INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY

“International Women’s Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for moving towards gender parity.”
- International Women's Day website

FOR OVER 100 YEARS

Held every year, International Women’s Day (IWD) has taken place on March 8 for over 100 years.

THE MAIN AIMS OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY ARE:

- to celebrate the achievements of women around the world
- to encourage action on issues of gender equality
- to empower women and girls around the world

In 1975, IWD was adopted by the United Nations as an official, world-wide celebration of women’s rights and world peace.

While IWD celebrates inspirational contemporary and historical women, the day also aims to start conversations about gender equity issues.

Did you know?

- Globally, women make up just 23% of people in national parliaments worldwide.¹
- Women, on average, earn 25-40% less than men who do the same job.²
- Across the world, over 60% of the people who cannot read are women.³

The International Women’s Day website says that the day “belongs to all groups”. People of all genders, cultures, ages, languages and religions can take part in International Women's Day. Some of the important topics that are thought about on International Women’s Day are:

- gender equality
- girls and women in leadership
- personal and family safety
- poverty
- access to education
- empowerment

¹ https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SG.GEN.PARL.ZS
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY ACTIVITY

Think about a woman or girl who is a strong role model for you.
Write a letter to the person, explaining what you admire about them and how they inspire you.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY ACTIVITY

In pairs or small groups, brainstorm ways that you and your friends can make the world a better place for women and girls of all nationalities.
Present your ideas as a mind map.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY ACTIVITY

Write a set of interview questions to find out about the life experiences of a woman that you know. It may be a family member or friend.
If you can, conduct your interview. Share your research with the class.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY ACTIVITY

Write a list of adjectives that describe a woman who becomes a leader or role model.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY ACTIVITY

Choose an inspirational woman from the present day or the past.
Write an acrostic poem about them using the letters of their name.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY ACTIVITY

Create a comic strip with at least 10 cells that features a girl or woman as the main character. Tell the story of how the character overcomes adversity.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY ACTIVITY

Use recycled objects or materials to create a collage portrait of an inspirational girl or women from the present day or the past.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY ACTIVITY

Read about the experiences of an inspirational woman or girl such as Malala Yousafzai, Rosa Parks or Jessica Watson.
Create a short video or digital presentation that tells their story. Highlight any social, cultural or political changes their actions have contributed to.
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ACTIVITY

Select a well-known brand that makes products for both women and men e.g. clothing, shoes, hair care. Use the Internet to find advertising images or videos that each brand uses to promote their products. Complete a Y-Chart analysis of each ad, identifying what each ‘looks like’, ‘feels like’ and ‘sounds like’.

In pairs or small groups, find the similarities and differences between advertising for women's products and advertising for men's products.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ACTIVITY

On a sheet of paper, draw a picture of each of the following occupations:
- nurse
- doctor
- firefighter
- scientist
- astronaut
- politician
- gardener
- artist.

Compare your drawings to those of your classmates. See how many people drew women and how many people drew men for each occupation.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ACTIVITY

Select a country located in a different part of the world. Research what life is like for young people in that country. Create a timetable that shows a day in the life of a girl in the country and another that shows a day in the life of a boy in the country. Compare the activities of each gender and describe what you notice.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ACTIVITY

Visit the International Women’s Day website to find out this year’s International Women’s Day campaign theme. Use photography, collage, painting, drawing or another medium to create an artwork inspired by the theme.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ACTIVITY

Watch an episode of a cartoon or television show that features a girl or woman as the main character. While you are watching, take note of the adjectives that other characters use to describe the main character.

As a class, compile lists of the words or phrases used to describe the female character grouped under these headings:
- Related to Appearance
- Related to Skill or Ability

Compare the lists and describe what you notice.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ACTIVITY

In pairs, research a girl or woman role model from the present day or from the past. Create a 10 question, multiple choice quiz about the life and achievements of the person you have researched.

Swap with another pair and complete each others’ quiz.
**Booklet Instructions:**

1. Print off the booklet pages.
2. Photocopy the pages back-to-back (pages 1 and 2 back-to-back, then pages 3 and 4).
3. Staple together to create a booklet for each student.

**Mini-Book Instructions:**

1. Print and photocopy a mini-book template for each student.
2. **Ensure you print and photocopy the template at its “actual” size and do not reduce or enlarge it. This will ensure he page edges line up without trimming.**
3. Students complete each of the numbered pages of the mini-book template.
4. Fold all of the lines on the page, including all of the horizontal lines and all of the vertical lines.
5. Open the paper back out and fold in half along the middle vertical line.
6. Cut the dotted line between pages 2, 3, 6 and 7.
7. Fold the worksheet in half.
8. Push the pages together so that all the pages are on the outside. The cut section will open out in a diamond shape before folding in on itself to form the pages.
9. Sort the pages, so that the blank title page is at the front and the Teach Starter logo is at the back, with the page numbers in order from 1 to 6, creating a little mini book.

As a class, brainstorm what you think a role model is.

A role model is...
Three reasons why my role model is awesome:

1

2

3

Words to describe the personality of my role model (what she is like on the inside):
My role model has taught me to...

A girl or woman that I admire is:
Three reasons why my role model is awesome:

1. 
2. 
3. 

What she is like on the inside:

Words to describe the personality of my role model (what she is like on the inside):

3. 
5. 
7. 

As a class, brainstorm what you think a role model is.

My role model has taught me to...

1. 
2. 
3. 

Role Model

3. 
5. 
7. 

ALL ABOUT MY Role Model

International Women’s Day teachstarter
“We do not need magic to transform our world. We carry all of the power we need inside ourselves already.”

- J.K. Rowling
J.K. Rowling
“Never be limited by other people’s limited imaginations.”

- Dr. Mae Jemison
Dr. Mae Jemison
“When the whole world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful.”

- Malala Yousafzai
“I am not trying my best because it is the Olympics. I always try my best.”

- Yuna Kim
“You don't have to be someone special to achieve something amazing. You've just got to have a dream, believe in it and work hard.”

- Jessica Watson
Jessica Watson
International Women’s Day

March 8th