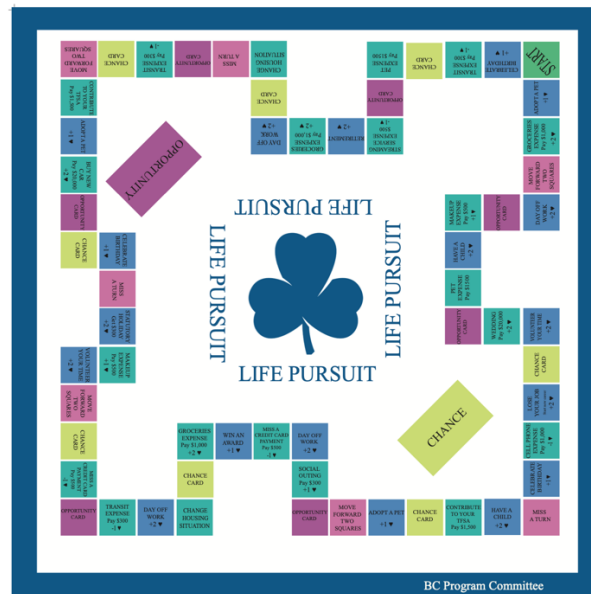


# LIFE PURSUIT

## A GIRL GUIDE GAME

### Board Game Instruction Manual



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## Welcome

Welcome to Life Pursuit, a fun board game presented by the BC Program Committee. This game was originally created by Elizabeth Knowles of Quebec Council (2014), adapted by the 14<sup>th</sup> Vancouver Guides (2019) and adapted again by the BC Program Committee (2025).

This instruction manual is designed especially for Pathfinders and Rangers. It goes with the board game available for purchase in Spring 2025. It can be played in about 1 hour or extended for greater enjoyment. Youth will learn about budgeting, schooling, careers, loan payments, renting and buying a home, adulting skills, etc. This is intended as a legacy project, so board games include items that units can use over and over. The instruction manual can be used by any GGC group to play the board game.

Feel free to supplement your unit's experience by creating your own Opportunity Cards and Chance Cards using the blank cards provided.

Send us photos of your unit playing the board game: [bc-program@girlguides.ca](mailto:bc-program@girlguides.ca)

## Board Game Contents

- Board Game Box
- Game Board (1)
- Player Pieces (10)
- Die (1)
- Happiness Heart Pieces (200)
- 3 Sets of Cards: Opportunity Cards, Chance Cards, and Career Cards
- Extra Copies of the *Where's My Money?* Tracker Sheets (10)

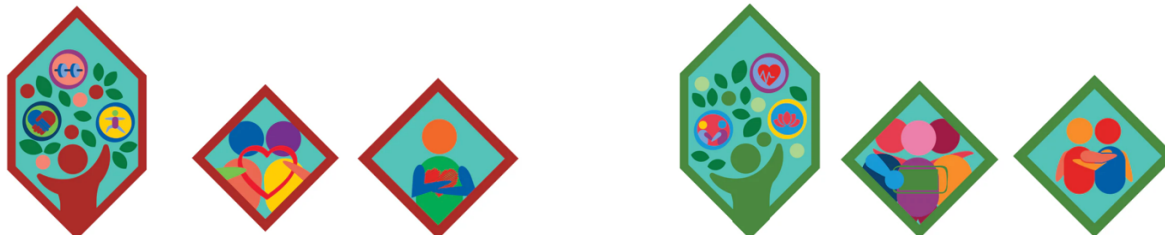
## Additional Supplies Required

- Pencils (10)
- Small Bowls (10)
- Extra photocopies of the *Where's My Money?* Tracker Sheets

## Girls First

We suggest the following Girls First Areas and Themes to match the board game content. Since the Pathfinders and Ranger programs are flexible, you may find other program matches for this game. Feel free to assign the badges as you see fit.

