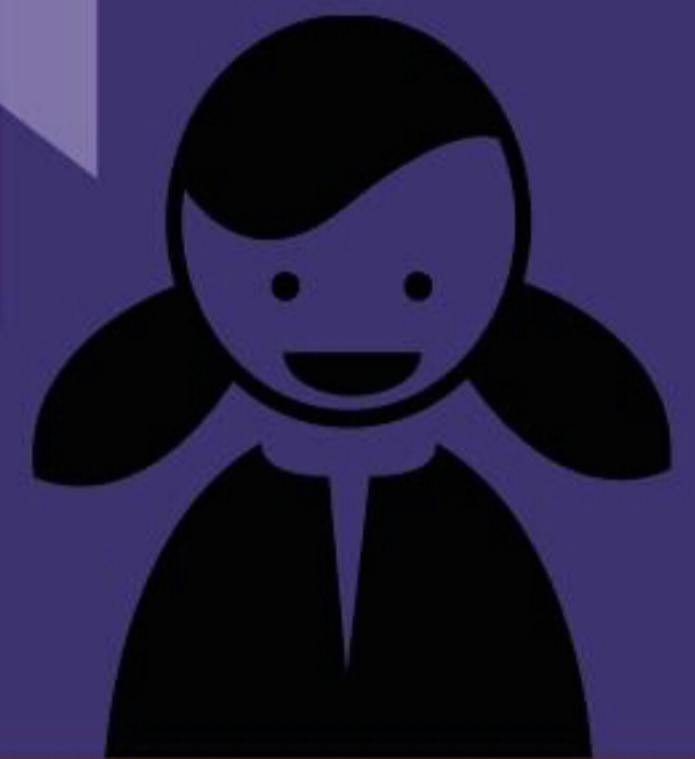


how to create

EMpowering Girl Spaces

(on a budget!)

Girls need spaces in their community to share challenges and potential solutions, to get support and to dream. Creating a space just for girls with girls is easier than you think! Read on for inspiration...



Ready, Set, Go!

Supply Checklist



✓ Paint

Choose a light base color to prime the walls (like white) and primary colors (red, blue, yellow) that can be mixed together for a rainbow of colors.

✓ Brushes

Select roller brushes and large hand brushes for priming large surfaces and a mixed pack of smaller brushes for murals and other detail work. Old plastic bottles and cans work well as mixing trays.

✓ Paper

Flip chart paper makes excellent sketching paper if you plan on creating murals. Colorful construction paper is also needed for the "big ideas" below.

✓ Markers

Using colored markers when sketching ideas helps to identify the room's color scheme.

✓ Decals

Decals are a quick way to make a professional looking design or backdrop, like under "big ideas." Amazon.in has a great, and very affordable, selection.

✓ Extras

Hanging hooks, fishing wire, glue and paper clips.

Planning & Priming



1. Gather

Announce the project to the girls in your community. Get them excited about creating a space just for them! Talk to parents, teachers and others to gain support for the project.

2. Vote

Bring the girls into the space to discuss ideas, budget and planning. If you have four walls to decorate, have them vote on the top four ideas and which wall is best for each.

3. Prepare

Wash the walls, pull out any nails or other protrusions and fill in any holes with putty or toothpaste. Lay plastic or newspaper on the floor to protect it. Pour priming paint into large containers and turn the paintbrushes over to the girls! Painting tips: Dip the brush in half way then tap the brush against the container to avoid drips. Start at the top and use long brush strokes moving toward the ground. Paint parallel around the ceiling and ground to get total coverage. Re-paint a few times to cover the old walls.

4. Sketch

Once the room has a clean canvas to work on, have the girls start sketching their ideas on large pieces of paper. You can divide the girls by project or by wall. Read on for some fun ideas to get the creativity rolling.

TIP: When shopping for supplies make sure to mention this is for a non-profit project benefiting girls in the community. Many shopkeepers will give discounts!

Big Ideas

Wishing Tree

Girls have a lot of dreams and wishes they need to articulate.

STEPS: 1) Buy a tree decal from Amazon.in or paint your own tree filling one wall. 2) Screw in hooks or glue hanging hooks with sticky backs to the wall. 3) Have the girls write whatever they wish or dream to come true in their lives on colorful construction paper. 4) Thread a ribbon through one corner of the wish card and hang on the wishing tree hooks. As new girls come to the girl empowerment space, invite them to hang their wishes with the other girls.



Letters to the World

Girls have so much they want to tell the world about their lives.

STEPS: 1) Buy a map decal from Amazon.in or paint your own. 2) Create a "screen" to hang the letters from by gluing long lines of fishing wire to a flat stick, cover the stick with construction paper. 3) Mount the "screen" above the map. 4) Give girls colorful rectangles of construction paper and ask them to write a letter to the world about their lives: What can girls do for the world? How can the world help girls? 5) Fold letters in half and use a paper clip to fasten each to the "screen." 6) Create a social media campaign around these letters to inform and inspire new supporters.



More Ideas

Murals



STEPS: 1) Gather the girls together and ask them to imagine a world where girls can be anything, do anything and obtain their dreams. 2) Organize the girls into groups to brainstorm some ideas and then sketch their visions of an empowering girl world on large pieces of paper. 3) Have the girls vote on their favorite ideas. 4) Sketch a final draft of the murals on paper. 5) Draw each mural in pencil on the wall. 6) Paint the murals to inspire all girls to never stop dreaming and working toward their ideal world for girls.

Slogans & Songs



STEPS: 1) Organize the girls into small groups. 2) Ask each group to come up with a slogan (or song) about how they will enact change for girls in their community. 3) Have the girls vote on their favorite two slogans. 4) Hold a penmanship contest and have the girls choose who will write the slogans on the wall. 5) Write each slogan in pencil first on the wall. 6) Paint the slogans in bright colors. 7) Encourage the girls to look at the slogans every time they come to their girls' space to remember what they are fighting for in their community.

EMpowering spaces for girls rule!

There are endless ways to create an empowering space for girls. Keep adding to the walls and experimenting with new ideas to maintain an inspiring space for girls to have fun, learn, dream and most importantly to just be girls.

By using a few readily available materials, well placed decals and the amazing creativity of girls, an empowering girl space can be created for under ₹4,000!

