



## Activity Guide for Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors

# Global Action Award

You probably already know that there are Girl Scouts® all over the United States. But did you know that your sisterhood stretches around the world too? Girl Scouts of the USA is part of the [World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts](#) (WAGGGS for short), which includes 10 million girls in 150 countries. And all of those girls in all of those countries are working to make the world a better place—just like you are!

Each year, Girl Scouts of all levels can earn the Girl Scout Global Action award. This award connects the WAGGGS sisterhood by helping girls work together to make a difference on issues that affect girls and women all over the world. It's an official national award, so you can wear it on the front of your vest or sash, just like a badge.

The Girl Scout Global Action award focuses on something called the Global Goals for Sustainable Development. In 2015, leaders from all over the world agreed to work together to accomplish 17 goals by 2030. The Global Goals for Sustainable Development, or SDGs for short, focus on things like taking care of the environment, making sure all people have enough to eat, and improving people's health. They're big goals, but Girl Scouts know a thing or two about changing the world!

## Learning About the Global Goals

If the global goals are new to you, start by teaming up with an adult to go online and learn about the SDGs at [www.globalgoals.org](http://www.globalgoals.org). You can also read a short booklet about the goals called [The World We Want: Guide to the Goals for Children and Young People](#), available for free at World's Largest Lesson.

Once you know what the goals are, you're ready to move on to the activities you can do to earn your Girl Scout Global Action award.

*Please note:* Girl Scouts of the USA understands that parents or guardians are the primary decision makers for their children and, as such, does not expect or require girls to participate in any activities relating to the Sustainable Development Goals that may be inconsistent with their family's faith and/or beliefs.



**The 17 Sustainable Development Goals established by the United Nations in 2015**

# Earning Your Global Action Award

This year, the Girl Scout Global Action award is focused on SDG 1: No Poverty and SDG 15: Life on Land. Choose one activity from the Discover and Connect categories and then complete a Take Action™ project to earn your Global Action award. You only need to do one activity from each category to earn the award, but don't let that stop you—you can do as many as you'd like!

**Daisy, Brownie, and Junior Activities**

## DISCOVER

Explore how the issues of poverty and life on land impact your community and the wider world. Find the connections between these SDGs and the others.

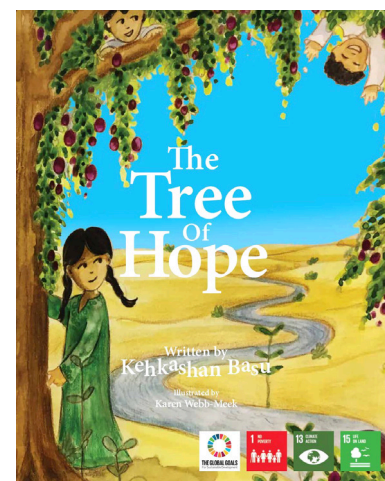
### Be a global game changer.

Team up with an adult and watch a [video](#) about what it means to be a global game changer. Talk about the video with your Girl Scout friends. How can you act like a superhero to help people in poverty for SDG 1: No Poverty or to better the environment or assist animals for SDG 15: Life on Land? Make an art project showing yourself as a superhero doing one of these things. It could be a drawing, a painting, a video—anything you like. You can work together with your Girl Scout friends to make a team project, or you can each make one of your own. With your parent or guardian's help and permission, share it with Girl Scouts on Facebook or Instagram.

### Read *The Tree of Hope*.

It's a book by Kehkashan Basu—available for free at [World's Largest Lesson](#), along with other comics and stories that connect to the Sustainable Development Goals. After reading, discuss the story with your friends. Some questions you might ask:

- What did Khadra spend her time doing before planting the tree? What did she spend her time doing after she planted the tree?
- How did the tree that Khadra planted help the whole village?
- What do you think were some of the environmental changes that happened by planting this tree?
- What do you think were some of the economic changes that happened by planting this tree?



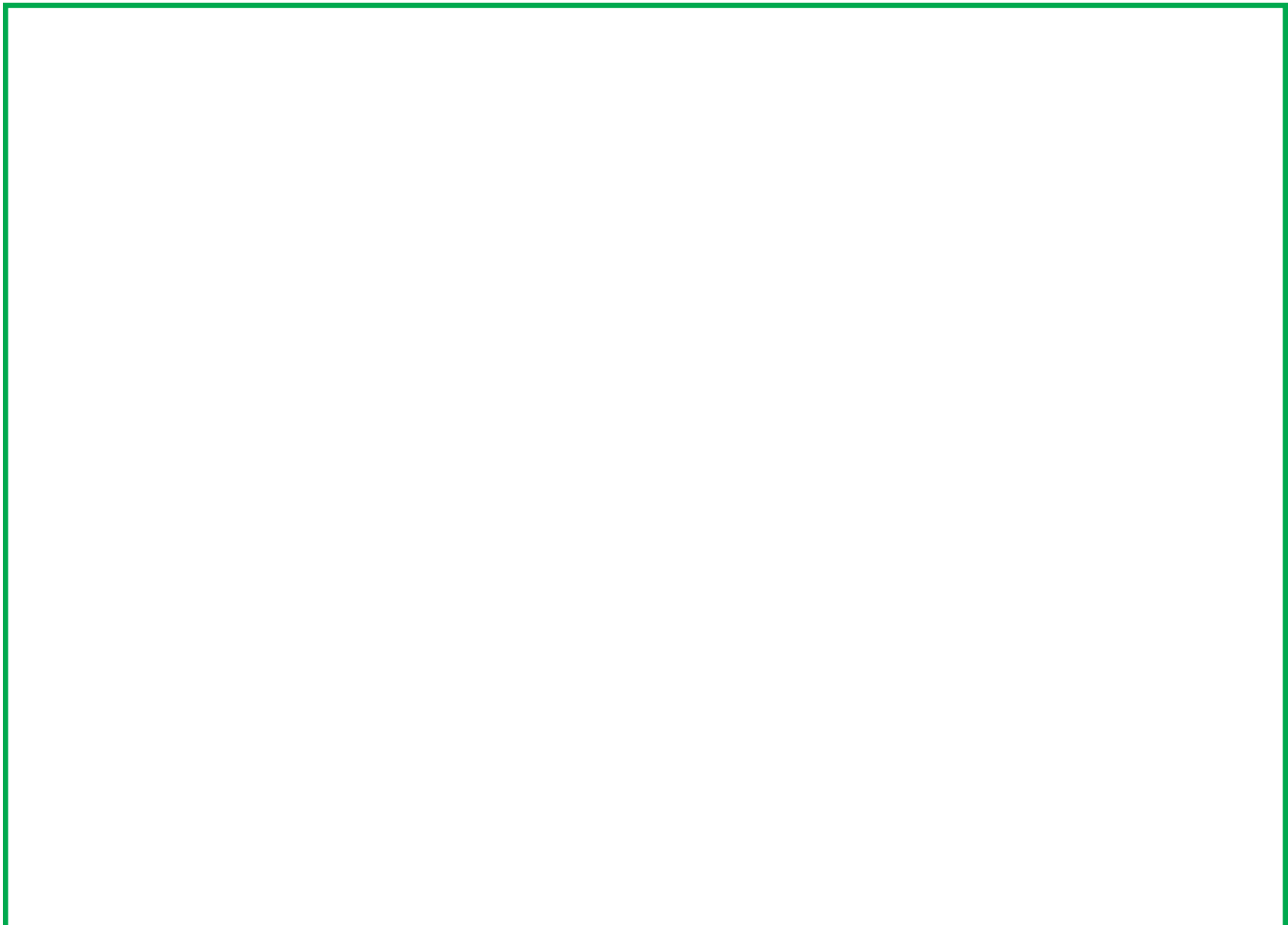
You can also ask your local librarian for suggestions of stories about poverty and the environment and then talk about the book with your family or Girl Scout friends.

## **Picture your future self.**

How old will you be in the year 2030 when the Sustainable Development Goals must be achieved? What do you think you'll be doing? What do you think the world will be like then? Brainstorm ideas for the world you would like. Be sure to think about what you'd want to see for all people around the world and for the world's environment. How will people be treated? What will they be able to do? What will the planet look like? What will life be like for plants and animals on the earth?

Draw a picture of the world you imagine—don't forget to include your future self! Think about what needs to happen today to make that future a reality. With your Girl Scout friends, put all your pictures together. What does the world you imagine look like? What ideas did you come up with to make that picture come true?

**Draw your future self here**



# CONNECT

Complete one of the following activities to learn the importance of finding partners in your community who can help you make a difference and learn more.

## Map your community.

With your Girl Scout friends, take a large piece of butcher paper and draw a map of your community. Be sure to include all its important features—your school, homes, stores, playgrounds, and community places like the post office, fire station, library, or community centers. Using a green marker or crayon, mark everywhere on the map where people go to be outside—like a park, playground, lake, or bike path—or where you see wild animals, like birds or fish. Using a red marker or crayon, mark anywhere that people can go to get help, like a fire station, school, food bank, hospital, or shelter. Look at the map you’ve created. Are there any places on the map where people don’t have access to nature or access to help if they need it? Is that a problem? What is something you could do to add outdoor spaces or services to those areas?

## Partner up.

Find an organization in your community that is working on issues of poverty or the environment and then have an adult help you contact them to set up a meeting. Prepare five questions that you want to ask them beforehand to get the most out of the experience. Share with them what you’ve learned about the Sustainable Development Goals and why this issue matters to you. Then ask about the ways that young people can help or get involved.

## Create an issues web on your map.

All of the Sustainable Development Goals affect one another. Learn how many of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals connect to SDG 1: No Poverty or SDG 15: Life on Land.

Each of the cards on the following pages shows one of the SDGs and an issue related to it. Have an adult help you print and cut out the cards, then talk with your family or Girl Scout friends about how these issues relate to poverty and the world’s ecosystems. Each of the cards has a connection to another SDG, but you don’t have to stop there. Are there other issues that connect to poverty or the environment or both? Make more cards! Be sure to write down the issue on your card and which SDG you think it connects to.

Are there any people or organizations that can help address the issues on these cards, like your Girl Scout troop or your school? What can they do? Make cards for them and add the cards to your pile.



Once you have discussed all your cards, you can begin arranging your issues map. Lay the cards on your piece of paper and draw arrows between the cards to show the connections to each issue—it will probably make a web-like pattern. Make sure your group agrees before you glue the cards in place and draw your arrows!

Take a look at your issues map and discuss with your group.

- What do you think are some of the obvious connections?
- Which connections surprised you?
- Were there any cards that connected to more than one of the other cards?

Which card seems to have the most connections?

### Daisy, Brownie, and Junior Activities

# TAKE ACTION

Now that you've discovered the issues and connected with your community, it's time to take action!

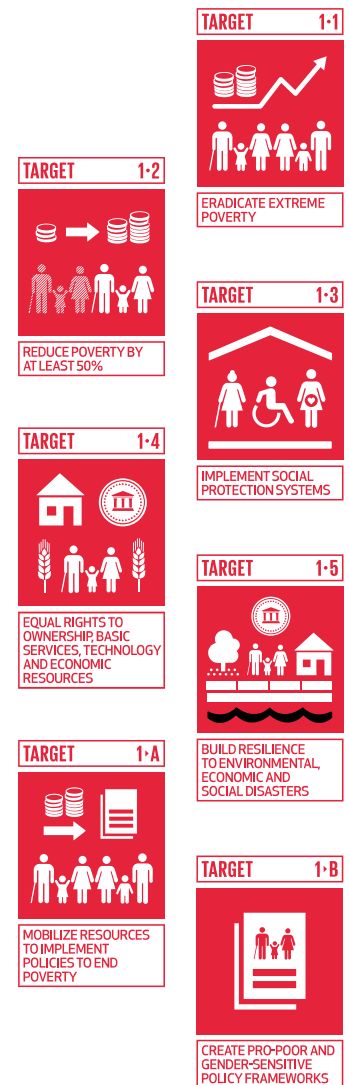
Think about the issues and needs you learned about in the other activities. What is one thing that you'd like to tackle? Brainstorm a list of things you could do and choose one project to take action on. If you need help thinking of ideas, try answering the following questions:

- What is something I could do to educate others about this problem and my solution?
- What is something that I could do, make, or share that could help address this problem?
- What is a rule, regulation, or law that could be changed? Who could I talk to about that?

Here are three ways you can create a sustainable project:

## Educate and inspire others.

Be creative! You could create and perform a skit about how to save water at a school assembly. Or you might partner with schools in your district to organize a rotating supply drive for a homeless shelter. You could lead a park cleanup and invite the community or create a social media campaign about hunger in your community and around the world.



**SDG 1 is divided into these seven target areas.**

## Make your solution permanent.

For example, you might work with a food bank to plant a community garden so that everyone in your area has access to fresh food, addressing SDG 15: Life on Land and SDG 1: No Poverty. Can you think of any other solutions that might address both SDG 15: Life on Land and SDG 1: No Poverty?

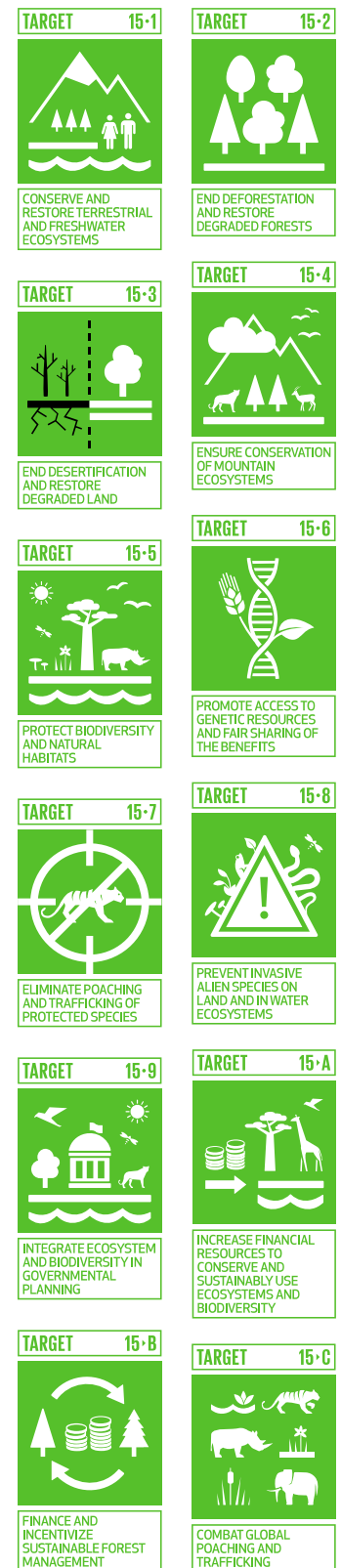
## Advocate for change.

The Sustainable Development Goals are for everyone! Make a presentation to your school principal, school board, city council, or other government representatives about the Sustainable Development Goals you learned about, why they matter, and what you would like your school, city, or government to do to help support the goals. Share with them what you plan to do as well!

Use your creativity and innovation to make a positive difference on the Sustainable Development Goals in your community. Find out what other people around the world have done for the Sustainable Development Goals by watching [these videos](#) from World's Largest Lesson.

You can also use the resources of the [G.I.R.L. Agenda](#) Powered by Girl Scouts to come up with more ways to step up, speak out, and take a stand to address issues of poverty and environmental protection.

Once you've completed your Take Action project, be sure to celebrate what you've done



**SDG 15 is divided into these twelve target areas.**





### **SDG 1: No Poverty**

1 in 10 people live on less than \$1.90 per day.<sup>1</sup>



### **SDG 2: Zero Hunger**

Hunger exists in all countries, but in some places, people also have too much food and it goes to waste. War, conflict, and environmental destruction can also affect the availability of food.



### **SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being**

Pollution can affect people's health and well-being. Poverty can also prevent people from accessing health care.



### **SDG 4: Quality Education**

Some children may not attend school because their parents cannot afford the fees, they have to work, or there is no school in their area.



### **SDG 5: Gender Equality**

In some parts of the world, girls are often prevented from going to school, which can lead to fewer skills and economic opportunities later in life.<sup>2</sup>



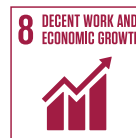
### **SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation**

Water is needed for health and to grow food, but polluted or contaminated water can lead to disease.



### **SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy**

In some places of the world without reliable access to electricity, women and girls have to spend hours fetching water, clinics cannot store vaccines for children, and many students cannot do homework at night.<sup>3</sup>



### **SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**

Decent work means opportunities for everyone to have productive work and a fair income that can help lift individuals and families out of poverty.<sup>4</sup>



### **SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure**

Infrastructure like roads, technology, sanitation, energy, and water can be limited depending on your economic position.<sup>5</sup>



### **SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities**

Inequality because of income, sex, age, disability, race, religion, and other factors exists around the world and can prevent personal, social, and economic growth.<sup>6</sup>





### SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Cities are home to almost half the world's population, but many cities are vulnerable to climate change and natural disasters because of their location and high populations.<sup>7</sup>



### SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

About one third of all food produced every year ends up being thrown away or spoiling during transport and harvest.<sup>8</sup>



### SDG 13: Climate Action

Severe weather and rising sea levels are affecting people and their property all over the world. Changes to the climate affect everyone, but especially the poor and vulnerable as well as groups like women, children, and the elderly.<sup>9</sup>



### SDG 14: Life Below Water

Oceans provide resources, like food, medicines, biofuels and more. They help breakdown and remove waste and pollution and coastal ecosystems protect against storms.<sup>10</sup>



### SDG 15: Life on Land

Many people depend on the world's forests for their livelihood, and land degradation has a greater effect on the world's poorest populations, as well as the plants and animals that also call Earth home.<sup>11</sup>



### SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

All people everywhere need to be free from fear of violence and feel safe as they go about their lives.<sup>12</sup>



### SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

We work better as a team. We can achieve the sustainable development goals when all of us—governments, organizations, scientists, educators, citizens, and businesses—work together.



### Create Your Own Card

#### SOURCES

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2. World's Largest Lesson, "Gender Equality: Why It Matters," [https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/5\\_Why-it-Matters\\_GenderEquality\\_2p.pdf](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/5_Why-it-Matters_GenderEquality_2p.pdf) (accessed August 15, 2018).
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