



## Join Girl Scouts on a Mission to Prepare Every Girl for a Lifetime of Leadership

As the world's largest leadership development organization for girls, Girl Scouts is a safe, exciting, no-limits place where *every* girl can be inspired, try new things, take on challenges, build community, and motivate others!

At Girl Scouts, “Can I?” quickly turns into “I will!” as girls unleash their inner **G.I.R.L.** (**Go-getter**, **Innovator**, **Risk-Taker**, **Leader**)™ to transform their ideas into action, turn their questions into adventure, and grow their confidence through practice. And with more than 60 million Girl Scouts and alumnae to cheer each other on every step of the way, there's no limit to what they can accomplish.

Together, Girl Scouts, educators, and parents can ensure that more girls are prepared to empower themselves for a lifetime of leadership, success, and adventure.

**There is power in every G.I.R.L.**

**Help us unleash it by welcoming Girl Scouts into your school today.**

### A 360-Degree Approach to Learning

To be truly prepared for college and a globally competitive workplace, children need more than access to technology and millions of facts at their fingertips—they need to be able to think critically, communicate persuasively, understand and practice empathy, build healthy relationships, and learn *how* to learn.

But how do we provide girls with the higher-order thinking and social-emotional skills they need when the school day is only so long, families are busier than ever, and resources are scarce? The answer starts with Girl Scouts!

Our learning and development model is based on Girl Scouts' historic commitment to leadership, insight drawn from best practices in youth development and education, and our own research and girl expertise. And time and time again, we've proven that Girl Scouting *works*.

# Girl Scouts Builds Girl Leaders

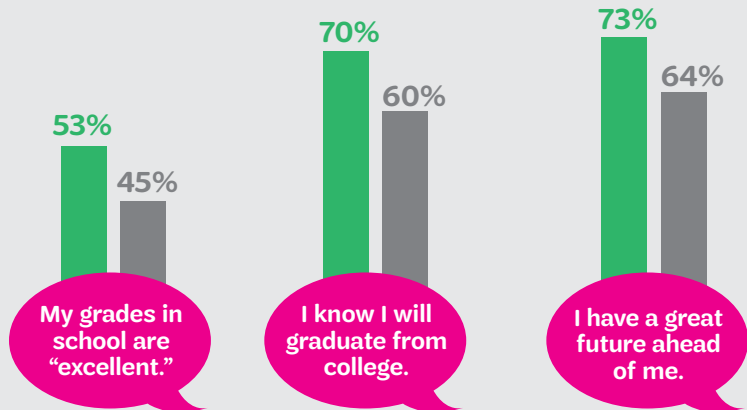
■ GIRL SCOUTS ■ NON-GIRL SCOUTS

**Did you know?**



## Girl Scouts are go-getters and optimists!

They earn better grades, and have greater expectations for their futures.



## Girl Scouts are innovators and risk-takers!

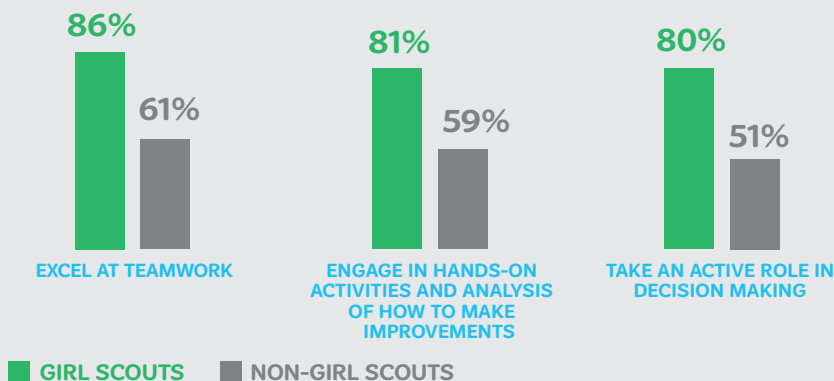
They're more likely than non-Girl Scouts to:

- Participate in healthy activities (**82% vs. 69%**)
- Pursue leadership opportunities (**79% vs. 37%**)
- Explore the outdoors (**76% vs. 43%**)
- Be civically engaged (**79% vs. 37%**)
- Learn financial literacy (**65% vs. 36%**)
- Work on STEM projects (**60% vs. 35%**)



## Girl Scouts are self-starters!

They take the lead in their lives and it shows.