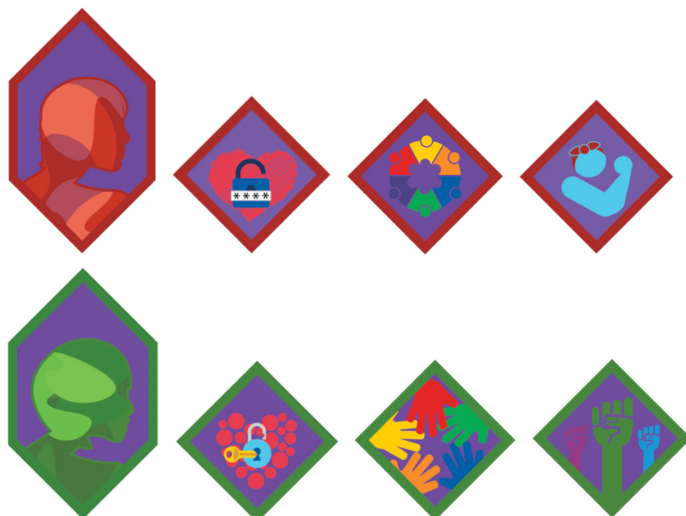
### Be Well – My Healthy Relationships, My Mighty Mind



### Build Skills – How To, Life Stuff, Money Sense



### Explore Identities – Being You, Different Together, Gender Power



## Set Up

We recommend that youth play in teams of two. Each board game can accommodate up to 10 teams. At least one Guider should be present to supervise and provide assistance if needed.

### Game Pieces

Place all the game pieces on the trefoil in the centre of the game board.

### Cards

- There are three sets of cards: Career, Opportunity and Chance.
- A **Career Card** will be given to each team at the start of the game. The card will indicate the team's **education, job and salary**.
- Teams draw an Opportunity Card each time they land on the Opportunity Card (♥) square on the board. **Opportunity Cards** describe positive events that may occur in life and allow the players to collect Happiness Heart Beads. Players then place their Opportunity Card at the bottom of the pile on the board.
- Teams draw a Chance Card each time they land on the Chance Card (?) square on the board. **Chance Cards** describe positive and negative events that may occur in life. Some are lucky and some are not. Each card will explain what the players need to do. The players may gain or lose Happiness Heart Beads, depending on the scenario. Players may also be instructed to pay for unexpected expenses. Players then place their Chance Card at the bottom of the pile on the board.

### Happiness Heart Beads

Happiness Heart Beads may be acquired or lost through Opportunity Cards and Chance Cards. Teams can collect **Happiness Heart Beads** when positive events occur in their lives, such as joyful moments or life choices. Players may also lose Happiness Heart Beads when negative events occur. You may wish to give a small bowl to each team to keep all the Happiness Heart Beads together as they accumulate.

### *Where's My Money?* Tracker Sheets

Each team will have a *Where's My Money?* Tracker Sheet. The team is responsible for keeping track of all the money collected (e.g., from salary and revenues) and paid (e.g., for loans and expenses). Money going out and money going in are both recorded in separate columns.

## Introduction Activity – Discussion

Explain to the youth that they will be playing a board game about life. In the game, they can go to school, get a job, rent or buy a place to live, earn money, pay expenses, and maybe even have a child or a pet. The object of the game is to have enough money to live your life and to collect happiness.

Go around the group and ask the youth to share one thing they are looking forward to in their own life or one thing that makes them nervous about growing up. Together, discuss with the youth the pros and cons of post-secondary education and/or trades. Continuing with education after high school will require paying for tuition or taking out student loans. Getting a job right after high school gives an opportunity to earn money but often at a lower salary than those workers with university degrees. Discuss job satisfaction versus high salary.




## Rules and How-To




Teams will move along a path on the game board. Each team moves by rolling a die and proceeding around the squares.

