



BROWNIE SCOUTS



Listening
to the
Past

Leader Activity Guide



Any questions or comments on this Leader Activity Guide are welcome. Contact the Director of Education at:

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Produced by the Division of Museum Services and Interpretation



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To the Leader

Scouting and the National Park Service

The Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. and the National Park Service have a lot in common. Both organizations have a long history, beginning in 1912 and 1916, respectively. Both organizations appreciate and preserve nature, the environment and our nation's history. Both are recognized by their distinctive uniforms, badges, and emblems. Scouting and the National Park Service have common goals and missions, particularly in educating today's youth to be responsible and productive citizens. The ideas of scouting and national parks have since expanded to countries around the world.

The National Park Service offers a variety of experiences for girl scouts. Join us for exciting and fun-filled programs that will help your troop earn their badges, while scouting in the national parks.

User-Friendly Format

To prepare your troop, use the two Pre-Visit Activities in this guide before you visit the Museum. We also suggest you use the two Post-Visit Activities after your visit.



Program Description

Through the centuries and across cultures, storytelling has played an important role in teaching children and passing on one's history and traditions. During the nineteenth century, stories played an important role in the education of American Indian and pioneer children. The stories were not only fun, they often taught important lessons and values that could be passed down from one generation of family members to the next.

When your troop finishes Pre-Visit Activity #2, participates in the program at the Museum of Westward Expansion under the Gateway Arch and completes Post-Visit Activity #1, they will meet all the requirements for the Brownie Girl Scout Try-It: *Listening to the Past*. A Jefferson National Expansion Memorial patch is available in the Museum Store for a nominal fee, to recognize your scouts' participation in this program.

As the leader of your group, you are a positive role model and an essential part of this program. Thank you for letting us share in the responsibility of teaching your Girl Scouts to make positive choices and helping them to be responsible and productive citizens.

Try It and Have Fun at the





Pre-Visit Activity #1

Uniforms, Badges, and Emblems

Please read to your scouts:

Girl scouts wear a uniform with different insignias for example, the Girl Scout membership pin the the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. identification strip. These help to tell people who you are. The uniformand insignias tell a story of you and Girl Scout organization.

Activity

Have girls look closely at the insignias below and any Try-Its you have.

Decision Making:

What story do the insignias tell people about you?

What positive character traits must you have to be a girl scout?



Girl Scout Membership Pin



Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. Identification Strip

(copy/cut)

Uniforms, Badges, and Emblems

When you visit the Museum of Westward Expansion, you will be in a national park and you will meet park rangers. They wear uniforms, badges, and emblems. Look closely at their badge and emblem below.

Decision Making:

What stories do the badge and emblem tell you about national parks and the park rangers? (See Appendix, page 14.)

What positive character traits must park rangers have to do their job?



Badge



Emblem

(copy/cut)

Explore A Career:

Park rangers take care of the national parks by protecting natural and cultural resources. They also teach visitors like you the story of their park and how you can help preserve and protect it. Listen to the ranger's stories.

Decision Making:

How can you help the rangers take care of national parks?



Pre-Visit Activity #2

Please read to your scouts:

There are over 385 national parks in the United States. Each park has a story to tell. It is the job of the park ranger to tell the story and help protect the park for future visitors to enjoy. Park rangers at the Museum of Westward Expansion tell the story of pioneers going West. During your visit to the museum, you will see objects, photos, and clothing used in daily living on the western frontier during the 1800s. These artifacts help to tell the story of the past when St. Louis was known as the “Gateway to the West.”

Listening to the Past Requirement #1 - Community Stories

Listen to the stories of some of the oldest people in your community. Find them through a senior organization, a religious group or your own family. Use the questions on the opposite page to get started. Record their answers. Share the stories with your troop at your next gathering.



Listen to Stories

Interview Questions

When and where were you born?

What is the earliest memory you have?

What did your parents do for a living?

Did you enjoy school? What was it like?

