



Spotlight

n:counta/n:spire resource Introduction

This resource is designed to help all of us in GB celebrate the positive impacts GB has had on us... whether we're five, 15, 25 or 75!

It's a fun interactive activity time for you to lead at GB, but the real 'power' is released when you record the results of the activities and send them in for us to see and then share the bigger story of GB.

Spotlight is made up of activities that will shine a light on just four of the areas in which GB is making a difference in young peoples' lives. These are:

- Developing in character
- Making friends and socialising
- Growing in faith
- Developing new skills and exploring new opportunities.

Spotlight ends with a devotional reflection that will help you to celebrate all of the things that have been achieved in your GB group this year.

This resource is flexible, and there are a number of ways that you could go about leading the activities:

- Use Spotlight as a stand-alone session that will take a whole evening; or
- Lead one of the activities each week for four weeks, as part of your usual GB evening
- Join the n:counta and n:spire groups for the Spotlight activities; or
- Run the n:counta and n:spire groups separately.

As you go through this Spotlight resource, there are 'notes to leaders' along the way to help you; areas for you to record and capture the relevant information on Pages 9 and 10; and details on what to send back to the Girls' Brigade Support Centre. Please return this by **Friday 27 July 2018**. Please ensure that the number of girls who complete each activity matches the number you have doing the overall activity – thanks! One GB group from this n:counta/n:spire age group will even win a digital camera.

This year we've merged Spotlight with our Social Action Snapshot questions, see Pages 10 to 12, which will help us share how GB groups make a difference to, and in, their communities.

Thank you for helping us to shine a light on all of the transforming work that takes place across the whole of GB England & Wales. You can also use your own group's results when sharing with your church or at an event like an awards' presentation or parents' evening.

Here's an explanation of Spotlight you might want to share with your children and young people:

'When you get to the end of something, it's always good to look back and remember all the fun you had along the way. As we're coming to the end of another year of GB, it's a great opportunity for us to look back over the past year, and to think about all of the fun we've had, all of the friends that we've made, and all of the new things that we've done. It's a chance for us to celebrate all of the things that we love about being part of GB, and the difference that GB makes in our lives.'

'We're going to have the chance to get creative, play games, and just enjoy ourselves. So let's do it!'



Spotlight

n:counta/n:spire resource Developing character

You'll need:

- One resource sheet per person (on page 13)
- Scissors for each young person
- Five jars labelled with the following statements:
 - Through GB this year I have developed **resilience** – keeping going even when times are tough
 - Through GB this year I have developed **confidence** – doing things I thought were scary
 - Through GB this year I have developed **empathy** – understanding how people feel
 - Through GB this year I have developed **self-awareness** – knowing myself better
 - Through GB this year I have been **active** – playing games and taking part in physical activities.

How to lead this activity:

Place the five jars around the room.

Give one copy of the resource sheet to each young person and get them to cut out the 15 emojis. Explain that around the room are five jars each with a different statement about a characteristic. You might find it useful to explain what each of the characteristics mean.

Ask them to think about their past year in GB, and whether the statement is true for them.

Encourage them to walk around the room as they reflect and to put one emoji in the jar to represent their answer:

Heart eyes = I agree

Monkey covering eyes = I don't know

Sad face = I disagree.

What to record:

At the end of the activity, count the number of each emoji in each of the five jars and record in the relevant table on the Spotlight Resource Results on page 9.

Note to leaders:

Sometimes the words 'resilience', 'empathy' etc. can be hard to understand. If anyone in your group is unsure of the meaning, try to explain to them what the word means so that they can join in with the activity.



Spotlight

n:counta/n:spire resource Making friends and socialising

You'll need:

- Drama props (optional).

How to lead this activity:

Ask the young people the following question, and count how many hands go up for each response, recording this at the back of this resource:

Question: **Have you enjoyed making new friends at GB?**

Answers:

Yes

Don't Know

No

Following this, you have the option to lead an activity with the young people to help them find out more about one another. Depending on your group size, you may want to split the young people into groups of two to four. Challenge each small group to come up with a short chat show style sketch where one person interviews one or more of the other young people, to find out more about some of their GB friends. Leave time at the end for each group to show their sketch to the rest of the group.

What to record:

Count how many hands go up for each of the three answers: '**Yes**', '**Don't Know**', '**No**', and record this at the back of this resource on the Spotlight Resource Results on Page 9.



