



What Virtual Program is right for my girl?

Tips for Parents and Troop Leaders

Virtual Programming has exploded since children across the US have been staying home from school. The number of choices may seem endless and parents may feel overwhelmed with how to choose the best programming for their children. This guide gives parents a few simple steps to help you find the right program options for your family.

Start With Familiar Programs: Teachers, librarians, Girl Scouts, and more have a long history of providing quality educational programs for children. These kid driven organizations are now bringing programs online for kids. Start by checking out what your favorite in-person programs are doing online!

Learn Together: If you are able to take time to participate in virtual program with your girls, it can provide extra value. You will be able to better determine program quality, engage your girls by asking questions, and have a common understanding for family conversation. You might even learn something new!

Try New Things: We're all exploring this "new normal" together. Take advantage of all the unknowns to teach girls the values of life-long learning, flexibility and perseverance. Technical glitches can be annoying but can also be good ways to practice patience. Asking a question during a live virtual program is a great chance to practice being courageous. The new landscape of virtual programs provides endless opportunities to help girls develop the values and character that will help her lead a happy, successful life!

Of course, the many virtual programs mean that you have a chance to try out all sorts of topics that are brand new to you. Want to try out the first Girl Scout cookie recipe? We've got a virtual program for that! Want to learn about math through art? We've got a virtual program for that! Help girls dream big by exploring something brand new.

Develop Your Girl's Interests: This is a great time to encourage your girl to discover more about her passions. Whether she wants to become a better musician or artist, learn about wild animals, or build an App for her phone, now is the time to explore these interests. Look for programs that tap into these interests.

Do What You Can: These are stressful times for many. Many parents are working from home, families may lack internet or reliable technology at home, kids are starting online school and everyone is getting used to their new normal. Focus on doing what you can. Children don't have to be entertained or busy every moment of the day. Make time for unstructured play, chores, staying active, and tending to mental health and stress relief.