Did you belong to any groups or organizations?

What did you do after school, and on weekends?

Do you remember when the Arch was being built?
What was it like?

(copy/cut)



Listening to the Past

Museum Manners:

Please read the instructions listed below to your Girl Scouts before entering the Museum of Westward Expansion.



Registering

Upon arrival, register your group with the park ranger at the Information Desk and review Museum Manners.

Briefing

Your girl scouts should be familiar with stories and be prepared to listen carefully and retell a story.

Program Description

During the *Listening to the Past* program, your Girl Scouts will learn about the significance of the Gateway Arch (Requirement #2) while exploring the lives of Plains Indian children and the children of the nineteenth century pioneers and settlers. Your troop will play a game from the past and listen to and tell stories (Requirements #4 and #6).



Did you know?

The Museum Store at the Gateway Arch offers a great selection of books featuring stories about the West and early St. Louis.

The park rangers are glad we are visiting with them today. They need our help to preserve this national park and protect us—their visitors. Please pay attention to the following:

- ◆ Look only with your eyes and not with your hands. Do not touch the displays, step onto exhibits or lean against photographs and photo murals.



Story Activity

Before you leave the Gateway Arch, stop by the brick mural at Tucker Theater. Have your scouts look closely at the mural to find Leonor K. Sullivan.

Decision-Making: Leonor K. Sullivan is honored in two ways: her image is on the brick mural and the street along the riverfront is named for her—Leonor K. Sullivan Boulevard. What was her role in the development of the Gateway Arch? Why was this role critical to the development of the area? You will learn more about her in Post-Visit Activity #1 on page 11.



Safety Tips: Park rangers are here to protect you and keep you safe. If you need help, please contact a ranger.

Multiple steps, terrazzo, and carpeted floors are found throughout the Gateway Arch Visitor Center. Walk carefully!

- ◆ Museum artifacts and exhibits are fragile.
- ◆ Remain with your group at all times. You are responsible for your behavior.
- ◆ Soft drinks, candy, gum or any other foods, including lunches are not allowed.
- ◆ Refrain from running, using loud voices or pushing.



Post-Visit Activity #1

Decision Making: What could you as an individual or together with your troop do for your community?

Explore More

To learn more about local history, as suggested in your *Try-Its* handbook, you may want to visit Bellefontaine and Calvary Cemeteries located on West Florissant in north St. Louis. Many of St. Louis' founding families and historical figures are buried there. Visit the graves of Auguste Chouteau, William Clark, Dred Scott, and other well-known names.

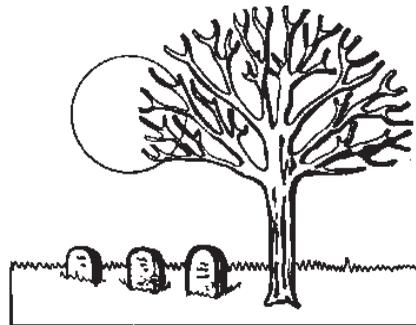
The gates of both cemeteries are opened M-F 8:30 am-4:30 pm and on weekends 8:30 am-12:30 pm, 365 days a year. Maps are available at the cemetery offices. We suggest calling the numbers below to find out when the offices are staffed.

