

THINKING DAY 2012 Event Outline

Thinking Day is “a special day when Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world think of each other and give thanks and appreciation for the international friendship they find in our Movement.” This year the World Thinking Day theme is “We Can Save Our Planet”. What is great about this is that it also ties into our “Girl Scouts Forever Green”, and the Girl Scout Journey set of “It’s Your Planet, Love It”. So, when deciding what to do for your Thinking Day celebration it is important to keep in mind cultural and environmental awareness. Luckily there is no short supply on activities to use. This outline will focus on different design of the overall event and also suggestions of activities.

Level: All: Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadette, Senior, Ambassador

Date & Time: World Thinking Day is on February 22. However celebrations may take place within that week including the two weekends. So, choose a date and time that works best for the Service Unit

Location: Since this is a Service Unit event a large event space will be desired. This could be a gymnasium or a church’s fellowship hall.

Registration Fee, Deadline and Min/Max: Choose what works best for the Service Unit

Suggested Service Project: Make donations to the Juliette Low World Friendship Fund (www.girlscouts.org/juliette_low_fund) or the World Thinking Day Fund (www.worldthinkingday.org/en/donatenow). A suggestion to decide how much to donate could be based on the age of the individual, or since Girl Scouts is 100 each individual donate 100 pennies.

Special Notes:

World Thinking Day theme lasts all year and Girl Guides and Girl Scouts can earn a World Thinking Day badge at any time during the year by completing educational activities on the respective theme, this year “We Can Save Our Planet.” Please check out the Thinking Day Activity Packet for more information.

Badge: World Thinking Day badges and pins are available from the WAGGGS online shop, www.waggs-shop.org. However, WAGGGS does suggest a certain way to earn the badge. Please refer to the 2012 World Thinking Day Activity Packet.

Event Schedule: 3-4 hour event

15-30 minutes	Opening & Large Group Activities
2.5+ hours	Stations (if set rotation give 30 minutes for each station, otherwise sound reminders on time)
15-30 minutes	Closing & Large Group Activities

Event Structure

Group Rotations: World Map – Girls follow a certain path to move from each station in assigned groups. The groups could be assigned at check-in or based on the troop.

Individual Choice: Girl Scout Passport – The girls choose which stations to participate in and receive a stamp/sticker for attending each station. The amount of time at each station could be set or the girls could come and go at their leisure, however this then limits what activities can be offered.

Station Design

Troop design: each troop that chooses to participate plans a station based on certain guidelines for the event. Depending on the structure the person facilitating the station may be a girl and/or an adult.

Adults design: the stations are created and facilitated by adult volunteers both at the troop and service unit level.

Station Theme

Country: Good for if individual troops prepare the stations. Make sure to limit the choices to countries that are WAGGGS members (145) and have them inform the event coordinator, so no countries are repeated.

WAGGGS Region: Good if there are limited number of stations, probably designed by the adults. However each region could focus on an individual country.

World Centre: Good to use as areas for groupings of stations. Make sure though one of the stations is about that World Centre.

Event Theme

Thinking Day is “We Can Save Our Planet”, so the focus of all activities should be environmental.

Activities

Each station should choose an activity from their particular country/region. This activity could be a craft, game, song, food, or home/community improvement idea. Remember to encourage Reuse, Reduce, Recycle (FYI: Jack Johnson has a child friendly song with the same title) when coming up with the activity. The celebration is also an opportunity to help work toward the Forever Green Projects that are being targeted for February, March, and April. For more information on Girl Scouts Forever Green, checkout the website: girlscouts.org/geforevergreen/.

These possible activities come from 2012 World Thinking Day Activity Pack.

Station Activities – Country suggestions

ECO-DOMINOES! (Guyana)

Try making your own set of dominos with an environmental theme. Using recycled paper or card, make a set of 28 domino tiles but replace the numbers with words. You could write positive environmental words such as 'nature', 'conservation' and 'recycling' in green and negative words such as 'pollution' and 'climate change' in red. Match the red or green words together. Play the game with your group.