Spotlight

n:counta/n:spire resource Growing in faith

You'll need:

- Bibles
- Pens and paper (optional).

How to lead this activity:

Read together Psalm 146 – you might want to choose an easy to understand version, such as *The Message* or *Contemporary English Version*.

Get the young people to close their eyes, and then ask them the following question, and count how many hands go up for each response, recording this at the back of this resource:

Question: **Has GB helped you understand how God fits into your life this year? (For example, trusting Him even when things are hard).**

Answers:

Yes

Don't Know

No

Following this, give each of the young people a pen and piece of paper, and encourage them to write their own psalm to God. They can do this as individuals or in groups. You may want to explain that psalms are like poems that were often sung to music in olden days, but today we tend to read them. Psalms can be short or long, happy or sad, and they are either written to, or about, God.

What to record:

Count how many hands go up for each of the three answers: '**Yes**', '**Don't Know**', '**No**', and record this at the back of this resource on the Spotlight Resource Results on Page 10.

Note to leaders:

When leading this activity, be sure to use language that is relevant to what you've been looking at through GB over the past year. For example, you may have looked at the characteristics of God, or how we can know Jesus, or how God prompts us with the Holy Spirit. Help the young people in your group to connect with this question and activity by using language that they'll be familiar with through your time together at GB.



Spotlight

n:counta/n:spire resource Developing new skills and exploring new opportunities

You'll need:

- Card/paper
- Magazines and brochures featuring things that the group have been doing
- Craft materials
- Glue/sticky tape
- Scissors.

How to lead this activity:

For this, your members have the opportunity to enter a competition.

Encourage the young people to think about all of the new skills and new opportunities that they've had in GB over the past year.

Distribute the craft materials and magazines and instruct each of the young people to make a publicity poster for GB, showcasing all of the new things that you get to experience as part of GB. Each young person should make their own poster.

At the bottom of each poster, the young person should write and complete the following sentence:

'This year at GB I have learnt ___ new skills.'

What to record:

Record the number of skills learnt by your group (by adding together the numbers at the bottom of each poster) at the back of this resource on the Spotlight Resource Results on Page 10. Please also make a note of the number of young people in your group on the same page.

Note to leaders:

When you're gathering magazines, catalogues, leaflets and flyers, think about the things that you've been looking at with your group, and try to ensure that there's a good coverage of some of the skills and opportunities that you've explored together.

To enter the competition, please ensure that each entry has the young woman's name and GB group on it. Please then either scan and email the posters to catherine.burt@gb-ministries.org or post them to:

**The Girls' Brigade England & Wales,
Cliff College,
Calver,
Derbyshire,
S32 3XG.**

All entries must be received by **Friday 27 July 2018**, and the winner of the best poster will be announced at the start of the autumn term. Their GB group will win a digital camera.



Spotlight

n:counta/n:spire resource Devotional reflection

Well done and thank you for completing the Spotlight activities. We're looking forward to receiving your results.

We hope this resource has given you the chance to look back over the past year, to celebrate what you've done, and to see how the children and young people you work with have grown.

Here are some short devotional reflections/activities you can use with your GB members to help you celebrate all of the things that have been achieved in your group this year, and to thank God for them.

You may have time to do all the activities or you may wish to pick just one – it's up to you.

Prayers Post-its

You'll need: Post-it notes, and pens or pencils.

Get your young people to write a short prayer on a Post-it and to stick it on the wall, or another suitable surface. The prayer could simply be the name of somebody they are praying for, or a short phrase.

Banking the thanks

You'll need: A decorated box with a whole cut in it (or a lid), slips of coloured paper and pens/pencils.

Between now and the end of term give out slips of coloured paper on which your young people can write the things for which they are thankful about GB and for what they've achieved in GB. Place them in your box – your thank bank – and at the end of term open it up and read all the things for which they've been thankful. Hopefully you'll be surprised by how many different things there are and it will be an encouragement for both the young people and the GB group leaders.

Singing sensations

You'll need: Words and music of a favourite action song/chorus.

Select one of your favourite action songs or choruses that thanks God and have a sing-along.

Bible blessings

You'll need: A Bible.

Share Psalm 8 from your Bible. Explain that it is a Psalm all about creation and everything that God has made. Explain to the young people that we need to remember to thank God for the things He has made. You might want to spend time naming things that God has created and thanking Him for them. Encourage the group to memorise part of Psalm 8. Recite it and learn it and then see if anyone can remember it the next time you meet.



