



# Brownie Celebrating Community

Communities often celebrate what makes them special. A Brownie group is a community! Other communities—your town, state, and country—have celebrations, like ceremonies or parades. They might also celebrate by building statues or museums. In this badge, find out what your communities do to celebrate all the people in them.

## Steps

1. **Explore community symbols**
2. **Sing together**
3. **Follow the parade**
4. **Be a landmark detective**
5. **Join a ceremony or celebration**

## Purpose

When I've earned this badge, I'll know how my community celebrates what makes us special.

### Step 1: Explore community symbols.

A symbol is an object that means something special. For example, the American flag is a symbol that shows we are proud of our country. There are lots of other community symbols to find. Get ready to look!

#### CHOICES — DO ONE:

Go on a flag hunt. Many homes and businesses share their national pride by flying the flag—or showing a picture of it. Team up with your Brownie friends and search for all the American flags in your neighborhood. Before you go, find three cool flag facts. (You might also look for other symbols of America—like the five-pointed star or the eagle.)

**For More FUN:** Find out what the symbols on American money mean. You can look at either a paper bill or a coin.

#### OR

Draw your state's symbols. Each state has its own flag—and its own flower, bird, tree, and motto. Draw pictures of your state's symbols, and find out what your state's motto means. Do you think the motto fits your state?

**For More FUN:** Choose a flower, bird, tree, and motto for yourself! Tell your Brownie friends why each is a good symbol for you.



# Brownie Celebrating Community

OR

Find your town's symbols. Your town might have a flag or a logo. Maybe a sports team has a mascot—that's a symbol, too! Find one of your town's symbols, and tell your Brownie group or class at school why it was chosen. If you can't find a town symbol, choose a flower, tree, or animal with special meaning in your town, and draw a town symbol to share with your Brownie friends.

## Sidebar: Words Worth Knowing

- A MOTTO is a short saying about something important.
- A MASCOT is a person or animal that a group chooses as their symbol.
- A LOGO is the symbol for a business.
- An ANTHEM is a song that a group chooses to sing or play at special times to show they're proud to belong.

## Step 2: Sing together.

Celebrations are often happy, but they can also be times for quiet and thinking. Music is what sets the mood. Do one choice to find celebration music that's new to you. Then have a mini celebration to listen to or sing the songs with Brownie friends. Talk about how the songs make you feel and why they fit the celebration.

### CHOICES—DO ONE:

Choose national songs. America's national anthem is often played on national holidays and at ceremonies (like before sports games or when an American wins an Olympic medal). Find three other American songs for your mini celebration. What do you like about each? Why are they great songs for America?

OR

Pick three community songs. They could be state songs, local songs, or school songs. You might even have a special family song. Choose three such songs for your mini celebration.

OR

Find three celebration songs. Many celebrations and ceremonies have their own special songs. Think of wedding ceremonies, holidays, parades, even birthdays! Choose three of these for your mini celebration.

## Step 3: Follow the parade.

Parades started as a tradition in the military. But they're so much fun that many communities have them as a part of their celebrations. That means the parade is often



## Brownie Celebrating Community

meant to honor a group of people or to help spread an important message. Try one of these to understand more about parades!

### CHOICES—DO ONE:

Join a parade. Gather Brownie friends—or other Girl Scouts— and join a parade. Before you go, find out why the parade is happening, and make a banner to carry that will help share the reason with others.

### OR

Learn to march. Ask an experienced marcher, like someone in the military or in a marching band, to show you how. Practice different marching steps and signals for starting and stopping. Then try to march for an entire marching song!

**For More FUN:** See if a local band will let you try marching with them during one of their practices.

### OR

See a band review or field show. Some schools or community groups compete in parades or field shows. In these competitions, they play music and do complicated steps. Some bands have teams that do dance routines with flags! Find an event and take a field trip with an adult and your Brownie friends.

### **Step 4: Be a landmark detective.**

A landmark is place that's special or where something important happened. Some landmarks are called "memorials" because they honor people who died for an important cause. Get to know your community's landmarks!

### CHOICES—DO ONE:

Follow a landmark trail. Go on a hike to at least three community landmarks such as statues, plaques, and gardens. Find out why each one is important.

**For More FUN:** Organize a landmark scavenger hunt. To "find" a landmark, take a picture of yourself in front of it.

### OR

Tour a landmark that honors the past. Visit a historic landmark, such as the place where a leader was born or an old battleground. Or visit a historical society or museum. Collect three facts you didn't know about the place, and share them with your family.



## Brownie Celebrating Community

OR

Make a landmark map. Pretend a tourist is visiting your area, and you want to show them the special places. Choose five landmarks—historic sites, museums, statues, or any place that shows why your home is special. Mark them on a printed map or a map you drew yourself. Or take photos of the places, and make a welcome-brochure. Share your map or brochure with friends or family—or visitors!

**For More FUN:** On your map or brochure, include the story of how your town began.

### **Step 5: Join a ceremony or celebration.**

You know about special symbols and music. You know about events and landmarks that share why a community is special. Now put those things together in a community celebration!

CHOICES—DO ONE:

Join a flag ceremony. Ask an older Girl Scout or another expert to show you how to fold an American flag and how to be a flag bearer. Then take part in a flag ceremony!

**For More FUN:** Use your flag skills in an indoor and an outdoor flag ceremony!

OR

Join a town ceremony. Sometimes new buildings open with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. There are ceremonies to celebrate town events like anniversaries or the birthday of an important person. Sports games often begin with a ceremony. Find one and join in!

OR

Make up your own! Make a banner with a symbol, choose music, and create a ceremony for something you think is special. Invite your family and friends to join in.

**For More FUN:** Teach others your ceremony song so they can sing with you.

**Now that I've earned this badge, I can give service by:**

- Helping Daisies prepare for a parade
- Showing other people how to fold the American flag
- Teaching my class about the national anthem

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