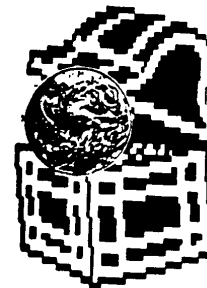


The Earth As Treasure Patch

Girls should select either individually or as a troop/group which requirements they wish to complete in each section.

Requirements: Brownie Girl Scouts: Complete 1 Educate, 2 Activate, and 1 Celebrate.
Junior Girl Scouts: Complete 2 Educate, 2 Activate, and 1 Celebrate.
Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts: Complete 3 Educate, 3 Activate, and 1 Celebrate.



In addition, **everyone** must fulfill the starred requirement.

*(Required for all age levels.) With your troop/group, plant and care for a tree. Be sure that your tree is appropriate for the climate in which it is planted, and care for your tree until it can survive on its own.

Educate:

- ◆ Make a chart showing the water cycle, showing points at which pollutants can enter the system and damage the cycle. Include what happens after something goes wrong in the cycle.
- ◆ Create a hand puppet or drawing depicting an endangered species. You may wish to choose one from the San Diego-Imperial area--land or water. (Remember that some plants are endangered species, too.) Learn where and how it lives, and why it is endangered.
- ◆ With your troop, family, or group, visit a facility that helps increase knowledge of the environment or helps preserve the environment, or invite someone from one of these facilities to speak to your troop/group.
- ◆ Learn about one particular “global crisis”, such as global warming, destruction of the ozone layer, toxic waste, destruction of the rain forests (general deforestation), waste/recycling, energy consumption, air pollution, or water pollution, and what you can do to help solve it. Carry out a project to help solve this problem.
- ◆ (Brownie/Junior Girl Scouts) Invite a Cadette or Senior Girl Scout that is working on this patch or another environmental awareness project to share some of the knowledge she has learned with your troop/group.
- ◆ (Cadette/Senior Girl Scouts) Visit a Brownie or Junior Girl Scout troop that is working on this patch, and share with them what you have learned while working on yours. Be sure your presentation is interactive and not only a lecture.

Activate:

- ◆ With your troop/group, help clean up a place in your area. This could be a section of beach, a nature trail, a camping area, a park, or someplace else in your area. You may wish to contact I Love a Clean San Diego, Inc. (858-467-0103) for places or methods of clean up.
- ◆ Invite someone from an environmental awareness/action organization to speak with your troop/group about what that group is doing to improve the environment. This speaker should show your troop/group ways in which you, as a group or as an individual, can get involved.

- ♦ Find out about a person, event, or book that has influenced the way people have considered the environment. Share with others (your troop/group, or your family) what you have learned.
- ♦ Find out about careers involving the environment or earth sciences, or invite someone whose career involves him/her in the environment or earth sciences to speak to your troop.
- ♦ Look for ways in which water is wasted in your home, school, or place of worship, and take steps to help reduce the waste.
- ♦ Find out about a particular legislation with an environmental impact, such as the Clean Air Act, Superfund, the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), or something more local, such as the ban on chlorofluorocarbons in Irvine. Find out why it was created, and its pros and cons. Write a letter to an elected official (federal, state, or local) or your newspaper editor on an environmental concern. Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts may wish to do a single letter as a troop. (NOTE--be sure that you are not writing as if you are speaking for the entire organization of Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., but instead as concerned individuals.)
- ♦ Discover the benefits of recycling. With you troop or at home, carry out a recycling project.

Celebrate:

- ♦ With your troop/group, find out about a celebration of life and the environment, such as Earth Day or Arbor Day, and attend or participate in it.
- ♦ Attend a presentation or lecture on environmental concerns. (i.e. Zoo, Wild Animal Park, Natural History Museum.) Watch a special film, such as the Space Theatre in Balboa Park sometimes shows.
- ♦ Create your own celebration of life on earth. (This may be a Scout's Own at camp, a special picnic, or anything else.) Invite others to join in your celebration, if appropriate.

Program links: Contemporary Issues
 Earth Matters: A Challenge for Environmental Action
 Brownie Girl Scout Try-Its
 Junior and Cadette Girl Scout badges
 Girl Scout Interests Projects from the World of the Out-of-Doors

Patches may be purchased, upon completion of the requirements, from the council shop.

Written and submitted by Senior Girl Scout Clara Davis.