

SIX STEPS TO THE

The Girl Scout Silver Award has six steps:

1. ORGANIZE
2. LEAD
3. NETWORK
4. CREATE
5. ACT
6. REFLECT



8

STEP 1 ORGANIZE

GET READY

Become organized to help you take the next five steps.



10

STEP 2 LEAD

EARN THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER LEADERSHIP AWARD

Put the Girl Scout Law into action.

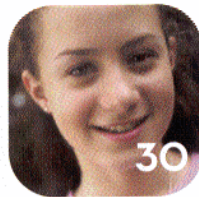


28

STEP 6 REFLECT

THINK ABOUT IT

How has earning the Girl Scout Silver Award changed you and impacted others?



30

ON YOUR MIND?

SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Answers are given to your questions about the Girl Scout Silver Award.

"Leadership is a result of personal reflection."

—Natarsha, 17

"Don't get overwhelmed. Stick to your agenda and keep your goals in mind."

—Stephanie, 17

GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD



14

STEP 3 NETWORK

EARN THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER CAREER AWARD

Reach out and build your network.



18

STEP 4 CREATE

EARN THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER 48^h CHALLENGE

Find your voice.

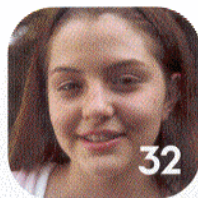


24

STEP 5 ACT

EARN THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD

Make a difference in your community by doing a project you care about strongly.



32

WORKSHEET AT-A-GLANCE WORKSHEET

Girl Scout Silver Award at-a-Glance Worksheet



FIND YOUR VOICE

Here is a chance to do something totally different from anything you have ever done before—something very important and powerful. You have a chance to make your world a better place and you'll earn the Girl Scout Silver Award. And along the way to earning the Girl Scout Silver Award, you'll earn three other awards, too.

"I had an amazing time doing my project. I learned anything is possible."

—Adrienne, 15



1. Organize

STEP 1: GET READY

These “prep steps” will help you successfully do Steps 2–6:

- Read this workbook so you know what is expected of you. The sections “On Your Mind” (page 30) and “The Girl Scout Silver Award at-a-Glance” (page 32) provide important information.
- After you have read the workbook, meet with your advisor and develop a timeline of when and how you’ll earn each of the three awards in Steps 2–4. Each of these awards can stand on its own. You can choose to earn one, two or all three, but you must earn all three to go onto Step 5 and to ultimately earn the Girl Scout Silver Award.
- In making your timeline, also consider when you’ll want to start Step 5. Remember that you have lots of time. You can do Steps 1–4 when you are 11–14 or in grades 6–9. You need to be 12–14, or in grades 7–9, when you do Steps 5 and 6.
- Make an agreement with your adult advisor. You’ll be taking the lead, but you need an advisor to help you set realistic goals, overcome roadblocks, provide support, and be there to applaud your successes. Your advisor will let you know about special policies and procedures particular to your Girl Scout council.

