



How to Get Involved in Student Activism

If you're interested in advocating for change in your school or community, now is a great time to start. This guide will provide some tips for ways to get involved in activism as a K-12 student.

Join a GSA or other identity-based affinity group.

GSAs are great spaces to get started in activism. Every club is different — some are primarily social spaces, and others are actively involved in advocating for more inclusive schools for LGBTQ+ youth. Regardless of the mission of your school's club, by joining, you'll be able to form a community of people who may be interested in making a difference in your school or community. Many schools also have affinity groups for other marginalized groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, or religion. Joining any of these groups can be a great way to find a community of activists as well.

If your school doesn't have a GSA or any other groups, you can always **start your own!**

Identify LGBTQ+ groups in your community.

For some students, school may not be the safest or most welcoming place to delve into advocacy, so you can also look for spaces in your community at-large to get involved. Check out [Centerlink's list of LGBTQ+ centers](#) across the country to find a space near you. You can also join your local [GLSEN](#) or [PFLAG chapter](#) to find more opportunities for advocacy in your area. You may also be able to find political organizations in your area, and these can be great avenues to get involved in grassroots organizing. Even if you're already involved in a GSA at your school, these networks can be a great opportunity to connect with community leaders and students from other schools.

Find online communities.

Virtual spaces offer valuable opportunities to connect with activists in your community and around the world. You can follow activist Instagram, Twitter, or TikTok accounts, join an LGBTQ+ Discord server, or subscribe to newsletters from nonprofit organizations. See below for a list of Twitter accounts to check out!

- [@Esqueer_](#)
- [@genzforchange](#)
- [@FReadomFighters](#)
- [@OIF](#)
- [@SouthernEqual](#)
- [@RaquelWillis_](#)
- [@Imani_Barbarin](#)
- [@PhilaGayNews](#)
- [@AdvocatesTweets](#)
- [@FirstPersonPBS](#)

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Learning about activist movements may inspire you to organize in your community in a variety of ways. Ask your school or public librarian for book recommendations based on your activist interests. You can also check out this book list from [Madison, WI Public Library](#), and this one from [TeachThought](#) for more ideas. [Libby](#) is a great resource to download free e-books and audiobooks using your public library card. The internet is also a great place to learn. You can start by reading the news and Googling topics you're interested in learning more about. If reading isn't your thing, there are great activist podcasts and audiobooks available for free, including those listed below.

Podcasts

- [Nancy](#)
- [Queering the Law](#)
- [NB: My Non-Binary Life](#)
- [Disability Visibility Project](#)
- [School Colors](#)

Audiobooks

- [Beyond the Gender Binary](#)
- [Jane Against the World: Roe v. Wade and the Fight for Reproductive Rights](#)
- [Rules for Radicals](#)