



Your Girl Scout just earned the Digital Leadership badge!

With so much information available at lightning speed online, Girl Scouts have more power than ever to be a part of the global conversation. Today's badge activities were focused on how they can be digital leaders—inspiring and guiding others while taking care of themselves online.

Here's a little more about what we covered:

- Digital vocabulary words like algorithm, bias, misinformation, and artificial intelligence
- How businesses use social engineering to follow their digital footprints online
- New ways to improve on their digital wellness routine
- Understanding an algorithm's role in media bias and fake information online
- How algorithmic bias can perpetuate historic injustices and impact communities
- Making an impact online using their own voices and amplifying the voices of others

Help your Girl Scout(s) lead at home...

Have them explain what they learned about online activism and why it's important to take support offline to affect real change. As a family, pick a cause that means something to you, like body image positivity, food scarcity, social justice, and more. How can each family member use their social media presence to uplift thought leaders in that space already? Come up with a list of people who you feel like are doing a good job of creating content that gets the message across. After sharing in your digital community, figure out a way to donate time or money to your cause, or try your hand at creating your own digital educational content.

Here are a few tips to keep your Girl Scout(s) safe online...

1. Have them use the setting on their devices or on an app to track screen time to make sure they're getting the right balance of online/offline time
2. In addition to not sharing private info with anyone they don't know, make sure they're using a secure Wi-Fi network and that location sharing is off. Remind them not to open emails or attachments or click on links from people they don't know.
3. Talk to your Girl Scout(s) about the content they consume online and how it makes them feel about the world and themselves; if they ever feel hopeless or depressed, you're there to talk. If they see someone else in crisis, encourage them to reach out or tell an adult.
4. Empower them to use their security settings to keep content private on social media.
5. Remind your Girl Scout(s) that they control what they see and interact with online. They can mute, block, or unfollow accounts that make them uncomfortable. They can also report bullying to the platform.