My Advisor and Me

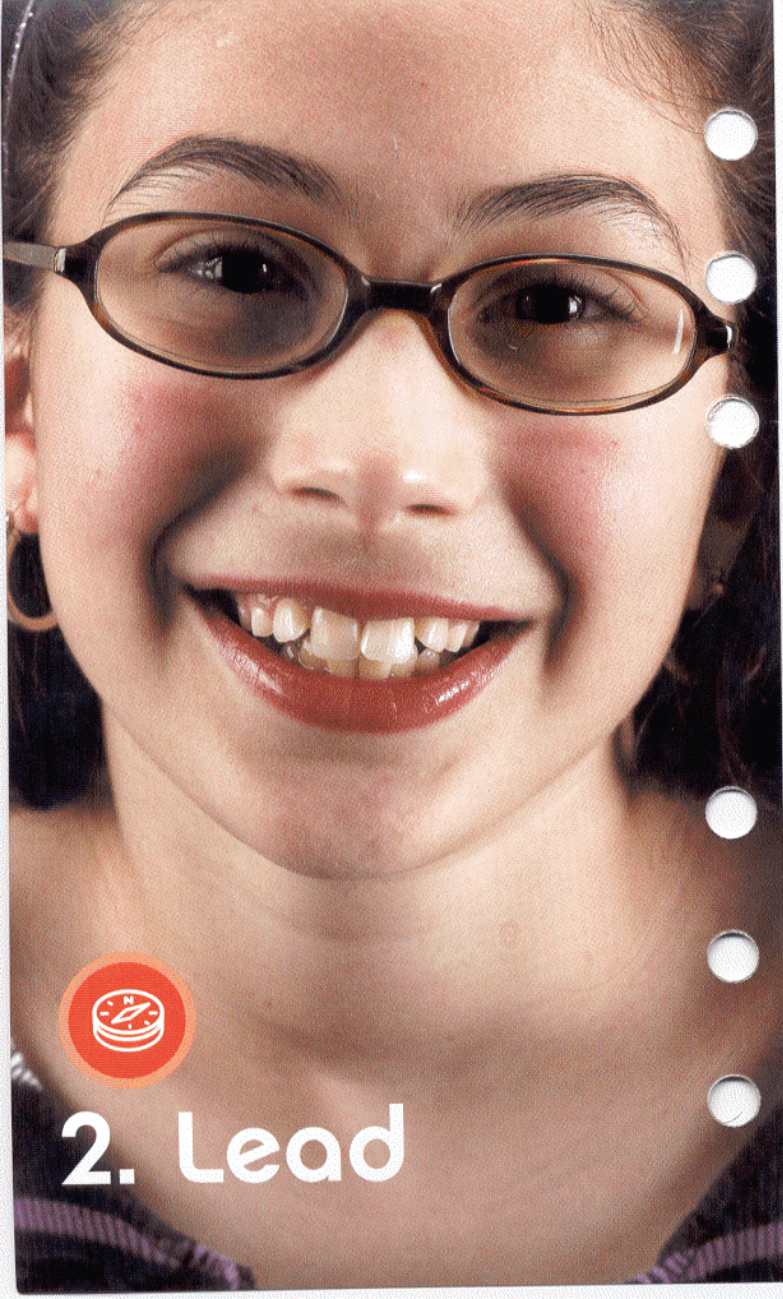
My advisor _____

We met on _____

My advisor will help me with the following:

Advisor’s signature _____

My signature _____



2. Lead

STEP 2: EARN THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER LEADERSHIP AWARD

Have you ever thought about what makes being a Girl Scout unique?

You have promised to live by the values expressed in the Girl Scout Promise and Law. You can demonstrate leadership by putting the Girl Scout Law into action.



There are four steps to earning the Girl Scout Silver Leadership Award:

EARN IT

Choose and earn an Interest Project that you feel will help you practice living one of these four sets of values in the Girl Scout Law:

honest and fair
friendly and helpful
considerate and caring
courageous and strong

Which Interest Project did you choose?

How did the Interest Project help you live the Law?

Choose and earn an Interest Project that you feel will help you practice living one of these three values:

responsible for what I say and do
respect myself and others
respect authority

Which Interest Project did you choose?

How did the Interest Project help you live the Law?



Choose and earn an Interest Project that you feel will help you practice living one of these three values:

use resources wisely
make the world a better place
be a sister to every Girl Scout

Which Interest Project did you choose?

How did it help you live the Law?

BELIEVE IT

Inspiring leaders know what they are good at and what they believe in.

Earn the charm for STUDIO 2B Focus *uniquely Me! The Real Deal* by setting and achieving goals in conversation with an adult advisor.

My goals were:

If you have already earned the charm for this STUDIO 2B Focus book, read through it again and set and achieve one new goal.

LEAD IT

Now it's time to show off your leadership skills. Spend 15 hours in one or more leadership roles. Here are some ideas:

- Assist in the leadership of younger children. You can do this in Girl Scouts or someplace else.
- Serve as an officer of a school club or captain of an athletic group or serve in a leadership role in Girl Scouts. You could also serve in a leadership role in a group you start.
- Talk to the volunteers who serve Girl Scouts in your area and plan a trip or special event that will include some girls you have never met.

