



Global Action Days

International Day of the Girl

October 11

What is International Day of the Girl?

International Day of the Girl (IDG) is a day where the global community comes together to celebrate the power of girls. IDG also highlights and addresses the needs and challenges girls face worldwide, while promoting girls' empowerment and the fulfillment of their human rights. It is a time to take action to advance the rights of and opportunities for girls everywhere.

Why do Girl Scouts celebrate?

By supporting and investing in girls, all of us can make the world a better place, especially by recognizing the power of girls everywhere as they inspire, break boundaries and take charge of their own future. Starting on October 1, Girl Scouts also participates in the 11 Days of Action in advance of IDG at the UN's Commission on the Status of Women.

How can GSME Girl Scouts celebrate?

As Service Units and troops, celebrate International Day of the Girl with discussion, activities, and community action. Whether at a Service Unit event or in your own troop, talk to girls about why it is important to have International Day of the Girl, to celebrate the accomplishments of girls and to bring awareness for girls who still have a long way to come.

Activities for International Day of the Girl

The theme for IDG changes each year, set by UNICEF and usually released mid-August. These are suggestions for generic activities that can be modified based on any theme.

- Discuss with the girls what a brighter future means to them, and then what it might mean to girls in different countries if their needs were met.
- Create a "Brighter Future" poster by having the girls imagine what the future of all girls would be like if the needs of girls worldwide were met.
- Listen to songs that are about powerful girls. Discuss the song with the girls, such as what is the message of the song, how does it make you feel and so on.
- Research this year's theme for International Day of the Girl. Discuss the theme with your troop. Ask how they think the theme applies to them and other girls/women they know. How about girls and women around the world?

Resources:

- GSUSA Global Action Days Toolkit: available on Volunteer Toolkit & GSME website
- GSME International Day of the Girl Toolkit: available on Volunteer Toolkit & GSME website
- Day of the Girl Summit: www.dayofthegirlsummit.org
- United Nations: www.un.org/en/events/girlchild/index.shtml
- UNESCO: www.unesco.org/en/days/girl-child