

## **Coding For Good Badges**

### **Plug It In**

The Cadette Coding for Good badges are unplugged — no device needed! However, if girls want to practice coding on a computer as part of the badges, you can use Vidcode, a web-based platform that teaches creative coding through JavaScript. This meeting aid will give you more information on how to access Vidcode and support girls through the plugged activities.

Volunteers can get girls started on the plugged activities by signing for Vidcode at [vidcode.com/signup/affiliation/GSUSA](https://vidcode.com/signup/affiliation/GSUSA) and sending girls a class code to sign-up. See the “Getting Started Guide” section of this meeting aid for more information.

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#### **About Vidcode**

Vidcode's creative coding platform introduces tweens and teens to the fundamentals of computer science and JavaScript programming. Girls learn to code by creating personalized memes, game avatars, video filters, and apps.

Vidcode was founded by female engineers with tween and teen girls in mind. The Vidcode team is thrilled to be partnering with Girl Scouts to support our mission of empowering girls to create things they love with code.

We're excited for you to use Vidcode with your troop, and hope you create something amazing!

## Using Vidcode

With Vidcode, girls will be able to take what they learn in the Coding For Good badges and use JavaScript to create their own video memes, game avatars, and app prototypes.

Below is a table outlining which Vidcode activities align to each Cadette Coding for Good badges. However, girls should feel free to explore other areas of Vidcode as well.

Girl Scout Badge	Vidcode
Cadette Coding Basics	Video Meme
Cadette Digital Game Design	Avatar
Cadette App Development	Personal Data

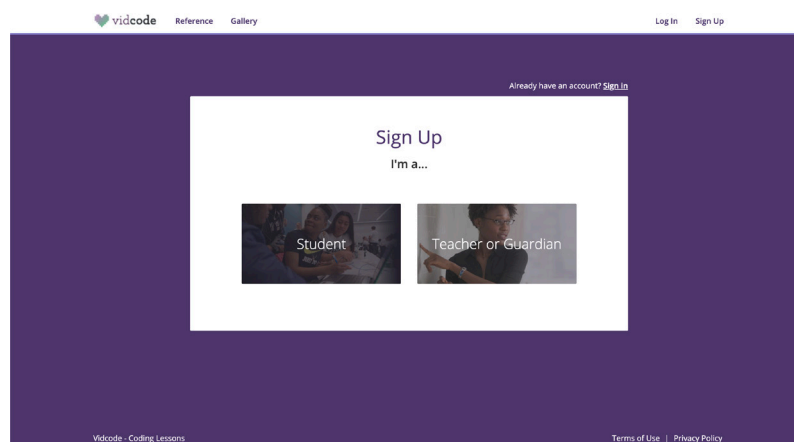
You can get girls started on the plugged activities by signing for as a volunteer for Vidcode at [vidcode.com/signup/affiliation/GSUSA](https://vidcode.com/signup/affiliation/GSUSA). Once you sign up, you'll be able to send girls a class code to sign-up and access the plugged activities.

See the "Getting Started Guide" section of this meeting aid for more information on how to sign up for Vidcode and the "Plugged Activities" section of this meeting aid for instructions to support girls through each of the activities listed above.

## Getting Started Guide

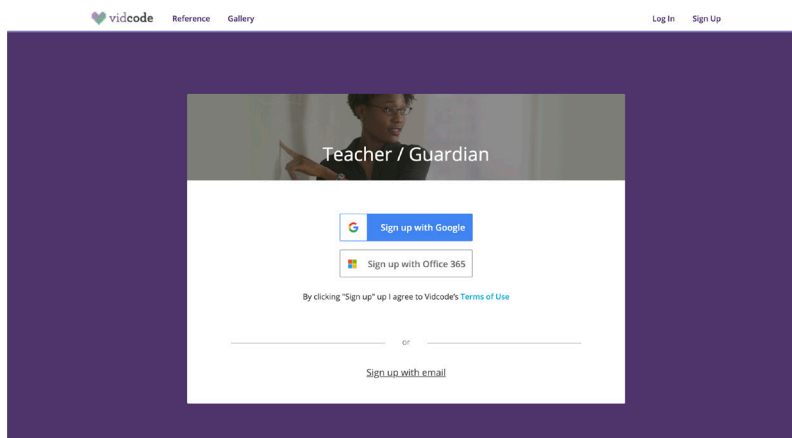
### How to Sign Up for Vidcode if You're a Volunteer

Signing up for Vidcode is easy!

