

Meeting Guide: Girl Greatness Awards

The Girl Greatness Awards are a chance for girls in Guiding to recognize amazing achievements and attributes in themselves and others. Inspired by Girl Guides of Canada's (GGC's) Mission, the awards recognize one girl per branch who has excelled in one of the following four categories:

Confidence



Resourcefulness



Courage



Making a Difference



Each of the 20 Girl Greatness Award recipients will receive an Award pin and a certificate signed by the Chief Commissioner.

This Meeting Guide will help Guiders introduce their unit to the Girl Greatness Awards. In **Section 1 Understanding Our Mission**, activities are provided that will help girls understand GGC's Mission. In **Section 2 Celebrating Our Mission in Action**, activities are provided that will help girls participate in GGC's Mission and the Girl Greatness Awards.



Section 1

Learning Objective:
To know and better understand the Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada Mission.

Our Mission:
Girl Guides of Canada–Guides du Canada (GGC) enables girls to be confident, resourceful, courageous and to make a difference in the world.

GUIDER TIPS FOR UNDERSTANDING OUR MISSION

Some of the activities require review of GGC’s Mission prior to running the activity. When reviewing the meaning of the four components of GGC’s Mission, encourage openness and flexibility around the definitions. GGC encourages individual interpretation about what resourcefulness, courage, confidence and making a difference mean.

Understanding Our Mission

For younger girls: Begin by asking why girls participate in Guiding. Then, explain the reasons why GGC exists, noting our Mission found to the left. Explain that GGC’s purpose for existing is called our Mission.

For older girls: Begin by asking what an organization’s mission is. Then, explain that organizations (like community groups, religious groups and companies) have missions. The mission explains the organization’s purpose and goals, and summarizes the positive difference the organization would like to make. Let girls know that GGC has a Mission.



LEARN ABOUT GGC'S MISSION STATEMENT

Choose one of these fun activities!

Our Mission: Picture This!

Before the meeting, gather magazine and newspapers, and/or ask girls to bring images to the meeting. Instruct girls to cut out pictures they feel represent the key components of the Mission – confidence, courage, resourcefulness and making a difference. Make a collage, either individually or all together, of all the images chosen. Once the collage is finished, explore why the girls chose certain images.

Modeling the Mission

Facilitate a discussion with the girls about people in their own lives, communities, schools and in pop culture who they identify as positive role models. Explore the characteristics these role models have. Determine whether the role models embody any of the key components of GGC's Mission.

What's our Mission?

List several different missions from various organizations, either orally or written on a board/flip chart. Ask the girls to identify which one is GGC's Mission.

Mission Scrambler

Before your meeting, print out our Mission. Cut out each word individually and place the words in an envelope or small bag. If this activity is done in groups, be sure to make enough envelopes for each group. Provide the girls with a Mission package. Have girls rearrange the words until they are in the correct order.

To make this activity into a relay race, place each Mission word in the centre of the room and have girls from each group collect one word at a time. Once the team has collected all of the words, teams can race to put the words of the Mission into the correct order.

The Mission in Action

Divide girls into groups. Assign each group one of the following key components from the Mission: confidence, resourcefulness, courage, making a difference. Instruct each group to develop a short skit to demonstrate an example of someone enacting their assigned word. Be encouraging and open to varying representations of each word. More than one round of this activity can be completed by changing up which word each group demonstrates.

Mission Word Cloud

Write courage, resourcefulness, confidence and making a difference on a board or chart paper. Help girls brainstorm different meanings and synonyms for each word. Possible questions to ask may include: What are other words that come to mind when you think of this word? What does this word mean to you? What are some examples of girls enacting this word? Afterwards, you can create a word map or word cloud for each word, either as a group or individually. A word cloud is a visual representation of words that are connected to a particular topic. At the end of the exercise, you may want to acknowledge that each word has many different meanings. Depending on your unit, this activity could take place over several weeks, with a portion of each meeting devoted to exploring a different Mission component.



Section 2

Celebrating Our Mission in Action

Learning Objective:

To acknowledge girls who live by GGC's Mission through participation in the Girl Greatness Awards

What are the Girl Greatness Awards?

Begin by asking the girls if they have ever heard of the Girl Greatness Awards. If there is knowledge of the awards, request a volunteer to help you explain the awards to the group. Explain that the Girl Greatness Awards are a chance to recognize that all girls do amazing things everyday by leaping into action, overcoming obstacles, coming up with brilliant ideas, and making their communities a better place. Explain that the awards are inspired by GGC's Mission and that there are four award categories: Confidence, Resourcefulness, Courage and Making a Difference. Clarify that the awards recognize one girl per branch (i.e. Sparks, Brownies, Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers) who have excelled in one award category. Share that each of the 20 Girl Greatness Award recipients will receive an Award pin and a certificate signed by the Chief Commissioner.

