



Activity 1: Thinking Locally and Globally

Objective: Connect with your local, state, national and global news sources to identify issues happening locally and globally.

Leader Prep: Select three to five of the suggested news sources. Make copies or have multiple copies of each source available. If using video sources, download and have available for offline use (if necessary) or distribute links for girls to view on phones/tablets/computers. For younger girls, be mindful of reading ability and be prepared to have volunteers (older girls, adults) read in small groups aloud.

Supplies:

- Enough copies of each of the suggested news sources for girls to read/view individually or in small groups.
 - Scrap paper (enough for everyone) and pencils
 - Chalkboard, whiteboard or easel paper + writing utensil
1. Break girls up into pairs or small groups, each with a news source or two of their choosing. If girls will be listening to or watching news, they may also wish to use headphones to be respectful of all groups.
 2. Pass out scrap paper and pencils. Instruct the girls that, as they consume their news source, they can use scrap paper to write down the issues detailed by their news source. Do not limit the issues to only ones that spark a girl's interests. Write down everything.
 3. Give girls time to consume (read, watch, listen to) at least five stories (not five issues). If some girls finish early, give them more news to consume.

Suggested News Sources

National & Global

- National Public Radio
- Time for Kids
- Al Jazeera
- Washington Post: KidsPost
- Smithsonian TweenTribune
- Teen Vogue*

Wisconsin

- Wisconsin State Journal
- Wisconsin Public Radio

Local

- Local newspapers
- Local news channels

In 2015, on the brink of collapse, Teen Vogue changed their content from a teen fashion magazine to “a mainstream media outlet in print that reflected people like me back to ourselves. Teen Vogue did an incredible job of amplifying communities of color and queer people as well.” That representation has come in the form of articles that criticize racial insensitivity, trumpet black feminism and explain how to be a transgender ally..” (The New York Times “Who Will Mourn Teen Vogue?” 11/4/17)

4. When everyone is done, ask girls to share the issues they discovered and collect them on your whiteboard (or equivalent). Issues might be “homeless people banned from sitting on sidewalks” or “school board passes new law” or “election of new representative” or something else.

