



# World Thinking Day 2022

Cadettes, Seniors, & Ambassadors



# What's inside:

This guide contains everything you need to celebrate World Thinking Day with Girl Scouts Nation's Capital and earn your *Our Council, Our Voices* patch. This program is designed to complement the Girl Scouts USA World Thinking Day award requirements.

Questions? Contact Emily Mercurio, Program Specialist:  
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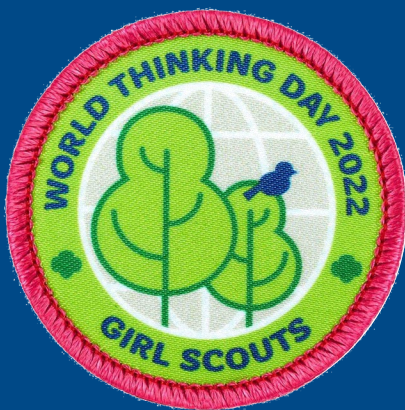
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# What is World Thinking Day?

Making the world a better place is Girl Scout Law, so it's no surprise we have a holiday dedicated to doing just that. Each February 22, Girl Scouts and Girl Guides across 150 countries celebrate World Thinking Day. It's a day of international friendship and a time to stand up for causes that could improve the lives of girls around the globe.

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), of which all Girl Scouts are a part, has celebrated World Thinking Day since 1926.

## This year's theme: Our World, Our Equal Future



The 2022 World Thinking Day theme is "Our World, Our Equal Future: The Environment and Gender Equality". To earn your World Thinking Day Award, you'll explore how girls and women are disproportionately affected by climate change and participate in the Girl Scout Tree Promise.

# World Thinking Day looks a little different this year.

There are three steps to the Girl Scouts Nation's Capital World Thinking Day celebration. Each step pairs with different pieces of the [World Thinking Day badge requirements](#). Printable activity pages for girls are available at the end of this document.

## The Girl Scout Tree Promise

- 1 Go on a Tree Trek and meet your local forest! On your trek, you'll discover the importance of trees, learn to identify different trees in our area, and find ways to protect the trees in our communities and around the world.

*Pairs with steps 4 and 5 of the World Thinking Day Award..*

## Climate and Gender Inequality

- 2 Learn about how climate change and gender inequality are related by listening to experts and discussing with your fellow Girl Scouts.

*Pairs with steps 2 and 3 of the World Thinking Day Award.*

## Our Council, Our Voices

- 3 Raise your voice and speak your truth by contributing to our first-of-its-kind, girl-led publication, *Our Council, Our Voices*. Girls of all ages from across our council are invited to share their writing and art responding to issues they explored during World Thinking Day.



# The Girl Scout Tree Promise

These activities complement, but don't fulfill, steps 4 & 5 of the [World Thinking Day Award requirements](#) for Cadettes, Seniors, & Ambassadors.

## 1. Meet Your Neighborhood Forest

Learn how to identify at least three different types of trees native to our area. Then, explore the trees growing in your community. Are there lots of trees, or just a few? Are they healthy? Are they native species? Why is it important to have trees growing in your town or city?

**Bonus:** Some cities have a map showing every tree growing within their borders—wow! Visit one of the cities below and use its tree map to observe and learn about all the trees you see. Think about what role trees play in building healthy cities.

Washington, DC: [caseytrees.org/resources-list/d-c-street-trees-map/](https://caseytrees.org/resources-list/d-c-street-trees-map/)

Arlington, VA: [www.arlingtonva.gov/departments/public-works/trees/tree-inventory](https://www.arlingtonva.gov/departments/public-works/trees/tree-inventory)

Baltimore, MD: [www.treebaltimore.org/maps](https://www.treebaltimore.org/maps)

## 2. Think About Trees

Respond to the following questions through discussion, writing, or art:

- What are some of the major threats to trees on our planet?
- How can we make the world a better place for trees?

## Optional: Plant a Tree, Make a Promise

The best time to plant a tree is 50 years ago. The second best time is today. Use seeds, seedlings, or young trees from a nursery to plant at least one **native** tree in your community. Be sure to get permission before planting any trees on private property.

When you plant your tree, you'll be taking part in the **Girl Scout Tree Promise**, a national initiative to plant 5 million trees across the US by 2026. Add the trees you planted to our total at [www.girlscouts.org/en/activities-for-girls/for-every-girl/tree-promise.html](https://www.girlscouts.org/en/activities-for-girls/for-every-girl/tree-promise.html) and get your Girl Scout Tree Promise patch!



# Climate & Gender Inequality

These activities complement, but don't fulfill, steps 2 & 3 of the [World Thinking Day Award requirements](#) for Cadettes, Seniors, & Ambassadors..

## 1. Learn from the experts

Listen to a speech, read an article, watch a video, or invite an expert to talk to your troop about how climate change and gender inequality are related issues. You can check out the Girl Scouts USA World Thinking Day Activity Guide for information!

## 2. Share your thoughts

Once you've gotten some background information, talk to your fellow Girl Scouts about what you learned. Here's some questions to get you started.

