

American Patriotism Patch Program

Girl Scouts - North Carolina Coastal Pines
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The purpose of the American Patriotism Patch is to help girls learn more about our national flag, our country's freedom, and why we should be proud to be Americans. In addition, girls are learning more about the United States military, women who have impacted change, and events that have shaped the American people into who we are today.

Required Activity: This activity is required for all Girl Scouts to complete the patch program.

Patriotism is defined as the feeling of love, devotion, and sense of attachment to one's country.

Reflect on the definition for Patriotism (above). Does reading this definition bring up a memory or experience for you? Have you had an experience that caused you to feel great pride in your country? After taking time to reflect on the definition and your memories, share this experience with your troop, family, and/or friends.

Ask someone close to you (a member of your family, neighbor, troop leader, etc.) to share a time when they experienced a feeling of love, devotion, or sense of attachment to their country.

Activity Requirements

Girl Scout Level	Required (See Above)	Discover	Connect	Take Action	Total Activities
Daisies	1	1	1	1	4
Brownies	1	1	1	1	4
Juniors	1	2	2	1	6
Cadettes	1	2	2	2	7
Seniors	1	2	2	2	7
Ambassadors	1	2	2	2	7

Discover

1. Did you know that the military has 6 branches? Choose 3 branches from the list below to investigate. Share out 3 new pieces of information that you have learned with your troop or with a fellow Girl Scout.

- Air Force, Air Force Reserve, and Air National Guard
- Army, Army Reserve, and Army National Guard
- Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve
- Marine Corps and Marine Corps Reserve
- Navy and Navy Reserve
- Space Force

2. Cadence is defined as the beat, time, or measure of rhythmical motion or activity. It has been used in the military since the Revolutionary War. Now the military uses cadences to keep service members stepping in time while marching or running in formation. Use the links below to watch each of the cadences. Try stepping along!

- Marching Cadence. YouTube video by US Army.
 - [Your Left, Your Left, Your Left Right Left!](#)
- Airborne Cadence. YouTube video by US Army.
 - [Airborne Cadence](#)
- Hard Work Cadence. YouTube video by US Army.
 - [U.S. Army Cadence: Hard Work!](#)
- I Left My Home. YouTube video by Drill Sergeant DePalo.

- [Army Basic Training Marching Cadence: I Left My Home Song!](#)

3. Wikipedia defines a bugle call as “a short tune, originating as a military signal announcing scheduled and certain non-scheduled events on a military installation, battlefield, or ship. A defining feature of a bugle call is that it consists only of notes from a single overtone series. This is in fact a requirement if it is to be playable on a bugle or equivalently on a trumpet without moving the valves. Bugle calls typically indicated the change in daily routines of camp. Every duty around camp had its own bugle call.”

Click [here](#) to listen to 5 or more different bugle calls. Do any of these calls sound familiar? If so, discuss when and where you have heard it before.

4. Appropriate flag etiquette is the responsibility of every American. Displaying the American Flag in a respectful manner is an important factor in honoring its symbolism. Take a look at each of the examples below of proper flag etiquette. Are any of these examples new to you?

- [Indoor and Outdoor Display](#) by the National Flag Foundation
- [How to Fold a Flag](#) by the National Flag Foundation
- [How to properly dispose of an American Flag](#) by the National Flag Foundation

5. At Girl Scouts a flag ceremony honors the American flag as the symbol of our country and all the hopes, dreams, and people it consists of. If your group includes girls from other countries, girls can honor their flags, too, and conduct an international flag ceremony. Flag ceremonies may take place in meeting rooms, outdoor settings, large auditoriums, on stage, even on horseback. Flag ceremonies can be part of any activity that honors the American flag.

- Check out this [Girl Scout Flag Ceremony](#) by Girl Scout from GS-NCCP.

6. In 1986 Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger was responsible for establishing April as the Month of The Military Child, and it has been honored by the Department of Defense ever since. The month of the Military Child underscores the important role military children play in the armed forces community.

Answer these questions:

- What is the significance of Purple Up Day?
- What are some ways that you can celebrate the month of the Military Child?
- If you are completing this patch program during the month of April, Purple Up!

7. Wearing red on Fridays, known as R.E.D Friday, is the weekly tradition for American and Canadian civilians to wear an article of red clothing to support troops that are deployed abroad.

- How did R.E.D Fridays begin?
- What do the letters R-E-D stand for?
- Wear red on Friday to support troops.

8. Did you know? *North Carolina has one of the largest military footprints of any state in the country, representing three out of the four branches of service. Military and defense industries are the second largest employers in our state. The military bases located in North Carolina are major drivers in our communities, allowing families and business to thrive through the synergy and partnerships that have developed between local and state government, military and defense sectors, and local businesses throughout our history.*

- Learn more about the [military bases in North Carolina](#).

Fort Bragg is the largest US Army base by population. Lydia, a Girl Scout Cadette from troop 888, lives on the base. She invites you to take a tour of the place she calls home. Watch this virtual tour of Fort Bragg and share out three things you learned. Alternately, visit one of the military bases in our council footprint.

