

GIRL-ZINE CHATTER

STARTING A MAGAZINE TO COMMUNICATE THE ISSUES THAT MATTER MOST TO YOUNG WOMEN

We are a group of young women (age 11-16) who got the opportunity to create our own magazine to talk about the issues affecting us in our community. We meet each week after school and we get to research, write, edit and design our very own magazine, 'Eastern Chatter', which is produced online and in print.

Working on our girl-zine, 'Eastern Chatter' helps us to feel we can play an active role in our community, and have a voice to share the things that we and other young women are experiencing, from negative body image and peer pressure to gender equality and leadership.

We have invited a range of women to be interviewed and featured in our magazine, including a journalist and fashion photographer, and participants take part in workshops on themes to include in the magazine, including bullying, body image and relationships.



WHAT DO THE CHATTER ZINE GIRLS THINK ABOUT GENDER EQUALITY?

"We should fight for people to make better decisions. There's no difference between men and women. But girls don't think they can be leaders and in charge— most girls just want to do make-up and hair, but it's a stereotype"

"I feel excited to come to the project. I feel I've become more confident, better at English and using computers, and I've made friends"

"We feel that gender equality is very important, but it is a subject that isn't talked about very often"



XXXXXXXXXX DIY XXXXXXXXXX

GENDER EQUALITY MAGAZINE

It's easy to create your own youth-led magazine. Here are some simple tips:

- 1 Get ownership of your magazine by creating a name and logo. We used a website to design a free logo – **www.LogoGarden.com**
- 2 Invite people and organisations in to be interviewed by your magazine or conduct workshops on key themes.
- 3 Save money on expensive printing costs by producing your magazine online for free. We used JooMag which allows you to design and edit your mag and creates a web link for people to browse through like a real magazine.
- 4 Create a Facebook page to advertise your magazine.
- 5 Check out **www.teenink.com** for magazine ideas and resources for young writers and **youthjournalism.org**
- 6 For grrl and feminist zine resources see **www.grrrlzines.net/about.htm**

Before you begin adapting this activity for the children and young people in your setting, read the section on **Safety and Support**.



For inspiring youth-led magazines, take a look at:

- Gal Dem Magazine
- Man Dem Magazine
- Muslim Girl
- Black Girl Dangerous
- Spare Rib

For more information about gender equality, visit:

- Fawcett Society

Find out about **Plan International's #becauselamagirl** and **#learnwithoutfear** campaigns. Read their reports:

- **The Unfinished Business of Girls' Rights**
- **Girls' Rights in the UK**

Follow **#whatireallyreallywant** and take part in action to End Extreme Poverty, Fight Inequality and Injustice and End Climate Change.

In 2015 world leaders promised to put girls and women first when they signed up to the Sustainable Development Goals to end poverty, fix climate change and tackle inequalities. Follow their campaign: **www.globalgoals.org**