- What can you do to affect larger changes, maybe on a global scale?
- How can Girl Scouts in the USA work together with Girl Scouts and Girl Guides in other countries to protect the planet?
- Why are women more susceptible to the effects of climate change?
- What needs to happen to protect vulnerable women from extreme weather?

**Bonus:** Listen to and learn to sing “The World Song” (the official song of WAGGGS). How do the lyrics relate to the topics you just discussed?

Tips for talking  
about sensitive  
topics with  
teenagers

- Climate anxiety and sexism are both very real problems for girls today. Resist the urge to dismiss teens' fears for their futures with platitudes like “it will all be okay” and focus instead on action: what can we do to make this better? And how can we feel better right now?
- Start with facts. Begin the conversation by letting each girl share the things she already knows so that everyone can start from a place of knowledge and curiosity.
- Let them lead! While it can be tempting to steer conversations back “on track”, the goal is to let the girls talk about what matters to *them*.



## Our Council, Our Voices

Take part in our council's first ever girl-led publication by submitting your own reflections, creative writing, or visual art on the topics of climate change and/or gender inequality. Raise your voice!

Girl Scouts Nation's Capital is *your* council, and we're here for *you*—all of you. You number in the tens of thousands, living in cities and suburbs and rural towns across Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, DC. You are girls of every age, every background, every community. You make the world a better place every day. And we want to give you a chance to speak to your Girl Scouts Nation's Capital sisters— all 40,000 of them.

That's why we're proud to introduce *Our Council, Our Voices*, a magazine of your writing or art responding to climate change and gender inequality. The magazine will be distributed to every family in our council.

Every girl in the council is invited to submit something.

### What will you submit?

If we can print it, you can submit it! Here are a few ideas for things you can submit:

- Your responses to the questions on page 8
- Poems or song lyrics
- Paintings or drawings
- Questions you want to ask
- Short essays or nonfiction
- Stories or dramatic scenes
- Photographs
- Images of sculptures/3D art
- Letters or messages
- Anything!

### Have you heard?

At Girl Scouts Nation's Capital, 2022 is all about raising your voice. When Girl Scout Junior Alice Tapper noticed that girls in her school raised their hands less than boys, she took action to solve the problem by creating a campaign to encourage girls to speak up and be heard!

Sign the pledge and recruit three other girls to earn the patch she developed.



## *Our Council, Our Voices*

Not sure what to submit to *Our Council, Our Voices*? Just respond to one or more of these questions in as many or as few words (or images) as you want and send us what you wrote.

- What can Girl Scouts do to protect our planet?
- How can you be a sister to girls all around the world?
- Why do you love trees?
- What does World Thinking Day mean to you?
- What makes you proud to be a Girl Scout?

Submit your answers:  
[ourcouncilourvoices@gmail.com](mailto:ourcouncilourvoices@gmail.com)





## Guidelines for Submissions

1. No profanity, nudity, or offensive content. This publication will be distributed to girls of all ages, so please keep your work appropriate.
2. Climate change and gender inequality are both sensitive subjects. While you may not use profanity or nudity in expressing yourself, you may still create art and/or writing that is bold, uncomfortable, or challenging. Adults are expected to use their own discretion in deciding whether their girls are ready to engage with those pieces.
3. We reserve the right to reject any submission for any reason, but our intention is to publish all submissions.
4. Submissions must be .pdf, .docx, .jpg, or .png files.
5. All images should be evenly lit, high-resolution, and in-focus.
6. Writing over one page in length may be excerpted by council staff. If you know which portion of your work you would like to be the excerpt, please indicate it on the submission.

## How to Submit

All submissions should be emailed to our submission manager at:

**[ourcouncilourvoices@gmail.com](mailto:ourcouncilourvoices@gmail.com)**

By FEBRUARY 28th, 2022

Large files can be zipped or shared on Google Drive.



# Tree Identification

Why are trees important?

**1** Name of Tree:

Draw its leaves or needles:

Which features does it have?

- ☐ Leaves
- ☐ Needles
- ☐ Seed cones
- ☐ Seed pods
- ☐ Acorns

**2** Name of Tree:

Draw its leaves or needles:

Which features does it have?

- ☐ Leaves
- ☐ Needles
- ☐ Seed cones
- ☐ Seed pods
- ☐ Acorns

**3** Name of Tree:

Draw its leaves or needles:

Which features does it have?

- ☐ Leaves
- ☐ Needles
- ☐ Seed cones
- ☐ Seed pods
- ☐ Acorns

# Girls vs. Climate Change

What can Girl Scouts do to help protect the planet?

How can Girl Scouts in the USA work together with Girl Scouts and Girl Guides in other countries to protect the planet?

Why is it important for girls to take action for the environment?

# Raise Your Voice!

Choose one of the questions below. Write or draw your response.

- What can Girl Scouts do to protect our planet?
- How can you be a sister to girls all around the world?
- Why do you love trees?
- What does World Thinking Day mean to you?
- What makes you proud to be a Girl Scout?