- **GUIDER'S ROLE:** A Guider will have all the Happiness Heart Beads to distribute. The Guider hands out the beads to the players during the game. Guiders also track loans and can explain the money tracker and other scenarios encountered in the game.
- **PREPARATION:** Place the board game on a table. Put the Chance Cards and Opportunity Cards face-down on their allotted spaces on the board. Place the Career Cards face-down in the centre of the board. Each team chooses one coloured game piece to represent them while travelling around the board.
- **TEAMS:** Each team will consist of two people. Each team chooses a game piece and places it on the trefoil in the middle of the board. Each team should have a pencil and a *Where's Your Money?* Tracker Sheet.
- **START OF THE GAME:** Each team in turn throws the die. The team with the highest number (6) starts the play. Each team must roll a 6 to get off the trefoil and onto the game board. They should roll again so they could land on squares 1 to 5. Throw the die and move the game piece in the direction of the arrow, going the number of spaces indicated by the die. After the first team completes their play, the turn passes to the left in a clockwise direction. The game pieces remain on the spaces occupied and proceed from that point on the team's next turn. Two




or more game pieces may be on the same space at the same time. According to the space the game piece reaches, the team may earn some money or pay some expenses or draw a Chance Card or an Opportunity Card.

- **CAREER CARDS:** At the start of the game, each team will select a Career Card from the face-down pile. This card indicates the education, job and salary for the team.
  - **Option 1 (Random):** The Guider shuffles the Career Cards and places them face-down in a pile. Taking turns, each team picks up the card on the top. If the job requires a post-secondary education or special training, the team will have to take out a loan of \$30 000.
  - **Option 2 (Purposeful):** The Guider shuffles the Career Cards and places them face-down in a pile. Taking turns, each team picks up the top three cards and chooses one card as their job. If the job requires a post-secondary education or special training, the team will have to take out a loan of \$30 000.
- **CHANCE CARDS AND OPPORTUNITY CARDS:** When a team lands on either of these spaces, take the top card from the deck indicated, follow the instructions and return the card face-down to the bottom of the deck.
- **HOUSING:** Each team starts the game living at home. Each time the team passes the “GO” square, they have the option of changing their housing situation by rolling a die once. After seeing the result of the die roll, players have the option of acting on it (e.g., to rent or buy) or to stay where they are. If players want to buy a house, they can opt to take out a loan to pay the “**Purchase Price**”. “**Home insurance**” can only be bought at the time of purchasing a condominium, a townhouse or a detached house.




| Die Roll  | Housing Options   |
|---|---|
|  | <b>Live at Home</b><br>-Yearly Cost = pay \$1 000               |
|  | <b>Rent a Place with Friends</b><br>-Yearly Cost = pay \$12 000 |
|  | <b>Rent a Place on Your Own</b><br>-Yearly Cost = pay \$20 000  |

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  | <b>Buy a Condominium</b><br>-Purchase Price = \$80 000 to get in<br>-Home Insurance = pay \$50 000<br>-Yearly cost = pay \$24 000      |
|  | <b>Buy a Townhouse</b><br>-Purchase price = \$160 000 to get in<br>-Home Insurance = pay \$75 000<br>-Yearly cost = pay \$30 000       |
|  | <b>Buy a Detached House</b><br>-Purchase Price = \$300 000 to get in<br>-Home Insurance = pay \$100 000<br>-Yearly Cost = pay \$40 000 |

- GO SQUARE:** Each time a team passes the “GO” square:
  - they have the option of “**getting paid their salary**” or “**choosing a new Career Card**”. If you choose a new Career Card, you do not get salary on this turn. That is the cost of changing your job and possible job-retraining.
  - they must **pay for their housing**. Refer to the “**Yearly Cost**” for each housing option – this shows how much to pay.
  - they must **pay income tax**. Income tax is 30% of the salary, as indicated on the Career Card. Income tax is paid on the new job salary if the team changed jobs.
  - they must **pay property tax**. Players do not pay property tax if they live at home or rent a place with friends or on their own. To determine how much the players have to pay for property tax, they must roll a die.

| Die Roll  | Action Required   |
|---|---|
|  | <b>Live at Home</b><br>-Property Tax = pay \$0              |
|  | <b>Rent a Place with Friends</b><br>-Property Tax = pay \$0 |
|  | <b>Rent a Place on Your Own</b><br>-Property Tax = pay \$0  |



|   |   |
|---|---|
|  | <b>Bought a Condominium</b><br>-Property Tax = pay \$1 000    |
|  | <b>Bought a Townhouse</b><br>-Property Tax = pay \$2 000      |
|  | <b>Bought a Detached House</b><br>-Property Tax = pay \$5 000 |

