

LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH

PURPOSE

Girl Scouts uncover the impact that LGBTQIA+ individuals have had on history and celebrate the LGBTQIA+ community.



GIRL SCOUT LEVELS/REQUIREMENTS

To earn the Pride Month patch, Girl Scouts need to complete a Take Action activity along with the following requirements. Girl Scouts are encouraged to complete at least one activity from each section: Discover and Connect.

- Daisy Girl Scouts: any 4 activities
- Brownie Girl Scouts: any 6 activities
- Junior Girl Scouts: any 8 activities
- Cadette, Senior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts: any 10 activities

Please review the [Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge for All Girl Scouts](#).

BACKGROUND

LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH is celebrated throughout the month of June each year to recognize the Stonewall Riots that began on June 28, 1969. The riots began as a result of ongoing police brutality and discrimination towards LGBTQ+ people, and continued as a movement of civil rights for LGBTQ+ people. Pride marches began a year later to commemorate the anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising.

In 1999, President Bill Clinton declared a formal proclamation naming the month of June Pride Month in the US. Pride Month is now celebrated globally and is an opportunity for LGBTQ+ people of all cultural backgrounds and ethnicities to celebrate their authenticity and be true to themselves!

Sadly, until quite recently, LGBTQ+ people were not recognized as individuals who deserved civil rights. (And still aren't in some countries!) While the right to legally marry in the US is coming up on its 7th anniversary, LGBTQ+ people still find multiple discriminatory roadblocks in parenting their children, finding and holding employment, and finding safe housing. Specifically,

transgender individuals face the most discrimination and often the most dangerous conditions.

During Pride Month, it is important to not only celebrate how far we have come, but how we can continue to support each other as a community and fight for the continued rights of all people. It is also paramount to take the opportunity to educate those who may not know about LGBTQ+ history and create space for Allies to know better and do better.

ACTIVITIES

DISCOVER

- ACTIVITY #1: Why are there 2 LGBTQ+ months: Pride Month in June and LGBTQ History Month in October? Check out this article from the University of Central Florida to learn more.
- ACTIVITY #2: Visit lgbthistorymonth.com and choose one of the 2021 icons to learn more about. Use the Biography and Resource tabs to get more information. Tell a trusted adult in your life what you have learned. *LGBTQ+ History Month is different from Pride Month, however these icons have made significant contributions to the LGBTQ+ community and are great examples of why Pride Month is important.*
- ACTIVITY #3: The month of June is also an important month for African American people as they celebrate the emancipation from slavery in the US on June 19th, Juneteenth. The movement that led to what we now know as Pride Month is said to have began when black transgender activist, Martha P. Johnson, threw a brick at police in protest of brutality against LGBTQ people. [Read the article](#) and take some time to consider why Juneteenth plays an important role in the LGBTQ civil rights movement.
- ACTIVITY #4: Transgender individuals have a rich history not only in the LGBTQ+ civil rights movement, but since the beginning of mankind! [Explore this webpage](#) created by National Center for Transgender Equality to learn more about transgender individuals. Take some time to chat with an adult you trust about what you have learned. Consider what it would mean for you to be an Ally for transgender and non-binary people.
- ACTIVITY #5: Visit mypronouns.org/what-and-why and read about why pronouns are important and why it is important to use the



pronouns a person identifies with. Do you see your pronouns listed in the article?