PLAY WOALEY (Ivory Coast)

Woaley is a simple game similar to Mancala. Make a game board, using egg cartons. Cut the top off and in half. Trim each half to the same size as the width of one egg and attached to the short ends of the egg carton. You need 48 playing pieces such as seeds, shells, marbles or dried beans. Put four pieces into each of the small holes

- The object of the game is to capture more pieces than the other player.
- Each player 'owns' the row of small holes closest to her, plus the store hole (the big one) on her right
- To move, pick up all the pieces except one from one of your small holes and move counter-clockwise round the board, dropping one piece into each hole without skipping, until your hand is empty
- If the last piece you drop brings the total pieces in that hole to either two or four, you capture the contents of that hole and put them in your store hole
- If you don't have any pieces in your holes you have to miss your turn. The game ends when nobody can play anymore, and any leftover pieces in your holes are added to your store hole
- The winner is the player who captures more than half of the pieces

JAPANESE ORIGAMI (Japan)

The art of paper folding, or 'origami'. One traditional shape is the kusudama, where lots of identical flower shapes are glued together into a ball. Instructions to make the kusudama flower are on page 8. Use recycled paper (like newspaper) to show how you can make a beautiful decoration without wasting resources. If you enjoy this, why not research other origami patterns to try? Don't forget to tell us about your resulting work, upload photos to the WTD website (or by post to WAGGGS)

TIN CAN BLINIS (Russia)

Blinis are a favorite food in Russia, as they are cheap to make, filling and very tasty! Try making these tiny pancakes using an unusual cooking method – candles and tin cans! Be careful, as the can edges may be sharp.

- Mix together a cup of flour with two eggs, a pinch of baking powder and a pinch of salt. Add enough milk to make a smooth, thick batter
- Take an empty tin can, the bigger the better, and throw away the lid. Turn the can upside down, making the solid bottom of the can your frying pan
- Punch holes in the sides of the can, just below the bottom, to let air in
- Clean the can thoroughly then light a tea light/candle stub and put the tin can over it. The can will get very hot so be careful

- Pour some oil on the bottom surface of the tin can and when it is hot, drop one spoon of blini batter on it
- Let it sizzle and when bubbles appear in the blini, flip it over
- Cook until your blini is light golden brown then eat with butter, cheese, jam or whatever you like!

MAKE TUNISIAN FLOWER WATER (Tunisia)

Flower water is popular in Tunisia, used in cookery and as perfume. You can make your own flower water:

- Gather one cup of scented flower petals or herb leaves
- Pour on two cups of boiling water, leave overnight to infuse
- Strain to remove the petals or leaves. Store in a refrigerator for up to two weeks
- Always check with an adult that the plants are safe to use!

This might be an activity to show how to do it at home.

Station Activities – World Centres

FOR THE BUTTERFLIES (Our Cabana)

Make World Thinking Day cards with a Monarch Butterfly design, and write about why we shouldn't cut down trees inside. Take a photo of your card and put it on the World Thinking Day website.

EASY RECYCLING (Our Chalet)

Teach them about sorting trash. Put together a sack of different types of trash (check the rubbish is clean) and, using your new recycling containers, time participants to see how quickly they can sort the trash into the right containers.

The team that completes the game most quickly and accurately wins.

NEWSPAPER BAGS (Sangam)

Support the step away from plastic bags. Try to make your own newspaper bags using the instructions on page 8 or watch the video instructions at www.newspaperbagproject.com

BADEN-POWELL COOK-OUT (Pax Lodge)

Create a meal with your group using only natural materials as utensils – that means no washing up and no paper plates being thrown away! Come up with what you can find in your natural environment that is safe to use when preparing food such as coconuts, banana leaves, shells, sticks and stones. It would help if the girls had access to something that listed local plants that are poisonous or not safe to use in food preparation. If in doubt, do not use it.

Other Station Activities

DRAW THE CHANGE (Pictionary)

Prepare a list of simple actions we can do to save energy, such as stop using plastic bags. Divide the group into teams and give one person in each team paper and pencil,

and whisper an action to them. When the leader shouts “Go” the person with pencil and paper should try to draw, without talking or writing words, the action. As soon as the team guesses correctly they shout “Stop” and their team wins a point. Keep going until all actions have been tried, with team members taking it in turns to draw.

