

# Penny for your thoughts



Get  
guiding



45  
minutes



Jump  
straight in

Unit meeting activity



## Aim of activity

Care to share a penny for your thoughts?  
Get thoughtful with a craft and explore  
World Thinking Day.

## What you'll get out of it

- Discover what World Thinking Day is.
- Spend time thinking about your guiding family.

## What you'll need

- A giant blank penny, either paper plates or cut out large paper circles, 1 per girl
- Colouring pens and pencils
- Craft items. For example, stickers, glue sticks or sticky tape, tissue paper and recycled materials
- A large bag or container to be the magic wish jar
- A piece of music and a music player



WORLD ASSOCIATION  
OF GIRL GUIDES  
AND GIRL SCOUTS



Girlguiding

## Note to leader

There's information about World Thinking Day in this activity. You can add anything else you know or want to share as well. Make sure any music you play is suitable and appropriate for your unit.

## What to do

World Thinking Day is celebrated on 22 February every year. It began in 1926 and it's all about friendship, thinking of others and celebrating all the Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world.

In 1939 Olave Baden-Powell, the World Chief Guide at the time, believed girls could change the world with kindness and courage. So, she asked Guides to give a penny for their thoughts to help support guiding everywhere.

- 1 There are over 11 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts worldwide! Imagine a Rainbow you haven't met, maybe nearby or far across the world. What kind thoughts would you like to send them?
- 2 Time to bring your kind thoughts to life. Your leader will give everyone a giant penny. You've got 20 minutes to decorate it and fill it with kind thoughts!

You could draw lots of happy Rainbows, a picture to show friendship, or use your favourite colour to put a smile on someone's face.

- 3 Time's up! Stand in a circle with your pennies. In the middle is a magic wish jar that brings your kind thoughts to life! Your leader will play some music and when it starts, move or dance around the circle. When it stops, freeze!

### Top tip

For your music, you could use songs and music from Girl Guides in other countries, like Kookaburra from Australia!

- 4 If you're the last person to freeze, put your penny in the wish jar. As you put it in, whisper, say aloud, or think your kind thoughts. Then rejoin the circle and keep moving to the music! If you've already put your penny in, you can still dance and help your leader spot the last person to freeze.

- 5 Look at all those kind thoughts! Thinking of others is a wonderful way to share kindness on World Thinking Day. How does it feel when someone says kind things? How can we show we care to people we've never met?

## Take it further

Turn your kind thought pennies into a decoration to share with another unit. Ask your leader to help punch holes and thread them onto string to make a garland. Or take a photo of your pennies and post or send it digitally to a unit in another country.

