

World Thinking Day 2027 Activity Guide

Our People

Activities for Girl Scout Cadettes,
Seniors, and Ambassadors.



girlscouts 

“Global sisterhood widens your point of view, makes you more empathetic to the world around you, and builds understanding when you realize how much of a bigger world there is and your role in it.”

— Quote from a Girl Scout

Join Girl Scouts and Girl Guides to make a difference on a global level!



Every year on February 22, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides in more than 150 countries around the world celebrate World Thinking Day! Each year has a special theme, such as helping the environment, fighting poverty, making sure all kids can go to school, or speaking up for fairness and equality. On this day, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides everywhere honor their global community by doing activities around a shared theme.

This year’s theme is Our People. We invite you to join in as we explore our worldwide Girl Scout/Girl Guide community and celebrate the friendships that connect us all around the globe.

Earn your World Thinking Day award in four steps:

- 1. Explore** what World Thinking Day is all about.
- 2. Experience** it with purpose by taking part in meaningful activities.
- 3. Investigate** this year’s special theme.
- 4. Share** what you’ve learned and commit to building a better future.

Ready to think big and explore issues in your community and beyond?



The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) is the largest voluntary movement dedicated to empowering girls and young women in the world.

Let's get started!

STEP 1: Explore World Thinking Day.

Choice 1: Get inspired by WAGGGS Global Advocacy Champions.

Just like Girl Scouts in the United States complete Take Action projects and awards, Girl Guides are doing things like raising awareness about diseases and fighting for access to education for all young people.

For this activity, learn about the latest [WAGGGS Global Advocacy Champions](#) by going online to read some of their stories. Did any spark something in you? If so, what made it significant for you? Do any stories inspire you to think about a project you could do in your own community? How can we learn from and celebrate our global community of Girl Scouts and Girl Guides? Have a discussion with your troop and family members and share answers to these questions.

Choice 2: Share the World Thinking Day story and theme with younger Girl Scouts.

Read through the story called **World Thinking Day History in Four Parts** and add part four about this year's World Thinking Day theme, then come up with a way to share the full story with a group of younger Girl Scouts. You might want to create a skit, video, or booklet about the story.

Choice 3: Create your own World Thinking Day symbol.

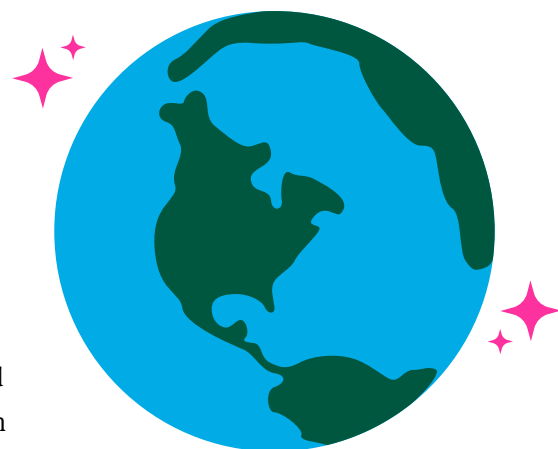
The World Trefoil pin is the unifying symbol of WAGGGS, and every part of its design has meaning. On it are three leaves representing the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise, with a flame that stands for loving all the people in the world. Come up with a symbol for the theme of this year's World Thinking Day.



The World Trefoil symbol's background is **blue** to represent the color of the sky. The outer ring's **gold band** represents sunshine. The inside **gold leaves** stand for the three parts of the Girl Scout Promise. There are two **gold stars**: one is for the Girl Scout Promise and the other is for the Girl Scout Law. The center **gold compass** needle is the safeguard between the Promise and Law. The **gold base** underneath the compass is the flame of international friendship.

STEP 2: Experience World Thinking Day with purpose.

World Thinking Day is more than just thinking. It is knowing that you have the power to make a difference alongside Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world. Create an experience for World Thinking Day that helps you learn more about the world and your place in it.



Choice 1: Interview each other.

