

## HISPANIC HERITAGE

Hispanic is a latinized word taken from “español” or “spanish”. It is used to refer to people or countries that have drawn their traditions and history from the country of Spain. In the southwest, there are many Hispanic cultures. Select a Hispanic culture either from your own background or one that interests you. Complete the required number of activities for you age level to discover Hispanic traditions, customs, arts and crafts, foods and much more.

### ACTIVITIES

- » **Girl Scout Daisies** – complete 1 starred + 1 activities
- » **Girl Scout Brownies** – complete 1 starred + 3 activities
- » **Girl Scout Juniors** – complete 2 starred + 4 activities
- » **Girl Scout Cadettes** – complete 2 starred + 6 activities
- » **Girl Scout Seniors** – complete 2 starred + 8 activities
- » **Girl Scout Ambassadors** – complete 2 starred + 8 activities

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#### List of some countries that are predominantly Hispanic to consider:

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| » Argentina          | » Ecuador     | » Paraguay    |
| » Bolivia            | » El Salvador | » Peru        |
| » Chile              | » Guatemala   | » Puerto Rico |
| » Colombia           | » Honduras    | » Spain       |
| » Costa Rica         | » Mexico      | » Uruguay     |
| » Cuba               | » Nicaragua   | » Venezuela   |
| » Dominican Republic | » Panama      |               |

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1. Locate a Hispanic country on a map of the world. Why is it considered Hispanic? What is the origin of its name and flag? Create a display about your country to share.
  2. Find recipes of the Hispanic country that you have selected, choose your favorite recipe and prepare/cook it for family or friends, OR visit a place that prepares authentic Hispanic food. Ex. A tamale factory.
  3. Learn to say a few phrases in Spanish. Ask a bilingual girl (or other bilingual person) to help you. Make a list of words we use every day that are Hispanic in origin. You may want to learn the Girl Scout Law or Promise in Spanish. (Ref Trefoil Around the World)



- 4.★ Learn a traditional Hispanic story, folk tale, or song. Tell or sing it to your troop or group. OR list some contemporary Hispanic female singers such as Gloria Esteban, Vicente Fernandez, Shakira, and Celia Cruz. Pick one and list her songs. Learn something about her background and career.
- 5.★ Find out about local holiday celebrations of Hispanic origin in your community. Select one in which to take part. Learn as much as you can about its origin. Ex. Cinco de Mayo (May 5) Diez y seis de Septiembre (Sept. 16) OR research religious holiday customs celebrated in Hispanic countries. Plan and carry out a similar celebration with family or friends or attend a special religious celebration such as Procesiones Semana Santa during Holy Week in Guadalupe.
6. Learn about Hispanic Folk Arts by taking a trip to a museum exhibit, a traditional marketplace or other opportunity to see annual examples of Folk Art from various Hispanic countries. Make an item of traditional Hispanic Folk Art out of wood, clay, wire, paper, yarn, cloth, or other suitable materials. Some possibilities are: cascarones, ojo de dios (God's Eyes), needle work, pottery, weaving, etc. If you need help, you can find crafts people who make traditional crafts to help you or go to classes offered by a craft center.
- 7.★ Discover Hispanic dances and music by attending a live performance at a theater or festival. Notice the traditional costumes and dresses worn by the dancers. If possible, learn one traditional Hispanic dance with your troop or group.
- 8.★ Research the pre-Hispanic culture of the original inhabitants of Arizona by visiting the Mesa Southwest Museum in Mesa ([www.ci.mesa.az.us/parksrec/msm/msmdefault.htm](http://www.ci.mesa.az.us/parksrec/msm/msmdefault.htm)) or the Desert Caballeros Western Museum in Wickenburg ([www.westernmuseum.org](http://www.westernmuseum.org)) OR read a book or see a film on the native inhabitants of Arizona before Spanish colonization.
9. Visit the San Xavier del Bac Mission (1950 W San Xavier Rd, Tucson, AZ 85746). Learn about the people who founded the Mission, why and when it was established and who designed and built it. [www.azlife.net/Attractions/San-Xavier-Mission.htm](http://www.azlife.net/Attractions/San-Xavier-Mission.htm)
10. Interview a woman of Hispanic Heritage in your community. Invite her to share information about her family ancestry with your troop or group. Ask her if there were challenges that she or her ancestors had to overcome. OR write a story with illustrations or create a play about an outstanding Hispanic-American woman. Share with others what you have learned and written.
11. Locate a business owned by a woman of Hispanic background. Request permission to tour her business and talk to her about the opportunities and challenges she faced in getting established in her career.
12. Hold a round table or panel debate about the treatment of Hispanics in American history. Do most textbooks represent them fairly? Do they adequately present the role of Hispanics and of women? If not, what can be done to remedy the situation?
13. Research plants growing in your community that are native to a Hispanic country and discover how and why they were transplanted to your community. Does it have a purpose or is it only ornamental?
14. Organize and present a Hispanic festival for another Girl Scout troop or group to share. Consider food, costumes, activities, decorations, and music. Include scrapbooks and displays from research done for the rest of the Hispanic Heritage patch requirements. You may choose to design your event based on a fiesta you have attended or studied.

*Girl Scouts–Arizona Cactus-Pine Council, Inc gratefully acknowledges that this patch program was developed by the San Antonio Area Council of Girl Scouts and adapted to meet our Council needs by: Agnes Lawson and Yolanda Edwards Guerra.*