

GIRL SCOUTS AND MATH, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY

MATH, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY

Budgets, biology, and Brownies? That's right, in Girl Scouts, numbers and science are all the rage, and girls will tell you that learning to master them is fun.

Girl Scouts ages 5 through 17 and their families are developing and building on an appreciation for math, science, and technology. They are finding that knowledge in these three fields can open doors to tons of exciting possibilities.

THE BUCK STOPS HERE

In Girl Scouting, a future without math or science just doesn't add up. The U.S. Department of Labor estimates that more than 60 percent of all jobs require some form of technology skills. According to the National Science Foundation, women make up only 25 percent of the technology workforce. One reason is that academic stereotypes and social environments tend to steer girls away from math and science and toward the liberal arts and humanities. That puts girls at a disadvantage in the job market.

Girl Scouts has a tradition of encouraging girls to explore and enjoy mathematics, science, and technology. Girl Scout founder Juliette Gordon Low challenged conventional ideas about what girls should do. In 1920, she helped introduce the Economist and Businesswoman badges. Today, innovative hands-on experiences in science, technology, engineering, and math strengthen the natural aptitudes of girls and acquaint them with new career options and tools for future independence.

DO THE MATH

One of the fun ways girls acquire financial savvy is through cookie program activities that teach money management, business planning, and inventory oversight. It lays a perfect foundation for girls who may some day run businesses of their own.

No matter at what age a girl joins Girl Scouts—she'll enjoy experiences to build her comfort with and mastery of math, science, and technology. Whether it is to learn to build the fastest skateboard on the block, explore outerspace, or develop the next technology empire, Girl Scouting prepares her for success.



Here's a look at some of the programs girls love:

Intel Fair Play & Discovery Camps: Sponsored by the Intel Foundation and the U.S. Department of Education, girls have the opportunity to explore engineering, technology, and science with women engineers and scientists, and learn through a hands-on curriculum. Participants enter science and engineering fairs, which often are underrepresented by girls.

Girl Facts (Girls, Families, and Communities Together in Science): Together with the Lucent Technologies Foundation, this program focuses on delivering science and technology career opportunities to underrepresented teen girls. It is a home-based program that turns family projects into a lifelong interest in math and science.

Stock Market Game: The NASDAQ Educational Foundation provides funding for girls to build and maintain an imaginary \$100,000 stock portfolio from the New York and American Stock Exchanges and NASDAQ. It's a powerful experience that forever changes the way girls look at earnings and investing.

Cashin' In: A financial management primer written for teenage girls in STUDIO 2B_{SM} to help them figure out and afford what really matters in high school and beyond. It helps define "wants" versus "needs" and savings goals. Support from Visa USA made this booklet possible.

Girls Go Tech: A national ad campaign by GSUSA and the Ad Council to foster grass-roots support of girls' achievement in math and science, and to open girls' eyes to science in everyday life. Girlsgotech.org is an interactive forum for exploring high-tech careers. Profiles of women in science, technology, engineering, and math, as well as mentorships through the American Society of Women Engineers and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, offer firsthand insight on the industry's challenges and opportunities.

PRESS INQUIRIES

Our program is impressive, but it's the girls who are amazing! Learn more about what girls are doing in the evolving experience that is Girl Scouting. Call your local Girl Scout council or contact the Communications Department at Girl Scouts of the USA at 1-800-GSUSA4U or media@girlscouts.org.

A small sampling of awards/badges:

- Cookie Biz
- Computer Fun
- Making It Matter
- Math Whiz
- Science Sleuth

For a closer look at Girl Scouting in action, call your local Girl Scout council or Customer Service at 1-800-221-6707 to order a copy of some of our current print materials. They include:

- *Mind Your Own Business*, a STUDIO 2B_{SM} Focus book
- *Short-Circuiting the Myth of the Technophobic Girl* (a Girl Scout Research Institute publication.

Visit www.girlscouts.org/about/researchinstitute/GSRIMain.htm)

Girl Scouts of the USA is the preeminent organization for girls and has more than 3.8 million girl and adult members. Girl Scouting fosters values, social awareness, and self-esteem in girls, while also teaching them critical life skills for future success. It's a very special girls-only place where girls discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls growing together. The organization strives to serve girls in every part of the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. To learn more about volunteering, partnership, or Girl Scout news, visit us on the Web at www.girlscouts.org.