Bellefontaine Cemetery

4947 W. Florissant
St. Louis, MO 63115
314-381-0757

Calvary Cemetery

5239 W. Florissant
St. Louis, MO 63115
314-381-1313



Driving Instructions

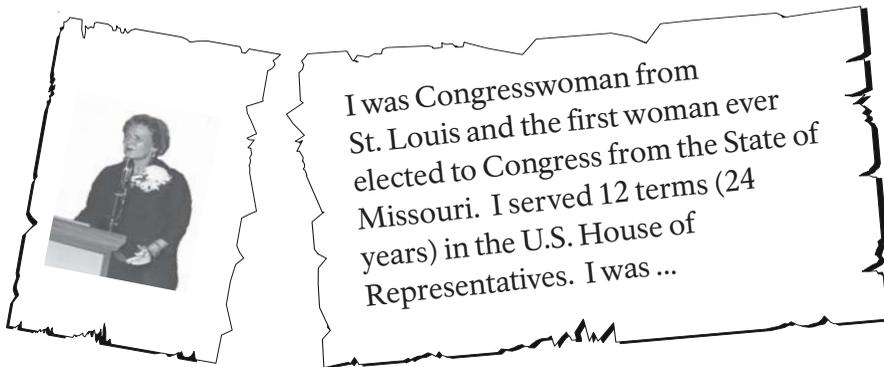
Exit the Arch Parking Garage, turning left onto Washington Avenue. Follow Washington Avenue as it jogs to the right crossing Memorial Drive. At the next light make a right turn onto 4th Street and follow the signs to I-70 West towards Kansas City. Exit West Florissant Ave, exit 245B. Drive 3/4 of a mile and Bellefontaine Cemetery will be on the right. Continuing on West Florissant, you will find the entrance to Calvary Cemetery.

Exploring the Past

Superstars Story Activity

When you were at the Gateway Arch, you saw the face of Leonor K. Sullivan. Without her important work as a congresswoman, the Gateway Arch would not have been built. Meet her and some other important women—Super Stars—who have stories to tell. Just like Girl Scouts, they were prepared to serve others.

Copy and cut the Superstars Story Cards in the Appendix, pages 15-17. Mix the cards up and give either a photo section or a story section to each scout. Have the girls work with each other to match the appropriate photo with the story. After everyone has made a match, have the girls share the stories of these great women.



Decision Making:
Who is your role model?
Why?

Service Project

When your Girl Scouts are older, they can volunteer in national parks. Visit www.nps.gov to learn more about the Volunteers in Parks program.



Post-Visit Activity #2

*Decision Making:
What is your personal motto?
Why did you choose this motto?*

Please read to your girl scouts:

The Girl Scout motto is “Be Prepared.” Park rangers must also be prepared to serve visitors. Park rangers must also prepare and do their best to serve visitors by preserving and protecting national parks. To do this, rangers must have positive character traits. Look at the chart, below. How many of these traits do you need to be a good girl scout?

| Positive Traits | Park Ranger | Girl Scout |
|----------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Help Others | ✓ | |
| Respectful of Animals | ✓ | |
| Friendly to People | ✓ | |
| Courteous | ✓ | |
| Cheerful | ✓ | |
| Useful and Hardworking | ✓ | |
| Trusting and Loyal | ✓ | |
| Obey Laws and Follow Rules | ✓ | |
| Thrifty | ✓ | |
| Care for the Environment | ✓ | |
| Healthy and Drug Free | ✓ | |
| Lifetime Learner | ✓ | |
| Practice Safety | ✓ | |
| Responsible | ✓ | |
| Good Citizen | ✓ | |

(copy/cut)

You've learned how to "listen to the past." You've also learned stories about the Gateway Arch and stories about some special women on the Superstar Story Cards, who were very important in the history of our country. These women can serve as our role models. We can learn many things from them. Look at the chart below and analyze their positive character traits.

| Superstar Women | Positive Traits | Cooperative | Honest | Respectful | Open Minded | Hardworking | Service to Others |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------|--------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Clara Barton | | | | | | | |
| Virginia Minor | | | | | | | |
| Maggie L. Walker | | | | | | | |
| Eleanor Roosevelt | | | | | | | |
| Mary McLeod Bethune | | | | | | | |
| Leonor K. Sullivan | | | | | | | |
| Your Leader | | | | | | | |
| You | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

Decision Making:
What other positive traits do you want to develop?

