



Girl Guides of Canada, Newfoundland and Labrador Council

Recognize, React, Repair Challenge: Interacting with our natural world





Background

Our planet is hurting. The planet is not only hurting - it's also hurting millions of people, animals, trees, and oceans that call it home. This Challenge encourages all of us to look at our natural world and come together to help save our planet.

Guidelines

This Challenge has 4 themes: Environment, Education, Health, and Community.

To complete this Challenge, **Sparks**, **Embers**, **Guides**, **Pathfinders**, **Rangers** and **Guiders** need to complete two activities per theme + two additional activities from a theme(s) of your choice (10 activities in total).

When you have completed the required activities, crests can be ordered from the NL provincial office through the [GGCNL Crest Order Form](#).

Objective

To interact with our natural world and those who live in it and don't have a voice. To be better educated on the impacts of our actions and reduce our footprint.

Outcomes

- Learn about leadership and empowerment.
- Think critically about the consequences of our actions.
- Discover ways to make the earth a better place.
- Learn to recognize that we share this planet with many other species – so let's learn how to best protect it!



Environment

	Activities	Suggested Level	Check when completed	Date completed
1	Make a list of ways you can respect the environment (e.g. don't feed wildlife, eco-friendly camping, etc.). Try out a few!	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
2	Learn about bees and why Newfoundland honeybees are special. Plant flowers to help bees!	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
3	Learn about ground bees and make a home for them.	Sparks Embers		
4	Learn about beekeeping and making honey.	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
5	What is a keystone species? What are some keystone species in NL and where do they live?	Pathfinders Rangers		
6	Make a list of ways you can reduce single-use plastics. Try out a few!	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
7	Research some stories of animals being abandoned because of natural disasters. Share with them with your unit.	Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
8	Make a poster with a catchy slogan about respecting the environment. If possible, make it weatherproof and ask for permission to post it on a popular walking or hiking trail.	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
9	When you go shopping, do you use a plastic bag? Make a reusable bag and use it the next time you go shopping.	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
10	What are some birds you see every day in your community? Make a birdfeeder or go birdwatching as a group.	Sparks Embers Guides		



Education

	Activities	Suggested Level	Check when completed	Date completed
1	What's a zoo? Have you been to a zoo? Chat with your unit about what an animal would need to be happy, healthy and safe living in captivity.	Sparks Embers Guides		
2	Visit a local touch tank. Don't forget to learn about touch tank manners.	Sparks Embers Guides		
3	What is climate change? Save energy in your home by creating a decorative switch plate to remind you to turn off the lights when you leave a room.	Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
4	Learn about trash in oceans/harbors in NL. Make a list of ways you can help our oceans and harbors. Try out a few!	Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
5	Is it ethical to use animals as test subjects in research (e.g. cosmetics, pharmaceuticals)? Why or why not? Learn about some industries that test products on animals and principles for reducing impacts of research on animals.	Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
6	What is trophy hunting? What animals are common trophy hunting targets? Have a discussion in your unit.	Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
7	Learn about careers where you can help animals (e.g. veterinarians, wildlife and fisheries officers). Invite someone to your meeting who works in this career.	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
8	What is animal fostering? Learn about fostering pets and some local organizations that help find animals foster homes.	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		



Health

	Activities	Suggested Level	Check when completed	Date completed
1	What is a therapy animal? What are some common therapy animals? Have you ever met one? If possible, meet a therapy animal!	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
2	What is a veterinarian? Sparks / Embers / Guides : -Visit your local vet to learn more about how veterinarians keep animals happy and healthy. Pathfinders / Rangers -What education does a veterinarian have to complete? - What skills and/or characteristics do you feel make a good veterinarian?	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
3	Learn about the different kinds of working animals (e.g. police dogs). Visit some working animals at a farm or local store.	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
4	Greyhounds are fast dogs. Learn about greyhound racing, and what organizations such as Greyhound Pets NL are doing in NL to help retired racing greyhounds.	Pathfinders Ranger		
5	What is a police rescue dog? What types of situations do they rescue people from? Research and share some stories of amazing human rescues or finds aided by search and rescue dogs.	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		

Community

	Activities	Suggested Level	Check when completed	Date completed
1	If you live near a beach, organize a shoreline garbage cleanup.	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
2	Invite (or visit) an environmental group to come to your unit and explain the cool things they are doing to help the environment!	Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
3	What is animal welfare? Organize a collection drive for an organization in your community, Guiding district or area to help support animals.	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
4	<p>Invite (or visit) an animal rescue or welfare group to come to your unit and learn about some of the following:</p> <p>Sparks/Embers/Guides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ways you can help animals - ways to prevent animal cruelty - ways to be a good pet owner - importance of spaying/neutering pets <p>Pathfinders/Rangers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - animal euthanasia laws - the difference between breeders and puppy mills/backyard breeders - Pitbull or other species specific laws 	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
6	What is an animal shelter? Learn what the needs are of a local shelter and how you can help support them	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		
7	Do senior dogs and cats have any special requirements or needs? Why is it harder for senior animals to find forever homes? Have a discussion in your unit and learn about some local organizations that help find senior animals homes.	Sparks Embers Guides Pathfinders Rangers		



Girls First Program Connections

Wondering how the activities in the Recognize, React, Repair Challenge fit into the Girls First Program? Below are the connections between the Challenge and the Girls First Program. If you find other connections to your program, please feel free to give your girls credit for them. This is not a comprehensive list, feel free to apply your activities to other parts of the program as you see fit. Remember that each activity you complete can accomplish multiple parts of the program.

All Branches:

Into the Outdoors

- *Nature Discoveries*
- *Our Shared Planet*

Experiment and Create

- *Design Space*

Connect and Question

- *Local Communities*
- *Canadian Connections*
- *World Stage*

Take Action

- *Your Choice*
- *Your Voice*
- *Your Action (this can be earned by creating an action plan or building a service project to address an issue in this Challenge that you are passionate about. It's your choice and your voice, so choose your action!)*