The leadership role I have chosen is:

JOURNAL IT

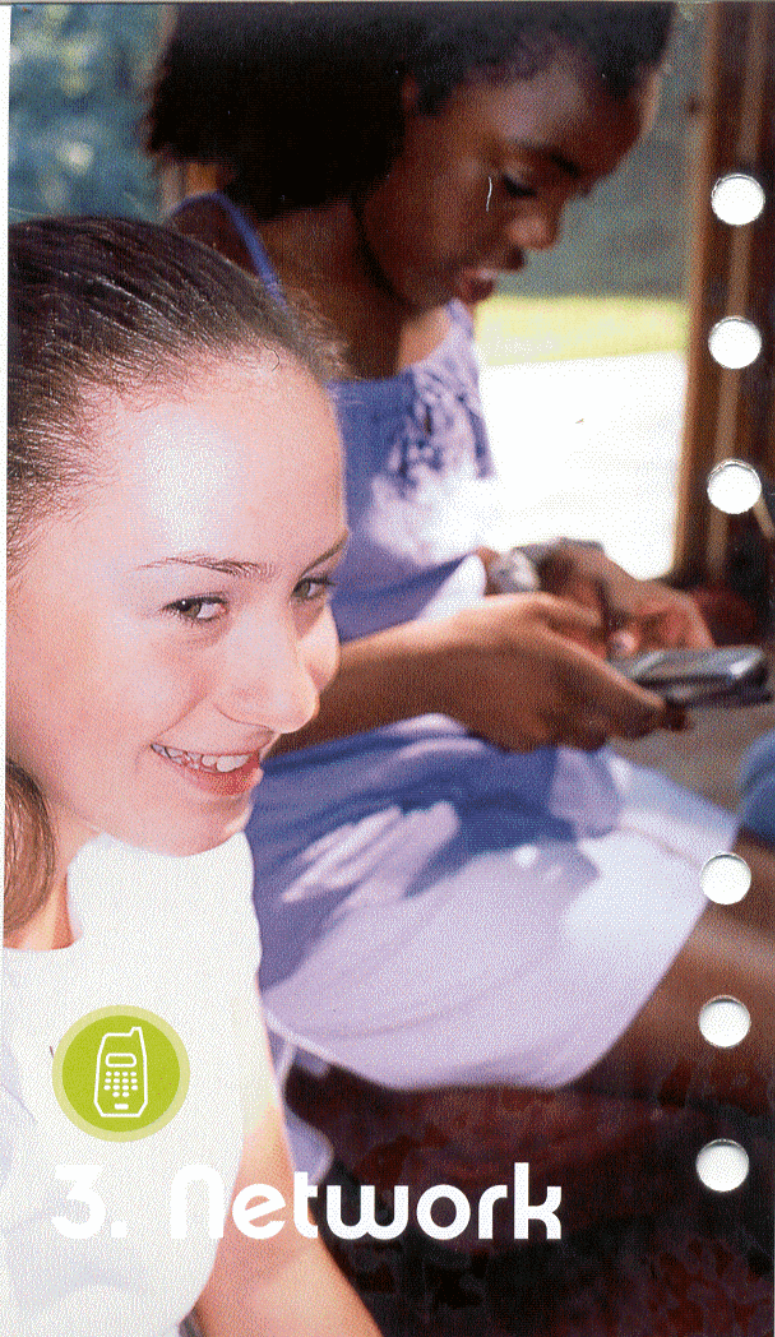
Use writing to capture and consider what you have learned in earning your Girl Scout Silver Leadership Award by completing these statements:

I demonstrated a real understanding of the Girl Scout Law by applying it to this situation in my life:

A talent, quality, or skill I have that adds to my leadership ability is:

I used it in these ways:

I have shown my personal integrity and honor by:



3. Network

STEP 3: EARN THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER CAREER AWARD

Understanding more about your community and building a network of people you know will benefit you in two ways:

EARN IT!



