



# Explore Operation Smile

757-385-5100  
 Explore Operation Smile  
 3641 Faculty Blvd.  
 Virginia Beach, VA 23453  
 757-321-7645

[www.operationsmile.org/studentprograms](http://www.operationsmile.org/studentprograms)



**GUIDELINES:** Based on the grid, complete the number of activities for your grade level.

	Discover	Connect	Take Action	Any Activity under any key	Total number of Activities
<b>Girl Scout Daisy</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Girl Scout Brownie</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Girl Scout Junior</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Girl Scout Cadette</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Girl Scout Senior</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Girl Scout Ambassador</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>

## DISCOVER:

- When, where and by whom was Operation Smile founded?
- Where is Operation Smile’s global headquarters located?
- What is a cleft and what are the different types of clefts?
- What are some of the problems people with clefts face in daily life?
- How did the co-founders reached a consensus that resulted in creating an organization that would still be around more than 30 years later?
- Why did the co-founders choose to dedicate their lives to their passion of making a difference in the world and giving hope to children all around the world? How have they inspired others since then to do the same?
- Since the organization first began, how many free surgeries has Operation Smile provided?
- Operation Smile has changed significantly since it first started. What are three improvements that the organization made since being founded in 1982?

## CONNECT:

- What types of volunteers work with Operation Smile? What countries are our volunteers from?
- How many volunteers work with Operation Smile?
- For what countries does Operation Smile conducts medical missions? Research one of these countries and find five interesting facts about that country.
- Through what program is Operation Smile helping establish a stronger medical community in its partner countries?
- What are barriers to care? Research and find three examples of barriers to care that patients may face.
- Explain how smiles change the lives of children? How does it provide a sense of strength and individuality to children?
- What are some things that can happen to children who feel they cannot smile? What are the main health problems caused by cleft palates?

## TAKE ACTION:

- Make smile bags! Collect small items such as compact mirrors, teddy bears, toothbrushes, etc.
- Send the smile bags to our Global Headquarters (3641 Faculty Blvd. Virginia Beach, VA 23453) to be sent out on a mission to make kiddos smile! For the list of items that go in Operation Smile's smile bags please visit: <http://studentprograms.operationssmile.org/get-involved/organize-a-service-project/>.
- Start a collection project for Operation Smile. Make a list of things that people can donate to Operation Smile. You can include items for smile bags or ask for additional item donations. Ask friends and family in person or online to donate one or more items on the list. For items that we can collect to send on missions please visit: <http://studentprograms.operationssmile.org/get-involved/organize-a-service-project/>.
- Make get well soon cards! A great way to make kids smile is to attach in a coloring page with some crayons along with a short and sweet get well soon message. Nothing makes a kid smile after surgery like something to color.
- Get involved in your school or local club. Working with other people as passionate as you about Operation Smile is a great way to get involved with the organization. Together, your club can spread awareness about the organization. If you don't have a club you can start one! Visit [www.operationssmile.org/studentprograms](http://www.operationssmile.org/studentprograms) to find out more!
- Bring your troop in for a tour of the global headquarters to learn more about Operation Smile and what we do around the world!
- Attend the International Student Leadership Conference (ISLC), which is a student-led leadership conference for Operation Smile for one week in July. This conference happens every summer and is open to students between the ages of 15 to 22. At ISLC, students collaborate in teams to improve their leadership skills and to learn how they can help out with Operation Smile. For more information about our conference please visit: <http://studentprograms.operationssmile.org/events/islc/>.

We would love to hear what you and your troop thought of your involvement with Operation Smile. If you'd like to share with us, please email [student.programs@operationssmile.org](mailto:student.programs@operationssmile.org).