WHICH TO SWITCH (Game)

Ask everyone to write a “which to switch” question on a piece of paper. It should give two green ideas, such as “Which to switch, walk to school or turn down the heating?” Collect in the ideas then mark two bases, one at each end of the room. Gather everyone in the middle of the room and tell them that, when you read out a “which to switch”, they should run to the first base if they would prefer to put the first idea into action or to the second base if they would prefer to put the second idea into action. Go through all the questions. Was it easy to decide which to switch?

CAN YOU DO BETTER? (Role-play substitution)

Each group is given an environmental situation then each group member makes up a character who might care about the situation. Two group members start to debate the issue, acting in character. At any point, other group members can shout “Freeze” and the two actors should freeze in their current pose. The person who shouted should then tap either actor on the shoulder and take up their pose (the previous actor goes and sits down) then starts the conversation again from the freeze point, but acting as their new character.

For example, the town is planning a rock festival in the local park. Some people can’t wait, others are worried it will attract lots of cars, causing pollution, and will cause litter and damage to the park. Characters could include a teenager, dog walker, rockstar, local shopkeeper and doctor.

GOOD AND BAD (charades – adapted from Activity Pack)

Have a bowl full of energy-saving ideas, “I use energy-saving light bulbs,” or energy-wasting action, “But I take a bath not a shower.” Each person, in turn, will act out the idea while the rest of the group guesses. The group then needs to discuss each idea/action and what they can do to help.

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT (survey)

** a measure of human demand on the Earth’s ecosystems*

One way to work out the impact of your life on the planet is to calculate your ecological footprint. There are lots of online calculators to help you work out your impact, and here is a good one. www.footprintnetwork.org/calculators This is a fun and easy calculator to use. Plus it allows you to see the footprints of other countries. If the internet is not available, checkout page 9 for a footprint worksheet.

PAPER MÂCHÉ (craft)

(French for “chewed paper”!) is a great way to recycle old paper, card and other materials into... well, pretty much anything! How about making a paper mâché sofa for your meeting place or bowls, stools and tables to sell? It’s very simple and lots of fun.

- Create a frame for what you want to make using recycled materials, such as toilet roll middles taped together to make legs, a flat piece of cardboard shaped to make a table top, wire to make frames
- For bowls, find something that gives the round shape you want, such as a football or another bowl. Cover this in cling film or waxed paper to stop the paper mâché sticking to the shape
- Make a thin paste using flour and water (if you heat this until it turns clear it is more effective) and tear newspaper into small strips
- Dip newspaper strips into the paste and smooth onto your frame
- Build up a few layers then let it dry and test for strength, adding more paper mâché where necessary
- Paint with a white base coat then decorate
- Finish with a few coats of varnish to protect it

STAY AT HOME, SEE THE WORLD (group work)

Pick one of the 145 countries where Girl Guiding/Girl Scouting goes on and put together an imagined travel diary of your perfect trip – one that doesn't rely on fossil fuels.

WINDSOCK (craft)

Make a colorful windsock to decorate your home and learn more about how windy your area is. You will need: wire/wire coat hanger/pipe cleaners, rectangle of fabric roughly the size you want your windsock, lengths of ribbon, needle, thread, pins.

You can make your windsock any size, but check that the long edge of your fabric rectangle is about the same length as your piece of wire.

- Lay out your fabric with the back of the fabric facing you
- Fold over one of the long edges by about two centimeters and pin down
- Sew down the folded edge to make a seam, and feed your wire through it
- Fold over the other long edge in the same way and pin down
- Pin ribbons along the second seam, their long tails facing away from the fabric. You can use as many as you want, at whatever length you want
- Sew along the second seam, sewing over the ribbons to hold them in place
- Fold your windsock in half with the back of the fabric facing outward and pin the short edges together then sew down the short edges

Station or Large Group

IN BALANCE (if used in large group, try in small groups first)

With an even number of people, stand in a circle and hold hands. Give everyone a number. Ask all odd numbers to lean in and even numbers to lean out on the count of three. They should keep their bodies straight, leaning from their ankles and remain holding hands. If done correctly, the circle should remain static, not pulling in one direction or another. Afterwards, discuss what the activity shows us about relying on each other. What happens if someone were to break the chain?

