

PLANNING GUIDE FOR VOLUNTEERS

More than just one day, Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day is a movement that shows girls the fascinating world of engineering—and how engineers are changing our world all the time. As an engineer or technical professional, you are critical to helping us reach more girls with this important message.

A recent Girl Day survey found that 92% of girls are thinking about their future career. And 69% of the girls who attended a Girl Day event said that the role models inspired them to consider engineering as a career!

Are you ready to inspire a girl? Here's a short guide to get you started:

STEP 1: Think about what you'd like to do and how much time you have.

Are you comfortable talking to girls about engineering? Do you like facilitating engineering activities with students? Do you like organizing events? Whether you're brand new to outreach or an old pro, DiscoverE has [tons of resources](#) and [trainings](#) to help you be an amazing volunteer.

How much time do you have to volunteer? One hour? A few hours? A full-day? Multiple days? How much time you can devote will help you figure out what you can reasonably do.

STEP 2: Find out if something is already being planned.

Does your company, engineering society or university host Girl Day events? Ask around. This is a great way to get involved.

STEP 3: Be a Role Model

From simply talking to girls about your job, to visiting a classroom or afterschool, to volunteering at an event, to hosting your own event—it all comes down to role models. You can make a difference.

→ [Join our community](#) committed to inspiring girls to explore engineering.

STEP 4: Share Powerful Engineering Messages

Research shows when we *change how we talk* about engineering, we can *change what girls' think* about engineering.

→ Download the [Five Messages to Share with Girls \(and Boys\)](#)

STEP 5: Facilitate Engineering Activities

In the Girl Day survey, the girls said doing engineering activities was their favorite part. They liked them so much they wanted the chance to do **MORE ACTIVITIES!** They also said don't be afraid to have a few activities that are a bit more challenging.

- **Activity Advice.** When you are looking for activities we recommend those that feature the engineering design process and have an authentic, real-world challenge. Activities like these provide you with an opportunity to share how engineers approach a problem, give students an open-ended challenge that allows for an iterative development process, and allows you the chance to make connections to your work.

Top 4 Things Volunteers Like About Girl Day:

#1 Working with the girls

#2 Doing activities

#3 Listening to event speakers

#4 The girls learned about engineering!

Be Even More Awesome at Leading Activities

- Use these teacher-tested, kid-approved [Engineering Activities](#)
- Take this short, online training: [Leading Kids Through a Successful Engineering Experience](#)

STEP 6: Create Opportunities to Inspire.

- **Visit with a girl-serving organization**
Groups like Girl Scouts, Girls, Inc., Techbridge and others are always looking for volunteers. In as little as 45 minutes you can tell the girls about your job, how your work makes a difference, lead a hands-on engineering activity, and answer their questions!
→ Download [Setting Up a Visit](#)
- **Present engineering as a career.**
Research shows that when engineers share how their work makes a difference in people's lives, girls (and boys) are more interested in the field. When you describe your work, share more than what you do (e.g., I design satellites). Talk about how your work benefits people or society in general (e.g., I design satellites that help detect drought or are used to predict the weather).
→ Customize this [Career Presentation](#)
- **Volunteer as a Future City mentor or Judge**
With a 50-50 ratio of girls and boys, Future City challenges middle school students to design a city that can exist 100 years in the future. Volunteer for just one day as a judge or work with a team. Either way you'll be inspiring the next generation of engineers and technologists.
→ [Volunteer Today](#)
- **Organize a girls-only engineering event.**
Our survey results found girls like the activities best. Followed by the food, working in teams with other girls, and talking to role models about their jobs.
→ Download the [Sample Girl Day Event Formats](#) and see what others have done.
→ Download this [Guide on Setting Up Engineering Events](#)

STEP 7: Register Your Impact

Tell us [what you're doing](#) and we'll tell the world (or at least the people who follow us on social media and visit our website). Ultimately, we want more people to join us and to shine a spotlight on our collective impact.

#RegisterYourImpact

#GirlDay2020

#Eweek2020

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Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day™ is a program of DiscoverE.

For more ideas and resources on engaging girls in engineering, visit [DiscoverE.org](#).