

YOUR GUIDE TO GOING BRONZE



The Girl Scout Bronze Award

BRONZE AWARD AT A GLANCE

8 STEPS TO BRONZE



STEP 1
Complete a Junior Leadership Award.



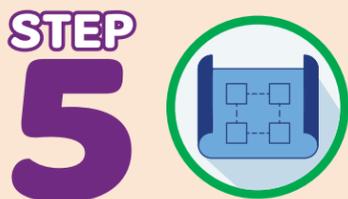
STEP 2
Build your team. Your team can be a troop or part of a troop. You can be a group of individually registered girls, or a girl who has arranged to work with friends.



STEP 3
Explore your community to learn about community issues that interest you. This can be your school, your neighborhood, Girl Scouts, or your faith-based community. Share what you've discovered with your team.



STEP 4
Choose a project. Research your team's top community issues, discover root causes, and decide on a Bronze Award Take Action project.



STEP 5
Make a plan to carry out your Bronze Award Take Action project.



STEP 6
Put the plan in motion. Spend 20 hours each to earn the award. Your planning time counts too. Use the log in your guide to track your time.



STEP 7
Spread the word about your project when you're done. Inspire others! You can give a presentation at your school or to your service unit or to another troop.



STEP 8
Submit a final Report before September 30 of your sixth grade year to share your experience with Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore.

Then...Celebrate!

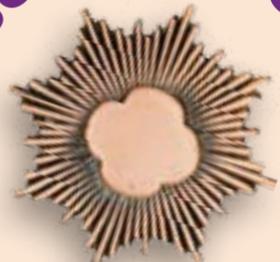


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GET READY FOR A **BIG ADVENTURE!**

The Bronze Award is the highest honor a Girl Scout Junior can achieve. When you work on the award, you'll get a chance to use your unique skills and explore your interests. And you'll have a chance to make a real difference in your community.



Troop Troop 50058 earned their Bronze Award by planting a garden for residents at a senior community. They also played games with residents.



Girl Scout Troop 76 earned their Bronze Award by collecting and organizing children's books for a children's hospital.



Girl Scout Troop 50061 earned their Bronze Award by creating care boxes for children receiving chemotherapy. They also recruited a stylist who cut hair to donate for wigs.

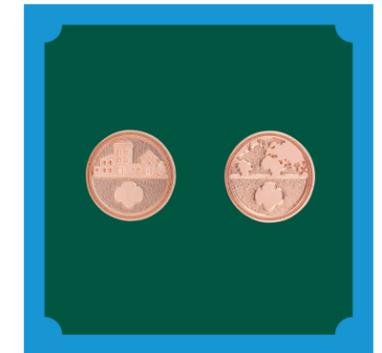


Girl Scout Troop 668 created a pollinator garden for their Bronze Award. The girls learned that pollinators, like bees and butterflies, were at risk. They researched the possible reasons and taught about the plants that help pollinators thrive.

ABOUT THE BRONZE AWARD

The Bronze Award Take Action project is special. It will be different than other projects you've done as a Girl Scout, like collecting coats for the homeless or pet food for an animal shelter.

These projects are great, but with the Bronze Award project, you'll take a deeper look at a community issue. You and your team will research to understand what causes the issue. You'll think of solutions. And, you'll work with the community to complete your project. That's what makes the Bronze Award project a Take Action project!



HERE'S HOW TO GET STARTED

Let's get going! You'll need to check these three items off your to-do list before you begin working on the Bronze Award:

YOU'RE READY WHEN...



- ✓ You are in fourth or fifth grade
- ✓ You are registered as a Girl Scout Junior
- ✓ You've completed a Junior Leadership Award



Your Junior Leadership Award is important. In fact, completing it is the first step in earning the Bronze Award. If you've already completed a Junior Leadership Award, start with the reflection activity on page 6. Then move on to Step 2 of the Bronze Award.



STEP 1



Complete a Leadership Award

WHAT JUNIOR LEADERSHIP AWARD SPARKS YOUR INTEREST?