- **ACTIVITY #6:** Listen to the podcast [Making Gay History: Season 4, Episode 8](#) on Bayard Rustin, a black and out gay man who was an integral part of the civil rights movement and a trusted advisor to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- **ACTIVITY #7:** [Watch this video](#) with Geo Neptune to learn the history of the Two-Spirit identities of First Nation people. What do you think Geo means when they say “This is not a poetic identity for non-native people”? Why is it important for marginalized groups of people within the LGBTQ community to have control over the language used to identify who they are?
- **ACTIVITY #8:** What is an Ally? How does it apply to the LGBTQ+ community? Can anyone be an Ally? Learn more at the links below:
 - [Read About Being an LGBTQ Ally \(CSA\)](#)
 - [Watch How to be A LGBTQIA+ Ally \(DBJ\)](#)
 - [Read about Being an Ally to LGBT People on Youth Engaged 4 Change](#)
- **ACTIVITY #9:** What is Representation? Why is it important to marginalized groups of people to be accurately represented in their communities?
- **ACTIVITY #10:** What is Heteronormativity? Why is it a problem? Name three situations of heteronormativity you’ve noticed in your life. Ask an adult you trust when they have noticed heteronormativity in their life.
 - [Read What Is Heteronormativity \(CSA\)](#)
- **ACTIVITY #11:** If you attend a brick and mortar school, do you have a GSA (Gay-Straight Alliance/Genders & Sexualities Alliance), or an LGBTQ+ Student Group? If you are homeschooled or attend virtual school, do you know if you have access to an LGBTQ+ student group? Take some time to research this depending on your schooling situation and discuss why it’s important to have a place for LGBTQ+ youth and their allies to connect regularly.

CONNECT



- ACTIVITY #12: Find your local LGBTQ Community Center’s website and pick one Pride Month activity you can attend with your family, virtually or in person. If there are no events locally, look for virtual events in another town or state.
- ACTIVITY #13: Visit the virtual LGBTQ History Museum
- ACTIVITY #14: Read the book “Red: A Crayon’s Story” by Michael Hall. How do you think this story applies to gender identity? How does it apply to all identities in the LGBTQ+ community? How does it apply to you and your own understanding of yourself?
 - Watch a video of the book being read by Miss Winnie on PBS Kids.
- ACTIVITY #15: When considering your intersectional identities, do you feel represented in the TV shows and movies you watch, or the books you read? Why or why not?
- ACTIVITY #16: Read the attached list of identities and vocabulary that are common in the LGBTQ+ community. Do you feel like you identify with any of these words? How many people can you think of that you know personally who identify with an LGBTQ+ identity?
- ACTIVITY #17: When you’ve found your GSA/LGBTQ+ student group relevant to your school/learning environment, attend one meeting. If you are an ALLY, listen and take in the experience. If you are LGBTQ+, try participating or telling your story so other’s can connect with you.
- ACTIVITY #18: Now that you’ve learned about different pronouns, do you feel like pronouns are important to you? Have you thought about what pronouns you use and if you feel connected to them? If someone used pronouns you didn’t feel described you when they spoke about you, how do you think you would feel?
- ACTIVITY #19: LGBTQ+ People also identify across a broad spectrum of ethnicities, backgrounds, skin color, religion, and human experiences. This is often referred to as intersectionality. What are the intersections in your life that you believe shape the way you experience the world around you? Do you feel like it is important to understand the unique experiences of LGBTQ+ people? Why?

TAKE ACTION



Share what you've discovered while doing this program and/or engage with the LGBTQ+ community by completing a Take Action activity. Some suggestions are listed below:

- Work with a few friends or your family to plan and organize a Pride Month event.
- If you could rewrite any story to include LGBTQ+ characters, what would it be? Try your hand at some fan-fiction and write the first chapter!
- Find a Juneteenth event in your area and attend with your friends and/or family. Find a way to volunteer if you are old enough to do so.
- Think about a way that you can be a good ally to a group of people you may not personally identify with. Work with an adult you trust to find ways to implement this in your community.
- Check out thesafezoneproject.com and consider organizing a safe zone training for your school or community group.



