



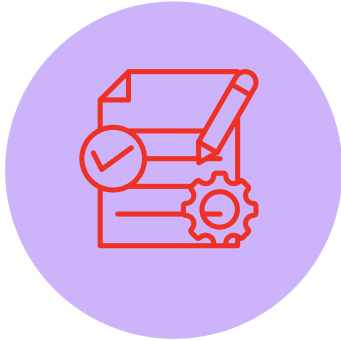
# Junior Workbook for Earning Your Bronze Award



girl scouts   
nation's capital

Updated April 2026

# Bronze Award At a Glance



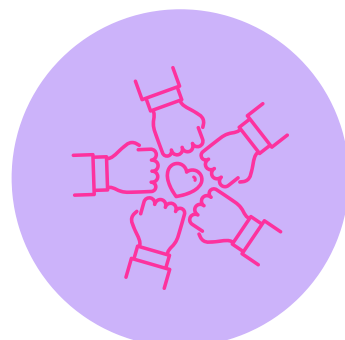
## Prerequisite

Complete a Junior Award



## Step 1

Identify Issues



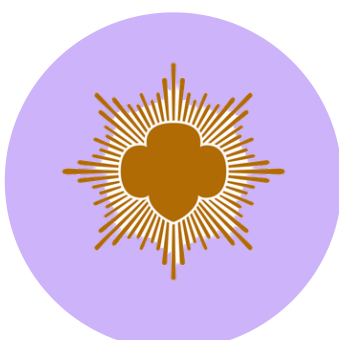
## Step 2

Build your Team



## Step 3

Explore your issues and community



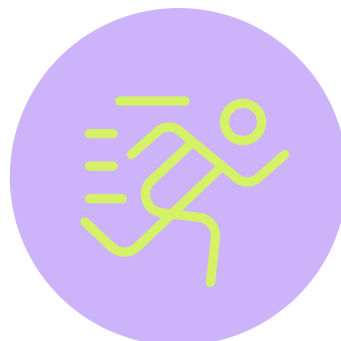
## Step 4

Choose your Bronze Award Project



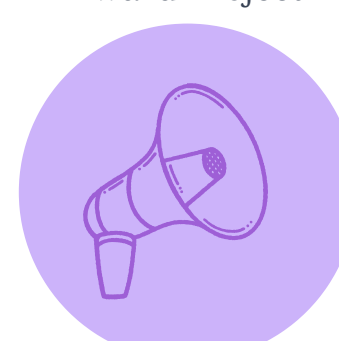
## Step 5

Make a Plan



## Step 6

Put your Plan in Motion



## Step 7

Spread the Word and Share your Award with the Council Staff.



## Then...

Celebrate!

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## KEY ELEMENTS OF A BRONZE AWARD

# Project Requirements

Take Action projects have up to five elements: The Girl Scout Gold Award requires all five; the Girl Scout Silver Award requires three; and the Girl Scout Bronze award requires two.

	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Leadership	●	●	●
Root Cause	●	●	●
Sustainable	◆	●	●
Measurable		◆	●
National/Global Link		◆	●

● Required Element      ◆ Intro to a New Concept

**To earn the Bronze Award, you need to:**

- 1. Show Leadership**
- 2. Research and address a root cause of an issue in your community.**
- 3. Optional: "Try to make your project sustainable."**



# Take Action vs. Community Service

Before you begin, it's helpful to understand the difference between a Take Action Project and a Community Service Project. Here's the difference:

Take Action	Community Service
A long-term project with sustainable and ongoing influence that addresses an issue's root cause.	A Short- Term effort that helps something or someone fulfill an immediate need.
Done WITH the Community	Done FOR the Community
Creating a unique initiative to address an issue's root Cause	Joining an existing effort to solve an issue
Creating and leading your own team of volunteers	Join an existing team, usually as a volunteer
Setting the goals and leading a team to achieve them	Working toward toward a goal that's set by others

Often, a community service project idea can be developed into a Take Action Project. For example, you may want to collect items for a crowded pet shelter. That's a service project. But if you partner with the shelter to under the root causes of the overcrowding and come up with a solution, like workshops to educate others about spaying and neutering pets, that's a Take Action Project.