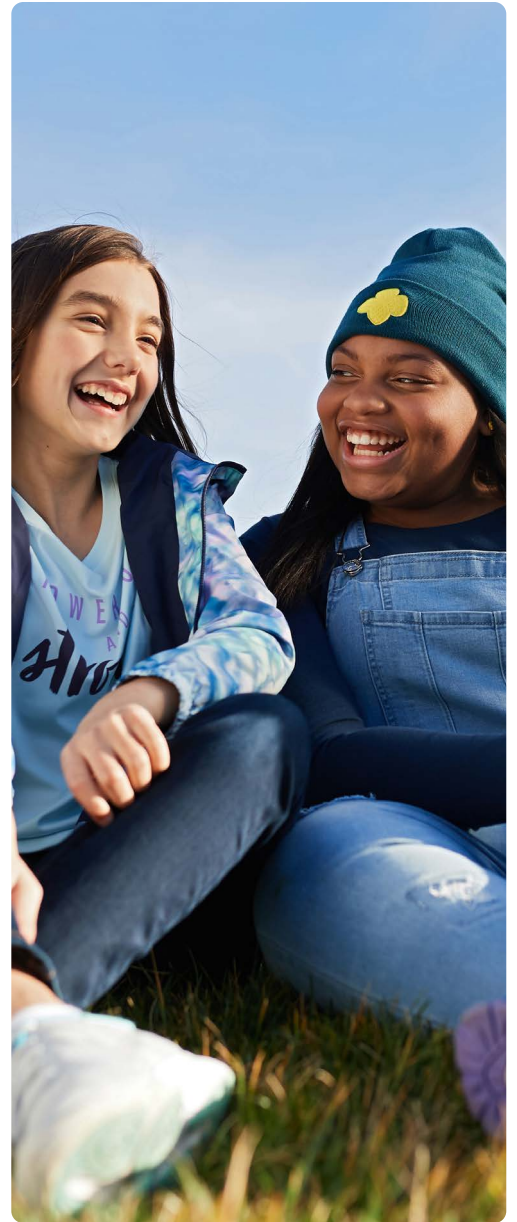
The Girl Scout Movement is made up of many cultures. Culture is the customs of a particular group of people—generally we think about culture as tied to a shared country of origin, nationality, ethnicity, or race. Team up to interview another Girl Scout and share about your cultures. What are your cultural traditions? In your culture, what are the common foods, clothing styles, and music? Ask each other about communication styles, values, and relationship patterns across different generations. Talk about your family cultures. Family culture means the values, rules, and traditions that shape a family’s life and routine. For instance, maybe you gather together with your extended family every weekend, but someone else might go to a reunion once a year. Discuss the differences and similarities. Once you have talked about your own cultures, you can also talk about cultures within the United States. What differences might exist between the east and west coasts? The Midwest and the South?

Choice 2: Investigate what’s global in your community.

Plan a field trip with your troop or with a family member to explore what’s global in your community. You might discover a parade, fair, exhibit, or festival celebrating culture. Who is participating in this cultural event? Where did the culture originate? Ask someone to help you check calendars in your community center to find an event with a global connection. Or explore your neighborhood to find signs of culture in your community. It might be the food at a restaurant or the practices used at various places of worship, or books for your age group in the library that explore various cultures. Draw or make a list of everything you find and create a journal about what you learned about various cultures.

Choice 3: Get to know someone from another culture.

There are many cultural differences among people who grew up in the United States, and there may be even more between people who grew up in a country outside of the United States. Let’s learn! Connect with someone in your community—maybe in your own troop or family—who grew up outside of the United States. Ask if they’ll speak to your troop about the culture they were raised in and what it was like coming to a new country. Think of ideas together and invite one or more of these people to a meeting where you can ask questions. Make sure to come up with ideas for questions beforehand. Ask your guest if they can bring something from their culture to show the group, such as a food or a piece of clothing. Is there a special dance or song they can teach you from their home country? Or maybe they can teach you how to say hello or show respect to adults in their culture.



STEP 3: Investigate this year's World Thinking Day theme.

The theme for **World Thinking Day 2027** is **Our People**.

In Step 1, you explored what World Thinking Day is all about. Every year on February 22, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world celebrate their global bonds and friendship. Since World Thinking Day began, the Girl Scout and Girl Guide organizations have grown—a LOT! That's because so many youth members and volunteers have worked to make them bigger and stronger. Our People have created change and made a difference every day. Explore this history! Pick one of the activities below to learn about Girl Scout changemakers. Then think about how YOU can help shape our future.



Choice 1: Make new friends.

Juliette Gordon Low, lovingly called “Daisy,” is the founder of Girl Scouts. Daisy started the very first Girl Scout troop in 1912. She dreamed of a special place where all girls could make new friends and feel welcome. Her dream came true! Friendships bloomed—and so did the Girl Scouts organization. It grew quickly as more and more girls chose to join.

