

Helping girls to move section

Trainer notes

June 2019

These trainer notes offer ideas for activities you could use in training sessions, to help leaders with supporting girls to move sections and working together with other leaders and units.

You don't have to follow the whole session plan; if you prefer, you could include the suggestions for topics when developing your own sessions to provide a flexible approach that can best suit each training.

Activities from this pack can be used at a district/division/county meeting, or any other appropriate training session.

Aims

- Discuss and explore how to help girls move sections
- Support leaders to share and network with each other
- Give leaders the opportunity to find out about other sections
- Introduce the sectional resources and how they support moving sections

Preparation

You will need the following resources:

- · Moving up a section' support document
- Section handbooks and badge books
- Flip chart paper and pens

Leading the session

You may wish to work through this at two meetings or trainings, using the Rainbow/Brownie focus at one and the Guides plus at the second.

The plan is flexible and can be adapted to suit the needs of your district/division or training participants. Include refreshments - this always encourages people to chat and to ask individual questions.

Some leaders and young leaders may like to work through this as a challenge, so you could provide a small prize for the winning group!

Session plan

- 1. Setting the scene
- 2. Icebreaker
- 3. Barriers
- 4. Methods for supporting girls to move up a section
- 5. Guides to Young Leaders
- 6. Rangers to adult membership and young women's offer
- 7. Joint events
- 8. Networking

1. Setting the scene

A good idea to get you started is to set the scene through an activity or a game. This allows you to dive straight into the issue in a fun way, while also opening discussions early.

See 'Supporting information' on page 5 which runs through the 'corners game' example.

2. Icebreaker

Why don't you use one of the programme resources for this part? Try 'Hello my fabulous friend' - from UMA pack 3 - Guides.

3. Barriers

Hold a discussion: what are the specific problems in your area? Explore the solutions. It is a good idea to keep the focus on these discussions specific to helping girls move up.

You could use the 'Transition Training Activity: Snakes and Ladders' from the Girlguiding website to support discussions.

4. Methods for supporting girls to move up a section

Use these topics to generate small-group discussions which can be fed back to the wider group. Break into three groups (Rainbows to Brownies, Brownies to Guides and Guides to Rangers).

- 1. Helping girls move up
- 2. Working with other units/joint events
- 3. Using the programme
- 4. Communication

5. Guides to young leaders/Rangers

Brainstorm these questions: How do Guides find out about becoming a Ranger or young leader? What can leaders do to support them in this?

If you have a local Rangers group, invite someone from that group and/or a young leader to share what they do or send in a summary of what they do.

6. Rangers to adult membership and/or young women's offer

Talk about some key issues around supporting Rangers to move into adult membership and/or our young women's offer.

- Has anyone asked them what they want?
- · Whose responsibility is it to ask?
- How can you help Rangers move up into our young women's offer?

See 'Supporting information' on page 5 for some ideas to get you started.

7. Joint events

Working with other sections is part of each of the section programmes. Many units already run very successful joint events - this can be used as an opportunity to share good practice within the group. You can find out who has run a joint event and how they did it. Allow some time for others to ask questions. it is a good idea to get the group to share what they have done.

If nobody in your group has run one, you can take a look at page 6 for ideas.

8. Networking

Why not end the session by giving everyone a chance to network and establish links together? Encourage leaders to share contact details, arrange leader visits and identify together where spaces exist.

Supporting information

This supporting information can be used to help discussion during your training sessions.

Corners game

This game is a chance to look at the national statistics for girls moving to the next section. Before the training you could do some pre preparation and set up posters of percentages around the room.

Each corner is a percentage:

1 - Less than 20 per cent 2 - 21 to 40 per cent

3 - 40 to 60 per cent **4** - More than 60 per cent

Call out a section. Leaders should guess what percentage of that section do not move on to the next section, and move to the appropriate corner. Then reveal the answers.

Answers:

Rainbows to Brownies: 9 per cent Brownies to Guides: 40 per cent Guides to Rangers: 74 per cent Rangers to Leaders: 61 per cent

Finish with a discussion - does this represent transition in your district/division?

How can I support members of my Rangers unit to transition into Girlguiding's new offer for young women?

- The offer has been developed by young women, for young women, and it has been designed to be a natural progression for young women who have already been part of our youth programme. There's space to continue to develop skills and interests, while also getting more involved in setting the direction for Girlguiding and inspiring younger members through a range of flexible roles.
- There are lots of ways that you can help young women in your unit get a taste of the offer from inviting your local 18-30 coordinator to visit the unit, to encouraging them to go together to events and activities happening locally. If you're able, you could discuss with each of the young women in your unit what she would like to get out of the offer. Look together at the opportunities in your area and nationally. Alternatively, organise for the whole unit to spend an evening looking at the 18-30 offer and get everyone to discuss what they think the most exciting elements are.

Running a joint activity ideas

- Fun
- · Takes into account the needs and requirements of both age groups
- The timing of the event needs to be suitable for both age groups
- The venue needs to be suitable for both age ranges and the increased numbers
- Relevant to both sections
- Doesn't need to be a financial burden
- · Both sections need to be involved in the planning
- A successful event can encourage the girls to move to the next section

Joint activity examples

- Inviting Brownies (all or just the older ones) for a day visit to Guide camp, or Rainbows on an afternoon visit to a Brownie holiday.
- A theme meeting: Chinese New Year, Bonfire Night, Halloween, Christmas, American Independence Day...