**4 IN 5** Girl Scouts are **leaders** compared with **2 in 5** non-Girl Scouts

# Fundamentals of the Girl Scout Program

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience, the foundation of all Girl Scout programming, is a variety of fun and challenging activities that help girls discover who they are, where their talents lie, and what they care most about. Designed to connect them with community members, the program prepares girls to empower themselves as they take action on issues they care about. At Girl Scouts, every adventure is rooted in three core ways of learning: girl-led, learning by doing, and cooperative learning.

Simply put, Girl Scouting helps girls **discover** themselves and their abilities through skill-building activities and opportunities to try new things, **connect** with others to create change, and **take action** by developing projects that make their communities and the world a better place.

## The Girl Scout Leadership Experience: Outcomes

By participating in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, girls benefit in five key ways as they:



**Develop a strong sense of self.** She'll find confidence in herself and all that she's capable of as she tries new things, takes on challenges, and learns from her mistakes.



**Display positive values.** She'll learn to act ethically, lead with honesty, be responsible, and show concern for others.



**Seek challenges and learn from setbacks.** She'll take age-appropriate risks, open herself up to new opportunities and experiences, and embrace failure as an opportunity to learn.



**Form healthy relationships.** She'll practice leading with positivity, learn to communicate her feelings directly, and resolve conflicts constructively.



**Become community problem-solvers.** She'll identify problems in her community and create action plans to solve them.

Plus, we continually track, measure, and optimize our program to make sure these outcomes remain achievable and adaptable in a changing world.



### Straight from a Girl Scout

“I feel more comfortable being myself after being a Girl Scout for over five years.”

—JULIA, AGE 11, GEORGIA

“My Girl Scout experience has helped me figure out a positive way to solve a tough issue that I might be having at school or at home.”

—ELIZABETH, AGE 9, CALIFORNIA

“I have met so many different girls with different backgrounds who I have been able to learn from. In Girl Scouts there are so many opportunities and so much to learn.”

—MARY, AGE 10, TEXAS

“I think without Girl Scouts I would not be where I am today. I think I would not get good grades, I don't think I would do well in school, and I don't think I would get along with others as well as I do.”

—DESTINY, AGE 12, TEXAS

# Critical Thinking and Social Skills: a Powerful Combination

At Girl Scouts, girls learn to think critically about different issues and to solve problems together. We encourage teamwork and collaboration as much as we encourage independence and self-discovery. Here, a girl learns to believe in the power of **G.I.R.L.** within herself as well as count on her community for support. She works as part of a team, brings people with varying perspectives together to devise solutions, and respects and appreciates the views of others as much as she does her own.

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## Bullying Prevention and Friendship

Teaching girls how to prevent bullying and providing them with a safe space for self-expression is crucial in today's increasingly complex social landscape. That's why, at Girl Scouts, we focus so much on community, on appreciating everyone's unique value, and on supporting one another through obstacles and conflict. We teach girls about relational aggression and about how best to develop and maintain healthy relationships and trusting friendships. Girl Scouts gives girls the tools they need to rise above bullying and champion everyone's right to live free of it.



## Volunteer-Driven and Girl-Led

Girl Scouts is made possible every day by a dedicated network of passionate volunteers who support and guide girls as they prepare for a lifetime of leadership. Although all activities are girl-led, volunteers play an important role in providing the sense of community and caring adult support girls need to thrive. Volunteering with Girl Scouts is also a great way to engage parents and encourage their involvement at school.

# Program Pillars: a Foundation for Success

The Girl Scout Leadership Experience is built on four core program pillars.



**Science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM)** With a focus on high-quality multiyear programs in engineering, computer science, and outdoor STEM, girls become increasingly interested, confident, and competent in STEM subjects.



**Outdoor** Through progressive outdoor programs for girls of all ages, girls experience nature, build skills, and take action in their communities as environmental stewards.



**Life skills** By partaking in life skills programming, girls enhance the academic skills they learn in school through topics such as civic engagement, healthy living, communication skills, financial literacy, and global citizenship.



**Entrepreneurship** Starting with the iconic Girl Scout Cookie Program, this pillar explores ways in which girls can change the world by learning business skills and provides them with a variety of entrepreneurship opportunities, including social entrepreneurship.