Today, there are Girl Scout groups all over the globe. Members join partly because it's fun to be a Girl Scout. But there's so much more to it than that! Girl Scouts also learn new skills. They practice leadership and serve their communities. They build the foundation for future action. Bonded by friendship, **Our People** can—and *do*—change the world.

Try this activity:

Make a new friend and show them what's great about Girl Scouts! You could choose a craft to do together, like making friendship bracelets or SWAPS to exchange. You could also make a custom card, if you like, to invite someone new to your group's World Thinking Day event. (It always feels good to be invited!) Share the fun and feel the friendship!

When you're making your plans, consider any barriers that may exist. Could your friend feel nervous about coming into a new environment? If so, how will you make them feel welcome? Do they have transportation? If not, how can you help? Make a plan for inclusion, then make it happen!



Choice 2: Design a place where everyone’s dreams can grow.

Everyone has dreams—but when **Our People** come together, we can dream BIGGER! A special place called the Girl Scout Dreamlab® The Girl Scouts organization runs these gathering places across the United States.

A Girl Scout Dreamlab® is a space made by and for Girl Scouts. It’s a place to hang out while doing fun stuff like reading, building things, rock wall climbing, crafts, and much more. Every facility has different activities—it depends on who designed it! But whatever it offers, every Girl Scout Dreamlab® has the same purpose. It brings Girl Scouts together to explore their interests and turn ideas into reality.

Try this activity:

Watch a video online about a [Girl Scout Dreamlab®](#), then brainstorm your own gathering space. Will it be a place to explore new ideas or help friends? How will you make it a fun space where everyone feels welcome? What activities will you do there? What will the furniture, decorations, and lighting be like? Consider interviewing Girl Scouts and other friends to learn what kinds of spaces and activities would feel meaningful to them.



When you’re done brainstorming, create a blueprint of your space showing size, arrangement, rooms, furniture, activity areas, and so on. You can create the blueprint on paper or digitally. Don’t be afraid to dream BIG. When you use your imagination, anything and everything is possible!

Choice 3: Meet or learn about a Girl Scout or Girl Guide changemaker.

Juliette “Daisy” Gordon Low designed Girl Scouts to be a place where girls could learn practical skills, break boundaries, and dream big. She encouraged members to run projects, speak out about important causes, and take charge in their everyday lives. Daisy’s vision, which is still alive and well today, has shaped generations of leaders and changemakers. **Our People** get things done—and you can, too!

Try this activity:

Choose one option to learn about a Girl Scout or Girl Guide changemaker of the past, present, or future:



- Learn more about a changemaker of the past or present who interests you. You might read about [WAGGGS Global Advocacy Champions](#), [Gold Award Girl Scouts](#), or changemakers from [Girl Scouts’ history](#). With a group, take turns sharing what you’ve learned.
- Invite a current leader from your Girl Scout council to speak to your group. Find out what dreams they have for Girl Scouting—and how they’re working to bring these dreams to life. Ask what being a part of Girl Scouts means to them.
- Talk to a Girl Scout who has earned their Silver or Gold Award. What challenges did they face in achieving the award, and how did they overcome them? What help did they get from their Girl Scout friends or community? Use this conversation as a springboard to get inspired and think about earning your own Highest Award. What causes do you care about? How can you make lasting change in your community and the world?

STEP 4: Share what you learned and commit to a better future.

Share what you learned about World Thinking Day. Did you connect with someone to learn about their country or culture? Tell your friends about it and share what you discovered. Did you explore something interesting about the World Thinking Day theme? You could share that instead.

Choice 1: Participate in a World Thinking Day event. You and your troop can plan a Take Action project based on the issues you learned about. Or plan an event for friends and family that focuses on the issue. Have food or music from cultures you may have learned about. Invite a guest speaker to talk to your group. Reach out to your troop network to find organizations with experience in global issues, especially one that connects to the theme you learned about. Find out from your guest speaker how you can make a difference. What can you do in your home, community, and the world?

Choice 2: Create a message.

Work with your group to come up with a message about this year's theme. Think about creating flyers or posters with the message you want to share at school, at events, or through social media. Decide if you want to take a photograph or record a video to share your message. Be sure to include the information you learned and one concrete action that people can do to help. If you decide to share on social media, be sure to talk with your parents first and get their permission. Review the Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge for more information.