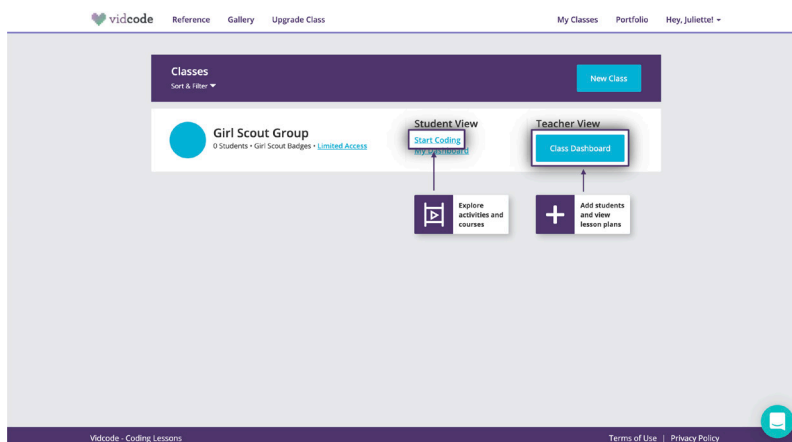


1. Click on this URL for Girl Scout volunteers: [vidcode.com/signup/affiliation/GSUSA](https://vidcode.com/signup/affiliation/GSUSA)

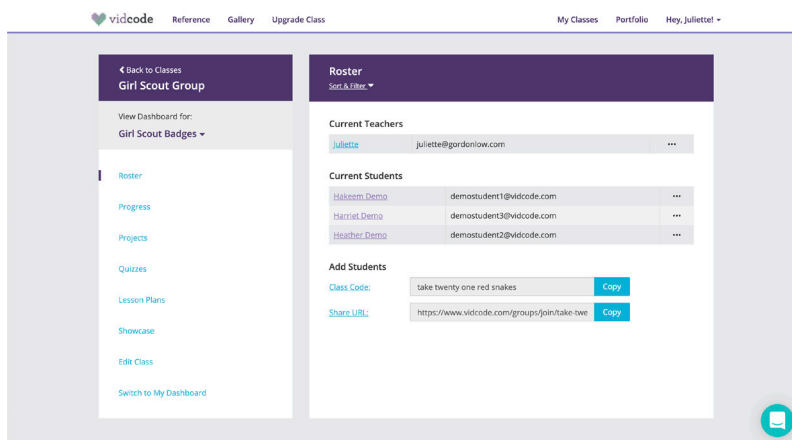
## 2. Click on 'Teacher or Guardian'



## 3. Sign up with your email, Google, or Office 365 account. (If you sign up with your email account, you can use any email account; it doesn't need to be 'school issued' as the box suggests. On the next page, click 'skip this page', if you're able to.)



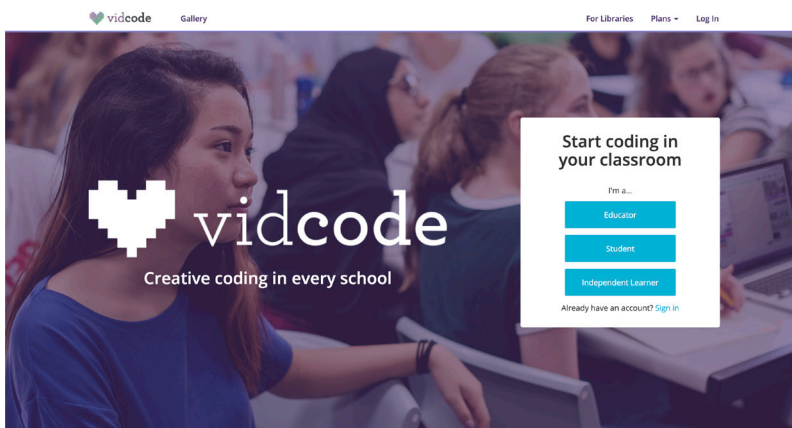
## 4. Click on 'Class Dashboard' to add Girl Scouts. Share the 'Class Code' with the girls to add them to the class:



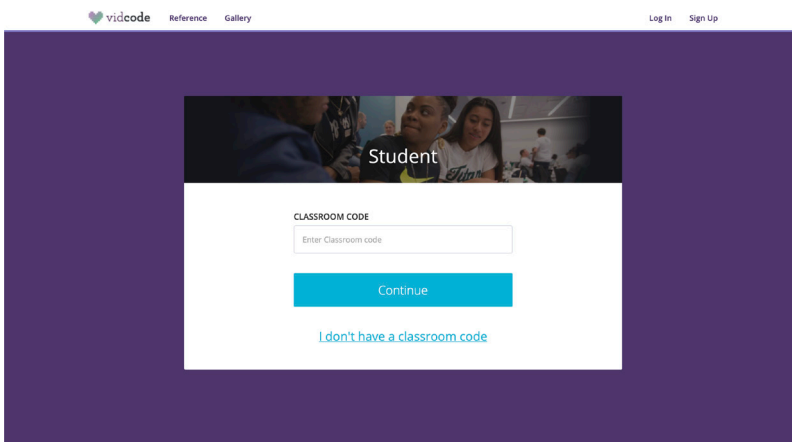
5. The girls should go to [vidcode.com](https://vidcode.com) to sign up and enter the class code you give them. See the next section, “Girl Scout Signing Up for Vidcode” for more information.
6. You can practice the tutorials by clicking ‘Back to Classes’ in the top left, and then click on ‘Start Coding’.

