the ways girls can celebrate one another? Invite girls to create a piece of art that represents what being a girl means to them.

Create a girls' bill of rights. Talk with girls about some of the issues and challenges that girls face around the world as well as the opportunities that exist. Ask girls to brainstorm what they think all girls should have (access to education, food and water, safety, and other basics) and create a girls' bill of rights. Ask girls what would need to happen to make their bill of rights a reality for the 2.5 billion girls around the world. [1]

[1] https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/girl-child

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Daisy/Brownie/Junior Activities, continued

Possible topics to discuss are: gender equality, human rights, access to education, poverty, health, leadership and empowerment, civic engagement, cyber-violence/ cyberbullying, family violence and abuse, mental health, body image, self-esteem, role models, and mentors. Please click on the links to find helpful tools to aid in your discussions. Consider asking some of these discussion questions:

- If you did not have the tools you need at school, or even a school to go to, what challenges might you encounter?
- Why is education important, not just for girls, but for everyone in the world?
- What are human rights?
- Why do you think there is an International Day of the Girl?
- What can we do to support girls' rights in other countries?
- What can you do as a Girl Scout to help support girls' human rights?[2]

Cadette/Senior/Ambassador Activities

Plan a movie night: Watch *Girl Rising* with the girls. (You may also select portions, depending on time. Be aware that this movie contains references to sensitive issues; be sure to watch it ahead of time.) Discuss the stories of the girls featured. How are the girls' lives different? How are they the same? If they were going to tell their life stories in a Girl Rising format, what would they want to include?

Film your own story. Help girls make a short film using a smartphone or camera using vignettes about an issue that they or other girls in your community face.

Complete the survey, From Where I Stand. This activity asks girls to measure and compare the role of women and men in their local community, then compare it to global trends. As a group, complete the From Where I Stand survey documenting the roles that men and women play in girls' local community. After girls have completed the survey, calculate the gender ratio and complete your poster. Afterwards, explore the results and stories from around the world. If you wish, share the results of your survey as well! Need an easy explanation of the activity? Here is a project briefing video that does the trick.

[2] https://www.girlscouts.org/en/activities-for-girls/daisies/global-action-award-activity2.html?state=

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Journey, Badge, and Program Connections

In **aMuse**, Juniors explore new roles, bust stereotypes, increase their confidence, and inspire others.

Cadettes take a critical look at media in the **MEdia** Journey and learn to reshape negative messages into positive ones. As they explore this topic, they may rewrite hurtful song lyrics, start a blog about movies, or use social media to combat stereotypes.

In **GIRLtopia**, Seniors develop their own vision of an ideal world and acquire the skills to make it a reality. By exploring women in history, interviewing inspiring mentors, or creating a short film, girls learn real-life lessons while building a brighter future.

Open the GATE (Girls Access to Education Toolkit): Learn about how girls around the world face barriers to accessing quality education and what can be done to address this.

Additional Resources

International Day of the Girl

1. History, timeline, and important things of note about IDG.
2. From Where I Stand activity guide and additional resources.
3. Additional stories, videos, and a quiz from the UN Women's 2021 webpage on International Day of the Girl Child.
4. Check out Day of the Girl's Summit page on October 11th or watch the IDG speakout on UN WebTV

World Associate of Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting (WAGGGS)

5. The International Women's Day 2022 Activity Pack focuses on three categories of activities:
    a. Understanding Gender
    b. Women's rights are Human Rights
    c. Gender & Climate Change

Gender Equality

6. The World 's Largest Lesson: Here you will find all kinds of information, fun videos and games. Such as:
    a. Everybody Wins When Girls Can Stay in School: A World's Largest Lesson activity where girls will understand the term "gender equality" as well as identify obstacles to girls' access to education and secondary education. Great for girls 11-14 years old.
    b. A booklist of fiction and non-fiction books for teens.
    c. Chakra the Invincible: Help girls learn about gender equality through this comic book from the World's Largest Lesson.
7. This unpaid domestic and care work activity from UN Women helps girls learn about unpaid care work and how many hours they actually put in each year.

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Ways to Take Action

Educate And Inspire Others To Be Part Of The Change

1. Do a show-and-tell.
2. Create a poster campaign.
3. Perform a skit.
4. Make a "how to" handout.
5. Draw a comic.
6. Give a speech.
7. Write and perform a song.
8. Make an animated movie.
9. Make a live-action movie.
10. Make a presentation.
11. Create a workshop, perhaps in partnership with a local business or organization, to teach a skill such as coding, camping, canoeing, robotics, sewing, car care, healthy eating, gardening, home repair, budgeting, or anything else.
12. Create a workshop to teach others about healthy living through exercise, nutrition, mental health, or other way.
13. Create a social media campaign.
14. Make video tutorials to teach a skill.
15. Organize an email campaign.
16. Organize a petition.
17. Organize an event—concert, play, poetry slam, art exhibit, sporting event, field day, or something else—to raise awareness about an issue.
18. Make a "playbook" to help others follow your lead—such as, how to mentor robotics teams, organize a workshop or event, advocate to city council, create an online petition, or change a law.
19. Make an app that helps people take action on an issue.
20. Create a website.
21. Write an op-ed or letter to the editor of a newspaper or magazine.
22. Start a blog.

Make Your Solution Permanent

23. Make and install something outside, like benches, bird houses, a dog run, a ropes course, a sensory trail for children with disabilities, or a Little Free Library.
24. Plant something—a butterfly garden, a tree, a wind chime garden, or the like.
25. Make something inside for a Maker Space, a reading room, or other interior location.
26. Create a collection of: children's books for a children's hospital or family shelter, oral histories for town museum, or whatever else meets the need.
27. Advocate for building a permanent community improvement, for example, a sidewalk, a bridge, a park, streetlights, a stoplight, or something else.

Change A Rule, Regulation, Or Law

28. Make a presentation to your school principal.
29. Make a presentation to your school board.
30. Make a presentation to your city council.
31. Speak up at your representative's town hall meeting.
32. Create an online petition.
33. Advocate for a law with your state government.

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