



Passport to Religions

All Grade Levels

This badge program is designed for troops and individual girls to explore their own faith traditions as well as discover more about those around them. Girls choose the requirements they would like to complete and along the way explore religious traditions, holidays, symbols, stories and much more. Passport to Religions can be completed by girls of any grade level.

Brownies must complete 5 activities. Juniors must complete 8 activities. Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors must complete 12 activities. When completed, girls can write a reflection or choose a creative way to share what they have learned.

PURPOSE: To help Girl Scouts better understand various religious traditions and to build their awareness and exposure to their various holy days, ceremonies, stories, symbols, etc.

CONNECTIONS TO GIRL SCOUT LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE (GSLE):

- Discover: Girls develop positive values.
- Discover: Girls develop critical thinking.
- Connect: Girls advance diversity in a multicultural world.
- Connect: Girls feel connected to their community, locally and globally.
- Take Action: Girls advocate for themselves and others, locally and globally.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Describe your faith to the girls in your troop. Talk about what you like best about your faith. Explain how you practice your faith.
2. Find out about two different religions other than yours. What is the main difference between your religion and the ones you learned about?
3. Learn about the different symbols that represent the many religions of the world. Find out their meaning.
4. Make a Passport. On each page of the passport, draw a religious symbol. When you have learned about that religion, stamp that page just as a country would stamp a passport when you leave or enter it.
5. Discover the differences in the holy books each religion uses. Read a passage from one of those books.
6. Religions have different calendars, holy days and more. Find out about a special holy day in another religion and learn about the customs or traditions.

7. Research how many members belong to your religion. Find out what other countries practice your religion.
8. Visit a different place of worship other than the one you practice in. (Brownies: Draw a picture of the place you worship in & one of a different place of worship).
9. Attend a ceremony or service from a different religion than yours.
10. Interview a religious leader or teacher. Find out why they chose that path.
11. Learn about different religious leaders of the world.
12. Learn a prayer from a different religion than yours. Share the prayer with your family.
13. Research the religion choice for all of your family members. Discover if the religion you practice was always the religion your ancestors practiced.
14. Make a religious craft.
15. Play a game or act out a religious story with the girls in your troop.
16. Do a service project for your religious place of worship.
17. Find a traditional religious recipe. Make the recipe & share it with your troop.
18. Learn about different diet restrictions from other religions.
19. Say grace from your religion and one from a different religion before a meal.
20. There are many countries in WAGGGS. Discover the different religions that Girl Scouts and Guides practice in their countries.
21. Participate in a Girl Scout Sunday or Girl Scout Sabbath event. Girl Scout Week is celebrated each March, starting with Girl Scout Sunday and ending with Girl Scout Sabbath on a Saturday. Both days give girls an opportunity to attend their place of worship and be recognized as a Girl Scout. If a place of worship is the group sponsor, girls may perform a service, such as greeting, ushering or doing a flag ceremony. These days can also be a time when girls explore other faiths.
22. Earn the appropriate religious medal for your age level. (Go to http://www.praypub.org/partner_gsusa.htm for information on the different age level awards of all the religious denominations).

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

To learn more on this topic, Girl Scouts of all levels can earn their My Promise, My Faith pins found in each Girls' Guide to Girl Scouting.

The "Passport to Religions" badge was written as part of a Silver Award Project by Matie O'Connor & Juliette Pirpiris, Troop 1812.