- **LOSS OF JOB:** If a player loses their job, they have to go back to the centre and get a new card. They will have to roll a 6 on the die to get out again.
- **HEALTH INSURANCE:** Health insurance costs \$5 000 and may be bought at any point during the game.
- **LOANS:** Bank loans can be taken out at any time during the game. They are available in chunks of \$20 000 at a time and must be paid back at \$25 000 (e.g., \$5 000 in interest on each chunk) by the end of the game, or earlier if the players choose. The Guider keeps track of all loans.
- **RETIREMENT:** When the team encounters retirement, they can continue to play the game, but stop collecting their salary, selecting new Career Cards, or paying income tax on salary (since they don't have a salary any more).
- **WHEN THE GAME IS OVER:** The game ends when all the teams have retired or when the Guider says so. The teams stop playing, repays any loans, count the Heart Happiness Beads and calculate the final totals.

## Concluding Activity – Discussion

Have the youth share their thoughts on the playing the board game. Consider discussing the following questions:

- What parts did the teams find frustrating?
- What parts of the game did they enjoy?
- Do they wish they had made different choices in career selection?
- What factors impacted how much money they were left with?

- Was it satisfying to collect the Happiness Heart Beads? Are there important things in life that have no monetary value?
- If they played the game again, would they change any of their choices (e.g., career, housing, insurance, etc.)?
- Should any careers, opportunities, or chances be added to your card decks?

# APPENDICES

# Housing

| Housing Option                   | Cost  | Home Insurance | Property Tax |
|----------------------------------|---|----------------|--------------|
| <b>Live at Home</b>              | Yearly Cost = pay \$1 000                         | \$0            | \$0          |
| <b>Rent a Place with Friends</b> | Yearly Cost = pay \$12 000                        | \$0            | \$0          |
| <b>Rent a Place on Your Own</b>  | Yearly Cost = pay \$20 000                        | \$0            | \$0          |
| <b>Bought a Condominium</b>      | Yearly Cost = pay \$24 000<br>\$80 000 to get in  | \$50 000       | \$1 000      |
| <b>Bought a Townhouse</b>        | Yearly Cost = pay \$30 000<br>\$160 000 to get in | \$75 000       | \$2 000      |
| <b>Bought a Detached House</b>   | Yearly Cost = pay \$40 000<br>\$300 000 to get in | \$100 000      | \$5 000      |

**NOTE:**

Loans from banks are available to purchase a dwelling.



# Careers

| Career                 | Education / Training Cost | Salary    | Income Tax |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Accountant             | \$30 000                  | \$65 000  | \$19 500   |
| Carpenter              | \$5 000                   | \$55 000  | \$16 500   |
| Cashier                |                           | \$34 000  | \$10 200   |
| Chemical Engineer      | \$30 000                  | \$115 000 | \$34 500   |
| Cleaner                |                           | \$30 000  | \$9 000    |
| Gardener               |                           | \$40 000  | \$12 000   |
| Dental Hygienist       | \$30 000                  | \$92 000  | \$27 600   |
| Dentist                | \$60 000                  | \$200 000 | \$60 000   |
| Electrician            | \$7 000                   | \$64 000  | \$19 200   |
| Financial Advisor      | \$30 000                  | \$88 000  | \$26 400   |
| Firefighter            | \$10 000                  | \$68 000  | \$20 400   |
| Insurance Agent        | \$5 000                   | \$60 000  | \$18 000   |
| Interior Designer      | \$30 000                  | \$60 000  | \$18 000   |
| Mechanic               | \$10 000                  | \$60 000  | \$18 000   |
| Nurse                  | \$30 000                  | \$73 000  | \$21 900   |
| Occupational Therapist | \$30 000                  | \$85 000  | \$25 500   |
| Physician              | \$60 000                  | \$300 000 | \$90 000   |
| Plumber                | \$5 000                   | \$60 000  | \$18 000   |
| Professor              | \$60 000                  | \$95 000  | \$28 500   |
| Receptionist           |                           | \$34 000  | \$10 200   |
| Software Engineer      | \$30 000                  | \$135 000 | \$40 500   |
| Teacher                | \$30 000                  | \$50 000  | \$15 000   |
| Veterinarian           | \$60 000                  | \$99 000  | \$29 700   |