Identities and Basic Vocab

(for Activity #16)

advocate – **1 noun** : a person who actively works to end intolerance, educate others, and support social equity for a marginalized group. **2 verb** : to actively support or plea in favor of a particular cause, the action of working to end intolerance or educate others.

agender – *adj.* : a person with no (or very little) connection to the traditional system of gender, no personal alignment with the concepts of either man or woman, and/or someone who sees themselves as existing without gender. Sometimes called gender neutrois, gender neutral, or genderless.

ally /“al-lie”/ – *noun* : a (typically straight and/or cisgender) person who supports and respects members of the LGBTQ community. We consider people to be active allies who take action on in support and respect.

androgyny /“an-jrah-jun-ee”/ (androgynous) – **1 noun.** : a gender expression that has elements of both masculinity and femininity; **2 adj.** : occasionally used in place of “intersex” to describe a person with both female and male anatomy, generally in the form “androgyne.”

aromantic /“ay-ro-man-tic”/ – *adj.* : experiencing little or no romantic attraction to others and/or has a lack of interest in romantic relationships/behavior. Aromanticism exists on a continuum from people who experience no romantic attraction or have any desire for romantic activities, to those who experience low levels, or romantic attraction only under specific conditions. Many of these different places on the continuum have their own identity labels (see demiromantic). Sometimes abbreviated to “aro” (pronounced like “arrow”).

asexual – *adj.* : experiencing little or no sexual attraction to others and/or a lack of interest in sexual relationships/behavior. Asexuality exists on a continuum from people who experience no sexual attraction or have any desire for sex, to those who experience low levels, or sexual attraction only under specific conditions. Many of these different places on the continuum have their own identity labels (see demisexual). Sometimes abbreviated to “ace.”

bigender – *adj.* : a person who fluctuates between traditionally “woman” and “man” gender-based behavior and identities, identifying



with both genders (or sometimes identifying with either man or woman, as well as a third, different gender).

biphobia – *noun* : a range of negative attitudes (e.g., fear, anger, intolerance, invisibility, resentment, erasure, or discomfort) that one may have or express toward bisexual individuals. Biphobia can come from and be seen within the LGBTQ community as well as straight society.

biphobic – *adj.* : a word used to describe actions, behaviors, or individuals who demonstrate elements of this range of negative attitudes toward bisexual people.

bisexual – **1** *noun & adj.* : a person who experiences attraction to some men and women. **2** *adj.* : a person who experiences attraction to some people of their gender and another gender. Bisexual attraction does not have to be equally split, or indicate a level of interest that is the same across the genders an individual may be attracted to. Often used interchangeably with “pansexual”.

butch – *noun & adj.* : a person who identifies themselves as masculine, whether it be physically, mentally, or emotionally. ‘Butch’ is sometimes used as a derogatory term for lesbians, but is also be claimed as an affirmative identity label.

cisgender /“siss-jendur”/ – *adj.* : a gender description for when someone’s sex assigned at birth and gender identity correspond in the expected way (e.g., someone who was assigned male at birth, and identifies as a man). A simple way to think about it is if a person is not transgender, they are cisgender. The word cisgender can also be shortened to “cis.”

cisnormativity – *noun* : the assumption, in individuals and in institutions, that everyone is cisgender, and that cisgender identities are superior to trans* identities and people. Leads to invisibility of non-cisgender identities.

closeted – *adj.* : an individual who is not open to themselves or others about their (queer) sexuality or gender identity. This may be by choice and/or for other reasons such as fear for one’s safety, peer or family rejection, or disapproval and/or loss of housing, job, etc. Also known as being “in the closet.” When someone chooses to break this silence they “come out” of the closet. (See coming out)



coming out – **1 noun** : the process by which one accepts and/or comes to identify one’s own sexuality or gender identity (to “come out” to oneself). **2 verb** : the process by which one shares one’s sexuality or gender identity with others.

demiromantic – *adj.* : little or no capacity to experience romantic attraction until a strong sexual connection is formed with someone, often within a sexual relationship.

demisexual – *adj.* : little or no capacity to experience sexual attraction until a strong romantic connection is formed with someone, often within a romantic relationship.

drag king – *noun* : someone who performs (hyper-) masculinity theatrically.

drag queen – *noun* : someone who performs (hyper-) femininity theatrically.

