

Short & Snappy

GSGLA Patch Programs

What's a Short & Snappy?

- A short training/ information segment provided at a Service Unit meeting or for leaders to use at troop meetings.
- Any interested volunteer may lead a Short and Snappy.
- Short & Snappies are usually 10-45 minutes in length.

Things to Remember

- Stay within the allotted time (you're taking up a piece of their agenda time).
- If you don't know the answer, seek the correct answer from the appropriate person.
- Bring the necessary supplies for your short & snappy.

What you'll need

- Short & Snappy Guide.
- Moderator.
- One copy each of most patch programs handouts.
- A copy of the handout for each troop.

Introduction

2 minutes

Girl Scout patch programs provide girls with opportunities to learn new skills, network, and have fun. Some patch programs even allow Girl Scouts to partner with local organizations or guests.

The patch programs listed below were developed for Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles and are available for Girl Scout troops and individuals.

Patch Program Name	Levels
California Native	Cadettes, Seniors, & Ambassadors
Climate Connections	All Levels
Basic 8 Camping Skills	All Levels
Guide Dogs of America	Juniors, Cadettes, & Seniors
JPL/NASA Earth Science	All Levels
Justice	All Levels
Marine Mammals	Brownies & Juniors
Mission Trails	Juniors
Starry Skies	Brownies
Tournament of Roses	All Levels

Access requirements for Patch Programs [here](#).

Patch programs cover a wide array of topics so Girl Scouts can find something to match their interests, and programs such as the Basic 8 are progressive, so skills can be built year after year as girls grow in their abilities.

Once earned, patches can be purchased at your local Girl Scout shop, and placed on the back of their vest or sash.



Badges & Patches, what's the difference?

“Badges” refers to Girl Scout’s National Proficiency Badges, which are worn on the front of the uniform. They have a distinct shape and color that corresponds to each grade level, and each have specific guidelines to earn.

“Patches” are a way to focus on different areas of girl interest. They can be earned for any number of activities and are always worn on the back of the uniform. While patch programs have specific guidelines for earning, “Fun patches” can be earned simply by attending an event or participating in an activity.

Activity

10 minutes

Split your leaders up into teams. Have at least three people per team. Once you have them in teams give each team one of the patch program handouts and give them five minutes to create a 30-second commercial about their patch program to share with the larger group.

Allow groups to share their commercials and then see if there are any questions about any of the patch programs.

Provide each troop with a copy of the following handout with a detailed listing of all the patch programs including which age level they are for.



The patch programs listed below were developed for Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles and are available for Girl Scout troops and individuals. You can access requirements for these Patch Programs on our [website](#). Once earned, patches can be purchased at your local Girl Scout shop, then placed on the back of a Girl Scouts vest or sash.

Patch Program Name	Levels	Description
California Native	Cadettes, Seniors, & Ambassadors	There are unique plants, animals, and people, native only to the region that we call home. Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors will learn about these elements and tie together the knowledge of Greater LA's unique natural and cultural history.
Climate Connections	All Levels	Girl scouts make connections to communities and all around the world. Let's make a new connection – to our planet. Climate change and global warming are changing our planet and affecting our lives. Find out how Girl Scouts of all levels can help!
Basic 8 Camping Skills	All Levels	Daisies through Ambassadors will learn the skills needed to make outdoor living fun, enjoyable, and easy! Progressively learn eight vital outdoor skills such as trying knots and using a campfire.
Guide Dogs of America	Juniors, Cadettes, & Seniors	The Guide Dogs of America patch program is to help Junior, Cadette, and Senior Girl Scouts facilitate knowledge of raising and caring for specialty guide dogs.
JPL/NASA Earth Science	All Levels	Most Girl Scouts know that JPL builds rovers and NASA sends astronauts into space. Did you know that NASA and JPL also keep an eye on our home planet – Earth? Understanding Earth from the viewpoint of space helps us understand and connect to our changing world.
Justice	All Levels	By earning the Justice patch, girls will develop a sense of fairness, an understanding of why we have laws and how laws can be changed, and how laws are designed to help people. Daisies to Ambassadors who want to earn a Justice patch must meet a judge and take a tour of a courthouse.
Marine Mammals	Brownies & Juniors	Brownies and Juniors will learn about, experience, enjoy, and help support the health, welfare, and habitat of marine animals of Southern California.
Mission Trails	Juniors	Mission Trails is designed for Junior Girl Scouts to learn about life along the Mission Trail and how the blending of cultures contributed to our California heritage.
Starry Skies	Brownies	The Starry Skies patch program for Brownies teaches girls about astronomy and constellations, while relating them to important issues here on Earth, such as light pollution and space junk. Brownies can earn a patch while working toward completing their Journey: Brownie Quest.
Tournament of Roses	All Levels	The Tournament of Roses patch program is designed to teach girls about the Tournament of Roses Parade and the preparations required to make it happen, the role of volunteers, and related places of interest in Pasadena.