

Making Girl Scout History

Decade Segments

A Guide for Leaders

All Grade Levels

The *Making Girl Scout History* patch program offers troops and individuals an opportunity to learn the history of Girl Scouting while enjoying a variety of activities.

The *Making Girl Scout History Patch* serves as the base patch. Each decade segment is earned separately and need not be earned in chronological order. Patch and decade segments may be transferred from one sash or vest to another as a girl advances from one level to the next.

PURPOSE: To help Girl Scouts learn more about the history of Girl Scouting and how it applies to their lives as Girl Scouts today.

CONNECTION TO GIRL SCOUT LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (GSLE):

- **Connect:** Girls feel connected to their communities, locally and globally.



Decade Segment Activities:

Before beginning work on any of the Decade Segments, the Troop/Individual must first earn the *Making Girl Scout History* base patch. Bins with appropriate materials for each decade may be checked out at each Girl Scout Gathering Place (for Chicago, contact historian@girlscoutsgcnwi.org for the decade segment boxes).

Many of the following questions can be answered using the Girl Scouts of the USA website www.girlscouts.org (Who We Are/History/Museum or Timeline) or from materials found in the appropriate decade checkout bin, the Girl Scout library at the Lisle Gathering Place or, in some cases, your local library.

REQUIRED ACTIVITY: Decade Questions – choose the appropriate decade and ask girls to research the answers using the decade boxes or the GSUSA website. Girls must do this activity in order to earn each segment.

1912 – 1939 segment

- a. What was Lord Baden Powell's influence on early Girl Scouting?
- b. What was the name of the first official Girl Scout Handbook? What type of information did it contain?
- c. The first official Girl Scout camera was made by Kodak in 1930. Why do you think Girl Scouts would have had an official camera? Take some photos of your troop doing something fun.

1940s segment

- a. In what year was the first Girl Scout calendar nationally distributed for council funding? Why was it produced?
- b. Vera Bock designed Brownie and Girl Scout tiles in 1947. Make your own design for a Brownie or Girl Scout Promise tile that could have been used back then.
- c. In 1948, a commemorative stamp honoring Juliette Gordon Low was issued by the U.S. Postal Service. Why do you think Juliette was honored with a stamp?

1950s segment

- a. What we call SWAPS today started with the first Senior Girl Scout Roundup in Pontiac, Michigan in 1956. Each girl had to bring SWAPS representing her state or city. Have the girls make a SWAP and give it to a Girl Scout who is not in her troop.
- b. What did Marjorie Daingerfield do in 1954?
- c. Juliette Gordon Low's birthplace was dedicated as a national program center in 1956. If you had the opportunity to visit it, what do you think you would find there?

1960s segment

- a. In 1963, which four program age-levels were introduced?
- b. What was goal of the Piper Project?
- c. What was the highest award in Girl Scouting starting in 1963?

1970s segment

- a. In 1975, the Brownie Promise and salute were eliminated. What did they do in its place?
- b. What is the Friendship Tie? Have girls make one for a friend!
- c. In 1978, a new Girl Scout logo was introduced. Draw a picture!

1980s segment

- a. The Daisy Girl Scout program was officially launched in what year?
- b. What was the theme of GSUSA's 75th Anniversary? And where was the national Promise Circle ceremony held?
- c. What former Girl Scout served as the mission specialist for the April 1985 orbit of the space shuttle, Discovery?

1990s segment

- a. When did the Girl Scouts renew the emphasis on physical fitness? Why is that an important goal?
- b. Who was the first Asian American National Girl Scout President? In what years?
- c. Where can you go to see National Headquarters? In what year was it moved here?

2000s segment

- a. What is the Bronze Award? What year was it introduced?
- b. In 2006, six new Girl Scout levels were introduced. What are they?
- c. Girls love the Leadership Journeys! What was the first series introduced? What books did this include?