Choice 3: Use design thinking to come up with solutions and share them.

Design thinking is a human-centered approach to solving problems. It's important to make sure that the solutions we come up with are meeting a need

a community says it has, not what we think it needs. So, talk to or learn about community members and the issues they face. Or brainstorm ideas with your troop to specifically help this year's World Thinking Day theme. Then make sure to share it with others.

To do this:

- **Empathize:** First learn about your audience, which includes the people, places, and communities impacted by the problem.
- **Define:** What are their needs?
- **Brainstorm:** Come up with as many creative solutions as possible! All ideas are encouraged! Check back in with community members for their input.
- **Prototype:** Draw or build a representation of your idea. This only needs to be a rough draft to help show your idea.
- **Test:** Share your idea with others and find ways to improve it.

When you are done with all four steps, make sure you celebrate! Working with your global Girl Scout and Girl Guide community to explore this year's theme and earn your World Thinking Day award means you've helped make the world a better place.





The World Thinking Day Story in Four Parts

Supports Step 1

Part 1: A Special Day

In 1926, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from around the world met in the United States and created a special day where we can all think of one another and express thanks for our community of Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from around the world. They called it Thinking Day. They chose February 22 because it was the birthday of both Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of the Boy Scouts and co-founder of Girl Guides (along with his sister Agnes Baden-Powell), and his wife Olave Baden-Powell, who was the Chief Girl Guide.

Part 2: A Birthday Gift

In 1932, at the 7th World Conference in Buczek, Poland, it was pointed out that since a birthday often involves presents, it would be a good idea to offer gifts on Thinking Day to support Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world. Olave Baden-Powell wrote a letter asking Girl Scouts and Girl Guides to “Send a penny with their thoughts” on Thinking Day.

Part 3: World Thinking Day

In 1999, at the 30th World Conference in Dublin, Ireland, Thinking Day changed to World Thinking Day as a better name to show our connection with Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the globe.

Part 4: Coming Together

Each year, World Thinking Day focuses on a theme where the whole community of Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the globe works together to find ways to help. This year’s theme is *Our Friendship*.



Girl Scout and Girl Guide Changemakers

Supports Step 3, Choice 3

Juliette Gordon Low | *Girl Scouts of the USA Founder*

Juliette Gordon Low, affectionately known as “Daisy,” founded Girl Scouts in 1912. She dreamed of a space where members could practice leadership skills, help themselves and others, and bring their ideas to life. Daisy passed away in 1927, but her vision lives on! Today’s Girl Scouts honor Daisy’s memory every time they speak up, blaze their own trail, and make the world a better place.



Sarah | *GSUSA Gold Award Girl Scout*

The Gold Award is Girl Scouting’s biggest honor. It is earned by planning and leading a project that makes a lasting impact on an issue in your community. Sarah earned her Gold Award by creating the Musical Lending Library at the Fayetteville Free Library in New York. This program lets musicians try instruments before buying them, ensuring they get the one that’s right for them. “Music is a universal language that knits us all together,” she explains. Now, thanks to Sarah, the music will play even louder.



Kettie | *WAGGGS Global Advocacy Champion*

From her home country of Malawi, Africa, Kettie observed strong, successful women around the world. She wanted Malawi women to have the same opportunities to achieve their goals. So, she became a women’s advocate—that’s someone who speaks up or acts to help overcome challenges others are facing. As a Girl Guide, Kettie mentors women and girls of all ages, encouraging them to attend school and build careers. Through this work, she is supporting Malawi’s women to become the leaders of tomorrow.



Agnes Baden-Powell | *Girl Guides Founder*

When Agnes Baden-Powell’s brother, Robert, founded the Boy Scout movement in the UK, he quickly found out that girls wanted to be in on the fun, too—so Agnes took on the challenge and founded the Girl Guides in 1910. Agnes served as the organization’s first president for seven years, then continued as vice president until her death in 1945. During this time, she wrote many Girl Guide books and magazines. She also helped plan what members would learn and do in the program.



Olave Baden-Powell | *World Chief Guide, Girl Guides*

Olave Baden-Powell, Agnes’ sister-in-law, started working with the Girl Guides organization in 1915. By 1918, she had risen to the rank of Chief Guide for Britain, and in 1930, she was elected World Chief Guide. She worked in this top role for forty years, traveling tirelessly to establish the Guide Movement in countries all over the globe. Under Olave’s leadership, membership rose to over 6.5 million worldwide.