Choose from these Junior Leadership Award Options:



- Personal Leadership - True North**
The True North award is about discovering what matters to you and staying true to yourself. It's your chance to follow your values and take meaningful action, even when it feels hard or a little scary. Whether you're finding the courage to speak up for what you believe in, taking on challenges, or advocating for positive change, this award helps you build the confidence and clarity to chart your own course and take courageous steps toward what truly matters to you.



- Teaching Leadership - Junior Aide Award**
Discover your leadership style by planning and leading a fun, inclusive activity for younger kids. Build your confidence as you learn what it means to guide and inspire others.

Choose from these Junior Leadership Award Options: (continued)

Community Leadership

Pick your favorite badge and use it as inspiration to create meaningful impact in your community. Many issues affect your world, both close to home and far away—focus on one that matters most to you.

- Take Action Award**
Team up to identify a local issue, understand what's behind it and who's already working on it, and create a lasting solution.
- Global Action Award**
Explore how communities worldwide experience similar issues, then make a global connection by applying what you learn to your project.



Requirements for all Junior Leadership awards can be found at [gsFun.org/bronze](https://gsfun.org/bronze)



Once you've completed your Junior Leadership Award, **reflect!** Your answers may help you tackle your Girl Scout Bronze Award.



REFLECT!

WHAT DID YOU DISCOVER ABOUT YOURSELF?



WHO DID YOU CONNECT WITH?



HOW DID YOU USE THE GIRL SCOUT LAW WHILE COMPLETING YOUR LEADERSHIP AWARD?

FANTASTIC!

WHAT DID YOU LEARN BY COMPLETING YOUR LEADERSHIP AWARD?



STEP 2



Build Your Team

Earning a Bronze Award is a team project. You and other Girl Scout Juniors will go on this adventure together. Your whole troop or a group of girls from your troop can be a team. Don't know any other Girl Scout Juniors? Friends can be on your team—as long as they are in fourth or fifth grade.

After you've built your team, hold a meeting to get to know each other. Even if you've been in a troop together or friends for years, see if you can discover something you didn't know! Play a game or two to get the ball rolling. Try "ROLL WITH IT".



ROLL WITH IT

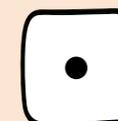


What you'll need:

Dice.

What to do:

Sit in a circle. Each person has a chance to roll the dice and answer a question based on the number rolled.



What is your favorite Girl Scout experience and why?



What one thing would you change in the world and why?



Where is your favorite place to be and why?



What is one of your strengths? When did you use it?



Who do you most admire and why?



WILD CARD—you can answer any question you'd like!



Then, think about the things you love to do.

Do you love spending time with friends? Whipping up a treat or two in the kitchen? Being outdoors? Building a robot in your room? Does a good book or a zipline make you happy? List it all. Then share your list with your team. You'll learn about the interests and talents of your teammates. Some of these may be useful to know for your Bronze Award project. And some will just be fun!

IN MY FREE TIME I LIKE TO:

THESE MAKE ME HAPPY:

MY BEST MEMORY IS:

I'M INTERESTED IN:

THESE ARE MY TALENTS:

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO LEARN:

Before you end your first team meeting, decide on team rules.

HINT: Use the Girl Scout Law as your guide.

STEP 3



Explore Your Community

Earning the Bronze Award is an adventure.

Start by exploring. Take a look at what's going on around you. That's the best way to come up with project ideas that will make a difference.

Take a fresh look at your community: your block, your neighborhood, your school. As you walk, bike, or ride, keep your eyes open for ways you and your team can make a positive change. Look for problems that could be fixed or improved.

Use the chart on page 10 to keep track of your ideas. Follow the example if you need help getting started.



YOU CAN USE THESE IDEAS TO HELP YOU OBSERVE:



Keep an open mind. Ideas can come from anywhere. Are students wasting paper in school? Would your neighborhood be improved with a wall mural? Is there a missing sidewalk that makes walking difficult? Observations like these may be a Bronze Award project.