- [Virtual Tour of Fort Bragg](#)

9. The Veteran of Foreign Wars (VFW) is dedicated to promoting patriotism and investing in future generations. High school students are eligible to submit democratic and patriotic-themed essays for the Voices of Democracy scholarship, while middle school students are invited to submit an entry for the Patriot's Pen youth essay contest. Check out the scholarship details [here](#).

10. Learn about the unique language of the military. Do you know what the following words mean? If you get stumped, use the "Vocabulary to Know" in the Resource Section.

- Aircraft carrier
- Ammunition dump
- Barrage
- Boundaries
- Boots on the ground
- Charge
- Checkpoint
- Civic action
- Clandestine
- Constraint
- Debarkation
- Decontamination
- Deployment
- Dump
- Ejection
- Fleet
- Geronimo
- Got your six
- Ground Zero
- In the trenches
- Logistics
- No man's land
- Obstacle
- Roger That

Connect

1. Interview a Veteran or Military Child. Below is a sample list of questions. Be sure to take notes so that you can share the answers with your troops, friends, or family.

Veteran (be sure to thank them for their service):

- When were you drafted or when did you enlist?
- What do you remember about the day you enlisted?
- How did you tell your family and friends that you were joining the military?
- How did you choose your branch of service?
- How did you stay in touch with family and friends back home?
- What advice do you have for anyone who is interested in joining the military?

Military Child:

- Which one of your parents is in the military?
- How many schools have you attended?
- How many states have you lived in? Countries?
- Do you have any collectibles from other states? Other countries?
- How do you adjust to moving to a new place? Has being a member of Girl Scouts helped you transition more easily in a new location?
- What advice do you have for other military kids who may be having a difficult time?

2. The American flag is symbol of strength, opportunity, sacrifice, and hope for many. Knowing the history of the flag will lead you closer to understanding why the American People proudly wave it. Dig into information about the American flag. Locate the answer these questions:

- What was the name of the woman who originally designed the flag in 1776?
- How many stripes and stars did the flag originally have?
- What do the red and white stripes represent?
- What do the stars represent?

3. Invite someone to your troop meeting who has served his/her/their country to talk about patriotism, our flag, and what freedom means to them.

4. Name that patriot! Using the questions below as a guide, discuss the many ways that women have been incorporated in the U.S. Military. Know someone else? Share information about them with your troop, friends, or family.

- In 1891, _____ applied to be surgeon with the Union Army. She is also the only woman to have received the Medal of Honor in U.S. history.
- _____ served as a nurse for Union regiments before moving on to a larger role as spymaster and military scout. What was her name?
- In 1942, _____ became a member of the first training class of the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps (later, Women's Army Corps, or WAC) before commanding the largest all-female unit to serve overseas.
- In 1979, _____ became the first Black female pilot in the U.S. military. She also became the 55th woman to earn her pilot wings, before being assigned to the 394th Transportation Battalion in Germany, the unit's first black soldier and first woman leader.
- _____ became the first woman to command American soldiers in battle in 1989 - a trailblazing role that launched a reflection about women in the military.
- In 2015, _____ and _____ became the first two women to complete Army Ranger School and earn their Ranger tabs since the Ranger School's inception in 1950.
- In 2008 Retired Army General _____ became the first woman to reach a four-star officer rank in the history of the United States military.

5. Did you know that a Gold Award Girl Scout is entitled to enlist at a higher pay grade when she joins the military? There are numerous career choices, perhaps some you may not have thought of. Discuss which career path you would be most interested in if you joined the U.S. Military. Use this list below as a guide. Did any of these options surprise you?

- Business Manager
- Community Services
- Corrections Specialist

- Cryogenics Equipment Operator
- Cyber Warriors
- Dietician
- Financial Manager
- Geneticist
- Journalist
- Instrument Repair Technician
- Multimedia Illustrator
- Musicians
- Nuclear Reactor Engineer
- Packaging Specialist
- Pediatrician
- Water Support Technician
- Postal Clerk
- Quarrying Specialist
- Railway Equipment Repairer
- Refrigeration/ Air Conditioning Technician
- Shower/Laundry and Clothing Repair Specialist
- Veterinarian
- Weather Specialist

Learn more about careers in the military [here](#).

6. The Star-Spangled Banner is America's National Anthem. It was written by Francis Scott Key after he witnessed the twenty-five-hour bombardment of Fort McHenry from a British troopship during the War of 1812. This song is extremely popular as it is sung at many public events including the beginning of public sports events. Even so, do you know this song by heart? Practice learning and singing the National Anthem. Are there other songs that "move" you?

- [Lyrics to Star Spangled Banner](#)

Take Action

1. Individually or as a troop create a poster or collage of women in government or military who have sparked change in America. Talk about the change these women sparked and the impact.