dyke – *noun* : referring to a masculine presenting lesbian. While often used derogatorily, it is also reclaimed affirmatively by some lesbians and gay women as a positive self identity term.

feminine-of-center; masculine-of-center – *adj.* : a phrase that indicates a range in terms of gender identity and expression for people who present, understand themselves, and/or relate to others in a generally more feminine/masculine way, but don’t necessarily identify as women or men. Feminine-of-center individuals may also identify as “femme,” “submissive,” “transfeminine,” etc.; masculine-of center individuals may also often identify as “butch,” “stud,” “aggressive,” “boi,” “transmasculine,” etc.

feminine-presenting; masculine-presenting – *adj.* : a way to describe someone who expresses gender in a more feminine/masculine way. Often confused with feminine-of-center/masculine-of-center, which generally include a focus on identity as well as expression.

femme – *noun & adj.* : someone who identifies themselves as feminine, whether it be physically, mentally or emotionally. Often used to refer to a feminine-presenting queer woman or people.

fluid(ity) – *adj.* : generally with another term attached, like gender fluid or fluid-sexuality, fluid(ity) describes an identity that may change or shift over time between or within the mix of the options available (e.g., man and woman, bi and straight).



FtM / F2M; MtF / M2F – *abbr.* : female-to-male transgender or transsexual person; male-to-female transgender or transsexual person.

gay – **1** *adj.* : experiencing attraction solely (or primarily) to some members of the same gender. Can be used to refer to men who are attracted to other men and women who are attracted to women. **2** *adj.* : an umbrella term used to refer to the queer community as a whole, or as an individual identity label for anyone who is not straight.

gender binary – *noun* : the idea that there are only two genders and that every person is one of those two.

gender expression – *noun* : the external display of one's gender, through a combination of clothing, grooming, demeanor, social behavior, and other factors, generally made sense of on scales of masculinity and femininity. Also referred to as "gender presentation."

gender fluid – *adj.* : a gender identity best described as a dynamic mix of boy and girl. A person who is gender fluid may always feel like a mix of the two traditional genders, but may feel more man some days, and more woman other days.

gender identity – *noun* : the internal perception of an one's gender, and how they label themselves, based on how much they align or don't align with what they understand their options for gender to be. Often conflated with biological sex, or sex assigned at birth.

gender non-conforming – **1** *adj.* : a gender expression descriptor that indicates a non-traditional gender presentation (masculine woman or feminine man). **2** *adj.* : a gender identity label that indicates a person who identifies outside of the gender binary. Often abbreviated as "GNC."

genderqueer – **1** *adj.* : a gender identity label often used by people who do not identify with the binary of man/woman. **2** *adj.* : an umbrella term for many gender non-conforming or non-binary identities (e.g., agender, bigender, genderfluid).

gender variant – *adj.* : someone who either by nature or by choice does not conform to gender-based expectations of society (e.g. transgender, transsexual, intersex, genderqueer, cross-dresser, etc).

heteronormativity – *noun* : the assumption, in individuals and/or in institutions, that everyone is heterosexual and that heterosexuality is superior to all other sexualities. Leads to invisibility and stigmatizing of



other sexualities: when learning a woman is married, asking her what her husband's name is. Heteronormativity also leads us to assume that only masculine men and feminine women are straight.

heterosexism – *noun* : behavior that grants preferential treatment to heterosexual people, reinforces the idea that heterosexuality is somehow better or more “right” than queerness, and/or makes other sexualities invisible.

heterosexual/straight – *adj.* : experiencing attraction solely (or primarily) to some members of a different gender.

homophobia – *noun* : an umbrella term for a range of negative attitudes (e.g., fear, anger, intolerance, resentment, erasure, or discomfort) that one may have toward LGBTQ people. The term can also connote a fear, disgust, or dislike of being perceived as LGBTQ.