# Prerequisites



## Before Getting Started.....

Make sure you have completed a Junior level Leadership Award.

As a troop or as an individual, take the time to reflect and discuss the questions below:

What did you do?

What did you learn?

What will you do better, or differently, next time?

This reflection will help you have a successful Bronze Award Project.



## Step 2: Build your team.

TO MEET THE BRONZE AWARD LEADERSHIP REQUIREMENT, YOU'LL NEED A TEAM!  
YOU HAVE OPTIONS:



### Full Troop Model

Work with your whole troop. Each member of the troop should play an active role in the choosing, planning, developing, and completing the team project.



### Small Group Model

Same as the Full Troop model but you can work in groups as small as 2! This is for large troops who wish to divide or or some of the troop members don't want to earn the Bronze Award.



### Solo Model

You can create and implement a project on your own. Recruiting and engaging your peers and/or adult volunteers will be necessary to complete specific tasks.

**TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK.**  
Since each Junior will spend 25 hours on this project, focus on an issue you all care about! Respect your teammates point of view and Decide on team rules for communication and conflict resolution.

## No matter which option you choose:

- Plan to partner with community members to learn about your issues, discover the root causes, make a plan and take action. Think teachers, neighbors, business owners, religious group leaders or any other experts on your topic.
- Show active leadership by involving others in your efforts and leading them to helping you meet your goals. Keep track of who helps you along the way so you can thank them later!
- You should have the support of at least one registered, background-checked adult Girl Scout volunteer who is responsible for safety and procedures.
- Try it: Having a project advisor is not required but can be helpful!

**A project advisor is an adult who is an expert that has some level of knowledge, skills, or access to resources that can help with your project. While this can be a parent or troop leaders, try to expand outside your familiar circles to grow your network.**

# Step 3: Explore your issues and your community.

1. List the names and contact info of those you meet in your community who might be able to help you with your project.

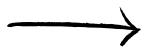
Name and Contact information	Organization	How might they help?
<i>Mr. Mathis, mrmathis@123.com</i>	<i>My high school</i>	<i>He knows a lot about current teaching resources.</i>

2. Learn what others know of your issue or issues.

Who?	Issue	What causes the problem?
<i>Teachers at school</i>	<i>School is boring and doesn't promote different learning styles.</i>	<i>Lack of resources to make learning more fun!</i>

