

Senior Journey Guide

It's Your World—Change It!

GIRLtopia

1. The Purpose of GIRLtopia

- i** Gain the skills to become a visionary of your future—take the lead and improve your community through empowerment and creativity! Envision your perfect world, then learn how to take those ideas and put them into action.

2. Take Action Project

- i** To complete GIRLtopia, finish the Journey and complete a take action project. This is when your creativity gets to shine through as you take a leap into creating a positive change for your community! Use your Take Action Planning Chart on pages 81-83 for tools and guides to completing your project.

Examples:

- Impact the gender pay gap by identifying why we have it and provide a solution. This can be done by inviting women in various career fields to speak at your school or club, create an annual event showcasing women's careers, or even become a STEMinist by teaming up with local STEM companies to provide more internships for girls.
- If women artists in your community are underrepresented, consider writing a letter to the gallery owner or the museum's board of directors asking them to make a better effort to seek out works by female artists for future showcases.
- Get your school to offer a self-defense class every semester, for every girl (even bigger: get the whole school district to do it!)
- Plan and establish a safe place in your community where girls and women can receive support and resources
- Create a camp to improve literacy in low-income areas (raising local literacy levels raises world literacy, too).
- Does the media uplift girls? Organize your team to visit a local radio station to ask for a thirty-minute (or even fifteen minutes!) timeslot for some tunes that lift girls' spirits, and then write a letter to your school or local newspaper about the results.

3. Visionary Award

i In this Journey, you have the opportunity to earn the Visionary award. Further explore how to incite change while sustaining ethical and compassionate practices!

Visionary Award:

1. Create it!—Complete a *GIRLtopia* art project in any medium, and as an individual or team effort, and then share it. Pages 20 to 27 provide ideas.
2. Guide it!—Guide others through a *GIRLtopia* topic: Organize a discussion, lead a meeting, or share a topic that interests you from *GIRLtopia*.
3. Change it!—Complete the twelve stages on the Take Action Planning Chart (page 80), in a team or on your own, for a project that moves the world one step closer to your vision.

4. Field Trip Ideas

i To create your perfect world, you need to get out and explore the one around you! Take time for some envisioning while identifying the needs of your community.

Examples:

- Explore photography by dedicating an afternoon to taking photos from different angles and perspectives.
- Visit a local art gallery and gain perspective on women artists throughout history.
- Have a reflection circle at a local park.
- Read at a poetry slam.

5. GIRLTopia Ending

i Once you've envisioned your perfect world and taken a step towards making it a reality through your take action project (and possibly your Visionary award too), and have completed the self-reflection questions in the *GIRLtopia* Journey—you have accomplished *GIRLtopia*. Congratulations!