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## Interest Projects (IPs): A Quick Introduction

### A Grassroots Development

The Girl Scout community's voices echo throughout these new Interest Projects — in the topics they cover and the way they are structured. (Go [Behind the Scenes of the New IPs.](#))



In response to suggestions we received, these new Interest Projects:

- Build on the great learning experiences girls and volunteers have developed around the country
- Respond to girls' interests with fun, new topics
- Engage girls in goal setting
- Emphasize learning and applying new skills
- Maximize girls' time and effort
- Offer options for awards

To help meet the changing needs of our girl membership, the new IPs are available online and free for them to download or print.

### What "Tips for Adult Advisors" Is

This tip section will help answer your questions about:

- The "LEARN, DO, SHARE" model
- How to help girls do the new IPs
- Your role as an adult advisor
- *Safety-Wise* guidelines
- Award choices for the new IPs

We've also included a helpful [checklist](#) for completing IPs.

## **"Many Thanks!"**

Special thanks are owed to many girls, volunteers, and council staff for the development of these new Interest Projects. While the suggested topics and activities came primarily from girls, two new components (YOUR OWN and REFLECTION) came from adult volunteers and Girl Scout council staff. In particular, we'd like to thank:

- The many girls and volunteers who participated in focus groups Girl Scouts of the USA conducted in the summer of 2004 in conjunction with Just Kid, Inc.
- The hundreds of girls, volunteers, and council staff who emailed or sent in their ideas to Girl Scouts of the USA since November 2004.
- Members of the 2003-04 *By Girls, For Girls National Advisory Committee* who contributed their ideas and feedback as these IPs were developed.
- Members of the 2005 *By Girls, For Girls National Advisory Committee* who helped make this project *truly* BGFG! For example, Allison's chicken nugget graphic appears throughout the IP activities to warn against "double dipping." Particular thanks to Brianna, Emily, Ava, and Michelle—dedicated members of "Writing and Publication Review Team"—whose thoughtful suggestions and thorough review strengthened this project!
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