# Step 3: Explore your issues and your community.

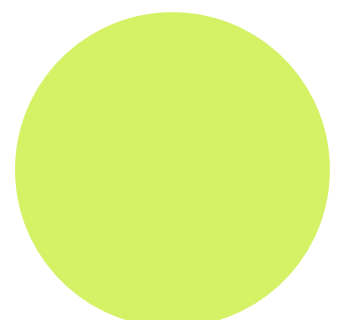
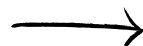
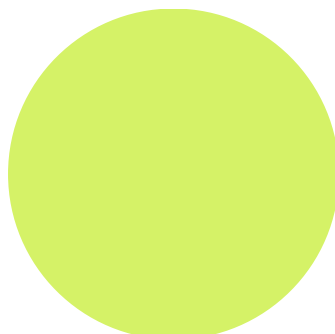
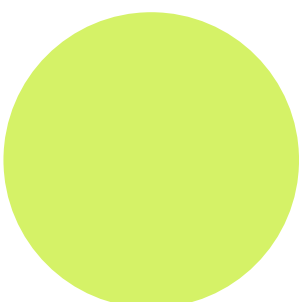
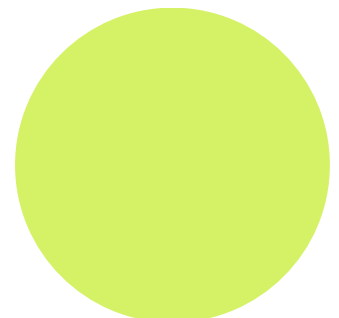
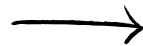
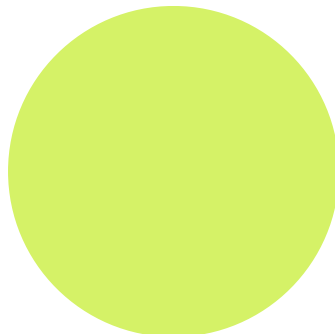
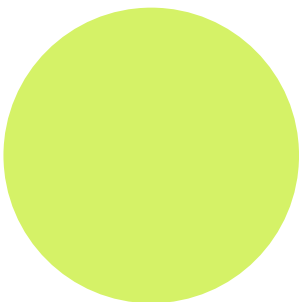
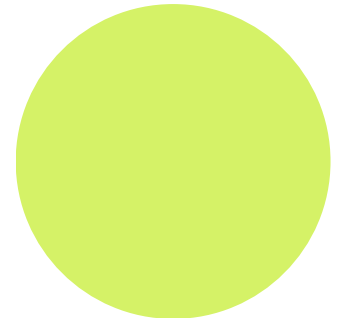
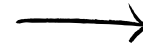
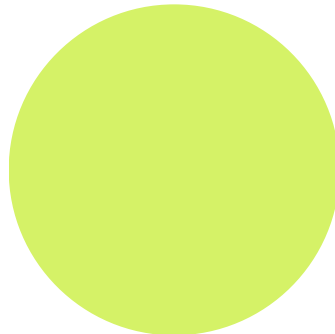
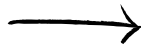
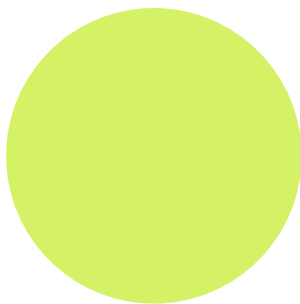
3. Research root causes by asking what causes an issue and why, then ask why this happens again. Use the blank mind maps below to identify the root cause of your issues.



Step 1: Write in your Issue.

Step 2: What activates your issue?

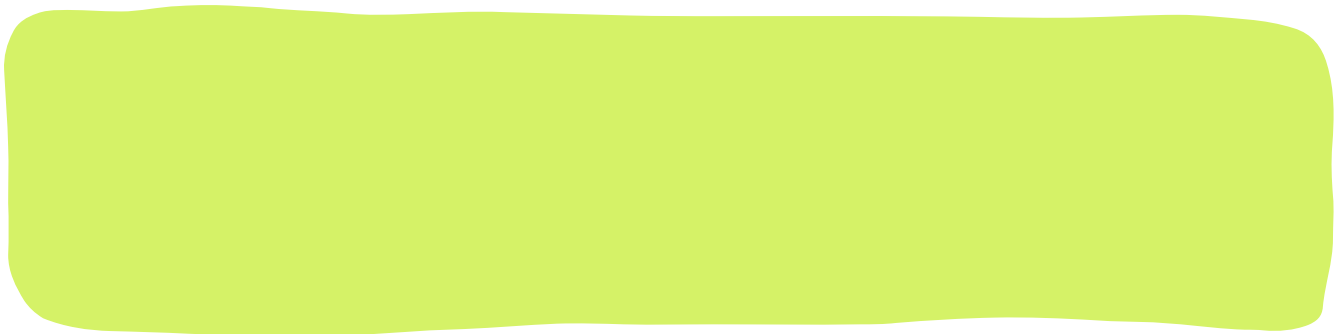
Step 3: To find the root cause, ask: Why does the activator happen?



## Step 4: Choose your Bronze Award project.

You've thought about your interests and passions. You've explored your community. You've talked to others and you've researched to understand root causes of one or more issues. The moments you've been waiting for has arrived: it's time to choose a project! Make it official by writing it down:

*THE ISSUE MY PROJECT WILL ADDRESS IS... AND IT MATTERS BECAUSE....*



*MY TARGET AUDIENCE (WHO WILL BENEFIT) IS...*

*A ROOT CAUSE OF MY ISSUE IS....*



*MY TEAM'S PROJECT IDEA PLANS TO ADDRESS THE ROOT CAUSE BY....*



# Step 5: Make a plan.

Answer the following questions.



How will leadership skill be used in this project?



What community experts will you work with?



Any plans to attempt Sustainability?

