

SHARE YOUR VOICE

Did you know that the United States is a representative democracy or a republic? This means that we elect people to make decisions about how the government should run. For our government to run smoothly, it needs active citizens to use their voices and let our representatives know how we feel on certain issues!

BEFORE YOU GET STARTED

Recommended Ages: Grades 2 - 8

Estimated Time: 15 - 20 minutes

Stuff you'll need:

- Paper
- Pen/Pencil
- Computer
- Crayons (optional)

Caregivers should consider: There is always risk when youth use the internet. Some caregivers may choose to review house rules of internet use or sit down with their girl to complete the activity together.

THE FUN PART

1. Think about an issue that you think is important. Maybe you are concerned about the environment, or maybe you think we need to do more to stop bullying.
 - Do some research on your issue! Not sure where to look? Try using [KidRex](#) to find out more about your topic.

TIP: Need help deciding on a topic? Read all about single-use plastic and why some Girl Scouts are advocating for their ban – [Saving the Planet: Q&A with Girl Scout Zoe Mueller](#)

2. Now you are ready to advocate for your issue by writing to your representatives. First you need to find out who represents you. You can find your local, state, and national representatives [HERE](#).
3. Write your letter! You can use the postcard template included. Make sure to print it on heavy weight paper so it can go through the mail. Check mailing standards if you have questions or drop your letter into an envelope! Not sure what to write? Try using the fill-in-the-blank postcard. Don't forget to decorate the front! Tip: Check out this resource for more tips on writing to your representatives [HERE](#).
4. Way to go! You did it! Share on social media with your caregiver's permission. Use the hashtag #GSGIDIY



STAMP
GOES
HERE

Dear _____,

Hello! My name is _____
and I am _____ years old. I am writing to
you because _____

_____. I beleive ____

_____.

Sincerely,

STAMP
GOES
HERE
