

# Perfectly Effortless Programs: Girl Scouts Global Action Award

The Girl Scouts Global Action award, developed in partnership with the [World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts \(WAGGGS\)](#), is an exciting and enriching way for Girl Scout Daisies to Ambassadors to participate in realizing the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which aim to reduce extreme poverty and impact major world concerns by 2015.



The alliance between WAGGGS and the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals embraces WAGGGS's mission of empowering girls and young women to develop to their fullest potential as engaged and responsible global citizens. Around the world there are 145 WAGGGS member organizations, of which GSUSA is one, serving girls and young women in wide-ranging "Scouting" endeavors.

## The eight United Nations' Millennium Development Goals are:

1. Ending hunger and poverty
2. Education opens doors
3. Empowering girls
4. Helping children survive
5. Keeping mothers healthy
6. Preventing diseases
7. Saving the planet
8. Promoting peace through partnership

By earning the Global Action award, girls can learn, in a fun and educational way, about serious global issues affecting girls, young women, and their communities. Each Girl Scout who completes activities will join in WAGGGS' international movement of 10 million girls who together are sowing the seeds of social change. The Global Action award offers girls an opportunity to *advocate for themselves and others, both locally and globally*—one of the five national [Take Action outcomes](#) (PDF) detailed in the Girl Scout Leadership Experience.

The Global Action award is designed to complement GSUSA's national leadership journeys and reinforces the same leadership goals of: **discovering** oneself and one's values; **connecting** via teamwork with other members and by reaching out to the local and global communities; and **taking action** to improve the world.

## Note to Volunteers

As a volunteer, you'll help girls enjoy the activities by:

1. Discussing the Millennium Development Goal related to the chosen activity.
2. Allotting enough time to answer questions or concerns before and after the activity.
3. Emphasizing how Girl Scouts are part of the 10-million strong World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) across 145 countries, all working together to achieve the same important goals.
4. Celebrating each achievement as girls earn the award.

## Patches

The Global Action Award is now an OFFICIAL Award and therefore it may be worn on the front of the Official Uniform sash or vest. Patches may be purchased through GSMH retail shops. (Supplies on hand at any given moment may be limited, so we suggest ordering ahead). To earn the award, girls complete one or more activities listed.

## When Sensitive Topics Come Up

According to *Feeling Safe: What Girls Say*, a 2003 Girl Scout Research Institute study, girls are looking for groups that allow connection and a sense of close friendship. They want volunteers who are teen savvy and can help them with issues they face, such as bullying, peer pressure, dating, athletic and academic performance, and more. Some of these issues may be considered “sensitive” by parents, and they may have opinions or input about how, and whether, Girl Scouts should cover these topics should be covered with their daughters.

Girl Scouts welcomes and serves girls and families from a wide spectrum of faiths and cultures. When girls wish to participate in discussions or activities that could be considered sensitive—even for some—put the topic on hold until you have spoken with parents and received guidance from GSMH.

When Girl Scout activities involve sensitive issues, your role is that of a caring adult who can help girls acquire skills and knowledge in a supportive atmosphere, not someone who advocates a particular position.

You should know, GSUSA does not take a position or develop materials on issues relating to human sexuality, birth control, or abortion. We feel our role is to help girls develop self-confidence and good decision-making skills that will help them make wise choices in all areas of their lives. We believe parents and guardians, along with schools and faith communities, are the primary sources of information on these topics.

Parents/guardians make all decisions regarding their girl’s participation in Girl Scout program that may be of a sensitive nature. As a volunteer leader, you must get written parental permission for any locally planned program offering that could be considered sensitive. Included on the permission form should be the topic of the activity, any specific content that might create controversy, and any action steps the girls will take when the activity is complete. Be sure to have a form for each girl, and keep the forms on hand in case a problem arises. For activities not sponsored by Girl Scouts, find out in advance (from organizers or other volunteers who may be familiar with the content) what will be presented.



## Global Action Award for Girl Scout Daisies

The Global Action award is designed to teach Daisies about critical world issues and how they can make a difference. At this grade level, young girls learn for the first time to recite the Girl Scout Promise and the Girl Scout Law. To work toward the Global Action award gives these budding female leaders the chance to really embrace key Girl Scout values, such as the Promise, "To help people at all times" and the Law, "To make the world a better place." Daisies will learn that, even at a young age, they have their own voices on the world stage.

Daisies who are engaged in the leadership journeys can complement their experience by earning the Global Action award. For instance, if Daisies are enjoying *Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden* from the *It's Your World - Change It!* series, they might like activity number 10 (see below), which supports Millennium Development Goal 1 of ending hunger and poverty. This activity lets girls connect their actions with global efforts. This community project can serve as good preparation for girls planting their own mini-gardens, one of the activities in *Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden*. As girls complete activity number 10, below, ask: What's different about growing food versus buying it at a grocery store? What can you make with garden-grown foods? If possible, visit a local farm and pick produce for everyone to enjoy. Encourage girls to try a vegetable or fruit they've never tasted.

Both of these activities show Daisies how they can make a difference in the world. In Global Action award activity number 8 (see below) inventing a game or toy out of natural materials is a hands-on way for girls to connect to the natural environment, as emphasized in *Between Earth and Sky* the journey from the *It's Your Planet - Love It!* series. This Global Action award activity also serves as a way to teach Daisies about cultural differences and how people live worldwide.

### Girls complete one or more activity to receive the award

1. Think of a time when you were very hungry. How did it make you feel? Perhaps tired or cranky? How did you feel once you ate and were no longer hungry? What do you think are reasons why some people around the world don't have enough to eat? (Millennium Development Goal: Ending hunger and poverty)
2. Take photos or draw a picture of your school. You may choose to draw certain places you like best: your classroom, the cafeteria, the playground, etc. At the library or online (with adult help and supervision), search for pictures of schools that exist in other countries. How are far away schools different from your own? What are some of the things you have at your school that other children may not? (Millennium Development Goal: Education opens doors)
3. Have someone trace your head and then your hands on a big piece of paper. Cut them out. On the drawing of your head, write down a few ways you can help others. (Comfort a sad friend, be a good listener in class, etc.) Then on the hand cut-outs, write how you can help others with your hands. (Take care of a pet, put recyclables in correct containers, set the dinner table at home, etc). Display your cutouts in your meeting place. (Millennium Development Goal: Empowering girls)
4. Play a fun game of Mosquito Tag! The lesson involved in playing this game is to teach Daisies about illnesses and diseases such as malaria. Players pretend they are mosquitoes and try to "bite" other players by touching them. Some players have beads in their hands. The beads act like mosquito nets and if girls are bitten, they can still stay in the game. Players without beads must leave the game. Beads are secretly passed from player to player. The game ends when only players with beads remain. Afterward, inform Daisies about efforts to fight malaria, how different organizations such as the United Nations are working to reduce malaria in poor countries. Also, talk about how this game does not rely on man-made materials and how kids

in impoverished countries have to rely more on made-up rather than manufactured games. (Millennium Development Goal: Helping children survive)

5. Think of five nice or helpful things you can do for your mother or a mother you know. Ideas: pick flowers and make a special bouquet, do something extra helpful: put away groceries, make your bed, etc. Afterward share with your group by acting it out. (Millennium Development Goal: Keeping mothers healthy)
6. Frequent hand washing keeps people healthy. Talk to your Daisy friends about the best ways to wash your hands and why it keeps people healthy. Make a poster to hang in your meeting area that lists hand-washing tips: Wet hands with running water. Apply soap. Lather well. Rub hands for 20 seconds (Sing the Birthday song.) [Dry with a clean towel or air dry.](#) (Millennium Development Goal: Preventing diseases)
7. Can you think of the many things in our lives that run on electricity? Make a list with your Daisy friends. Then go home and spend an hour without electricity—no TV, no lights, or other plug-ins. How did it feel? What did you miss most? Make a picture of what it was like and share with other Daisies. (Millennium Development Goal: Saving the planet)
8. Around the world, especially in poor countries, many children do not have store-bought toys. But they still have fun by making their own things to play with. Invent a game or make a toy out of natural materials such as sticks. Try out your game/toy with your friends. (Millennium Development Goal: Saving the planet)
9. Find out about the lives of children in another country. Get books on the subject at the library. (One good book is *Children Just Like Me*, by Barnabas and Anabel Kindersley published in association with UNICEF/The United Nations Children Fund. This book profiles children living in places as diverse as New York, Mongolia, and the Amazon Basin.) Draw a picture or make up a song about a girl in another country. Share with your friends or family. (Millennium Development Goal: Promoting peace through partnership).
10. Visit a local garden and offer to help weed, plant, or cleanup. How does food from a garden keep people from being hungry? (Millennium Development Goal: Ending hunger and poverty.)

## Girl Scouts Global Action Award for Brownies



What makes the Global Action Award exciting at this grade level is that Brownies are put in direct contact with leadership opportunities, both locally and globally. They learn how they are part of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), a worldwide movement, comprised of 10 million girls throughout 145 countries, all working together to build a better world. By working on the Global Action award not only will Brownies feel more connected to their WAGGGS' sisterhood, they'll be able to search for Girl Scout keys to leadership, the important concepts of "discovering, connecting, and taking action," tied to the *Brownie Quest* journey in the *It's Your World-Change It!* series. Brownies will see how leadership skills play an important role in fighting hunger, extreme poverty, and other serious global problems.

Brownies engaged in one of the leadership journeys can complement their experience by earning the Girl Scouts Global Action award. For example, activity 7 (*see below*) is a fun way for girls to learn about the importance of clean drinking water around the globe – a central message in [WOW! Wonders of Water](#) in the *It's Your Planet – Love It!* series. Or as girls pursue the [Brownie Quest](#) from the *It's Your World - Change It!* leadership journey series, they can team up and start to take action against poverty and hunger with suggestions from activities 9 and 10 (*see below*).

### Girls complete one or more activity to receive the award

1. Go take a hike! Or take a walk in a forest or park. Take along a camera or sketch pad and colored pencils. When done, choose five things you enjoyed such as the scent of plants or flowers, the sight of wildlife, or the feeling of clean air. Share your experience with your group. (Millennium Development Goal: Saving the planet)
2. Interview your mom. Sit down together and ask her or another mother you know what it's like being a mother. Ask what she likes about being a mother. Ask about the challenges or things she dislikes. Ask how she takes care of herself while taking care of others. Make a booklet illustrating what you learned. Share with your group and then give to your mom (or the other woman) as a gift. Write a personalized note thanking your mom for all she does! (Millennium Development Goal: Keeping mothers healthy)
3. Imagine what it would be like to live someplace without television, a computer, or electronic toys. Spend an entire day without using them. Tell your Brownie friends what you did instead. How can taking a break from these activities create peace? For example, perhaps you helped your mother around the house, or took a walk in the neighborhood. Talk about how these "old-fashioned" activities can put people in touch with others. How can face-to-face contact increase awareness and understanding? (Millennium Development Goal: Promoting peace through partnerships)
4. What if, as girls, you could not go to school? What would your life be like? What would you do with your time? How would you learn? Share your ideas with other Brownies. (Millennium Development Goal: Empowering girls)
5. Read a story about hunger and poverty in the world. Then, come up with a slogan to make people aware of these issues. Make decorative buttons or stickers with these slogans. (Millennium Development Goal: Ending hunger and poverty)
6. Draw a picture or take photos of your school and classroom. List the things you enjoy most about school. Then, with the help of books, pictures, or even a movie, find out what school is like for girls in another part of the world. Idea: Read the youth edition of *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver. (Millennium Development Goal: Education opens doors)

7. Did you know, in some parts of the world, children get sick because they don't have clean drinking water? Find out where your drinking water comes from. Then, with your Brownie friends, try this nifty experiment with a grown-up. First, mix up a bowl of dirty water by adding cooking oil, soil, and small pieces of paper. Then, with help, cut a plastic bottle in half. Turn the top half upside down so it's like a funnel. Build a filter in the funnel trying different materials: gravel, sand, and cotton balls. Pour the dirty water through the bottle, experimenting with different layers of filter material to see which filters the water best. (Don't drink the filtered water.) Share your findings with others. (Millennium Development Goal: Helping children survive)
8. Clean hands are important for preventing diseases and staying healthy. With other Brownies, go over the best ways to wash hands. You can research this online, with an adult's help. Then comes the fun part: make your own soap. Here's a link to a [craft site with easy soap-making instructions](#). Share bars with your family or donate them to a charity. (Millennium Development Goal: Preventing diseases)
9. Organize a special service project for your school. First, have a meeting and decide what your school might need and appreciate the most. Consider planting trees, painting, cleaning up the playground, creating themed "art" to brighten up the cafeteria (such as illustrated healthy eating tips). If you are not sure what to do, ask your school principal or another school leader. (Millennium Development Goal: Education opens doors)
10. What are some reasons why people in your area may not have enough to eat? Have a group discussion. Then visit a local food bank. Meet with the director to learn how hunger and poverty affects your community. Find out what items the food bank needs. Then hold a community food drive. (Millennium Development Goal: Ending hunger and poverty)



## Girl Scouts Global Action Award for Juniors

Girl Scout Juniors are eager to learn about the power of one and team up to create change. The Global Action award brings Juniors into contact with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), a worldwide movement, comprised of 10 million girls throughout 145 countries, all working together to build a better world. By earning the award, Juniors can better see themselves as the powerful leaders they are encouraged to be in the *Agent of Change* journey, part of the *It's Your World-Change It!* series. They'll discover the leadership power within themselves, by team effort, and by being part of a community. Juniors will learn how to define their own values about local and world issues, particularly extreme poverty.

Juniors engaged in the [leadership journeys](#) can complement their experiences by earning the Girl Scouts Global Action award. Through award activities (*see below*) girls have additional opportunities to think of themselves as the powerful leaders they are encouraged to be in *Agent of Change* in the *It's Your World-Change It!* series. For example, Activity 9 (*see below*) can get girls thinking about energy use, a focus of *Get Moving!*, the Junior journey in the *It's Your Planet – Love It!* series.

### Girls complete one or more activity to receive the award

1. Have you ever thought about how much food equals 800 calories a day? This amount is the minimum number of calories an adult can eat and survive. As a team, put together a creative display of foods and how much of them make up 800 calories. Find out which areas of the world have the highest malnutrition rates. Afterward discuss what it would be like to live on that much food every day. (Millennium Development Goal: Ending hunger and poverty)
2. Meet with a farmer at a local farm or a farmer's market. Find out what they produce, how they produce it, and where they sell it. Talk about what it would be like to be a "locavore," (a person who only eats foods grown or produced locally). In your discussion, think about people around the globe who have no other choice but to be locavores. What are the pros and cons? (Millennium Development Goal: Ending hunger and poverty)
3. Here's a chance to play reporter! Interview a teacher or school principal about why it's important for all children, including girls, to go to school. Share what you learned with other Girl Scouts, family members, neighbors, or friends. (Millennium Development Goal: Education opens doors)
4. Celebrate another culture by learning the words of a Girl Scout song in a language other than English. Sing it with other Girl Scouts at a special performance for family members. (Millennium Development Goal: Promoting peace through partnership)
5. Do you take good care of yourself? List all the ways you try to stay healthy (e.g., washing your hands, exercising, eating healthy foods, brushing your teeth, getting a good night's sleep.) Discuss what might happen to your body if you did not follow these simple day-to-day things. List other things you could try to stay healthy. (Millennium Development Goal: Preventing diseases)
6. Think about your mom (or a woman close to you) and what she means to you. Write a poem celebrating her. Share it with your Junior friends. Then discuss why it's important to keep moms healthy. How does your mom stay healthy? Interview her to find out ways she stays healthy. (Millennium Development Goal: Keeping mothers healthy)
7. Be an investigator. Find out about one of the following actions to help young children survive: immunizations, hand washing, or mosquito nets. Express what you learned by making a mock-

TV or poster advertisement to promote the action and show it to other Girl Scouts. (Millennium Development Goal: Helping children survive)

8. What does sisterhood mean? Have a "secret sister" celebration where each girl draws a name and then makes something special for her secret sister. (Millennium Development Goal: Empowering girls)
9. Have you ever thought about the energy use in your home? What about your family's recycling efforts? Make a list, recording your family's use of energy and recycling. Show your family your findings and try to make improvements over the following two weeks. For example, you can lower the thermostat by a degree or two, add cardboard packaging to your recycling efforts, unplug appliances while not in use, etc. Visit [www.earthday.net/footprint/flash.html](http://www.earthday.net/footprint/flash.html) to measure your carbon footprint. Write down your achievements and share with your group. (Millennium Development Goal: Saving the planet)
10. Help a younger child in a subject you are good at for at least a month. Arrange at school to help a younger kid with reading or math. Or teach a younger sibling or neighbor how to ride a bike or catch a baseball. (Millennium Development Goal: Education opens all doors)





## Girl Scouts Global Action Award for Cadettes

By working on the Global Action award, you'll be embarking on an adventure that brings you in touch with your global sisterhood. As a Girl Scout Cadette, you are part of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), a worldwide movement, comprised of 10 million girls throughout 145 countries, all working together to build a better world. Being a Girl Scout Cadette is all about branching out as a leader in your community; having healthy, meaningful relationships with your peers, adults, and family; and learning how to lead younger girls. The Global Action award provides ways to accomplish these goals as you learn about critical world issues and engage in activities that can have far-reaching effects, such as ending hunger and world poverty.

As you engage in the [leadership journeys](#), complement your experiences by earning the Girl Scouts Global Action award. For example, activities 1 and 2 (*see below*) deal with healthy relationships – one of the ideas of [aMAZE!](#), the Girl Scout Cadette journey in the *It's Your World - Change It!* series. Activities 7 and 8 (*see below*) can be adapted to focus on learning about the themes of [Breathe](#), the Cadette journey in the *It's Your Planet – Love It!* series. Global Action award activities encourage you to discover self-confidence, connect compassionately to others, and take action to make the world a better place.

### Girls complete one or more activity to receive the award

1. Ask women you know such as your mother, grandmother, aunt, or neighbor about gender discrimination. Then, collect and share stories of their experiences. Ask what they did in the face of discrimination. Share your findings. (Millennium Development Goal: Empowering girls)
2. Watch a favorite movie with friends. Discuss the male and female characters. Which characters are depicted as intelligent, problem-solvers, strong peacemakers, and/or leaders? How can characters in movies and television influence what girls think about themselves? Role play some of the characters to demonstrate what you observed. (Millennium Development Goal: Empowering girls)
3. Look into the leading causes of child mortality. (You can do research using [www.childinfo.org/mortality.html](http://www.childinfo.org/mortality.html) or other sites.) Present your findings to others in an interesting way, such as graphing. (Millennium Development Goal: Helping child survive)
4. Treat your mom to a cup of tea or coffee. Talk to her or another mother you know about the joys and challenges mothers face every day in raising children. Write a short essay describing her experience and reflect your gratitude for what she does. (Millennium Development Goal: Keeping mothers healthy)
5. Devise a family menu for one day: a healthy breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Make sure your meal choices contain a good balance of nutritious foods and work out how much these meals cost per person and per day. Compare those costs and food choices with what people who live on less than a dollar a day experience. Share your findings. (Millennium Development Goal: Ending hunger and poverty)
6. Investigate a disease that you want to help find a cure for such as AIDS, breast cancer, or Multiple Sclerosis. Then take social action! Participate in or plan your own local walk/race to raise awareness. (Millennium Development Goal: Preventing disease)
7. Discover the meaning of teamwork. Contact youth in another area club, within Girl Scouts, or school to join you in a service project such as putting on a play at a senior home, visiting a children in a hospital, etc. Plan some time to get to know the other students. What can you accomplish by teaming up? (Millennium Development Goal: Peace through partnerships)

8. How environmentally sustainable is your home? Consider changing light bulbs to fluorescent bulbs, installing water filters, fixing leaks, etc. Investigate other ways to reduce your carbon footprint: [www.nature.org/initiatives/climatechange/calculator/](http://www.nature.org/initiatives/climatechange/calculator/). Share and compare these efforts with your group. (Millennium Development Goal: Saving the planet)
9. Can you imagine a world without books? Conduct a used children's book drive to donate books to a local organization that helps families and children who can't afford to buy their own reading materials. Afterward, write a short paragraph about how it feels to help others. (Millennium Development Goal: Education opens doors)
10. Help younger children discover the joy of read-aloud stories. At a local school or library, volunteer to read to a young audience. (Millennium Development Goals: Education opens doors)



## Girl Scouts Global Action Award for Seniors

As a Senior Girl Scout, you have the chance to craft your own vision of the world. The Global Action award is an ideal way to learn about critical world issues and engage in activities that can have far-reaching effects to make the world a better place. Your work on the award is tied to that of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), a worldwide movement, comprised of 10 million girls throughout 145 countries, all working together to build a better world. Award activities offer a good way to learn about global leadership and the United Nations initiative.

In addition, as you engage in [leadership journeys](#) complement your experiences by earning the Girl Scouts Global Action award. For example, if you are excited by the idea of activity 1—climate change and food supply—or 2—the '250 mile diet' (*see below*) you can connect what you learn to [Sow What?](#), the Girl Scout Senior journey in the *It's Your Planet – Love It!* series. This journey is all about investigating food and its source—how it gets from earth to table, how that affects health, sustainability of the planet, and world hunger. If you are enjoying [GIRLtopia](#), the Girl Scout Senior journey in the *It's Your World - Change It!* series, you can connect your pursuits to activity 4 (*see below*) which deals with creating a collage of different definitions of peace. This might be a good way to express your vision for *GIRLtopia*.

### Girls complete one or more activity to receive the award

1. Do you know about the relationship between climate change and the world's food supply? Find out! For example, are more people hungry today because of climate change? Share your findings with other Girl Scouts or community members. (Millennium Development Goal: Ending poverty and hunger)
2. Take the "250 mile diet" challenge! Spend a week eating only food produced within 250 miles of your home. Find out where the food was produced. How does eating a local diet affect food choices? What if you lived in a different part of the world? Share your findings. (Millennium Development Goal: Ending hunger and poverty)
3. Explore "Title IX," the law passed in 1972 requiring gender equity for boys and girls in educational programs that receive federal funding. Research how this law has affected women and sports. Then arrange for a roundtable discussion where women of different generations share which sports/activities/teams were and were not available to girls in their elementary and high schools. Talk about how change was implemented and what you still think needs to be changed to make life equal for both genders. (Idea: salary differences) (Millennium Development Goal: Empowering girls)
4. Conduct a peace survey: ask 20 people for a definition of peace. Create a collage highlighting the results along with the dictionary definition. Discuss how understanding another person's definition of peace might avert conflict. Discuss and consider with other Seniors how your findings can help promote peace in a country with a current conflict. (Millennium Development Goal: Promoting peace through partnership)
5. Have you ever visited your local health department? Go there and look up facts about child health. Discuss with girls and adults projects that could improve child health in the community. For example, consider arranging school visits by doctors or other health professionals, a health fair, or a sporting event. Make a list of ideas and submit them to your local health department official. (Millennium Development Goal: Child mortality)

6. What do you know about adolescent/teen pregnancies? Visit a home for young mothers. Is there anything you can do to help girls balance motherhood and school? Make a list of ideas and investigate ways to help out. (Millennium Development Goal: Keeping mothers healthy)
7. Make a list of true and false statements on HIV and AIDS. Then educate others by running an activity for other Girl Scouts or students--have them guess which statements are true and which are false. Discuss together what you learned. (Millennium Development Goal: Preventing diseases)
8. For one week, monitor the amount of packaging that comes into your home. Record types of packaging and what materials they're made from. Make a sculpture out of the materials to show your group how much waste has been accumulated. How much of this packaging can be recycled? What can be done to reduce the amount of packaging? Discuss ways to improve the situation. (Millennium Development Goal: Saving the planet)
9. Do you know the literacy rate in your state? Go to: <http://nces.ed.gov/naal/estimates/StateEstimates.aspx>. The findings may surprise you. Then find a local literacy program, and volunteer to help someone who is learning to read or learning English. (Millennium Development Goal: Education opens doors)

## Girl Scouts Global Action Award for Ambassadors



As an Ambassador, you're now ready to carry your voice, message, and convictions out into the world. By working on the Global Action award, you'll be partnering with the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) to make the world a better place. WAGGGS is a worldwide movement comprised of 10 million girls throughout 145 countries. By earning the award, you're aiding in WAGGGS's dedication to help realize the UN Millennium Development Goals, such as addressing world poverty.

The Global Action award is a great window into the Ambassador leadership journeys. For example, any of the eight Millennium Development Goals could be a focus for your experience with the [Your Voice, Your World](#) journey in the [It's Your World - Change It!](#) series. And, if you find activities 8 and 10 ([see below](#)) compelling, and you may want to go further to understand the root causes of disease and how to prevent them. If you are working on the [It's Your Planet - Love It!](#) series, you might tie your work with *Justice* to any of the Global Action award activities.

### Girls complete one or more activity to receive the award

1. Famine is a serious issue that is often taken up by celebrities who use their high profiles to make the world a better place. Learn about past efforts such as We Are the World and Live Aid concerts. How did these events help address global famine? What problems does the hunger movement continue to face? Organize a debate about the complexities surrounding benefits and costs of food aid. (Millennium Development Goal: Ending hunger and poverty)
2. Do you know what the terms *credit* and *microfinance* mean? Have you ever heard of Kiva, Grameen, ACCION, or Sewa? These microcredit organizations are doing exciting work in their relationship to poverty and economic development, especially for women. Create a campaign to raise awareness of one of these organizations. (Millennium Development Goal: Ending hunger and poverty)
3. Can you imagine being denied an education? Investigate the importance of education by choosing two developing countries, one close to your home country and one far away. Find out about the education conditions for a girl your age. Compare with your home country. Do you have similar or different conditions? Discuss the difficulties for girls trying to get an education in developing countries. (Millennium Development Goal: Education opens doors)
4. Despite equal rights' gains for women in our society, a serious wage gap between women and men in the United States remains. How might this affect your future career plans? Look into the earnings gap between men and women, especially in the career you are interested in. What factors might cause men to earn more than women? Share your findings. (Millennium Development Goal: Empowering girls)
5. Today lots of residential and commercial building are going green. Find examples in your community. Then do this environmental project: if you could convert one building that you know into a green building, how would you go about it? Share your ideas. (Millennium Development Goal: Saving the planet)
6. Peoples' access to technology differs among countries of the world. Find out about efforts to "wire" different populations around the globe. On the flip side, observe technology use around you and create a collage of activities one could do in the United States without technology. Spark a discussion among Girl Scouts about how differences in technology access and use in populations around the world affects peoples' prospects for peace. (Millennium Development Goal: Promoting peace through partnership)

7. Rewrite a classic! Choose a popular fairytale such as Snow White or Cinderella and revise it to illustrate women's empowerment. For example, what if Cinderella didn't meet the Prince, but the fairy godmother set her up with a loan so she could start her own technology business? Use your imagination and have fun. Then read your story to younger girls. (Millennium Development Goal: Empowering girls)
8. Child health is an important world issue. On a map of the world, identify countries with the highest child mortality rates. Investigate the reasons—and possible antidotes—and write an op-ed article. Include in the piece why this issue is significant for you. Review the article with other Ambassadors and try to publish it in your school or a local newspaper. (Millennium Development Goal: Helping children survive)
9. It is essential for women to remain healthy when they are pregnant. Learn why by interviewing an obstetrician or midwife. Then find out about maternal health practices in a developing country. What can be done to provide good maternal care for all women? Educate others about your findings. (Millennium Development Goal: Keeping mothers healthy)
10. Interview someone or ask to visit a support group for people with a chronic or debilitating disease such as diabetes, cancer, tuberculosis, etc. Find out about prevention, treatment, and support for people with this disease. Then do something to help an individual (ask this person how you can help her), group, or organization. For example, find out how you can help educate others or raise awareness. (Millennium Development Goal: Preventing diseases)