ELECTIVE ACTIVITIES

For each decade segment, girls must do a specific number of elective activities:

Daisies choose 2 additional activities

Brownies choose 3 additional activities

Juniors choose 4 additional activities

Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors choose 5 additional activities

1. Look at the uniforms from the chosen decade and today's uniform.
 - How are they the same? How are they different?
 - Have girls try on the uniforms! Fun Bins with additional uniforms can be found in each of the Gathering Places or in Chicago by contacting historian@girlscoutsgcnwi.org.
2. Compare the Brownie and the Traditional Trefoil pins from the decade you chose with those from today.
 - How are they the same? How are they different?
 - Look in each bin to find a template of the Brownie and Traditional Trefoil to copy. Have girls draw the pins of that decade.
3. Compare the badges from the chosen decade to badges girls can earn today.
 - a. Are there any that are similar? Are there any that are no longer earned?
 - b. Which badges do the girls find interesting from that decade?
 - c. What badge would the girls want to earn? Choose one and complete the requirements!
4. Make a comparison of the Promise and the Law of this decade to the ones of today. How are they the same? How are they different?

5. The highest rank a Girl Scout could earn has changed through the years.
 - a. What was the highest rank during this decade?
 - b. At what age could this rank be earned?
 - c. Are any of the requirements the same?
6. Using the appropriate bin, play a game from the decade your troop has chosen that they do not know from the Girl Scout Game book or from the handbook.
7. Using the Girl Scout Song book or the handbook from the related decade, have girls learn a song they do not know.
8. Girls can talk to someone who was a Girl Scout during the specific decade, and then share the information with other Girl Scouts. Even better, invite the alumna to a troop meeting! Here are a few conversation starter ideas:
 - a. When did she join the Girl Scouts?
 - b. Favorite memory of being a Girl Scout
 - c. Favorite songs, games or service projects
 - d. What was life like when she was growing up?
9. Plan a meeting using a handbook from the chosen decade. For your next troop meeting, run it like they would have done back in that decade!
10. Find out about a famous person who was a Girl Scout during this decade. Use inspire.girlscouts.org for ideas; don't forget – the trefoil on the picture means that woman was a Girl Scout!

Decade Segments – ANSWER SHEET

1912 – 1939 segment

- a. Lord Baden Powell is the founder of the Scout movement, helped to start Girl Scouts
- b. "How Girls Can Help Their Country"; first aid, housekeeping, camping, instructions on how to stop a runaway horse and how to tie up a burglar "with eight inches of cord"

1940s segment

- a. Fall of 1943, it was a 1944 calendar; GS Cookies were in short supply because of wartime rations

1950s segment

- b. Sculpted the Girl Scout Statuette

1960s segment

- a. Brownie, Junior, Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts
- b. It was launched to retain girls so they could benefit from the program for each age-level, as well as to recruit Girl Scouts in populations that were under-served
- c. It was called First Class; Cadettes had to earn several badges and complete four challenges

1970s segment

- a. Girl Scouts said the standard promise and did the three-finger salute
- b. The Friendship Tie is composed of yarn in the colors of the Worlds of Girl Scouting

1980s segment

- a. 1984
- b. Tradition with a Future; Washington, D. C.
- c. M. Rhea Seddon

1990s segment

- a. National Service Project started in 1994, Girlsports Initiative in 1996
- b. Connie Matsui, 1999-2002
- c. 420 Fifth Ave, New York City, NY, it moved there in 1992

2000s segment

- a. Highest award a Junior Girl Scout can earn; 2001
- b. Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadette, Senior, Ambassador
- c. Series: "It's Your World – Change It!"; "Welcome to the Daisy Flower Garden", "Brownie Quest", "Agent of Change", "Girlltopia", and "Your Voice, Your World"

When you have completed the requirements, you can purchase the patch at any of our six regional offices, www.girlscoutsgcnwi.org or our online shop, www.shopgirlscouts.com and go to "Uniquely Ours".