2. Operation Cookie Drop is a community service project that brings a sweet taste of home to deployed military men and women and those serving our country at home. Girl Scouts – North Carolina Coastal Pines has donated over 1 million boxes of cookies to our military men and women serving our country. Each year individual Girl Scouts and troops create letters/cards to send with the donated cookies. When completing this patch program between January and March, write a letter/story or draw a picture to be sent to military troops along with the Girl Scout Cookies. Send these letters to the Raleigh Service Center:

Attn: Operation Cookie Drop
 c/o Kelly Griffin
 6901 Pinecrest Rd.
 Raleigh, NC 27613

The USO stands for the United Service Organizations, Inc. and focuses its mission on serving active duty military members and their families. The USO outreach program physically delivers support to service members during difficult deployments with care packages, holiday packages, and internet services. When

completing this patch program between April and December, create a letter or card and drop it off or mail it to the USO. You can find more information about USO locations [here](#).

3. Make a public display about our flag and patriotism to educate others. Search online for pictures of other displays as inspiration. Example: bulletin board at school, church, mall or in three-dimensional form.

4. Draw a picture, write a poem, or create a logo about “what patriotism means to you”. You can draw it on paper, put it on a t-shirt, hat, button, or other any other item that will be visible to others. Get creative!

5. If completing this patch program in April, wear purple to your troop meeting and take a group photo. During any other month of the year, wear red to your troop meeting and take a group photo. [Submit your photo](#) and share something that you have learned about patriotism by completing the patch program.

6. A historic site is an official location where pieces of political, military, cultural, or social history have been preserved due to their cultural heritage value. Look up historical sites in your area. Plan to take a walk to that site (or visit virtually) and discuss the history and significance of the historic site.

7. Host a flag ceremony at your next troop meeting, special event, or ceremony.

Resource Section

Vocabulary to Know

- Aircraft carrier - military ship designed so aircraft can land on and take off from it
- Ammunition dump - location where ammunition and explosives are stored
- Barrage - protective firing of indirect firing weapons
- Boundaries - company and battalion defense areas; limited due to terrain and means of approach
- Boots on the ground- ground troops engaged in an operation
- Charge - part of a fire command; establishes the amount of propellant in a shell
- Checkpoint - easy-to-identify point on terrain; used for controlling movement or identifying locations
- Civic action - using military forces on projects beneficial to a civilian population or economic development of a particular area; often are agriculture, education, public works, communications, sanitation, or health projects
- Clandestine - military activities intended to be kept secret or concealed
- Constraint - a requirement that restricts the strategies or tactics that can be used
- Debarkation - process of unloading equipment, supplies or troops from an aircraft or ship
- Decontamination - the process of removing traces of chemical or biological agents from a person, object, or area for safety purposes
- Deployment - troop movement to position forces in a specific location, positioning troops for rapid action
- Dump - location where military supplies are stored
- Ejection - escape from an aircraft by means of an independently propelled seat or capsule
- Fleet- collection of forces under a commander's control; may include forces, ships, and aircraft
- Geronimo- yelled when jumping off something
- Got your six- watching your back
- Ground Zero- point of origin for violent activity (such as where a bomb hits); specific point directly below explosion of a nuclear weapon
- In the trenches- stuck in a drawn out, tough fight
- Logistics- process of planning and carrying out troop movements
- No man's land- Dangerous ground or a topic that is dangerous to discuss
- Obstacle- natural or artificial barrier that impedes or stops military unit
- Roger That- Yes

Answer Key to "Name That Patriot!"

- Dr. Mary Walker
- Harriet Tubman
- Col. Mary Hallaren
- Lt. Col. Marcella A. Hayes
- Captain Linda Bray
- Capt. Kristen M. Griest & 1st Lt. Shaye L. Haver
- Retired Army Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody

Activity Section/Activity Number	Official Website
Discover-Activity 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://youtu.be/X5xsYU4fCOw • https://youtu.be/3Cs4Bbu0ZwA • https://youtu.be/dbCtlboPoSI • https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wktDhK5wBx4
Discover-Activity 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.bands.army.mil/music/buglecalls/default.asp
Discover-Activity 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://o%09https://nationalflagfoundation.org/etiquette/how-to-display-the-flag/ • https://nationalflagfoundation.org/etiquette/holding-the-flag/ • https://nationalflagfoundation.org/etiquette/when-to-dispose-of-the-flag/
Discover-Activity 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://vimeo.com/girlscoutsnccp/review/684721026/d614e3d8d0
Discover-Activity 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://vimeo.com/girlscoutsnccp/download/690986940/b229988103 • https://www.milvets.nc.gov/services/military-bases-north-carolina
Discover-Activity 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education/youth-scholarships
Connect-Activity 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.wearethemighty.com/lists/weird-military-jobs/
Connect-Activity 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://amhistory.si.edu/starspangledbanner/pdf/ssb_lyrics.pdf
Take Action- Activity 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://amhistory.si.edu/starspangledbanner/pdf/ssb_lyrics.pdf
Take Action-Activity 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.nccoastalpines.org/en/our-council/story-submissions.html

