


GIRL RISING
STUDENT AMBASSADOR
TAKE ACTION GUIDE



WELCOME



Thank you for becoming a Girl Rising Student Ambassador. You have joined a powerful global movement of young people committed to a future where all girls can learn, rise, and thrive. We've seen our community do incredible things in support of our work- **watch this video for just a few examples.** The Girl Rising team is here to support your interests, advocacy and philanthropy every step of the way. This guide includes resources, tips and tools to support your efforts. Thank you for believing in our mission and our work.

LET'S DO THIS!



ABOUT GIRL RISING

WHEN GIRLS RISE, THE WORLD THRIVES

129 girls are missing from classrooms **MILLION** around the world.

TOGETHER, WE CAN CHANGE THAT.



Our Program Model

Girl Rising's mission is to use the power of storytelling to change the way the world values girls and their education.

Working with innovative local community partners in countries around the world, our programming builds voice, agency and confidence in girls so that they can persist in their education; fosters a more inclusive learning environment; and changes attitudes and social norms.

Our story-based tools and curricula engage, energize and motivate young people to understand their rights and believe in their capacity to change their lives, communities, and the world.



WE CREATE films, media content and educational resources that tell the stories of girls and how the ripple effects of educating girls transform families, communities and entire nations.



WE COLLABORATE with organizations around the world to support locally led change that accelerates and strengthens quality education and greater opportunity for girls.



WE ACTIVATE change by inspiring individuals, from parents to presidents, to support action for girls' education.

WHY GIRLS' EDUCATION

Girls' Education. Her Right. Our Future.



There are 129 million girls missing from classrooms. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, another 11 million girls are at risk of never returning to schools. The reasons are many, and vary from region to region. They include early marriage, poverty, gender-based violence, abuse, the unfair burden of domestic work and gender discrimination. Although the world made significant progress in bridging the gender gap in education over the last 20 years, new forces are creating setbacks for girls' education. In addition to the fallout from the pandemic, global conflict, forced displacement and the climate crisis are having a disproportionate impact on girls.

The flip side of this is that girls' education is one of the world's best investments, transforming lives, families, communities and nations. When girls are valued and educated they become women who earn more, stand up for their rights, and educate their sons and daughters equally. Families thrive. Nations prosper. Educating girls equips them to become the leaders we urgently need — building resilience at every level — in communities and across countries.

Why Girls' Education is the Solution



Girls who receive an education are more likely to earn higher incomes, marry later, have healthier children, and lead productive lives. (UNICEF 2022)



90 percent of women's income gets reinvested in their families as opposed to only 40 percent of men's income.



A child whose mother can read is 50 percent more likely to live past age five. (USAID 2021)



For every 10 percent more girls who go to school, a country's GDP can be expected to go up an average of 3 percent. (USAID 2021)



One additional year of school can increase a woman's earnings by up to 20%. Women with secondary school education could expect to make almost twice as much as those with no education, and women with tertiary education almost four times as much. (World Bank 2018)



Educating girls goes beyond access to school. It includes building gender-equitable education systems whereby girls feel safe in classrooms and supported to make decisions about their lives and the careers they pursue. (World Bank 2018)




Investing in secondary schooling for girls is the most cost-effective and best investment against climate change. (Brookings, 2016)





Women's environmental leadership can not only bring about improvements in representational justice and increased focus on gender-specific environmental impacts. It can also lead to stronger and more effective environmental action. (OECD, 2021)


BARRIERS TO GIRLS' EDUCATION



 129 million girls worldwide are out of school. (UNICEF 2022)

 Barriers to girls' education include poverty, child marriage, war and conflict, discriminatory gender norms in society, and gender-based violence. (World Bank 2022)

 One in five girls under the age of 18 will be married this year. Girls who marry before 18 are more likely to experience domestic violence and less likely to remain in school. (UNICEF, 2022)

 335 million girls around the world attend primary and secondary schools without adequate sanitation facilities for menstrual hygiene management. (UNICEF and World Health Organization 2018)

EDUCATING GIRLS: A POWERFUL SOLUTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is one of the world's most pressing challenges - and it turns out that girls' education is a key part of the solution. Education gives girls the skills and knowledge to respond to climate-related disasters and changing resource landscapes around them. The contributions of educated girls to their communities increases a region's overall resilience to climate shocks.