## NOTE:

**Post-Secondary Education cost** is based on a 4-year tuition program at a university.

**Training cost** is based on a program at a trade school.

**Salary** is the average across Canada.

**Income Tax** is based on 30% of the salary.



# Opportunity Cards

| Opportunity Card |   | Happiness Heart<br>Beads ♥ |
|------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1                | Your team wins.   | 1                          |
| 2                | You buy new clothes.                                    | 1                          |
| 3                | You go to the movies.                                   | 1                          |
| 4                | You go snowboarding.                                    | 1                          |
| 5                | You go on a camping trip.                               | 1                          |
| 6                | You work out at the gym.                                | 1                          |
| 7                | You sleep in on the weekend.                            | 1                          |
| 8                | You adopt a pet from a shelter.                         | 1                          |
| 9                | You find your unicorn in a store.                       | 1                          |
| 10               | You go on a trip with your family.                      | 1                          |
| 11               | You do some community service.                          | 1                          |
| 12               | You go get a manicure and pedicure.                     | 1                          |
| 13               | You reconnect with a childhood friend.                  | 1                          |
| 14               | You find your size jeans on the sale rack.              | 1                          |
| 15               | Your Grandma sends you a care package.                  | 1                          |
| 16               | You find some money in your jeans pocket.               | 1                          |
| 17               | You volunteer for your favourite organization.          | 1                          |
| 18               | You see your child perform in a dance recital.          | 1                          |
| 19               | You pay off a loan.                                     | 2                          |
| 20               | You start a relationship.                               | 2                          |
| 21               | You have your first child.                              | 2                          |
| 22               | You celebrate a milestone birthday.                     | 2                          |
| 23               | You win the lottery. Collect \$10 000.                  | 2                          |
| 24               | You win a free dream trip on the radio.                 | 2                          |
| 25               | Your friends throw you a surprise party.                | 2                          |
| 26               | You check one thing off your bucket list.               | 2                          |
| 27               | You have a spa weekend with your friends.               | 2                          |
| 28               | You go to a concert by your favourite artist.           | 2                          |
| 29               | You are recognized for your volunteerism with an award. | 2                          |

|    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 30 | You have a big family reunion in a sunny destination. | 2 |
|----|---|---|

# Chance Cards

| Chance Card Content |   | Happiness Heart<br>Beads ♥ |
|---------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1                   | Trade jobs (and salary) with another team.                              |                            |
| 2                   | You walk to work.   | Gain 1 ♥                   |
| 3                   | You start training for a 10 km run.                                     | Gain 1 ♥                   |
| 4                   | You find a \$100 bill on the ground.                                    | Gain 1 ♥                   |
| 5                   | You buy a cool outfit to go to a concert.                               | Gain 1 ♥                   |
| 6                   | Your boss gives you a bonus. Collect \$5 000.                           | Gain 1 ♥                   |
| 7                   | You meet your favourite author at a book signing.                       | Gain 1 ♥                   |
| 8                   | You want to take violin lessons. Pay \$5 000 to the music teacher.      | Gain 1 ♥                   |
| 9                   | You win two free movie passes.  | Gain 2 ♥                   |
| 10                  | You pay off your balance on your credit card.                           | Gain 2 ♥                   |
| 11                  | You need braces. Pay the orthodontist \$8 000.                          | Gain 2 ♥                   |
| 12                  | You are adopting a child. Pay \$10 000 for the paperwork.               | Gain 2 ♥                   |
| 13                  | You want to take cooking lessons. Pay \$5 000 for the classes.          | Gain 2 ♥                   |
| 14                  | You meet your favourite celebrity in person and get an autograph.       | Gain 2 ♥                   |
| 15                  | You are making an investment. Pay \$10 000 to the financial adviser.    | Gain 2 ♥                   |
| 16                  | You are going to a sunny destination. Pay \$5 000 for travel expenses.  | Gain 2 ♥                   |
| 17                  | You are taking an international trip. Pay \$10 000 for travel expenses. | Gain 2 ♥                   |
| 18                  | You want to renovate your house. Pay the \$20 000 to the architect.     | Gain 2 ♥                   |
| 19                  | Your rent just increased. Pay \$500.                                    | Lose 1 ♥                   |