(copy/cut)



Appendix

Pre-Visit Activity #1: Uniforms, Badges, and Emblems



The badge represents the establishment of the Department of the Interior on March 3, 1849. Within this department, the National Park Service was established in 1916. This federal agency takes care of the national parks, which includes bison and other wildlife and the environment. It is the job of the national park ranger to take care of national parks and to tell the story of these parks to visitors like you.



The arrowhead is the official National Park Service emblem. The sequoia tree and bison represent vegetation and wildlife; the mountains and water represent scenic and recreational areas and the arrowhead shape represents historical and archeological areas. The mission of the National Park Service is to preserve and protect America's scenic, natural, historic, and cultural treasures for future generations.

Post-Visit Activity #1: Stories and Parks Super Stars Story Cards



Clara Barton

During the Civil War, I carried supplies to soldiers and nursed wounded men on the battlefield. They called me, the “Angel of the Battlefield.” In 1881, I founded the American Red Cross. Service to others and hard work was the joy and glory of my life. My 38-room home, which was also my headquarters, is a national park. You can visit my home on the Internet at www.nps.gov/clba to learn more. You might also like to read my book, [The Story of My Childhood](#).



Virginia Minor

In 1872, I was one of the leaders of equal rights for women in St. Louis, MO. I tried to register to vote, but was turned away, because I was a woman. My husband and I spoke for my cause in the Old Courthouse. You can hear and read more about my story on the Internet at www.nps.gov/jeff. The rangers at the Old Courthouse have written my story into a trial that you can roleplay.



Appendix



Maggie L. Walker

In 1902, I founded a newspaper called *The St. Luke Herald* and two years later, I founded St. Luke Penny Savings Bank. In Richmond, Virginia, I was the first woman bank president in the United States. Today, this bank is the oldest African American bank in the country. I also worked hard for equal rights for women and minorities. I became ill and had to use a wheelchair, but I still worked and served my community. My home is a national park. Please visit it on the Internet at www.nps.gov/mawa to learn more about my story.



Eleanor Roosevelt

As first lady of the United States, I was an honorary president of the Girl Scouts. Although I was very shy in public, I helped my husband with his duties after he contracted polio and could not walk. I made speeches and traveled for him. I worked hard to help young people, the poor, as well as helping to gain equal rights for women and minorities. I was a close friend of Mary McLeod Bethune and a delegate to the United Nations. My home is a national park. You can visit my home on the Internet at www.nps.gov/elro and listen to me tell my story. You might also like to read my book, [This Is My Story](#).



Mary McLeod Bethune

I was an Honorary Member of the Board of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America and a close friend of Eleanor Roosevelt. I was a teacher and believed that everyone should stay in school and get a good education. I founded a school for African American children, which later became Bethune-Cookman College. I also worked hard for equal rights for women and minorities. My house/headquarters is a national park. You can visit it on the Internet at www.nps.gov to learn more.



Leonor K. Sullivan

I was Congresswoman from St. Louis and the first woman ever elected to Congress from the State of Missouri. I served 12 terms (24 years) in the U.S. House of Representatives. I was determined and strong-willed and was prepared to let nothing get in the way of funding the Gateway Arch. I believe it was the best thing for the citizens of St. Louis and our great nation. Each time you visit the Arch, look up and remember that this is your Gateway—a gateway of many possibilities, a gateway to your future.



Appendix

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- Wilder, Laura Ingalls. *Little House on the Prairie*. New York, New York; Harper Collins Publishers. 1971.

For information on the cost of the
Jefferson National Expansion
Memorial patch, phone
The Museum Store at: (314) 231-
5474 or (800) 537-7962



**Jefferson National Expansion Memorial
11 North 4th Street
St. Louis, MO 63102**



Visit the Gateway Arch, Museum of Westward Expansion and
Old Courthouse on the Internet: <http://www.nps.gov/jeff>
Visit the National Park Service at:
<http://www.nps.gov>

**Help conserve our natural resources!
If you have no further need for this booklet,
please return it to the Park Ranger at the Information Desk
so another scout group can use it.
Thank you!**