

INTRODUCTION

Girl Rising provides teachers with a unique opportunity to educate students about the issues surrounding girls' education in the developing world, and about the impact that educating girls can have. To help teachers learn about the predominant issues, and most effectively share the information with their students, we created this standards-aligned, companion curriculum to the film.

Using the curriculum, teachers can engage their students in meaningful, theme-based social studies, political science, math, economics, and language arts lessons by encouraging them to think about important political, cultural, historical, social, religious, and geographic issues tied to educating girls – and about their responsibilities as global citizens, as well as locally.

The curriculum addresses an array of issues ranging from inquiries of global scope such as, “How do economies grow when girls are educated?” to very basic questions like, “How do parents keep their daughters safe and cared for?” In the upper elementary curriculum, we’ve narrowed the topics to concentrate on the importance of three key factors – encouragement, educating girls, and family support and influence – due to the students’ age and level of maturity. Through developing a better understanding of how family dynamics, poverty, and community expectations intersect to keep girls either in or out of school, students’ views of the world will evolve.

Guided by themes covered in Girl Rising, the curriculum uses essential questions designed to stimulate critical thinking in students. The curriculum is aligned to the U.S. Common Core State Standards, includes an assessment tool to measure student learning, and offers resources to further learning, spark discussion, and prompt students to take action.

For the purposes of this curriculum, the film Girl Rising has been edited into nine separate chapters, one for each girl’s story. (Some chapters are available for educators to download at no cost, while others require a fee.) The stories range in terms of subject matter. We believe the following chapters are appropriate for upper elementary school-aged children:

- Wadley from Haiti
- Ruksana from India
- Sokha from Cambodia
- Suma from Nepal

However teachers are strongly encouraged to view the film chapters in advance to determine which are appropriate based on their students’ maturity level.

As you plan your work with the curriculum, please view the film chapters, consider which issues you’d like your students to explore, and determine if there are additional resources that may be available to enhance the experience for your students.

CONTENTS

- **Curriculum Grid** connects all the Film Chapters, Teacher Guides, Country Fact Sheets, Issue Fact Sheets, Project-Based Lessons, and Common Core State Standards.
- **Teacher Guides** provide summaries of the film chapters and lessons.
 - Teacher Guide for the Encouraging Others Lesson (focusing on Wadley from Haiti and Ruksana from India)
 - Teacher Guide for the My Story Lesson (focusing on Sokha from Cambodia and Suma from Nepal)
- **Country Fact Sheets** are designed to provide a broad profile of each country and have been broken into six main sections: guiding questions, general information, government, people, economy, and resources. Applicable Country Fact Sheets for the Upper Elementary Curriculum can be found in the Resources section:
 - Cambodia
 - Haiti
 - India
 - Nepal
- **Issue Fact Sheets** are designed to provide basic information on the core issues surrounding girls' education and reinforce the material from the film chapters. Issue Fact Sheets contain guiding questions, definitions of key terms or concepts, and a brief look at how a specific issue relates to poverty and education. Applicable Issue Fact Sheets for the Upper Elementary Curriculum:
 - Educating Girls
 - Kamlari
 - Natural Disasters
- **Project-Based Lessons** have been designed to work with multiple film chapters.
 - Encouraging
 - Others My Story
- **Upper Elementary Assessment Rubric**
- **Resources:**
 - Template Letter to Parents (explaining the Girl Rising project)
 - Statistics Used in Girl Rising
 - References for Fact Sheets
 - Senna's Poetry (English translation)
 - Senna's Poetry (original Spanish)
 - Los Heraldos Negros by Cesar Vallejo (English translation)
 - Marquesha Baber's Poem (inspired by Senna)
 - Suma's song (English translation)
 - Venn Diagram
 - K-W-P-L Chart
 - Additional Resources (web sites, books, and additional short films from Girl Rising which will further student learning, discussion and research)
 - Take Action Guide (provides students with fund-raising and event ideas to extend their learning beyond the classroom)
 - Conversation with Girl Rising Director Richard E. Robbins
 - Country Fact Sheets
 - Afghanistan
 - Cambodia
 - Egypt
 - Ethiopia
 - Haiti
 - India
 - Nepal
 - Peru
 - Sierra Leone