Spotlight

n:counta/n:spire resource Spotlight Resource Results

Group details

Group name:

Group contact name:

How many children took part in the Spotlight activities?

Developing character

Record the number of emojis in each of the five and record this below:

	<i>I agree</i> (Heart eye emoji)	<i>Don't know</i> (Monkey emoji)	<i>I disagree</i> (Sad emoji)
Through GB this year I have developed resilience – keeping going even when times are tough.			
Through GB this year I have developed confidence – doing things I thought were scary.			
Through GB this year I have developed empathy – understanding how people feel.			
Through GB this year I have developed self-awareness – knowing myself better.			
Through GB this year I have been active – playing games and taking part in physical activities.			

Making friends and socialising

Record the number of hands up for each answer to the question:

	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>No</i>
Have you enjoyed making new friends at GB?			

Growing in faith

Record the number of hands up for each answer to the question:

	Yes	Don't Know	No
Has GB helped you understand how God fits into your life this year?			

Developing new skills and exploring new opportunities

Record the number of young people in your group, and the number of new skills (by adding together the numbers at the bottom of each poster) that they have learnt this year through GB.

Number of young people	Number of new skills

Additional questions

How many of your GB members taking part in this Spotlight resource engage regularly with other church-based activities, including 'Sunday church'?

What nationalities does your group work with? Please tick all that apply.

- White** (including English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British/Irish/Gypsy or Irish Traveller/Polish/any other White background)
- Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups** (including White and Black Caribbean/White and Black African/White and Asian/any other Mixed/Multiple ethnic background)
- Asian/Asian British** (including Indian/Pakistani/Bangladeshi/Chinese/any other Asian background)
- Black/ African/Caribbean/Black British** (including African/Caribbean/any other Black/African/Caribbean background)
- Other ethnic group** (including Arab/any other ethnic group)

Tick the age groups that your GB group works with:

- n:vestigate** (4-8s)
- n:gage** (7-11s)
- n:counta** (10-14s)
- n:spire** (13-18s)
- Esther Collective Community (18-30s)

Additional questions (cont.)

1. Social action is often described as practical action in the service of others. Examples include things like fundraising for charity, supporting local foodbanks, planting trees, advocacy projects and singing at care homes etc. **Did your GB group do any social action activities in 2017?** Tick the relevant box.

Yes

No

(if your answer is 'no' skip straight to question four)

2. If your GB group did engage with social action activities in 2017, please list what was done under the relevant headings below, and include the age groups involved in this.

Next to activities that benefit people who live in countries other than England and Wales please also include a (DC), which stands for Different Country.

See *example entries

Fundraising for charity	Caring for the environment	Helping others
<p>*Sponsored skip for local children's hospice (n:gage)</p> <p>* Cake sale for Guide Dogs for the Blind (n:counta and n:spire)</p> <p>* Blue for the Loo fundraising event for Toilet Twinning (n:vestigate) (DC)</p>	<p>* Litter pick in local park (n:counta)</p> <p>* Planting flowers in church garden (n:vestigate)</p> <p>* Adopt a plot/caring for an area of land (n:vestigate, n:gage and n:counta)</p>	<p>*Advocacy project #bringbackourgirls (n:spire) (DC)</p> <p>*Visiting and singing at a care home (n:vestigate and n:gage)</p> <p>* Collecting food for a local food bank (n:counta)</p>

Additional questions (cont.)

3. What difference has this social action activity/s made? Please share your comments in the grid below as relevant. See *example entry.

Social action activity	Impact/difference made
*Collecting food for a local foodbank	*Letter received from the foodbank sharing how much their clients had appreciated the donations. A young person in the n:counta group also shared how working with the foodbank had opened her eyes to the difficulties faced by people – and had made her more determined to help.

4. How have you engaged with/are you planning to engage with social action in 2018? Please write your answer in the box below. See *example entry.

*We're going to speak with our GB group about causes/charities that they're passionate about, to see if there is a common theme and to identify a local charity which we can support in 2018.

Please return this by **Friday 27 July 2018**. Fill Pages 9 to 12 in online and email it to gbcg@gb-ministries.org or print Pages 9 to 12, fill in and scan/email or post it to us. Our address is **The Girls' Brigade England & Wales, Cliff College, Calver, Derbyshire, S32 3XG**.

Appendix I – Developing character