## Pillars In Action: Delivering a Program Promise

As a Girl Scout, she'll team up with other girls to identify a problem she wants to do something about, find a creative solution, and create a team plan to make that solution a reality. Then she'll put her plan into action and tell others about what she learned. That's the Girl Scout Journey, which we offer at every grade level.

**Advocacy (It's Your World—Change It!)** Girls experience unique leadership and advocacy challenges and discover what it means to be a leader who makes a difference in the world.

**Environmentalism (It's Your Planet—Love It!)** Girls learn about environmental topics, such as clean water and air, noise pollution, global warming, soil contamination, and agricultural processes.

**Self-Esteem (It's Your Story—Tell It!)** Girls explore important personal themes, like developing a strong sense of self, discovering the benefits of a balanced diet and physical activity, and navigating healthy relationships.

**Engineering (Think Like an Engineer)** Girls learn how to think like a designer by participating in hands-on design challenges and completing a Take Action project.

**Computer Science (Think Like a Programmer)** Girls learn how programmers solve problems by participating in interactive computational-thinking activities and completing a Take Action project.

**Outdoor STEM (Think Like a Citizen Scientist)** Girls learn the scientific method by undertaking a citizen science project that involves making observations, collecting data, and working with scientists. Girls also complete a Take Action project.

**Outdoor** Anchored by the Troop Camping badge, the new Outdoor Journey will deepen girls' outdoor skills through badges that inspire girls to take an interest in environmental stewardship and lead to a Take Action project.

Learn more at [girlscouts.org/program/journeys](https://girlscouts.org/program/journeys).

### Did you know?



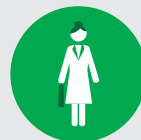
THE MAJORITY OF ALL FEMALE U.S. ASTRONAUTS...



**80%** OF ALL FEMALE TECH LEADERS...



**76%** OF FEMALE U.S. SENATORS...

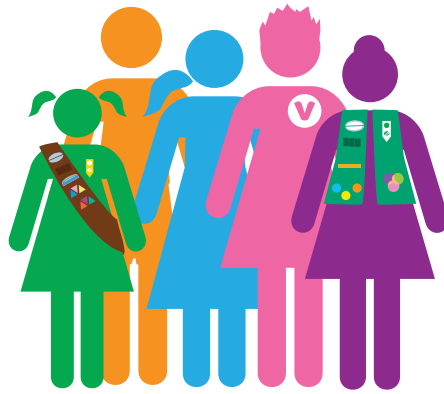


**100%** OF FEMALE U.S. SECRETARIES OF STATE...

...were Girl Scouts

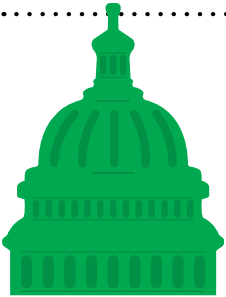
Girl Scouts is the largest leadership development organization for girls in the world, with

**2.6 MILLION**  
girl and adult  
members.



**60 MILLION**  
American women

participated in Girl Scouts  
during childhood.



In the world of public service, Girl Scout alumnae include all former female secretaries of state—Hillary Clinton, Madeleine Albright, and Condoleezza Rice—as well as retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.



Successful Girl Scout alumnae businesswomen include Susan Wojcicki, CEO of YouTube, and Virginia “Ginni” Rometty, CEO of IBM.

**Girl Scouts partners with expert content providers  
across the United States:**

**Code.org**

**Society of Women Engineers**

**WGBH/Design Squad**

**SciStarter**

## **Girl Scouts Gets Girls Outdoors!**

Regular outdoor exposure is a key driver of leadership in girls. Our research<sup>1</sup> shows that girls who get outside at least once a month are stronger problem-solvers and challenge-seekers.



In a study of nearly 3,000 fourth- to eighth-grade Girl Scouts, **97 percent said they have done at least one outdoor activity** in Girl Scouts during the last year—40 percent did so every month.

When it comes to trying dynamic activities like archery, horseback riding, and canoeing and kayaking, **74 percent of girls surveyed said they couldn't have participated without Girl Scouts.**

**Girl Scouts take risks outside their comfort zones**—29 percent of girls said they had overcome a fear of the outdoors through their experiences at Girl Scouts!

1: More Than S'Mores: Successes and Surprises in Girl Scouts' Outdoor Experiences, Girl Scout Research Institute, 2014.