GUIDER TIPS FOR CELEBRATING OUR MISSION IN ACTION

Be mindful to prevent a popularity contest. Ensure that all girls are provided with positive feedback equally and pay special attention to ensure that the feedback provided is constructive. Should you be aware of pre-existing interpersonal challenges in the unit, you may want to consider facilitating a discussion on positive acknowledgement. You can print the Girl Greatness Awards information cards found on the last page to give out to your unit.



GET YOUR GIRLS INVOLVED!

There are three ways that girls can participate! Encourage girls to nominate themselves, nominate another girl or join the Selection Committee. For details please see below.

How to Nominate a Girl Member or Yourself

Explain to the girls the details about the nomination process. Guiders may also want to print the nomination hand-out cards located at the end of the Meeting Guide.

Nomination Process:

- Girls can nominate either themselves or another girl member.
- Girls can nominate themselves or another girl for ONE category. For example, if a girl nominates someone for a resourcefulness award, she cannot nominate that person for any other category.
- To fill out an online nomination form, girls can visit girlguides.ca beginning February 1. The nominations are open from February 1 to March 15, 2017.
- Girls completing a self-nomination will be asked to provide their contact information and a reason as to why she should receive an award. Girls nominating another

girl member will need to provide the contact information for both herself and the girl she is nominating, and explain why the girl should receive an award.

- For girls under the age of 14, parental/guardian permission must be obtained. For girls nominating another girl member, the nominee's parental/guardian permission must also be obtained.
- Parents/guardians and Guiders are not allowed to submit nominations on behalf of girls.
- For inspiration, girls can check out last year's Girl Greatness Award recipients by visiting girlguides.ca.
- For more information on the nomination process, please refer to the **Girl Greatness Awards FAQ**.

Girl Greatness Awards Selection Committee

Explain to the unit that girls can also be a part of the Girl Greatness Awards Selection Committee. In this role, girls will review the nominations of other girls from across the country and help determine award recipients. Girls who have made a nomination will review nominations of girls in other branches. If girls are interested in being a part of the selection committee, ask them to talk with their parents to seek approval and contact girlgreatnessawards@girlguides.ca.



PRACTICE POSITIVE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Choose one of these fun activities!

Here are some bonus activities you can do with your girls.

Circle of Praise

In this exercise, girls will practice providing each other with positive feedback. Have the girls form a circle and then take turns standing in the middle. Go around the circle and have each girl share one or more positive thing about the person standing in the centre. Comments shared can be about positive attributes, or noticing something positive or helpful the girl has done. Girls should also be encouraged to comment on examples of when a girl is living out GGC's Mission. Take turns until every girl (and even Guiders) have had a chance to stand in the centre.

Speak-Out: Share With Others How You Live the Mission

Set up this activity by informing girls that they need to prepare an audition for a pretend Girl Greatness Awards show. In their audition, they can talk about events in their life or actions that they have taken which embody some or any of the components of GGC's Mission. This can be an opportunity for girls to share initiatives they are taking or experiences they have had that other girls in the unit may not be aware of. Girls can take turns sharing their auditions with the unit.

Positivity Poster

You will need poster paper and sticky notes for this activity. Explain to the girls that the positivity poster will be a place for them to acknowledge positive actions that they witness amongst the girls and Guiders in the unit. When girls see someone in the unit embodying one of the four components of the Mission, they will write this down on a sticky note. They then stick their note to the positivity poster. (Girls may also write down actions they've seen in the past.) This exercise is meant to be anonymous, so request that girls do not indicate who wrote the note, or who the note is about. The positivity poster can take place during one meeting, or be integrated into every meeting for the month. Sticky notes could also be colour-coded so that each colour represents a different component of GGC's Mission.

helps
Brown owl
clean up

recycling
queen

Secret Friends

Anonymously assign the girls a secret partner so that each girl has a different name of a girl in their unit. Girls should not know who has their name. The girls will secretly leave their partner notes which are encouraging and/or notice positive actions. The unit may want to decorate a positivity box that they can use to 'mail' their positivity letters. This activity could be integrated into several meetings. Secret friends culminates with a reveal where girls share who their partner is.

Moments Worth Noting

Prior to the meeting, purchase or make small notebooks for each girl in the unit, or have the girls make their own notebook as part of the activity. Allow the girls to spend a moment reflecting on how they lived out one or more of the four mission components during the past week. This is a journal and therefore private; however, you can ask them to share if they would like to. Perhaps girls will explore missed opportunities to exhibit the mission and make a plan to incorporate them in the coming weeks. Or, they might jot down ways that their friends are living out the mission and how they admire them. Girls can take the journals home and continue to record their reflections.



Nomination Handout Cards



GIRL GREATNESS AWARDS Call for Nominations

Do you know a girl in Guiding who is filled with courage, resourcefulness, confidence or is making a difference?
Then make a Girl Greatness Award nomination!

Nominate girls (including yourself) in:
Sparks, Brownies, Guides, Pathfinders and Rangers
When: February 1 to March 15, 2017
Go to: girlguides.ca

Interested in being a part of the
Girl Greatness Awards Selection Committee?
Email: girlgreatnessawards@girlguides.ca



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