



GIRL SCOUTS: MYTH VS. FACT

MYTH	FACT
<p>Girl Scouts aren't about getting outdoors.</p>	<p>Girl Scouts build outdoor skills, go camping, and develop a sense of self.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girl Scouts earn badges in outdoor adventure and high adventure. • Girl Scout troop camping starts in kindergarten. • Girl Scouts San Diego owns and operates four facilities for camping, including two overnight camps in the Cuyamaca Mountains. Features include high and low ropes courses, a climbing tower, archery ranges, and a 39' tree house.
<p>Only Boy Scouts focus on adventure programs.</p>	<p>Girl Scouting actually provides more adventure opportunities than Boy Scouts does.</p> <p>Girls choose from age-appropriate activities, including: wilderness hiking, archery, white water rafting, surfing, paddle boarding, and backpacking.</p>
<p>Girl Scouts don't do hard science.</p>	<p>Check out Girl Scouts' STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) programs!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The STEM interest- and confidence-gaps between girls and boys starts at age 6 and can be closed with programs that are designed specifically for girls. • Girl Scouts can earn badges in engineering, robotics, environmental science, cybersecurity, space science, etc.
<p>Crafts are Girl Scouts' only hands-on activity.</p>	<p>Girl Scouts are makers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Girl Scouts can learn to change a tire, use a sewing machine, weld, make jewelry, rebuild an engine, or construct a playhouse for a children's shelter they can! • Girls can learn these skills and put them to work in ambitious award projects.
<p>The Girl Scout Cookie Program is just a gimmick.</p>	<p>Money-earning opportunities help girls develop critical life skills as they fund troop travel, field trips, and Silver and Gold Award and community service projects.</p> <p>During Girl Scouts San Diego's 2018 cookie program, troops earned nearly \$2.65million to fuel Girl Scout adventures, awards, and service projects.</p>
<p>Becoming a Gold Award Girl Scout is less impressive than attaining the Eagle Scout rank.</p>	<p>The Gold Award requires girls to plan and complete a complex project that creates meaningful, sustainable change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Gold Award Girl Scout identifies an issue in her community; develops a plan; leads teams to develop a sustainable solution to the issue; and develops skills in planning, organization, budgeting, and team building. • The Gold Award is impressive to colleges and universities, and to the military, which advances Gold Award Girl Scouts a full rank (the same as for Eagle Scouts).
<p>Girl Scout troops focus on cookies and crafts.</p>	<p>Volunteer-led troops include a wide range of skilled adults and caring mentors.</p> <p>Troops are girl-led, and their activities vary depending on the interests of its girls and leaders. Some troops choose to do a wide variety of activities; others prefer to focus mostly on travel, crafts, camping, or community service.</p>
<p>Girl Scouts is only about girls and women</p>	<p>Girl Scouts encourages family participation.</p> <p>While its focus is girls and women, Girl Scouts invites the entire family to get involved. Many dads volunteer as troop co-leaders, cookie program coordinators, and camp volunteers, and younger siblings are welcome to "tag along" for many day camps, outings and meetings.</p>
<p>The rest of the world embraces coed "scouting." Girl Scouts should, too</p>	<p>Girl-only scouting organizations are thriving. The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) represents 10 million girls in 150 countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The World Association of the Scout Movement, and WAGGGS are the two largest scouting organizations. It is a myth that coed scouting has replaced Girl Guides/Girl Scouts. • Some coed scout programs are sectarian or require that members recognize an obligation to a specific faith. Girl Scouts is a non-partisan, non-sectarian group, with a strong policy of inclusion for all girls.