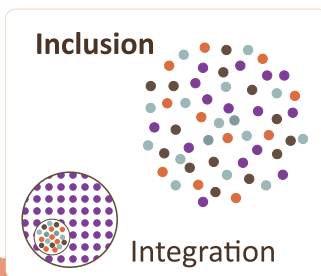


Top Tips for Inclusive Girl Scout Troops

This resource has quick tips on establishing an inclusive troop or Council. This Tip Sheet can be used as an outline for training or as a self-assessment of the troop or Council's inclusiveness. Volunteers and staff can use this resource as a reminder of their responsibilities in an inclusive troop. For more information on this topic, search the keyword "inclusion" in the Online Learning Center.



Communicate an Inclusive Mission

- State the Girl Scout inclusion policy, welcoming individuals of all abilities - some families may assume the exclusion of girls with disabilities
- Promote the inclusion policy to encourage awareness within all Girls Scout troops and the community



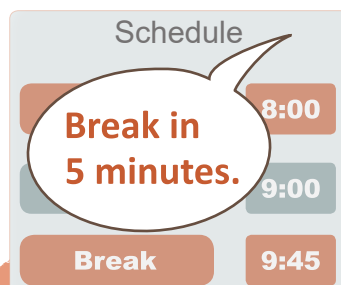
Model Respect for Differences

- Reflect the diversity of your troop or Council through your printed materials and displays
- Spend time interacting with people with all abilities and interests
- Ask about their perspectives - use respectful language



Protect Confidentiality

- Only share information that is relevant to the girl's engagement
- Consult with the family to determine who needs to be informed
- Maintain the trust of families
- Support open communication
- Keep personal and medical information confidential



Maintain Consistency

- Establish routines to manage expectations
- Post a daily schedule
- Create individual schedules when appropriate



Consider the Environment

- Consider sensory needs of each girl
- Organize materials and space for easy access
- Dedicate separate spaces for quiet time and for movement needs



Support: Girls in Your Troop

- Teach girls in your troop to participate in activities, to communicate, and to positively interact with peers
- Implement individualized strategies, as needed
- Provide many opportunities to practice new skills with support



Support: Volunteers & Families

- Provide assistance when needed
- Share additional resources when appropriate
- Acknowledge efforts, struggles, and successes

Continual Assessment

Assess what is going well and what needs improvement. If an idea fails, learn from the experience and try a new approach. If an idea succeeds, share it with others. Reach out to others for brainstorming, for trouble-shooting, and for fresh ideas.



Use our KIT Inclusion Checklist for Troops to help you quickly & easily assess your program.