

Girl Scouts of Nassau County Leadership Award Seniors and Ambassadors

What does leadership mean to you? Are you born with it or can it be learned? Guess what? As a Girl Scout you have been learning to become a leader since the beginning. The Girl Scout Law is the foundation:

I will do my best to be
honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and caring,
courageous and strong, and
responsible for what I say and do,
and to
respect myself and others,
respect authority,
use resources wisely,
make the world a better place, and
be a sister to every Girl Scout.

These qualities build a strong leader.

Who is a leader?

Leaders are people who inspire others to bring about change or get something accomplished.

Who are the student leaders in your school? Some may be easy to spot. The captains of sport teams, the president of the student council, the officers of school clubs, or the drum major in the marching band are good examples, but you don't need a title to be a leader! Many of you possess leadership qualities; it is your decision how you will put these qualities to use! To earn the GSNC Leadership Award complete all three activities.





Activity 1: Discover Yourself

A. How you see yourself.

What are two accomplishments you feel proud of?

What are two things you do well?

What three qualities do you like most about yourself?

What makes you happier than anything else?



Activity 1: Discover Yourself

B. How Others See You

Many times other people can recognize your strengths better than you. This activity will help you discover which strengths others recognize in you.

1. At the top of 8 1/2" x 11" paper, write the title "My Strengths."
2. Fold the paper lengthwise into three equal columns and then divide the paper in half by folding in the middle.
3. Open the paper up and you will have six equal boxes. Label each box with the following:
 - "Me"
 - "Family Member,"
 - "Neighbor,"
 - "Male Friend,"
 - "Female Friend,"
 - "Teacher."

In the "Me" box write your strengths.
4. Now interview 5 people who fit into the categories of the remaining boxes. Ask them to name three strengths they believe you have and write their responses in the appropriate boxes.

At your next Troop meeting, or with friends or family, discuss these questions:

1. How do you feel about the strengths people recognize in you?
2. Did anybody identify a strength you didn't know you had?
3. Is there a strength you recognize in yourself that nobody else recognized? If so, how can you make people aware of it?
4. Did more than one person identify the same or similar strengths?

Is leadership confined to elected officers? The simple answer is, "No!" At different times and in a variety of situations, everybody has the opportunity to be a leader. Leaders possess a variety of talents, skills, and traits that are not the same for each leader.



Activity 1: Discover Yourself

C. Qualities of Leadership

What are the key characteristics of a leader? Brainstorm with your Troop, friends, or family to see if you can create a list of important characteristics. After you brainstorm, use the internet to research the topic. You might be surprised to see what trait is number one. It also happens to be the first Law in Girl Scouts! Then check to see if you possess any of these traits; you can refer to activities 1 & 2 to help you out.

Leaders often take on various roles. The roles they assume change with time and circumstances and the people with whom they work, so, during a project, the leader may take on many different roles. Here is a list of some of the roles a leader might take:

- | | |
|----------------|------------|
| Director | Mediator |
| Problem-solver | Motivator |
| Facilitator | Guide |
| Confronter | Producer |
| Initiator | Timekeeper |
| Coach | Networker |
| Clarifier | Peacemaker |
| Manager | Explorer |
| Listener | Nurturer |
| Delegator | Dreamer |

D. Leadership and You

Everyone has leadership potential in one situation or another. Think about a situation where you were the leader. What roles did you have to assume in order to accomplish your goal?



Activity 2: Connect

Earn one Senior or Ambassador Badge.

Select one that helps you learn a new skill or challenges you. A leader is always well rounded and willing to learn something new.

Name of Badge _____ Date completed _____

Explain which GS Law the badge relates to and why _____

Activity 3: Take Action

Now it's your turn to LEAD!

Complete a minimum of 20 hours in a leadership role.

Up to 5 hours can be accumulated at school, religious institution, or other club in which you are in a leadership role, but at least 15 hours must be completed from 2 of the 4 choices below:

1. Organize and run one of your Troop meetings or trips
2. Organize and run a meeting or workshop for a younger Troop
3. Organize and run an event for your Girl Scout Association
4. Serve as a Girl Scout Delegate or member of Council's "Girls Speak" Group

Please record your Leadership hours on the log provided. This must be brought to the GSNC Shop to purchase the Leadership Pin.