## How to Sign Up for Vidcode if You’re a Girl Scout

1. Go to [vidcode.com](https://vidcode.com) and click on ‘student’:

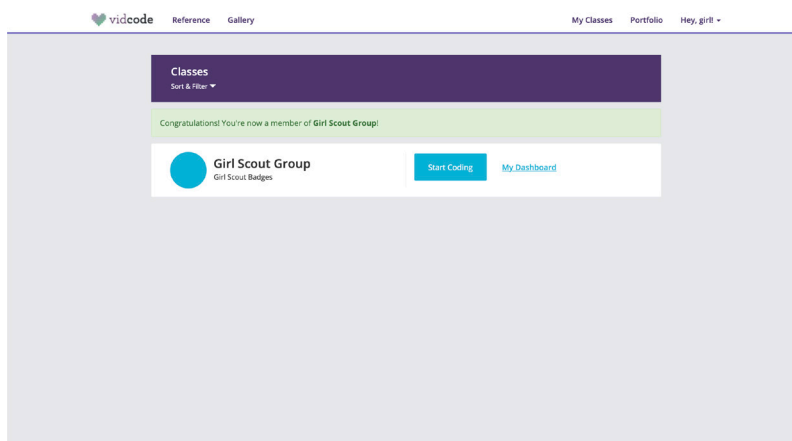


2. Enter the class code from your Troop Leader or Volunteer:



3. Then, sign up with your email. If you don’t have an email, you can sign in with your school’s Google Classroom account or you can make up an email to serve as a unique identifier. Note: If you make up an email, write down the email and password, as Password Reset will be disabled.

4. Click on 'Start Coding' and then you choose your badge and level.



## Supporting Your Girl Scouts

It's recommended that the "Video Meme" activity for the Cadette Coding Basics badge is completed before working on other Vidcode activities. The activity introduces important coding concepts that are used when creating games and stories from scratch.

As they work on the plugged activities, you can remind girls that coding is often tricky: encourage them to persist through the challenges, like trying again when their solution doesn't work on the first try.

If girls get stuck while coding, you can share some of these tips:

- Make sure that you're reading the instructions closely – there is often lots of information and clues in there.
- If the code isn't working, delete the last thing you did until you get back to a point where something works, and then try again.
- Go back through the steps and make sure you haven't missed a key piece of information.

## Technology Tips

- Before the meeting, confirm adequate wireless connectivity. Vidcode requires Internet connection *while in use*, and for saving projects, too.
- Vidcode device requirements:
  - Laptop computer with
  - Chrome Browser

- Be sure to test Vidcode in the environment and with the devices you plan on using ahead of time. Some schools/libraries/public spaces have Internet access firewalls that are very strict and only allow a predetermined list of websites.
- The activities are designed for “pair programming” by grouping girls in twos. When pair programming, one girl holds the device and codes while the other tells her partner what to do and helps debug when errors occur.
- Be sure the batteries in your computers are fully charged.
- Headphones are optional but can help keep the noise in the room down.
- If you run into glitches or bugs in the program, email us at [support@vidcode.com](mailto:support@vidcode.com) or check out the FAQ's at <http://about.vidcode.com/contact>.

## Plugged Activities

### Cadette Coding Basics Activity: Video Meme

**What girls do:** Create a Video Meme using JavaScript on Vidcode!

**What girls learn:** JavaScript has functions that do things, and can take arguments, that make the functions more specific.

#### Steps:

Cadettes complete the “Video Meme” activity on Vidcode.

Share the **Things to Know** to get Cadettes started on the plugged activity.

#### THINGS TO KNOW:

- In the Coding Basics badge, you wrote code to draw a meme on paper.
- Now, in this project, pair up with another Cadette to make a video meme that has a positive social message.
- But, instead of using paper or a meme maker, you're going to do this by writing code on a computer!

Cadettes can login into Vidcode by logging into their account on Vidcode. Then, girls can navigate to ‘start coding’, then click on ‘cadette’, then ‘cadette basics’. Once the Vidcode platform loads, Cadettes can begin their projects. The projects are designed for girls to work in pairs, but they also work if girls are working alone.