- You'll start to get ideas about the kind of career you may want someday.
- You'll meet people and develop communication skills that can really help you with your Silver Award Project.

There are four steps to earning the Girl Scout Silver Career Award:

WHAT'S OUT THERE?

What do you want to be when you grow up? It's hard to know, isn't it? The more you find out about career options, the more choices you'll have. Read newspapers, go online, visit your library, or talk to adults as a way of finding out about:

- one job that you know nothing about. Would you like to do it? Why or why not?
- one job that very few women do. What training do you need for this job? Would you like to do it?
- one job that requires a college degree plus a graduate degree. What kinds of subjects do you have to study and what kinds of schools offer the degree programs required to enter this field?
- one job that requires an artistic or mechanical skill. How would you prepare for this job? What steps would you take to move up in this career?

WHO'S OUT THERE?

Talking to people about their jobs not only gives you more information, but also builds communication skills and a network of contacts you may need when you do your Girl Scout Silver Award Project.

Ask a college student the following:

- Why are you taking these classes?
- What job do you expect to get when you are done?

Find three adults with different jobs (for example: bank officer, government worker, travel agent, store manager, doctor, veterinarian). Think about your adult network (relatives, neighbors, youth leaders, teachers). Does anyone have a job that sounds interesting to you? Ask:

- How do you spend a typical day?
- What do you like most about your job?

BE YOUR OWN BOSS

Like to do your own thing? Maybe you are an entrepreneur at heart. Earn the Your Own Business Interest Project Award.

If you have already earned the Your Own Business Interest Project Award, earn an Interest Project Award related to the field in which you would like to start a business: for example, Invitation to the Dance if you would like to run your own dance studio, Desktop Publishing if you would like to offer publishing and design Services to clients, Child Care if you would like to open a day-care business, or The Food Connection if you would like to be a nutritional consultant.

KEEP A JOURNAL

Use writing to capture and consider what you have learned in earning your Girl Scout Silver Career Award by completing these statements:

I have these three new ideas about making career choices:

A talent, quality, or skill that I could use in a future career and on my Silver Award Project is:



A person I met who could help me with my Silver Award project is:

I think this person could help me by:

"If you are working on your project as a group, make sure that each girl has her own important role. Everyone needs to work hard and use her own skills to get the project completed."

—Hannah, 17



STEP 4: EARN THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER 4B CHALLENGE

In Girl Scouts, the activities you do are all based on the 4Bs, which reflect the Girl Scout Law.



Become. Celebrate yourself today and become your best self in the future.

Belong. Be part of a group where you have fun, relate to others with respect, and develop lasting friendships.

Believe. Develop your ideas and voice what's important to you.

Build. Take action on what you care about and make a difference.

"When I was going for my Girl Scout Silver Award, I felt like I was walking up a mountain. But when I reached the top of the mountain, I felt the greatest sense of accomplishment and pride. Trust me—it is all worth it in the end."

—Lipika, 16



4. Create

Here are the four steps to earning the Girl Scout Silver 4Bs Challenge:

1. BECOME

Figure out what you need to do to become your best self in the future. This chart will help you:

Skill	I'm Great at This	I Could Use Some More Practice
listening to others		
talking to people		
making decisions		
planning and organizing		
time management		
budgeting and money management		
helping people get along		
getting along with people different from myself		
solving problems		
dreaming up great ideas		
getting and keeping people enthusiastic		
teaching others something I'm good at		

Pick a skill from the "I Could Use More Practice" column and set an improvement goal.

Be SMART

When setting your goal, use these questions as a guide:

Specifically what will you do?

How will you **Measure** your progress toward your goal?

How will you know if you have **Achieved** your goal?

Is your goal **Realistic**? Can you really achieve it or is it too hard?

What is your **Timeframe** to reach your goal?