<b>Proposed Start Date:</b>	
<b>Proposed End Date:</b>	
<b>Is this timeline realistic?</b>	

## STEP 5: MAKE A PLAN

# Budget Worksheet

Bronze Award projects sometimes require money or nonmonetary donations of goods. If you think your project will require this, then please estimate supplies/donations needs and potential costs.

Funds/Donations (+)

Item	From who?	Value?

Expenses (-)

Item	From where?	Value?

**BALANCE:**



## STEP 5: MAKE A PLAN

# Money Earning Reminders



- Girl Scouts may use money from the individual financial record system to fund projects.
- Girl Scouts may request donations of in-kind goods and supplies. However, direct solicitation of gift cards or money is prohibited.
- If Girl Scouts are offered Gift Cards or money, instead of goods or supplies, they may accept. However, a volunteer must sign any related paperwork.
- Girl Scouts may not apply for grants through outside organizations.
- Troop Money Earning hours, such as Council-sponsored product programs, cannot be counted toward a Girl Scouts Bronze Award hours. Troop Money earning hours are intended to support Troop Goals.
- If Girl Scouts have exhausted their existing money-earning opportunities and is still in need of funds to enable the completion of their project, the individual Girl Scouts can complete additional money-earning opportunities to fund their Projects.



## Step 7: Spread the word and inform the Council Staff!

Spread the word by sharing the story of your project.

Why? Because when you share your project, you inspire others - you bring attention to the important issue you were addressing. Telling your story is one of the best ways to celebrate all that you have accomplished!

There are lots of possibilities! You can give a presentation to another Gs Troop, your local community or the students at your school! Create a visual display for a local library or community center. Submit an article to the local news or your school website.

*How will you spread the word?*

### Questions to reflect on as you complete your final reporting form:

- What did you do in your leadership role?
- In completing this project, what did you discover about yourself?
- What skills did you gain and how will these skills help you in the future?
- What part of your project would you change if you could start over, and why?

**Complete the Mandatory Bronze Award Reporting Form at the following link:**

**<https://gscnc.jotform.com/program/bronze-award-final-review->**

**YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PURCHASE A PIN IN THE COUNCIL SHOP WITHOUT THE CONFIRMATION EMAIL BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2024.**

Use the following pages a checklist for your project. Check items off your list once you have completed them. When you have completed all the checklist, check in with your troop leader! You should be ready to purchase your Bronze Award Pin!

## Girl Scout Bronze Award Checklist

### Prerequisites

	I am a registered Girl Scout Junior. (Grades 4-5)
	I have finished a Junior Journey including the Journey's Take Action Project.
	I know that I need to finish my project and submit my final reporting by Sept 30th after the 5th grade is completed.
	I know that the Bronze Award Take Action project's elements are Practicing leadership and addressing a root cause of a community issue.
	I have reviewed the Junior Workbook for Earning your Bronze Award.
	I am excited to get started!

### Project Plan

	I developed a title for my project.
	I chose if I will work as a troop, a small group or solo.
	I decided my project's expected start date and expected completion date.
	I researched an issue I am passionate about and identified at least one root cause that is based on a need in my community.
	I have identified my target audience. (who is going to benefit)
	I have identified and engaged with experts and others in my community who may help me with my project.

Use the following pages a checklist for your project. Check items off your list once you have completed them. When you have completed all the checklist, check in with your troop leader! You should be ready to purchase your Bronze Award Pin!

## Girl Scout Bronze Award Checklist

### Project Plan

I have worked with my team (If applicable) to identify all team members' leadership roles, which are all different and will each take approximately 25 hours of work.

I have review my plan and confirm that my project is Take Action and not Community Service.

I have listed potential supplies need and estimated costs.

I am aware of my Council's requirements for any of my project's donations, money-earning activities, or the use of troop funds.

*Optional: I've identified how i would try to make my project sustainable.*

I have worked with my team (If applicable) to develop a plan.

### Final Reporting

I have completed my budget worksheet, To-do list and hours log.

I have identified how I let other know about my project and the impact it had.

I have with my team (If applicable) to submit individual final reporting forms.

I have submitted the Final Reporting form no later than Sept 30 after finishing 5th grade.