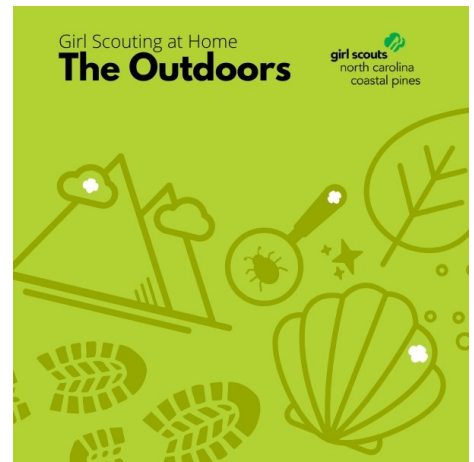


Girl Scouts North Carolina Coastal Pines invites girls, families, and volunteers to stay involved while at home. We know that today's girl is ready to pivot on a moment's notice and is willing to embrace new ways to explore Girl Scouting. That's why we're promoting these options for engaging with us while you're at home today ... or any day!

THE OUTDOORS encourages Girl Scouts to nourish their love of the great outdoors and their connection with nature. Each Thursday, join us to explore and celebrate the beautiful world around us, while developing a lifelong appreciation for nature and the out-of-doors. Join the conversation online. **#OurGSNCCPCommunity**



A Culture of Storytelling

Have you ever sat around a campfire with friends and family and told stories? Maybe some of them were true tales, maybe some were stories you made up—perhaps some of them were stories that you learned from someone else and wanted to share with others. This is something that people from many cultures around the world have done throughout history.



A culture is defined by the Cambridge English Dictionary as “the way of life, especially the general customs and beliefs, of a particular group of people at a particular time.” Culture can include many aspects of life for a group of people, including art, storytelling, customs, traditions, language and more. Many cultures have stories that have been passed through generations and shared by word of mouth and in written form.



Often, these stories are told to explain why something is the way it is. A story might explain why people should behave in a certain way (being kind, caring for others and animals, sharing, etc). Some stories explain something about nature. These stories were imagined as answers to the question, “Why?” or “How”, and are fictional, though often an important part of a culture. Here, we will share two stories that answer questions about the moon: Why is the moon in the sky? How did a rabbit get inside the moon?

Anansi the Spider

This story is from the Ashanti of Ghana, a country in South Africa. The story features Anansi, a lovable trickster who is a popular character in the stories of this culture. His story answers the question: “Why is the moon in the sky?”

Listen and read along with the story here: [Anansi the Spider](#). What did you learn about the Ashanti people that you didn't know before you read this story?



The Tale of Rabbit and Coyote

This Mexican tale comes from the town of Juchitán, in Oaxaca, Mexico. This story also features animals that interact and talk like humans do. The trickster here is Rabbit—both he and Coyote are characters frequently found in folktales. This story answers the question: “How did Rabbit get inside of the moon?”

Listen and read along with the story here: [The Tale of Rabbit and Coyote](#).

What did you notice in the story that might have been different if this story wasn't Mexican? Hint: think about the foods found in the fields and trees. What about the words used? How might some of those parts of the story be different if it had taken place in your town?

Keep the fun going

Learn more about the stories of other cultures, or even one from your own! Ask family members and friends to share stories they know. Where do those stories come from? What questions do they answer?

Learn more about cultures and heritages by participating in the related patch programs [here](#)

If you enjoyed this activity, you may be interested in some of the activities listed below. Check out the ones for your Girl Scout level!



Daisy

Check out the 5 Flowers, 4 Stories, 3 Cheers for Animals! Journey, Vi's Story, or the Space Science Explorer or Good Neighbor badges.

Brownie

Check out the Celebrating Community, My Family Story, Making Friends, and Space Science Adventurer badges.

Junior

Check out the Scribe, Playing the Past, or Space Science Investigator badges.

Cadette

Check out the Book Artist, Comic Artist, Digital Movie Maker, New Cuisines, Night Owl, Screenwriter, and Space Science Researcher badges.

Senior

Check out the Novelist, Sky, Space Science Expert, and Troupe Performer badges

Ambassdor

Check out the Girl Scout Way and Space Science Master badges.

We want to hear about what you discover! Whether you are learning new stories, making up your own, or finding other ways to explore the heritage and cultures of others, we invite you to share what you've learned by tagging us: **#OurGSNCCPCommunity**

For more information on badges, check out the online [badge explorer!](#)

Need a copy of a Journey, badge requirements or want to order patches? While our shops are closed, please feel free to [shop online](#), or [email](#) us for merchandise needs. We will provide free shipping within in our council footprint on orders emailed to us (please provide phone number in email so we can call you for payment details).