homophobic – *adj.* : a word used to describe actions, behaviors, or individuals who demonstrate elements of this range of negative attitudes toward LGBTQ people.

homosexual – *adj. & noun* : a person primarily emotionally, physically, and/or sexually attracted to members of the same sex/gender. This [medical] term is considered stigmatizing (particularly as a noun) due to its history as a category of mental illness, and is discouraged for common use (use gay or lesbian instead).

intersex – *adj.* : term for a combination of chromosomes, gonads, hormones, internal sex organs, and genitals that differs from the two expected patterns of male or female. Formerly known as hermaphrodite (or hermaphroditic), but these terms are now outdated and derogatory.

lesbian – *noun & adj.* : women who are primarily attracted romantically, erotically, and/or emotionally to other women.

LGBTQ; GSM; DSG – *abbr.* : shorthand or umbrella terms for all folks who have a non-normative (or queer) gender or sexuality, there are many different initialisms people prefer. LGBTQ is Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Queer and/or Questioning (sometimes people at a + at the end in an effort to be more inclusive); GSM is Gender and Sexual Minorities; DSG is Diverse Sexualities and Genders. Other options include the initialism GLBT or LGBT and the acronym QUILTBAG (Queer [or Questioning] Undecided Intersex Lesbian Trans* Bisexual Asexual [or Allied] and Gay [or Genderqueer]).



lipstick lesbian – *noun* : Usually refers to a lesbian with a feminine gender expression. Can be used in a positive or a derogatory way. Is sometimes also used to refer to a lesbian who is assumed to be (or passes for) straight.

metrosexual – *adj.* : a man with a strong aesthetic sense who spends more time, energy, or money on his appearance and grooming than is considered gender normative.

Mx. / “mix” or “schwa” / – *noun* : an honorific (e.g. Mr., Ms., Mrs., etc.) that is gender neutral. It is often the option of choice for folks who do not identify within the gender binary: Mx. Smith is a great teacher.

outing – *verb* : involuntary or unwanted disclosure of another person’s sexual orientation, gender identity, or intersex status.

pansexual – *adj.* : a person who experiences sexual, romantic, physical, and/or spiritual attraction for members of all gender identities/expressions. Often shortened to “pan.”

passing – **1** *adj. & verb* : trans* people being accepted as, or able to “pass for,” a member of their self-identified gender identity (regardless of sex assigned at birth) without being identified as trans*. **2** *adj.* : an LGB/queer individual who is believed to be or perceived as straight.

PGPs – *abbr.* : preferred gender pronouns. Often used during introductions, becoming more common as a standard practice. Many suggest removing the “preferred,” because it indicates flexibility and/or the power for the speaker to decide which pronouns to use for someone else.

polyamory (polyamorous) – *noun* : refers to the practice of, desire for, or orientation toward having ethical, honest, and consensual non monogamous relationships (i.e. relationships that may include multiple partners). Often shortened to “poly.”

queer – **1** *adj.* : an umbrella term to describe individuals who don’t identify as straight and/or cisgender. **2** *noun* : a slur used to refer to someone who isn’t straight and/or cisgender. Due to its historical use as a derogatory term, and how it is still used as a slur many communities, it is not embraced or used by all LGBTQ people. The term “queer” can often be use interchangeably with LGBTQ (e.g., “queer people” instead of “LGBTQ people”).



questioning – *verb, adj.* : an individual who or time when someone is unsure about or exploring their own sexual orientation or gender identity.