WHOSE HABITAT?

Stand in a circle with one person in the middle. This caller points to someone and calls “Earth”, “water” or “air” The person must respond by saying the name of a living thing that lives in the named habitat, eg. “Earth” is called and the response might be “lion”. If the player hesitates, she/he must stand in the middle and become the caller. Run the activity until everyone had played, or stop after a set time.

Large Group Activity for the beginning or end of event

SUSTAINABLE CHASE

This game works best outside over a large area. Prepare a pot of tokens such as small squares of card or painted pebbles. Divide your group into three groups; two equally sized teams (the green team and the brown team) and a smaller team of chasers. Mark two large circles as far apart as possible; the start and finish points. Put two pots in the finishing circle, one marked green and one marked brown. Station a leader in each circle. The chasers should spread out between the two circles.

Gather the green and brown teams in the starting circle and give everyone a token. When you shout “Go”, they try to run to the finishing circle without being caught and drop their token into their team’s pot, then return to the start and do it again. If a chaser catches someone from the green team, they should take them back to the starting circle. The green team member can then try again. However, if a chaser catches someone from the brown team, their token is taken away and they become a chaser. Over time the brown team will lose its members whilst the green team can keep running. Stop the game after a set time and count up the tokens. Who won? Discuss the rules with the players; was it easier for the brown team or the green team, and why? Introduce the idea of sustainability and show how the rules made the green team sustainable, whilst when the brown team ran out of players, it could no longer succeed. Discuss how the concept of sustainability could be applied to the environment.

AIR, WATER, FIRE, EARTH! (Rock, Paper, Scissor)

Begin by deciding on a quick action or pose to represent each element. The group walks around in the room until the leader calls “Begin” and you must pair up with the person closest to you. Decide which element you will be, without telling your partner. The lead should count out loud, “One, two, three, go!” On “Go” everyone should strike a pose. Air beats water; water puts out fire; fire grows with air and therefore beats it. The winners continue to move around the room and the losers have to sit out. However, if the leader shouts “Earth” instead of “Go”, all players should lie down as quickly as they can. The pair that lies down last must sit out. Keep going until only one player is left. Discuss why each element is essential for life.

FOUR CORNER QUIZ

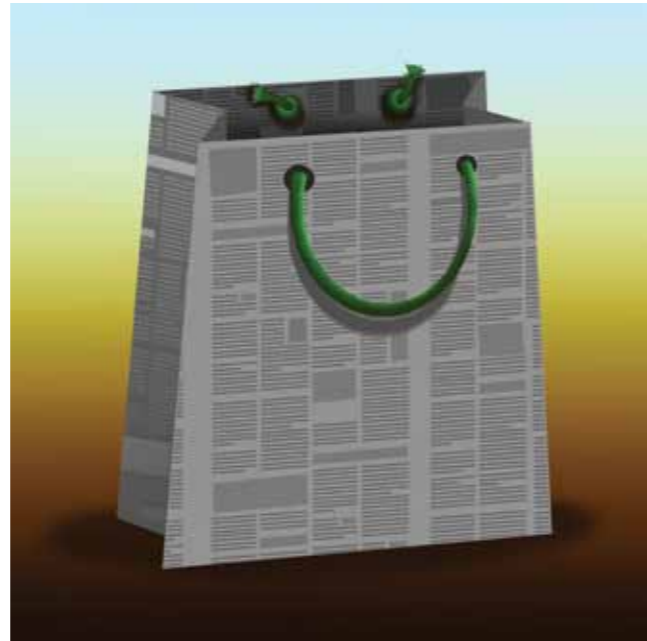
Prepare a quiz with an environmental theme and multiple choice answers. Label each corner of the meeting place A, B, C or D. Ask the group to run to the corner which represents their answer. Sometimes, give them a chance to change their minds when they see how others have answered. Turn around slowly to build up the tension before revealing the answer by pointing to the relevant corner!

