



gsnea patch program

Festival of Trees



Objectives:

This patch is designed to help girls learn about the holiday culture and traditions of others and to promote involvement with their community during the holiday season.

Grade Level Requirements:

To earn this patch, everyone must complete requirements 1 and 2. These requirements can be done as a troop or individually. Each grade level must also complete the minimum number of activities listed below:

<i>Grade Level</i>	Required Item #s	Additional # of Requirements
Daisy	1, 2	3
Brownie	1, 2	4
Junior	1, 2	5
Cadette	1, 2, 3	6
Senior	1, 2, 3	7
Ambassador	1, 2, 3	8

Requirements for Festival of Trees Patch

1. Write a story or poem or draw a picture about how your family celebrates the holidays. Share with a friend or your troop.
2. Learn to say "Happy holidays" in at least 3 different languages and try a holiday tradition from a different culture. Ex. In Iceland, children begin celebrating Yule (Christmas) thirteen nights before the date. Every night, kids leave their shoes by their windows so that thirteen Yule Lads (mischievous troll like creatures), can stuff them up with candy and treats. If they've been good throughout the year, that is. If they haven't? The Yule Lads will sneak rotten potatoes into their shoes. Suddenly, getting coal from Santa doesn't sound so bad!
3. Make a holiday treat for someone in your community. This gift could be a scarf for your mail carrier, a card for your bus driver, or cookie for the local fire department.
4. Read or listen to a holiday story. Some examples are Gift of the Magi, The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, or the Eastern European Legend of the Christmas Spider:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A41DyNb9bqs>
5. Watch a holiday movie.
6. Learn to identify at least 3 types of evergreen trees.
<https://kids.kiddle.co/Evergreen>
7. View a Christmas light display. It can be homes that are decorated or a drive-through at a park or other venue.
8. Make and send holiday cards for a local nursing home or hospital.
9. Review holiday safety rules, such as electrical decoration hazards, poisonous holiday plants, etc. Check out the Red Cross website for a comprehensive list:
<https://www.redcross.org/local/connecticut/about-us/news-and-events/news/10-holiday-safety-tips.html>
10. Take a winter hike. Look for animal clues and birds of winter.
<https://thesciencewomen.com/nature-blog/winter-scavenger-hunt-free-download/>
11. Make at least one ornament for a tree that is in a public place (i.e., Girl Scout DreamLab, library, doctor's office, city hall, restaurant, college or university, fire station, senior citizen center, nursing home, etc.).
12. Attend a community holiday-themed event, such as a concert, play, craft show, museum exhibit, ballet, etc.



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Requirements for Festival of Trees Patch

13. Make a holiday care package for someone in need.
14. Go holiday caroling. Check out the holiday section of this Girl Scout chorus: <https://www.gscmchorus.org/song-listing/>
15. Make holiday nature treat for the local wildlife. Some ideas include a pinecone bird feeder, a popcorn and cranberry garland, and dried fruit ornaments. <https://www.plt.org/educator-tips/bird-feeder-projects-natural-recycled-materials/>
16. Learn the year that Congress made Christmas a federal holiday.
17. Try a new holiday food or drink. Fruit cake might be more delicious than you think!
18. Learn a holiday song in a different language.
19. Host and share the peace light. The Peace Light is a continuous flame originating in Bethlehem. It is shared by international scouts person to person throughout the world with a message of peace and friendship. <https://www.peacelightnorthamerica.org/>
20. Perform a random act of kindness.
21. Participate in a holiday parade. Troop leaders, don't forget to submit a troop/group activity application and take parade training, before participating in a parade. https://gsnca.formstack.com/forms/troop_group_activity_form

Requirements for Star Patch

To earn the star patch, participate in a holiday service project, such as a food drive, clothing drive, adopt an angel, or serve meals at a soup kitchen.

Requirements for Gift Patch

To earn the gift patch, attend a Service Unit, Troop or GSNCA holiday event.