QPOC / QTPOC – *abbr.* : initialisms that stand for queer people of color and queer and/or trans people of color.

romantic attraction – *noun* : a capacity that evokes the want to engage in romantic intimate behavior (e.g., dating, relationships, marriage), experienced in varying degrees (from little-to-none, to intense). Often conflated with sexual attraction, emotional attraction, and/or spiritual attraction.

same gender loving (SGL) – *adj.* : sometimes used by some members of the African-American or Black community to express an non-straight sexual orientation without relying on terms and symbols of European descent.

sex assigned at birth (SAAB) – *abbr.* : a phrase used to intentionally recognize a person’s assigned sex (not gender identity). Sometimes called “designated sex at birth” (DSAB) or “sex coercively assigned at birth” (SCAB), or specifically used as “assigned male at birth” (AMAB) or “assigned female at birth” (AFAB): Jenny was assigned male at birth, but identifies as a woman.

sexual orientation – *noun* : the type of sexual, romantic, emotional/spiritual attraction one has the capacity to feel for some others, generally labeled based on the gender relationship between the person and the people they are attracted to. Often confused with sexual preference.

sex reassignment surgery (SRS) – *noun* : used by some medical professionals to refer to a group of surgical options that alter a person’s biological sex. “Gender confirmation surgery” is considered by many to be a more affirming term. In most cases, one or multiple surgeries are required to achieve legal recognition of gender variance. Some refer to different surgical procedures as “top” surgery and “bottom” surgery to discuss what type of surgery they are having without having to be more explicit.

stealth – *adj.* : a trans person who is not “out” as trans, and is perceived/known by others as cisgender.



straight – *adj.* : a person primarily emotionally, physically, and/or sexually attracted to some people who are not their same sex/gender. A more colloquial term for the word heterosexual.

stud – *noun* : most commonly used to indicate a Black/African-American and/or Latina masculine lesbian/queer woman. Also known as ‘butch’ or ‘aggressive’.

third gender – *noun* : for a person who does not identify with either man or woman, but identifies with another gender. This gender category is used by societies that recognise three or more genders, both contemporary and historic, and is also a conceptual term meaning different things to different people who use it, as a way to move beyond the gender binary.

top surgery – *noun* : this term refers to surgery for the construction of a male-type chest or breast augmentation for a female-type chest.

trans* – *adj.* : an umbrella term covering a range of identities that transgress socially-defined gender norms. Trans with an asterisk is often used in written forms (not spoken) to indicate that you are referring to the larger group nature of the term, and specifically including non-binary identities, as well as transgender men (transmen) and transgender women (transwomen).

transgender – **1** *adj.* : a gender description for someone who has transitioned (or is transitioning) from living as one gender to another. **2** *adj.* : an umbrella term for anyone whose sex assigned at birth and gender identity do not correspond in the expected way (e.g., someone who was assigned male at birth, but does not identify as a man).

transition / transitioning – *noun, verb* : referring to the process of a transgender person changing aspects of themselves (e.g., their appearance, name, pronouns, or making physical changes to their body) to be more congruent with the gender they know themselves to be (as opposed to the gender they lived as pre-transitioning).

transman; transwoman – *noun* : An identity label sometimes adopted by female-to-male transgender people or transsexuals to signify that they are men while still affirming their history as assigned female sex at birth. (sometimes referred to as transguy) **2** Identity label sometimes adopted by male-to-female transsexuals or transgender people to signify that they are women while still affirming their history as assigned male sex at birth.

transphobia – *noun* : the fear of, discrimination against, or hatred of trans* people, the trans* community, or gender ambiguity. Transphobia can be seen within the queer community, as well as in general society.

transphobic – *adj.* : a word used to describe an individual who harbors some elements of this range of negative attitudes, thoughts, intents, towards trans* people.

transsexual – *noun and adj.* a person who identifies psychologically as a gender/sex other than the one to which they were assigned at birth. Transsexuals often wish to transform their bodies hormonally and surgically to match their inner sense of gender/sex.

two-spirit – *noun* : is an umbrella term traditionally within Native American communities to recognize individuals who possess qualities or fulfill roles of both genders.

ze / zir / “zee”, “zerr” or “zeer”/ – alternate pronouns that are gender neutral and preferred by some trans* people. They replace “he” and “she” and “his” and “hers” respectively. Alternatively some people who are not comfortable/do not embrace he/she use the plural pronoun “they/their” as a gender neutral singular pronoun.