|    |  |          |
|----|--|----------|
| 20 | Your stove broke and you must buy a new one. Pay \$2 000 to the salesperson.                             | Lose 1 ♥ |
| 21 | You missed a cell phone bill payment.  | Lose 2 ♥ |
| 22 | You are moving and need to find a new job.   | Lose 2 ♥ |
| 23 | You can't work for a week because of illness.  | Lose 2 ♥ |
| 24 | You get into a car accident. Pay \$5 000 for repairs.  | Lose 2 ♥ |
| 25 | You got scammed on the internet. Pay \$10 000.   | Lose 2 ♥ |
| 26 | A rock hit your windshield and you have to get it repaired. Pay \$2 000.                                 | Lose 2 ♥ |
| 27 | A tree fell on your roof. Pay \$15 000 unless you have house insurance.                                  | Lose 2 ♥ |
| 28 | You broke your leg on vacation. Pay the doctor \$25 000 unless you have health insurance.                | Lose 2 ♥ |
| 29 | Your basement floods during a heavy rainfall. Pay \$10 000 unless you have house insurance.              | Lose 2 ♥ |
| 30 | Your house burns down. Buy another one and pay the fire fighter \$5 000 unless you have house insurance. | Lose 2 ♥ |

# Board Game Squares

| Description on the Square                       |  | Happiness Heart Beads ♥ |
|---|--|-------------------------|
| GO  |  |                         |
| Miss a Turn                                     |  |                         |
| Chance Card (?)                                 |  |                         |
| Go Back 1 Square                                |  |                         |
| Opportunity Card (♥)                            |  |                         |
| Move Forward 2 Squares                          |  |                         |
| Change Housing Situation                        |  |                         |
| Car Insurance – Pay \$1 500                     |  |                         |
| Lose Your Job – Start New Career                |  |                         |
| Pet Expense – Pay \$1 500 (don't pay if no pet) |  |                         |
| Transit Expense – Pay \$300                     |  | Lose 1 ♥                |
| Vehicle Expense – Pay \$6 000                   |  | Lose 1 ♥                |
| Cell Phone Expense – Pay \$1 000                |  | Lose 1 ♥                |
| Miss a Credit Card Payment – Pay \$500          |  | Lose 1 ♥                |
| Streaming Services Expense – Pay \$500          |  | Lose 1 ♥                |
| Lose Your Job – Go Back to School               |  | Lose 2 ♥                |
| Adopt a Pet                                     |  | Gain 1 ♥                |
| Celebrate Your Birthday                         |  | Gain 1 ♥                |
| Makeup Expense – Pay \$500                      |  | Gain 1 ♥                |
| Have Kids                                       |  | Gain 2 ♥                |
| Retirement                                      |  | Gain 2 ♥                |
| Day Off Work                                    |  | Gain 2 ♥                |
| Volunteer Your Time                             |  | Gain 2 ♥                |
| Wedding – Pay \$20 000                          |  | Gain 2 ♥                |
| Statutory Holiday – Pay \$300                   |  | Gain 2 ♥                |
| Buy a New Car – Pay \$20 000                    |  | Gain 2 ♥                |
| Groceries Expense – Pay \$1 000                 |  | Gain 2 ♥                |
| Social “Eating Out” Expense – Pay \$300         |  | Gain 2 ♥                |
| Contribute to Your TFSA – Pay \$1 500           |  |                         |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  | <p>Note: You do not lose the money. It comes out of your available but will still be part of your calculation at the end. Player gets \$150 every time the player goes pass start as an investment growth.</p> |  |
|--|--|--|



|                   |  |                    |  |
|-------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| <b>Job:</b>       |  | <b>Salary:</b>     |  |
| <b>Education:</b> |  | <b>Income Tax:</b> |  |

[illegible]

**TOTAL:**