2. BELONG

The more you get to know yourself, other girls, and adults, the more successful you will be at setting and reaching your Girl Scout Silver Award Project goals. Earn the charm for STUDIO 2B Focus: *Looking In, Reaching Out* by setting goals for yourself with the help of an adult advisor. If you have already earned the charm for this STUDIO 2B Focus book, read through it again and set a new goal for yourself.

The goals I set were:

3. BELIEVE

Identify an issue in your school or community that you feel strongly about. Read the newspaper (either a print version or online), watch your local TV news, find out what community organizations are working on, or attend a town meeting.

Issue:

How can you make a difference in seeing that the issue is resolved in the way you would like? One voice can change minds. Use your voice by:

- making a presentation to your school, community group, place of worship, Girl Scout group, or other group
- writing a letter to an electronic community bulletin board or Web site or a local newspaper
- organizing a group meeting
- writing a letter or e-mail, making a phone call, or making an appointment to speak with a local elected official

What did you do?

What did you learn about your issue and your community?

4. BUILD

In "Believe," you chose an issue, but to make your mark, you need to have the right information and lots of it. Step 4 is to think about your issue from all angles and brainstorm many possible solutions before you take action. Collect as much information as possible using questions such as these as a guide:

- Are there people who have points of view different from your own? If so, ask them to explain their viewpoints to you.
- How many people does your issue affect and who are they?
- What other issues relate to this particular issue?
- What other organizations are working on this issue?



- What have other people tried to do in support of this issue? What has worked and what hasn't?
- What rules are in place that affect this issue one way or another?

When you have gathered all this information and considered factors such as time, people needed, and potential problems, use this worksheet to sketch several plans:

My Plans and Solutions

Issue:

Possible Solution 1

Possible Solution 2

Possible Solution 3

Which solution would you choose, and why?



5. Act

STEP 5: EARN THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD

Everything you've done in Steps 1–4 has led you to this moment! It's time for you to use your voice and make your mark in the community.

Take these actions to complete your Girl Scout Silver Award Project and earn your Girl Scout Silver Award.

PLAN IT

Figure out what the community problem is and what you want to do about it. Go back to pages 19–23 and the work you did related to the 4Bs Challenge, especially Believe and Build. Is this the issue you want to choose for your project? Do you have new and different ideas? Did earning the Silver 4Bs Challenge lead you in new directions?

Now's the time to commit.

My issue is:

KNOW MORE ABOUT IT

Collect as much information as you can. Use the Internet, read the paper, do some research, talk to people. Go back to the section "Believe" (page 22). Use the same process to find out what you need to know about your issue before you can move ahead.

"If you can't decide on a project, write down your interests, hobbies, and skills, and then think about a group in your community that you would really enjoy spending time with—children or older people—or your burning issue (the environment, animal rights, etc.). There are endless possibilities."

—Molly, 15



CHOOSE IT

Go back to the section “Build” on page 22 and use the same process to help choose what you specifically want to do about your issue. Brainstorm all the ways you can solve the problem and then decide which is the best way to go. Here are some questions to help you with your decision:

- Do I have enough resources (time, money, help)? If not, how can I get what I need?
- How would you know if you succeeded? If you determine that you wouldn't know, then maybe you need to rethink your solution. If you discover that one solution is too costly, move to another.

“Make sure that you pick a project that deals with your passions. A passionate person doing a project will lead to great things.”

—Hannah, 17



MAP IT

Now that you have selected your issue and your solution, write down the steps you need to take and what resources you will need. Make a timeline specific to the Girl Scout Silver Award Project. Organize the people and other resources you'll need to carry out your plan. Use the “Girl Scout Silver Award-at-a-Glance” worksheet on page 32 to help you “map it.”

DO IT

Put your plan into action. Know that you may have to make changes as your plan goes into action. That's typical—it's a rare plan that doesn't run into some roadblocks or snags. Being flexible and thinking as you go are what make a project a success.



STEP 6: THINK ABOUT IT

Reflecting on what you did is important.
Ask yourself:

Did I accomplish what I set out to accomplish?

Could I have avoided some problems that sprang up?

What did I learn about myself?

What did I learn about others?

How did I leave my mark?

How can I share what I did?