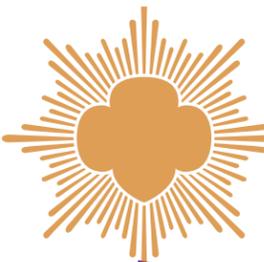


Make it a team activity. Get together as a group to walk your school or block. Discuss what you see.

IF YOU'RE STUCK:

Think about something that would make your own life better. Chances are good that others have the same need.

Here's an example: Maybe you feel like you should get more exercise so that you'd be healthier. But you don't know how to get started. Other people probably feel the same way. You could create a "Let's Move It" club that meets a few days a week after school. You could learn jump rope techniques, run races, organize games—anything that keeps you and others active.



MY OBSERVATION CHART

What I see...
(list your observations)

Maybe our team could...
(list your ideas for making a difference)

Example:

I see many cars screeching in front of school. Drivers go too fast. Drivers on phones. Crosswalk not visible, paint is faded.

We could talk to the city about painting the crosswalk. We could learn about crosswalk safety and start a program at school to teach students. We could hang flyers to remind parents to practice safe driving.

Handwriting practice area for 'What I see...' with alternating shaded and white horizontal bands.

Handwriting practice area for 'Maybe our team could...' with alternating shaded and white horizontal bands.

STEP 4



Choose Your Bronze Award Project

1 Meet with your team. Share your observations. Choose the ones you're most excited about!

2 Make a list of the team's top observations.

3 Brainstorm how your team might make a difference.

OBSERVATIONS

BRAINSTORM IDEAS

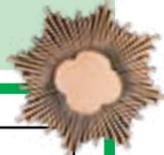


Handwriting practice area for 'OBSERVATIONS' with alternating shaded and white horizontal bands.

Handwriting practice area for 'BRAINSTORM IDEAS' with alternating shaded and white horizontal bands.

Use a separate piece of paper if you need more room!

4 Work together to choose the top three topics/issues that interest the team.



TOPIC 1:

TOPIC 2:

TOPIC 3:

5 Get information! Research to understand the root causes of the three topics/issues and to find solutions.



You can research at the library (books, magazines, newspapers) and online. Read the Internet Safety Pledge. Find it at gsfun.org/SafetyPledge.

It's also a good idea to talk to experts. You might find it hard to talk to adults about your project, especially if you don't already know them. Start with people you know first, like your teachers and neighbors. Speaking with adults like these first can help boost your confidence. When you do talk with others, go as a team. You'll find it helpful to be in a group.

6 Take Notes. Use the project idea sheets on the next few pages to keep track of what you learn when you research.

Here's an example:

PROJECT IDEA #1

OBSERVATION: Lots of cars screeching in front of our school.

WHAT I READ OR WHO I TALKED TO: Crossing guard and kids at school.

WHAT I LEARNED:

- Drivers drive too fast.
- Crosswalk isn't very visible.
- Drivers are on their phones.
- The paint is faded.

MAYBE WE COULD...

- Talk to the city about painting the crosswalk.
- Post signs or hand out flyers reminding parent drivers not to text and drive.



PROJECT IDEA #1 _____

OBSERVATION:

Two purple-outlined boxes connected by a black infinity symbol.

WHAT I READ OR
WHO I TALKED TO:

WHAT I LEARNED:

Large purple-outlined rectangular box for notes.

MAYBE WE COULD...

Large purple-outlined rectangular box for notes.



PROJECT IDEA #2 _____

OBSERVATION:

Two purple-outlined boxes connected by a black infinity symbol.

WHAT I READ OR
WHO I TALKED TO:

WHAT I LEARNED:

Large purple-outlined rectangular box for notes.

MAYBE WE COULD...

Large purple-outlined rectangular box for notes.



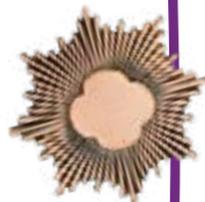
PROJECT IDEA #3 _____

OBSERVATION:

WHAT I READ OR WHO I TALKED TO:

*

WHAT I LEARNED:



MAYBE WE COULD...



7

Share your project idea charts with your team.

8

Together pick one project topic. If you're having trouble deciding, ask the questions below about each topic/issue. Your answers may help you.

