

Gender Inclusive Language Resource

We ALL Belong in Girl Scouts!

We are shifting away from solely using the words “girl” and “girls” to practice using more inclusive language. A general rule of thumb is to refer to "youth" in more contextual terms. This document provides suggested language options. This is not an exhaustive list and we encourage our community to continue to build on this foundation.

How to Refer to Girl Scout Youth

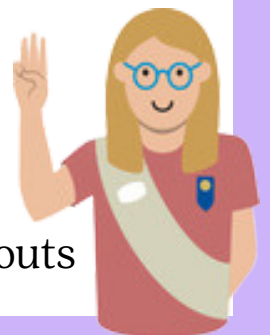
General Terms for Girl Scout Youth Members

- Girl Scout (please capitalize)
- Girl Scouts (please capitalize)
- Youth or youth member(s)
- Youngster(s)
- Child/children or kid(s)
- Teen(s)
- Troop member(s), troop(s)
- Young change maker(s)



Refer to Youth based on Program Level or Grade

- Daisy/Daisies
- Kindergarteners & 1st graders
- Brownie(s) - 2nd & 3rd graders
- Junior(s) – 4th & 5th graders
- DBJ or Elementary Girl Scouts
- Cadette(s) – 6th, 7th & 8th graders, middle schooler(s)
- Senior(s) – 9th & 10th graders, Freshmen & Sophomores
- Ambassador(s)
- 11th & 12th graders
- High schooler(s)
- CSA or teen Girl Scouts





Referring to Girl Scouts based on an Activity/Event



Including Adult Girl Scout Members

We Welcome ALL Adult Volunteers

 In using more inclusive language regarding adults in Girl Scouts, we  want to avoid phrases like “Mom & Dad,” “Cookie Mom,” etc. be more open to nonparent volunteers, foster families, grandparents, extended family, single parent households and nonheteronormative family structures.

Refer to Adult Members based on their Involvement

- Adult Member (if they are a member)
- Adult Participant(s)
- Chaperone(s)
- Event Volunteer(s)
- Troop level Volunteer(s)
- Service Unit Volunteer(s)



Inclusive ways to Refer to Parental Figures

- Caregiver(s)
- Parents and Guardians (when applicable; preferred over just “Parents”)
- Child’s Adult(s), Girl Scout’s Adult(s), Troop Adult(s)

