

Olave Program INSPIRE

INSPIRE is a one-hour program to be run by Olaves in a Guide Unit during a regular weekly meeting. It provides an introduction to the Olave Program for Guides of any age and facilitates connections between Olaves, Guides and Unit Leaders. There are four versions of the INSPIRE program – one for 5-6 year-olds, one for 7-9 year-olds, one for 10-13 year-olds and one for 14-17 year-olds. Very few resources are required. Guides will earn an “I’m Inspired to Become an Olave” badge for their camp blanket or Guide bag. There is a comprehensive package of resources including step by step instructions for each program.

Who benefits from Olave Program INSPIRE?

Olave Program INSPIRE benefits Guides, Olaves and Unit Leaders!

- GUIDES of all ages can connect with Olaves and learn about the potential futures in Guiding from a young age (thus perhaps assisting in retention because Guides know what they can look forward to once they turn 18).
- OLAVES have fun connecting with the Guides, develop some leadership skills, forge relationships with local Unit Leaders, possibly gain more Olaves for their Peer Group, and help the Guiding community by giving the Unit Leaders some time off.
- UNIT LEADERS get a bit of ‘time off’ because the Olaves come and run the activities (instead they can be organising resources, paperwork or simply relaxing with a cup of tea). Plus they get to connect with local Olaves, learn about the Olave Program (especially if they are aged 18-30 themselves) and perhaps discover some other ways in which Olaves provide assistance to the Unit.

We already have the AGP-OP Link Badge – how is INSPIRE different?

Recognising that the AGP-OP Link Badge already exists to facilitate connections between 17 year old Guides and Olaves, it was felt that an alternative focus was required. Rather than encouraging Guides to visit Olaves (which can be an intimidating process), it is better to encourage Olaves to visit and connect with Guides! The AGP-OP Link Badge still exists and should still be recommended to 16/17 year old Guides.

I’m a Unit Leader as well as an Olave – can I run this with my unit?

Yes please do! We know that many Olaves are already involved in Guide Units, but often don’t have the opportunity to swap their ‘leader hat’ for their ‘Olave hat’. Make sure you invite some other Olaves to join you – that way your Guides can meet some other Olaves, and the Olaves can connect with the Guides. And consider visiting some other Units instead to introduce them to the Olave Program too!

But I don’t know any of my local Unit Leaders, how can I connect with them?

Then this is a perfect opportunity to get to know them! Ask your District Manager or Region Manager for contact details – there’s an email template in the INSPIRE resource that you can use to introduce yourself and the INSPIRE program.

