

2012 – LOOK OUT FOR THE NEW HANDBOOKS

THE DEVELOPMENTAL STAGES EXPLAINED

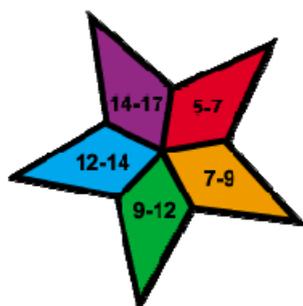
Albert Einstein said “All that is valuable in human society depends upon the opportunity for development accorded the individual”.

That is exactly what the Developmental Stages, through the AGP, offers our girls.

The AGP involves Guides and Leaders working together to learn new skills and explore ideas, leadership and advocacy by carrying out challenges and activities based on the four Elements and seven Fundamentals. Most Leaders will have a wide age range within their unit. They recognise and understand the need to adapt and modify activities and games to suit the range of physical ability and level of skill of their girls

No two girls will develop at exactly the same rate and **five developmental age ranges** have been identified based on girls’ “emotional development”, what they can “do” and how they can “think”. These stages overlap at all levels and girls may achieve in one area more quickly than in another area.

Although most Leaders had already acknowledged them, Girl Guides Australia formally recognised and incorporated the **five Developmental Stages** into the AGP in 2008 . The developmental stages are: 5-7, 7-9, 9-12, 12-14 and 14-17 years.

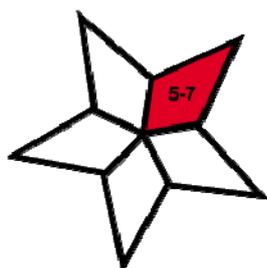
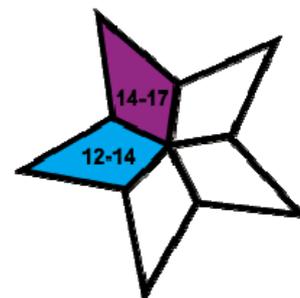


THE DEVELOPMENTAL STAR

As a follow on from the formal recognition of the Developmental Stages, when National resources are reprinted or new ones produced their suitability for a particular developmental stage will be identified using a colour coded “**Developmental Star**”.

In addition, the covers of the five new Handbooks will also reflect this colour coding.

The GGA resource *Guide Patrols and Leadership*, published in 2008, was the first publication to use the developmental star symbol. This resource has content that is suitable for use with all developmental age ranges. However, it is written specifically for the use of girls aged 12-17 years. For that reason, the star is highlighted with the 12-14 and 14-17 developmental stage colours while all other developmental stage colours are a lighter shade.



A resource written specifically for girls aged 5-7 would have the 5-7 developmental stage highlighted and all others left blank.

Keep an eye out for any new GGA publications using this symbol to help you choose appropriate material for your Unit’s age range.