



The Girl Scout Leadership Experience Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the Girl Scout Leadership Experience?

A: The Girl Scout Leadership Experience supports girls as they discover their values, connect with others, and take action to make the world a better place through a series of fun activities for them to do, think about, and discuss. At the core of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience are grade-specific journeys that provide opportunities for girls to work in teams, learn about topics of personal interest, and grow as they use a variety of leadership skills to complete challenges.

Q: What are the benefits of participating in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience?

A: Every journey in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience is carefully designed to engage girls in exploring the three keys to leadership. They have the opportunity to develop their leadership at any level, from Daisy to Ambassador (K-12 grade).

Q: What are the keys to leadership and how do they relate to the Girl Scout Leadership Experience?

A: There are three keys to leadership: Discover; Connect; and Take Action. They are the steps a girl takes as part of her Girl Scout Leadership Experience, which ultimately results in the development of her skills and values. The three keys are defined as:

- *Discover: Girls understand themselves and their values and use their knowledge and skills to explore the world;*
- *Connect: Girls care about, inspire, and team with others locally and globally;*
- *Take Action: Girls act to make the world a better place.*

All Girl Scout activities are intentionally designed to develop one or more leadership skills. They are the outcomes of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience that a girl develops through her participation in Girl Scouting.

Q: What is a Girl Scout journey?

A: A Girl Scout journey represents a new way that girls can participate in Girl Scouting. It is a fun and challenging experience spread over a series of sessions, with designated skills a girl develops as the outcome of her participation. Each themed and grade-specific journey has a clear starting point (an invitation to explore and take action) and a finite ending point (opportunities to enjoy closure through reflections, rewards, and celebration). Throughout their Girl Scout journey experience, girls and volunteers are guided by series grade-specific books that help facilitate activities and foster discussions.

Q: How many journeys are there?

A: Currently, there are two leadership journey series. The first series is themed, *It's Your World-Change It!* and the second series is themed, *It's Your Planet-Love It!* Each series is comprised of six journeys – one for each grade level in Girl Scouting.

Q: What books make up the first series of leadership journeys for girls?

A: The first books for girls are all part of the *It's Your World-Change It!* series of leadership journeys. This series features one book for girls at each grade level in Girl Scouting, along with a corresponding adult guide:

- *Daisy (Grades K-1): Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden*
- *Brownie (Grades 2-3): Brownie Quest*
- *Junior (Grades 4-5): Agent of Change*
- *Cadette (Grades 6-8): aMAZE!*
- *Senior (Grades 9-10): GIRLtopia: Toward an Ideal World for Girls*
- *Ambassador (Grades 11-12): Your Voice, Your World: The Power of Advocacy*

Q: What books make up the second series of leadership journeys for girls?

A: The second books for girls are all part of the *It's Your Planet-Love It!* journey series of leadership journeys. This series features one book for girls at each grade level in Girl Scouting, along with a corresponding adult guide:

- *Daisy: Between Earth and Sky*
- *Brownie: WOW (Wonders of Water)*
- *Junior: Get Moving! (energy)*
- *Cadette: Breathe (air)*
- *Senior: Sow What? (land and food)*
- *GS Ambassador: Justice (environmental justice)*

Q: What awards can girls earn?

A: Girl Scouts at each of the six grade levels have a chance to earn new official awards as they complete steps along the journey. The awards are designed to be worn on the Girl Scout uniform. Daisies, Brownies, Juniors, and Cadettes have the chance to earn several badges along the journey. Seniors and Ambassadors can mark the completion of their journey with a pin or badge. Upon completion of the journeys, girls will be prepared to carry out substantial award projects including the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Award projects.

Q: What are the Adult Guide books?

A: Guides for adult volunteers correspond to each of the six girl books in the journey series. These guides offer plenty of support, including sample sessions volunteers can tailor to help run troop meetings and group activities that carry out the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.

Q: What are some of the features of the It's Your World-Change It! journeys?

A: The *It's Your World-Change It!* journeys have been intentionally designed to engage girls in:

- *A critical thinking process related to identifying and researching issues they care about*
- *Developing community networks, and creating and implementing plans to take action.*

Q: What are some of the features of the It's Your Planet-Love It! journeys?

A: *It's Your Planet-Love It!* journeys invite Girl Scouts of every age on an adventure to:

- Explore the wonders of Earth as they enjoy the natural world
- Investigate the science that keeps our Earth – and us – spinning

Q: How do girls use the three leadership keys in the It's Your Planet-Love It! series?

A: Girls use their Leadership Keys – Discover (self), Connect (team with others), and Take Action (make a difference) – as they become stewards of our fragile planet. A few examples:

- *Discover Values: What are we willing to do and change and give up based on our values?*
- *Connect: Who do we need to team with to bring about sustainable change? How can we be effective as a team?*
- *Take Action: How do we educate and inspire others to act, too?*