NEWSPAPER BAG

YOU WILL NEED:

- Two sheets of newspaper
- Glue or a mixture of two spoons flour to one spoon water
- Two strips of card, each 20cm x 1.5cm
- Two lengths of string or similar for the handles

- 1 Lay the two sheets of newspaper flat on top of each other and stick them together by one long edge
- 2 Fold over this pasted edge about 4cm from the top then fold back again to make a straight line
- 3 Spread glue along the edge of the paper above your fold
- 4 Stick a strip of card 3cm away from the left hand side, its bottom edge against the fold line. Do the same on the right-hand side
- 5 Spread glue over the two strips of card and fold over
- 6 Label the left edge of the paper 'A' and the right edge 'B'
- 7 Fold side A towards the middle, using the end of the card strip as a guide for how far to go
- 8 Do the same with side B. It should overlap side A by about 3cm. Make the folds sharp
- 9 Lift the top sheet ONLY of side B where it is folded over. Spread glue on the bottom layer and slot the edge of side A between the two sheets of side B
- 10 Spread glue along the top of side A and press down the top layer of side B.
- 11 Open the bag out and make another sharp fold about 8cm from the existing folds. Use this fold to press the bag flat, which will make another fold on the opposite side. The bag will now be a rectangle, joined at the sides but open top and bottom



- 12 Take two of the side folds next to each other and press them together, folding the paper between them inwards to make a side pleat. Repeat for the other side
- 13 Keeping the bag flat with the side pleats folded inwards make a fold about 6cm from the bottom edge and crease firmly. Unfold, bend the other way and crease again
- 14 Open the bag up fully and tuck in one bottom edge along the fold line, creasing the corners into triangles and sticking them bottom edges, opposite sides together, along the fold lines. Crease the corners into triangles and stick in place. Do the same to the opposite side of the bag
- 15 Fold in and stick the other two bottom sides, which make the base flaps. Put some glue along the inside of one bottom edge to seal the base of the bag. Press the joins together firmly
- 16 Make two small holes on each side of the top rim of the bag, about 7cm apart. Thread your handles through and tie each end around the rim with a reef knot

GO SHOPPING!

To learn more about how people are making a difference with newspaper bags, look at www.newspaperbagproject.com

KUSUDAMA FLOWER

YOU WILL NEED:

- Five equally sized squares of paper (makes one flower)
- Glue

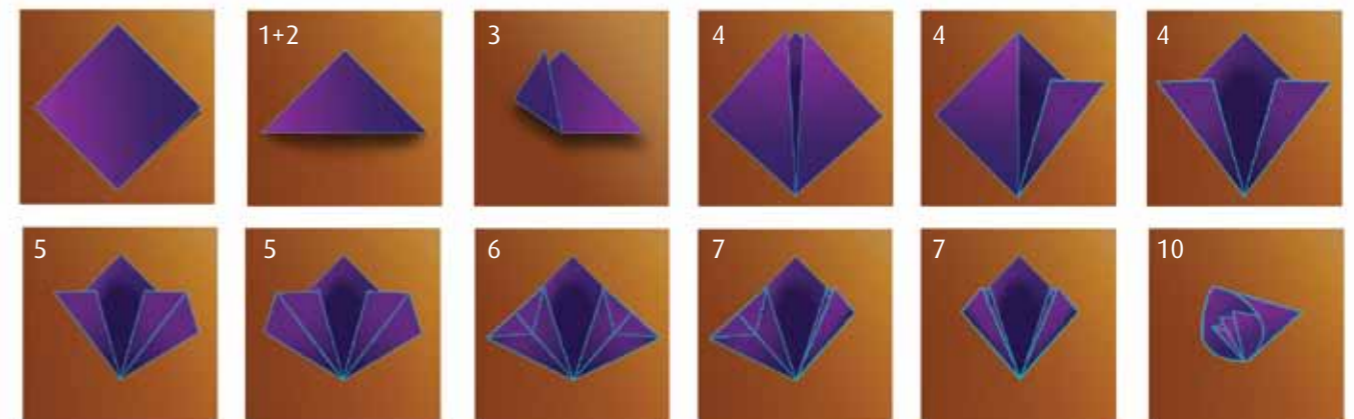
- 1 Fold the square in half diagonally, making a triangle
- 2 Put the triangle down with the longest edge at the bottom
- 3 Fold the left corner up to the middle corner and repeat with the right corner, making a square
- 4 Fold each of these corners back on themselves half way, so the edge lines up with the side of the square
- 5 Open out each side triangle and press down to make kite shapes. Your paper should now look like three kites with their tails together
- 6 Fold the top triangles of the outside two kite shapes down so they are level with the edges of the paper
- 7 Fold the triangles back in, using the crease from earlier. This should make a square shape again
- 8 Spread glue on the tops of the two folded sections facing you
- 9 Bend the folded sections together and press tightly until stuck
- 10 That's one petal finished! Repeat four more times then glue the petals with the folds into the middle, to make a kusudama flower