If Cadettes want to take a break and complete their project later, they can save their project at any time by clicking the ‘save’ button at the bottom of the code editor.

When Cadettes have finished their project, or completed as much as they can or want to, they can click ‘publish,’ title their work, and then share their project with their friends or family.



## Cadette Digital Game Design Activity: Avatar

**What girls do:** Create an Avatar using JavaScript on Vidcode!

**What girls learn:** Avatars and graphics are important to games. Girls will use functions to display graphics and use arguments to control how the graphics are displayed.

### Steps:

Cadettes complete the “Avatar” activity on Vidcode.

Share the **Things to Know** to get Cadettes started on the plugged activity.

### THINGS TO KNOW:

- In the Digital Game Design badge, you created an avatar and write an array on paper to code an icon for your character.
- Now, it's time to make a JavaScript character for a game! Pair up with another Cadette to make a cool game avatar on the computer.
- You'll learn how to create and customize graphics, text, backgrounds and filters – all using JavaScript!

Cadettes can login into Vidcode by logging into their account on Vidcode. Then, girls can navigate to ‘start coding’, then click on ‘cadette’, then ‘cadette game’. Once the Vidcode platform loads, Cadettes can begin their projects. The projects are designed for girls to work in pairs, but they also work if girls are working alone.

If Cadettes want to take a break and complete their project later, they can save their project at any time by clicking the ‘save’ button at the bottom of the code editor.

When Cadettes have finished their project, or completed as much as they can or want to, they can click ‘publish,’ title their work, and then share their project with their friends or family.

## Cadette App Development Activity: Personal Data

**What girls do:** Complete an a data tracking app using JavaScript on Vidcode!

**What girls learn:** Data visualisation can help people to change their habits. Girls will learn how to code arrays to store and display data before they complete a prototype for a personal data app.

### Steps:

Cadettes complete the “Personal Data” activity on Vidcode.

Share the **Things to Know** to get Cadettes started on the plugged activity.

### THINGS TO KNOW:

- In the App Development badge, you wrote arrays and created data visualizations with personal data. You then used data to create a paper prototype for a habit-tracking app.
- Remember, by tracking your data, you can use it to form new habits.
- Now, pair up with another Cadette to finish an incomplete app for tracking personal data.
- In the activity, you’re going to store your data with arrays, and then display it with graphics. This is going to track your sleep patterns. It’s really important to get good sleep!
- If you want to use other ideas for the data, you can do that, too!

Cadettes can login into Vidcode by logging into their account on Vidcode. Then, girls can navigate to ‘start coding’, then click on ‘cadette’, then ‘cadette app’. Once the Vidcode platform loads, Cadettes can begin their projects. The projects are designed for girls to work in pairs, but they also work if girls are working alone.

If Cadettes want to take a break and complete their project later, they can save their project at any time by clicking the ‘save’ button at the bottom of the code editor.

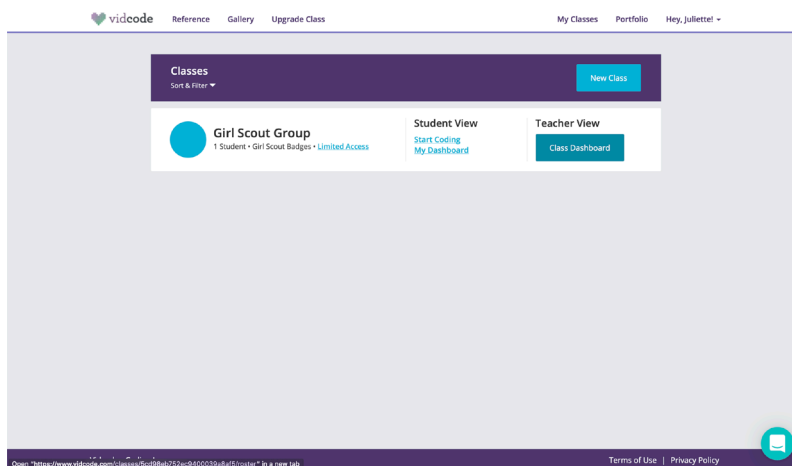
When Cadettes have finished their project, or completed as much as they can or want to, they can click ‘publish,’ title their work, and then share their project with their friends or family.



## Solutions Guide

Each activity has its own lesson plan on the Vidcode platform which contains step by step instructions and a sample solution.

To access the instructions and sample solution, log in as a volunteer and click on 'Class Dashboard':



Then, click on 'Lesson Plans' and the lesson plan you want.

