

PLANNING GUIDE FOR VOLUNTEERS

Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day is your opportunity to show girls the fascinating world of engineering—and how engineers are making a difference in big and small ways every day.

A recent Girl Day survey found that 92% of girls are thinking about their future careers. 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, visiting a classroom or after-school, volunteering at an event, or hosting your own event—it all comes down to role models. You can make a difference.

→ [Learn more about being a role model](#) and 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.

→ [Engineering Messages to Share](#)

STEP 5: Facilitate Engineering Activities

In a 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.

→ Use these teacher-tested, kid-approved [Engineering Activities](#)

Activity Advice. We recommend activities that feature the engineering design process and real-world challenges. This gives you a chance to share how engineers approach a problem and make connections to your work and gives students an open-ended challenge with an iterative development process.

Be Even More Awesome at Leading Activities

→ [Lead Kids Through a Successful Engineering Experience](#)

STEP 6: Create Opportunities to Inspire

- **Visit with a girl-serving organization**

Groups like Girl Scouts, Girls, Inc., Girls STEM Clubs 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!

→ [Learn How to Set Up a Virtual or In-Person 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. 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).

- **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 girl-focused 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.

STEP 7: Get More Resources

Use these [Girl Day resources](#) at your events and programming!

Download:

- Graphics & Ads
- Sample Posts
- Participant Certificates
- Bookmarks

For Purchase:

- Shirts
- Hoodies
- Stickers
- And more!

STEP 8: Share What You're Doing

Tell us what you're doing and we'll tell the world!

#GirlDay2023

#Eweek2023

#CreatingtheFuture

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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](#).