"We do not inherit the world from our parents; we borrow it from our children."
Native American proverb

? Did You Know

- As it takes more time to gather water and fuel, the available time for education or other economic and political activities decreases. Already, the majority of children worldwide who do not attend school are girls.



For picture instructions and other great origami ideas, visit <http://foldingtrees.com/2008/11/kusudama-tutorial-part-1>

Carbon Footprint Worksheet

Circle the letter that best answers the following questions, and then use the Scoring Instructions to calculate your “carbon footprint” – the effect your family has on the climate in terms of greenhouse gasses you produce measured in units of carbon dioxide.

1. How do you get to school?

- A. Walk or ride your bike C. Car
B. Motorcycle D. Bus or van

2. What kind of vehicle(s) do your parents drive?

- A. None (Don't own a vehicle) C. Car
B. Motorcycle only D. SUV, van or truck

3. How often does someone in your family fly in a plane?

- A. Less than once per month C. 2 to 4 times per month
B. Once per month D. Once or more per week

4. How often does your family eat out or order food at a restaurant?

- A. Never C. Once per week
B. Once per month D. Twice or more per week

5. What kind of food does your family eat?

- A. Home grown or raised C. Store bought only
B. Combination of store bought and home grown

6. How many carbonated drinks (soda or pop) do you drink?

- A. None C. 2 cans per day
B. 1 can per day D. 3 or more cans per day

7. How often does your family do laundry?

- A. Once per month C. Once per week
B. Twice per month D. Twice or more per week

8. Do you get newspapers or magazines at home?

- A. Yes B. No

9. Do you turn the lights off when not needed?

- A. Yes B. No

10. Do you turn off your computer, video games or other electronics when you're not using them?

- A. Yes B. No

11. What type of fuel or energy is used to heat your home?

- A. Wood C. Oil
B. Propane D. Natural gas

12. Does anyone in your home own any of the following items?

(Circle all that apply.)

- A. TV F. Dishwasher
B. Cell phone G. Refrigerator
C. DVD player H. Motorcycle, snowmobile, quad
D. Computer I. Motorboat
E. Washing machine

SCORING INSTRUCTIONS: For questions 1 through 11, assign 1 point for each A answer, 2 points for each B, 3 points for each C and 4 points for each D. For question 12, assign 1 point for each item circled. Add the points together to determine your “carbon footprint.”

13 – 20 Points:

Green is your favorite color.
Keep up the good work.

21 – 28 Points:

Very good.

29 – 36 Points:

Your efforts are appreciated.

36 – 43 Points:

There's room for improvement.

44 – 46 Points:

Look for ways to become better friends with Mother Nature.

A Note About Your Carbon Footprint

As this worksheet shows, the more you consume, the greater your carbon footprint. Each time something is consumed, the earth's natural resources are used. By knowing your carbon footprint, you can understand how the earth is impacted and identify ways to protect natural resources.