

Understanding the girl-driven approach

At GGC we know that there's no better expert on girls than girls themselves. That's why our new program puts girls in the lead with the girl-driven approach.

The girl-driven approach is the “how” of the Guiding program. It puts the girl in the driver’s seat allowing her to choose what she gets out of Guiding and provides opportunities for leadership and decision-making within her unit, the wider organization and the community.

As a Guider, when you use a girl-driven approach, you’ll be supporting her choice, voice and action:

- Girls are given the freedom to pursue their interests
- Girl issues are heard and taken seriously
- Girls can advocate for their interests in GGC and engage meaningfully in the wider community

Seeking girl input makes a lot of sense, but the girl-driven approach doesn’t mean, for example, that you give a Spark the keys to the car and wish her luck! You’ll have to teach her about cars and the rules of the road. Once she’s a Guide, you might sit beside her in the passenger’s seat, so you can grab the wheel if things go sideways. By the time she’s a Ranger you can sit in the back seat and enjoy the ride, offering directions when asked.



How can Guiders deliver girl-driven experiences?

Create safe space: Guiding is about more than activities and earning badges. The unit is a non-judgmental place where girls can share experiences and talk about the issues in their lives.

Adopt a growth mindset: Growth means a focus on the process of learning rather than just achievements. In Guiding, girls can step out of their comfort zones and challenge themselves in new ways.

Support positive identity: Guiding helps girls explore who they are, challenge stereotypes and discover new abilities and passions.

Share leadership: Girls and Guiders work in partnership, sharing responsibility for creating a fun, meaningful Guiding experience.

Engage community: Through Guiding, girls have opportunities to engage with social issues they care about and have opportunities to meaningfully engage with the organization and their community.

Girl-Driven Approach: Overview



Safe Space

Making all girls feel welcome, listened to and respected

Living and breathing the Promise and the Law

Talking about life's challenges and supporting one another

Participating in a way that she is comfortable with



Growth Mindset

Growing through exploring her interests and potential

Challenging herself and breaking out of her comfort zone

Focusing on process vs achievement

Understanding her developmental stage and meeting her where she is at

Experimenting and having fun!



Positive Identity

Exploring her interests in a non-judgmental way regardless of ability

Challenging stereotypes of what someone can and can't do

Meeting inspiring women from all walks of life

Supporting girls in overcoming barriers



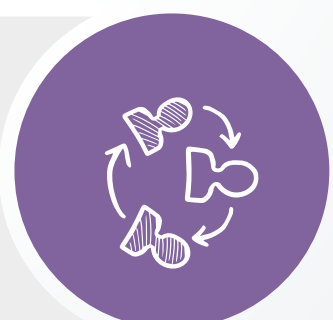
Shared Leadership

Building relationships and connection between girls and Guiders

Involving girls in planning, decision making, and sharing information

Choosing their program and voicing what is important to them

Working as a team, sharing responsibilities and supporting each other



Engage Community

Identifying issues in the local community, as well as issues relevant to girls

Engaging with community through service or action projects

Learning about rights and responsibilities as a citizen

Participating meaningfully in the organization

Everything she wants to be.