*

*

*

*

*

What Project Topic did you choose?



Can you make your project last?

Making your project last—even after you're done is called sustainability. Girl Scout Silver and Gold Awards are sustainable. So thinking about sustainability can help you prepare for these Highest Awards. **Read below to see how one team made their Bronze Award project sustainable.**



SUSTAINABILITY: HERE'S WHAT ONE TEAM DID...

One Bronze Award team wanted to make new students feel more at home at their school. They started a program called "What a Pal!" The program was a buddy program for new students. The Bronze Award team ran the program until they graduated. But the program didn't end there. The team asked the principal to continue the program and the principal agreed. As a result, students who are new to the school always have a buddy.



HOW COULD YOUR TEAM MAKE YOUR PROJECT SUSTAINABLE?



READY TO ROCK YOUR PLAN?

Answer this question as a team and you'll be ready to roll in Step 6.



WE WILL KNOW WE HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE WHEN...



STEP 7



Spread the Word

Each Bronze Award Take Action project tells a story of inspiration and teamwork. It's also a story of change for the better. Before you submit your final report, tell your story! When you tell your story, be creative and have fun. After all, your story celebrates all you have accomplished.

How will your team tell their Bronze Award story?

It's up to you, of course! You can:

- ✦ Create a presentation
- ✦ Make a photo collage
- ✦ Put together a scrap book
- ✦ Create a short video

Think about these questions as a team. Your answers can help you put your Bronze Award story together.



How did you decide what was needed in your community?

How did you live out the Girl Scout Promise and Law?



How did you solve problems that came up?

How has your team made the world a better place?



How did your team work together?

What did you discover about yourself?



Once you've put your story together, find ways to share it so that you can inspire others. Share your story with another Girl Scout troop, your service unit, or students at your school. You can post your story online with the help of your troop leader or another troop volunteer. Present your project at a community meeting. Or, display your project at a local library for others to see.

DID YOU KNOW?

As a Girl Scout, you're a member of a worldwide community. There are Girl Scouts and Girl Guides in 146 countries! Take time to think about how people in other parts of the world might address the issue that you've chosen to work on. Are there ways to tell your story to people in other places so that they can learn about what you did?



STEP 8



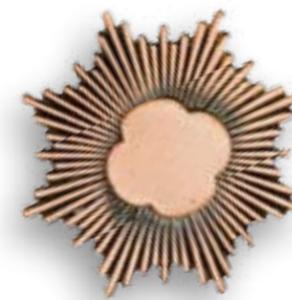
Turn in Your Final Report

You've made it to the last step! Submit a final report about your Bronze Award Take Action project to Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore. Each girl submits her own.

You can submit your report online. Leaders can approve your award, but the online report makes it official. The report form can be found at gsfun.org/bronze.

Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore is excited to learn about all you've accomplished, and we can't wait to invite you to our Bronze Award Ceremony.

WHAT COMES NEXT?



Give thanks. Be sure to thank everyone who has helped you along the way. A hand-written note or an email with a project photo means a lot.



Celebrate Girl Scout-style. Plan a special ceremony with your team to receive your Bronze Award pins, certificates, and letters of recognition.



Set your sights on Silver and Gold Awards. Imagine all you can do!



The Girl Scout Silver Award

- Earn the Girl Scout Silver award when you're in grades 6-8.
- Be registered as a Girl Scout Cadette.
- Complete the Bronze Award or a Cadette Leadership Journey.
- Find out more at gsFun.org/silver.



The Girl Scout Gold Award

- Earn the Girl Scout Gold award when you're in grades 9-12.
- Be registered as a Girl Scout Senior or Ambassador.
- Complete the Silver Award or a Senior or Ambassador Leadership Award.
- Find out more at gsFun.org/gold.

Did you know?

The Gold Award is the highest achievement in Girl Scouts. Earning the Girl Scout Gold Award can help you stand out when you apply to college. And, some scholarships are just for Gold Award Girl Scouts. You can also skip one rank when you enlist in the military as a Gold Award Girl Scout. Gold Award Girl Scouts are recognized as leaders who make the world a better place!





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