Educated girls grow up to be women who participate fully in society and take on leadership roles. A growing body of evidence also shows that women political leaders are more effective in protecting the environment and more likely to ratify climate protective laws and treaties than their male counterparts.

Learn more in Girl Rising's animated video [here](#).

What's at Stake

While girls play an essential role in solving climate change, it ultimately threatens them first and worst. Without an education, girls are disproportionately impacted by climate change. Today, 80 percent of people displaced by climate disasters are women and girls.

Women living below the poverty line are 14 times more likely to die in a climate disaster, according to a report by CARE International. And recently a study published by Science found that if global temperatures keep rising, this generation of children will experience three times as many climate disasters as their grandparents.

With millions of girls out of school, the world is denying girls their rights while simultaneously missing a powerful solution. So speak out - the links between girls' education and gender equity are not well known. Share information in your environmental studies classes. Connect with your school's environmental clubs and climate change activities.



TAKE ACTION, LET'S GET STARTED!



1. HOST AN EVENT

Host an event in your community to raise awareness about the need to invest in girls' education.

Plan a screening of the Girl Rising film (see our screening toolkit [here](#)), bring your classmates together during lunch, a free period, or after school to explore the barriers that girls face in pursuing their education, the ripple effects of educating

girls, and gender bias in your community, host a poetry slam about gender inequality, or organize a road race or walk-a-thon to raise awareness for the girls around the world who walk hours just to go to school.

For downloadable posters, talking points, and tips to help you plan your event, click [here](#).



Meet My and Loryn

My and Loryn are the President and Junior President of the Model UN Team in their high school.

They screened select chapters of the Girl Rising film as part of a community-wide event they hosted to show the impact of human trafficking on local communities around the world.

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Girl Rising really inspired me because it opened my eyes to something I'd always seen but never recognized. I hope through these events I can get people to care a bit more.

- Loryn

2. FUNDRAISE TO SUPPORT GIRLS' EDUCATION

Donations in amounts large and small make a big difference. There are an endless variety of creative ways you can fundraise for Girl Rising. Organize a bake sale, walk-a-thon, or concert celebrating girls,

or start a peer-to-peer fundraising campaign. For more information about how to start planning your fundraiser click [here](#).



Meet Olivia

High school senior Olivia wanted to raise funds and awareness for social justice causes she believed in. She founded a company called EmBracelets (www.embracelets.org), where she designed and sold beaded bracelets. Her passion for gender equity led her to her fundraising to support Girl Rising.

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I hope that EmBracelets will promote gender, racial, and educational equality by raising awareness, sparking conversation, and funding organizations and projects with similar goals.

3. START A GIRL RISING CLUB

Bring Girl Rising into your school community. Working with like-minded students, you can raise awareness about the barriers facing girls' education and work together to ignite change. Start a new Girl Rising club at your school, or

integrate Girl Rising into the work of an existing social justice club working to promote women's empowerment, human rights, or international affairs. For a how-to-guide on how to start your club click [here](#).

Club Student Spotlight: The Rhoades School Girl Rising Club



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Learning about the struggles of girls around the world has helped us understand the value of growing up in an environment where the education for girls is equivalent to the education for boys. The stories have given us a lot of perspective on how lucky we are to live in a place where girls can get an education and live their lives.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Like, post, tweet and TikTok! Make as much noise as possible and show your social media network that you are fighting for a more just and gender-equal world.

Download our social media templates here and be sure to tag **@GirlRising** in your posts!



STAY IN TOUCH!

We're here to support you every step of the way. Girl Rising hosts weekly office hours for our Student Ambassadors where you can reach out with questions about your club, event, or fundraiser. As a Student Ambassador, you will also gain access to exclusive monthly webinars with Girl Rising's global team and partners to give you an inside look at our work driving gender-equity and girls' education.

Share your activities, photos and more with the Girl Rising team via email (gryouth@girlrising.org) or social media ([@GirlRising](https://www.instagram.com/GirlRising)).





GIRL RISING

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