

GIRLS GUIDING THE WAY PROJECT OUTLINE FOR REGION/DISTRICT/UNIT LEADERS

The project is designed to help Leaders teach their Guides that they do have the power to build a better world. The central themes of the project are: women, rights, equality and advocacy.

It is hoped that through participation in the project the Guides will learn current facts about women worldwide and will be inspired to make change in the world. It is also hoped that by the end of the project Guides will be able to identify that:

- a) They do have the power to change the world
- b) When you take a stand to try to change the world for the better it is called advocacy
- c) Advocacy is: being a Leader, standing up and passing on the message

The project is open to all Girl Guide Units in Victoria and runs from May until November 2008. You do not have to register to take part in the project.

A **badge** has been produced for all girls to wear on their sash in the 'special events' section (badge can not go on white shirt). In April badges were distributed to Region Leaders, 1 for every girl officially registered as being in each Region as at March 2008. Extra badges are available for girls who joined later in the year. If a Unit is taking part in the project (by using the set themes and the "Get it!" book) then every girl in that Unit is allowed to wear the badge as soon as they have started the project.

In May Region Leaders will be provided with spare badges to supply to Leaders whose Units are taking part and who have had new girls join their Unit since the original badges were distributed. Region Leaders- please supply badges to each District Leader and let District Leaders/Unit Leaders know that if they need extra badges they can contact the Region Leader to get them.

A **resource book** has been made to compliment the project; the book is called "Get it!" Each Unit will receive 1 copy of this book. We ask that the Region Leader distributes the book through her Region. This book is written to be used by both adults and Guides, although the language is written for a youth member to understand. "Get it!" contains a wealth of useful information of women and womens' rights, as well as great information for girls on what advocacy is, how to get their Units into the media, how to invite special guests and how to promote Guides. There are also extra activities and games that explore the project themes/issues of relevance to Guides that the Units/Patrols might like to use. Please ask all Leaders to read the 'NOTE TO ADULTS' at the start of the resource so they understand the many uses of the resource. This resource is designed to be used not only during the project but long after the project ends.

The project has its own section on the Girl Guides Victoria **website** which can be accessed by girls and adults. Log in using your user name and password, go to: 'leaders/adults' -> 'AGP- Program' -> 'Girls Guiding the Way project'. This site will be regularly updated with relevant information/activities as well as any photos sent in by participating Units (so encourage Units to send in a comment/photos as they do each theme!) "Get it!" will be available to download from the website. This way your Guides can print their own copies or Leaders can print extra copies. This will also allow girls/leaders to print singular pages to give to girls/parents as they feel necessary (i.e- a Guide wants to do her Girls Badge, the Leader can print her only the pages on women around the world to give to her as a starting point; a Guide wants to invite a guest speaker to Guides, print her the page on how to invite someone to Guides).

HOW TO TAKE PART

A Unit is deemed to be 'taking part' if the Unit has made the decision to fit in as many of the set themes as are practical for them. This means that you do not have to do every set theme to wear the badge. Ideally we would like Units to use all the set themes (as we believe they are easy to slot in with other things that are occurring in that month (ie: August theme = "active" and the Olympics are also in August). The most important theme is **Jump up in June**. This month has a set program and instructions for Leaders to run. This is the month where Guides are introduced to the term 'advocacy' and are taught that they can change the world. We ask that every Unit incorporates Jump up in June somewhere in their program **or** if they can't fit it in June that they try to fit it elsewhere in the year. Other months to be aware of: In September every District will be posted a giant calico quilt square for every member to sign.



Did you know?

Advocacy is not a new concept for Girl Guiding.

The small group of girls who gatecrashed the Crystal Palace Boy Scout Rally on that rainy September 4th 1909, calling themselves the 'girl scouts' were our first Girl Guide advocates?

Just imagine what life would have been like without them!

Did you know?

All over the world women have had to fight to have the same rights as men.

For most countries women's suffrage (the right to vote or be voted for) has only been achieved in the last 100 years. In some places women still do not enjoy full suffrage rights.



Advocacy is-

Being a Leader

Standing up

Passing on the message

**GIRL GUIDES HAVE THE POWER TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD.
WHEN GIRLS GUIDE THE WAY- GREAT THINGS HAPPEN!**