Here's what some girls have done:

- created a library summer reading program for children
- ran a project for Girl Scouts on breast cancer awareness
- made a Girl Scout quilt and display for a local historical museum
- organized a career fair and field trip for a middle school
- conducted a community safety awareness day event
- landscaped a local shelter
- collected refurbished sports equipment for a children's shelter and ran a sports day event using the equipment
- created a nature trail that can be used by people with disabilities



6. Reflect



ON YOUR MIND?

Some FAQs About The Girl Scout Silver Award

Do we need an advisor?

You are encouraged to use resource people whose knowledge or careers can make your Girl Scout Silver Award the best that it can be. If you are an individual member, ask your council to help you find an advisor for the process.

Can a parent or my caregiver be my advisor? What if she or he is my leader?

Your advisor should be an adult other than your Girl Scout leader or your parent or caregiver. This is an opportunity to learn from other adults who have expertise in your project. Your Girl Scout council can help you find an advisor for your project.

Can we do a project as a troop or group?

Yes! Girl Scout Silver Awards are often done by groups. Each girl needs to make sure that she contributes her part and puts in a minimum of 40 hours on the project. Individual projects are great too, especially if your interests take you in a different direction from other group members. (Of course, you can always volunteer to help each other!)

Do we need to submit a plan to the council for approval?

For many Girl Scout councils you don't, but others require it. You do need to submit a project report at the end of your work. This form is available through your council office. It needs to be signed by your advisor.

Can we earn our Girl Scout Silver Award if we are involved in STUDIO 2B activities?

By all means! All girls, once they have left Junior Girl Scouts and are ages 11–14, can work on their Girl Scout Silver Award.

Do we need to complete the Girl Scout Silver Award before entering grade 10 or by age 14?

Yes, it can only be earned by girls ages 11–14 or grade 6 to the start of grade 10. You don't have to complete a Girl Scout Silver Award—it is an option and opportunity there for you.

Does that mean we need to complete the Girl Scout Silver Award before we work on the Girl Scout Gold Award?

This is a kind of a trick question. You cannot work on the Girl Scout Gold Award before the age of 15 or 10th grade. The good news is that you don't need to earn the Girl Scout Silver Award to begin the Girl Scout Gold Award as a registered Girl Scout ages 14–17; however, it is helpful, as some of the processes are the same, and many of the skills you will develop in working on the Girl Scout Silver Award are a foundation for working on the Girl Scout Gold Award.

We really want to help raise money for our local hospital because someone in our troop is sick. Can we do this?

You need to follow national and council guidelines for fundraising. You cannot raise money for another organization, according to GSUSA policy. However, you can volunteer for that organization. Instead of marching in a walkathon, what about volunteering to help with registration, first aid, or making sure everyone has water and a snack along the route? It is really important that you clear any fundraising plans with your Girl Scout council.

ALL THE STEPS

Use these pages to help keep track of all you do when you go for the Silver!

STEP 1: ORGANIZE

GET READY

My advisor

Timeline for Steps 2–4

STEP 2: LEAD

EARN THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER LEADERSHIP AWARD

Interest Project

Interest Project

Interest Project

My goals for STUDIO 2B Focus *uniquely me! The Real Deal*

I spent 15 hours in this or a combination of leadership roles:

Journal it. (See page 13.)

STEP 3: NETWORK

EARN THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER CAREER AWARD

What's Out There?

Who's Out There?

Be Your Own Boss: Your Own Business Interest Project.

Journal it. (See page 16.)

GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD AT-A-GLANCE WORKSHEET

STEP 4: CREATE

THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER 4B CHALLENGE

Become. My goal:

Belong. STUDIO 2B Focus: *Looking In, Reaching Out.*
My goals:

Believe. My issue is:

I used my voice by:

Build. My solution is:

STEP 5: ACT

EARN THE GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD

Start _____ Finish _____

Plan it, know more about it, choose it, map it, and do it.
(See pages 25–26.)

STEP 6: REFLECT

THINK ABOUT IT

What I learned most: