



Project Heart: Growing Giving

Philanthropy is the process of giving back. In Girl Scouts, we do this through community service, Take Action projects, and highest awards. Identifying how you are going to give back can sometimes be hard, but if you start with the WHY you want to give back, it will help you decide. Through this patch, we are going to introduce the concept of philanthropy to Girl Scout Daisies -- how they can learn what others need and how they can help them.

Steps:

1. Learn how it feels to help others.
2. Identify your 3Ts- time, treasure, and talent.
3. Create their first community service project.

Purpose:

When I have earned this patch, I will know I can help others with my time, treasure, or talent.

Words to Know:

Giving- To present voluntarily and without expecting compensation.

Need- To require, to be necessary (see additional resources for examples of need vs. service)

Service- The act of helpful activity

Philanthropy (simple)- When someone uses their 3ts (time, talent, or treasure) to meet a need in their community and make a difference.

Take Action Project- Earned by any level of Girl Scout as they identify a need in their community and create a sustainable project to support that need.

Before You Begin

We understand philanthropy is not a concept everyone has experience with or has ever talked about – that is OK! Below you will find some tips and resources but remember it is OK to explore and learn with your Girl Scouts. Visit this landing page to access all of these resources: <https://myprojectheart.org/gsco>

- What is philanthropy? - Short video on Youtube to learn more about philanthropy. You can also show your Girl Scouts this video.
- Empathy and Project Heart: What's the connection? Blog posting about the connection between philanthropy and building empathy
- Why Children Should Be Taught Philanthropy – Social science piece on the benefits of teaching children philanthropy.

NOTE: The service project Girl Scout Daisies will complete in this patch program is to create cards for another individual. As the troop leader, you can decide if this is for teachers at their school, nursing homes, or maybe another community group they are connected with.

Troop Meeting

Total Time: 45 minutes

Supplies needed:

- A copy of *Berenstain Bears Think of Those in Need* OR ability to watch this reading of the book: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVeFFc_GOw8
- Coloring sheets as the Girl Scouts arrive: <https://myprojectheart.org/gsco>
- Cardstock or other thick paper to make cards with.
- Crayons, markers, or other art supplies.
- Pencils

Optional: If your Girl Scout Daisies prefer to color, you can use these card templates: <https://myprojectheart.org/resources/colorful-kindness-activity-cards>

Activity 1: Arrival and Opening Ceremony

Time: 10 minutes

ARRIVAL: Have snack and 3T coloring sheets available for the Girl Scouts to do as their friends arrive.

WARMUP AND WELLNESS: Play a great icebreaker and empathy builder game called “I Love My Neighbor.” Arrange the group in a circle with one person in the middle. Everyone should place some sort of marker behind them, such as a book bag, T-shirt, etc. The person

in the middle says, "I Love my Neighbor because they are wearing blue [insert any description you like]." Then everybody in the circle who is wearing blue gets up and moves around the circle to the next available marker (book bag, etc) that everyone is sitting on. The person who does not find a marker to sit on is in the middle and becomes the next caller.

OPENING CEREMONY: Have them say the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Let them know that today we are going to talk about the line "make the world a better place" and how we can do that.

Activity 2: Giving to others

Time: 5 minutes

Have the Girl Scouts stay in their friendship circle and ready to listen to the book, *Berenstain Bears Think of Those in Need*. Introduce the book by asking the Girl Scouts to look for times the Berenstain Bears did something that helped others. If they notice something, have them raise their hand. Make sure to note that they have identified a way the bears helped.

Reflect: Why did Mama Bear donate things to others? How did it make you feel when they found a new home for the things?

Leaders reflect Girl Scouts: Have each Girl Scout share their why and how it made them feel. After they all share, reflect on those feelings. Tell them today, we are going to learn how you can do something to help others feel those good feelings as well.

Activity 3: 3Ts- Time, Treasure, and Talent

Time: 15 minutes

In this activity, Girl Scouts are going to create a card as a simple service project to get them started. Have either the card templates or black paper folder into a card and laid out with the craft supplies.

First, let them know we are going to learn a big word today PHILANTHROPY. Have the Girl Scouts practice saying it.

On <https://myprojectheart.org/gsco> play the 'What is Philanthropy?' for your Girl Scouts

Ask the Girl Scouts - What are the three things that we have that can help people? Time, treasure, and talent! Let them know we are now going to use all three in a service project to make cards for (insert who you decided on). Have the Girl Scouts complete as many cards as they want!

Sometimes, they will want to make a card for someone they care about – that is OK! Let them know once they complete the card for the group they can complete their own card or you will send supplies home with them to make it on their own time.

Reflect: Have the Girl Scouts pair and share how they felt when they were making their cards. Then have them share how they think the person will feel when they get the card.

Activity 4: Closing Ceremony

Time: 10 minutes

While still in the friendship circle, ask what they learned today about helping their community.

Leader reflects Girl Scouts: You learned and experienced what it was like to give to support a need from someone and how you can use your time, talent, and treasure to create that support.

Today you are going to send them home with two pieces of paper.

- One is just a blank sheet of paper with “I care about...” across the top. On this piece of paper, we want you to work with your adult at home to write or draw about all the things you care about in your community- it can be anything!
- The second piece of paper is divided into three sections with “Time, Talent, and Treasure” written across the top. Work with your adult at home to write or draw ways you can give your time, your talent, and your treasure to support your community. This doesn’t have to be specific to one thing, it can just be a list of what you could do.

End the meeting with a friendship squeeze and any other traditions your troop does to close a meeting.

Activity 5: Post Meeting- Follow Up with Families

Either use the letter template to send an email or print it to hand to caregivers as they pick up their Girl Scout.

Email Template:

Hello Girl Scout Families –

Today we took our first step in learning how each Girl Scout has their unique way of making the world a better place starting in their communities by earning our Project Heart patch by OtterCares.

- Ask your Girl Scout about the 3Ts of philanthropy- Time, Talent, and Treasure and how they demonstrated them in our meeting today
 - Curious to learn more? Check out this video: <https://youtu.be/bXkuyZll4Vw>

They came home with two pieces of paper for a little activity to do before the next meeting. Here are the instructions for those:

- One is just a blank sheet of paper with “I care about...” across the top. On this piece of paper, we want you to work with your adult at home to write or draw about all the things you care about in your community- it can be anything!
- The second piece of paper is divided into three sections with “Time, Talent, and Treasure” written across the top. Work with your adult at home to write or draw ways you can give your time, your talent, and your treasure to support your community. This doesn’t have to be specific to one thing, it can just be a list of what you could do.

We are going to incorporate what they care about and how they want to use their time, talent, and treasure to begin working on our first community service project.

Wrap-up:

The goal of this program is to expose your Girl Scouts to the rewarding world of philanthropy and spark their interest in completing a Take Action or service project. The activities you have helped your Girl Scouts through are designed to get them thinking about what exactly they might want to do for their project.

Don’t forget to request your patches!

https://gscolorado.formstack.com/forms/project_heart_patch_request

Additional Resources:

Book List:

- McKissack, Pat, and April Harrison. What Is Given from the Heart. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2019.

- A beautiful story about a young boy who has to think hard about what to give a friend. He and his family don't have much, but they still know how important it is to help another family who lost everything in a fire. Lexile: AD660L; Accelerated Reader Level: 3.6
- Berenstain, Stan, and Jan Berenstain. *Berenstain Bears Think of Those in Need*. Random House, 1999.
 - Mama Bear realizes the family has too much stuff so they find worthy organizations around town where their old stuff will have value again. Accelerated Reader Level: 3.9; 2nd Grade Equivalent
- Moss, Peggy, and Penny Weber. *One of Us*. Tilbury House Publishers, 2010.
 - Roberta is new to her school so she spends the day getting to know the other children to see where she fits in. Lexile: 350; Ages 5-8
- Fox, Amanda, and Luna D. Stella. *Zom-Be a Design Thinker!* Dave Burgess Consulting, Incorporated, 2019.
 - Zom-Be Zip teaches students design thinking – a process that uses your heart, brain, and hands to create. When you use your heart to empathize, think with your brain, and make with your hands, you turn Zom-Be Zip back into a real boy again. This book also works with the Artivive, Merge AR/VR, Metaverse, and CoSpacesEDU. Early Elementary and up.
- Ludwig, Trudy, and Patrice Barton. *The Invisible Boy*. Knopf, 2013.
 - A picture book about friendship and kindness. Great for empathy building, especially for younger students, and questions for discussion at the end. Guided Reading N; Lexile AD680L; Accelerated Reader Level 2.8

Want more? Check out the full list: [Book-List-Companion-for-Project-Heart.pdf](#)
([myprojectheart.org](#))