



## *Celebrating Girl Up*

### Educational Guide

by  
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## *Celebrating Girl Up*

*Celebrating Girl Up* showcases a program that focuses on the vital importance of girls for the future of the planet – the UN Foundation’s Girl Up campaign. The campaign aims to “give American girls the opportunity to become global leaders and channel their energy and compassion to raise awareness and funds for United Nations programs that help some of the world’s hardest-to-reach adolescent girls.” Our exhibition highlights four girls participating in Girl Up programs in Ethiopia, Malawi, Liberia and Guatemala, along with one of their US teen advisors.

This educational guide is designed for classroom use with students in primary/elementary school, secondary school and university settings. All the activities are designed for ease of copy and distribution to your students. Also noted are links to both the UK National Curriculum (pg. 4) and the US Common Core (pg. 5).



## Discussion Questions

*Photo: A girl at the Center for Liberian Assistance reads a letter from a U.S. teen as part of the UN Foundation's Girl Up Campaign, Monrovia, Liberia, Sunday, March 6, 2011. She represents one of the millions of adolescent girls around the world whose needs include improved education, access to health and empowerment. (Stuart Ramson/Insider Images for the United Nations Foundation)*

*Students can answer the following questions on their own or discuss in groups.*

Use details from the *Celebrating Girl Up* exhibition to help you answer the following questions:

1. Why are the lives of people we don't know important to us?
2. Why is it important to be able to empathize with people we don't know?
3. Why is it important to help people we don't know?
4. What do you think life would be like for a girl growing up in a developing country?
5. How are the experiences of a girl growing up in a developing country similar or different to your experiences of growing up?
6. Can campaigns like Girl Up help us better understand the lives of others and enable us to make positive changes in all our lives?

## *Analysis: Themes*

Analyze the seven different themes on this page.

Discuss, write a short paper, or produce a mind map or collage about what each of these themes means to you and how they feature in your own life.

Consider how we all have diverse experience of these themes and that the themes mean similar and different things to each individual.

Think about what these themes might mean to girls growing up in a developing country.

For example, read the full interview with Rocio Ortega, who was asked to give her ideas about these themes and what they mean to her, in our exhibit.

# Girls

## Education

## The power of one

## Leadership

## Girls helping girls

## Altruism

## Social Responsibility

## Activities

### **Activity #1: Altruism**

Rocio Ortega and all the Teen Advisors at Girl Up are great examples of how selfless actions can make a huge change for the lives of others.

Organize and carry out an act of kindness either individually, in groups, or as a class. The only reward should be feeling good about improving the lives of others.

It could be volunteering at a local charity or simply helping tidy the classroom at the end of each day!

### **Activity #2: Leadership**

Find a girl who is leading and inspiring others in your community to make a difference on a social issue.

If you can, interview her about her leadership role or, if not, conduct your own research. Use the information collected to produce an article convincing your readers to support this girl leader.

### **Activity #3: Girls Education**

The significance of girls receiving an education is clearly represented throughout the exhibit.

On your own or in groups, write a speech about why you believe girls' right to an education is so important. Consider using stories from the exhibition to help illustrate your points.

Present the speech in class, at a school assembly, or in your local newspaper.



### *UK National Curriculum Links:*

#### History KS1 & KS2:

- Understand historical concepts such as continuity & change
- Changes within living memory

#### Art & Design: KS1 & KS2:

- Produce creative work

#### English KS1 & KS2:

- Use discussion in order to learn
- Ask relevant questions to extend their understanding & knowledge
- Articulate & justify answers, arguments & opinions
- Identify the audience for and purpose of the writing
- Drawing on reading and research where necessary
- Mastery of language extended through public speaking and debate

#### Geography KS1 & KS2:

- Understand geographical similarities and differences through studying the human geography of a small area of the UK and a contrasting non-European country
- Describe and understand key aspects of human geography





## US Common Core Links:

### History/Social Studies:

- Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions

### Speaking & Listening:

- Pose and respond to specific questions with elaboration and detail by making comments that contribute to the topic, text, or issue under discussion
- Interpret information presented in diverse media and formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) and explain how it contributes to a topic, text, or issue under study

### Writing:

- Conduct short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources and refocusing the inquiry when appropriate.

*Photo: Television star and Girl Up Champion Victoria Justice visits Guatemala for the UN Foundation's Girl Up campaign, Monday, Aug. 29, 2011. Justice is here to learn about Girl Up's work to support the work of the United Nations to help girls in developing countries. (Photo Stuart Ramson for UN Foundation)*

## Activity #4: The Power of One

The Power of One reminds us that a single contribution can make a huge change.

Create an artwork, using whichever media you feel comfortable with, inspired by the concept of The Power of One.

Display your class's artwork for the whole school to be motivated by. You could even sell tickets to your gallery and donate the profits to a charity supporting girls in developing countries. Your single donation could change a girl's life for the better!

## Activity #5: In Depth

Use the exhibition, along with your own research, to write an essay on one of the following titles:

- How has society changed for girls over the past 50 years in your country/a developing country?
- In the past 30 years how has the world become more/less connected?
- How has Girl Up impacted girls' lives in Ethiopia/Guatemala/Liberia/Malawi/the US?

Ask your teacher for advice on word count.

## Bonus points:

Share your activities with us to be featured on Girl Museum's blog!

Email an essay, photos, and/or a video of your project to [share@girlmuseum.org](mailto:share@girlmuseum.org).

# Girl Museum

We are the first and only online museum about girlhood.

We exhibit, educate, and raise awareness about the unique experience of being born and growing up female around the world in the past and present.

As a community of passionate and creative individuals, we acknowledge and advocate for girls as forces for collective responsibility and change in the global context, not as victims and consumers.

We are a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization.

Learn more and get involved at [www.GirlMuseum.org](http://www.GirlMuseum.org)



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## Activity #6: Girls Helping Girls



Rocio Ortega, Girl Up Teen advisor featured in the exhibit, started a Girl Up Club in her high school. It is still running today despite the fact she has left the school to move on with her own education.

Consider starting up your own Girl Up Club at your school or in your local community. The details about how to get involved can be found at [girlup.org](http://girlup.org) in the “Take Action” section of the website.

You can also look for similar programs to Girl Up that are available in your area to get involved with.

Clubs such as this are a great way to promote girls helping girls within your community!