

Black History Month Council Patch Program

Girl Scouts - North Carolina Coastal Pines
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From the arts to the sciences, African-Americans have played a prominent role in contributing to America's rich culture and development in the modern world. This Black History Month council patch program is focused on helping Girl Scouts to Discover, Connect, and Take Action as it relates to learning more about African-American history, culture, and notable contributions.

Black History Month as we celebrate it today was conceived by Carter G. Woodson, an African-American Harvard trained historian. In 1925, he started "Negro History Week" which was created to celebrate recognition and importance of the African-American contribution in America. In 1976, it was extended to a full month.

Black History Month council patch program was originally created by Girl Scout Troop #3432.
Girl Scouts – North Carolina Coastal Pines thanks the troop for the original activity content.
Over time these activities have been added to and updated to reflect the needs and interests of today’s girls.

Activity Requirements

Girl Scout Level	Discover	Connect	Take Action	Plus this many more activities from any category	Total Activities
Daisies	1	1	1	0	3
Brownies	1	1	1	1	4
Juniors	1	1	1	2	5
Cadettes	1	1	1	4	7
Seniors	1	1	1	4	7
Ambassadors	1	1	1	4	7

Discover

1. According to the latest census, <http://www.census.gov>, how many girls, between the ages of 5-17, identify as Black/African-American in the county of your troop. Invite a new girl to your troop.
2. Discover the names of four African-Americans inventors and what they invented. Discuss the inventions and how you use them today. What would it be like without these inventions?
3. Who created the first traffic light? How has this invention benefited pedestrians, bikers and drivers? Just for fun, play a game of Red Light, Green Light with your troop, friends or family.
4. Who were the Greensboro Four? How did their actions shape the future?
5. Gloria Dean Randle Scott was the first African-American National President of Girl Scouts of the USA. But she was no stranger to making history, discover other ways in which she shined as a history-maker.
6. Take a tour, [in person or virtually](#), of Vernon Malone College and Career Academy (VMCCA) located in Raleigh. VMCCA was named after Vernon Malone who was instrumental in merging Wake County Public School and Raleigh schools ending racial segregation in the area.
7. In a time when African-Americans were often barred from using banks, how did the establishment of Mechanics and Farmers Bank (M & F Bank), the first African-American bank, contribute to Black Wall Street becoming self-reliant? Discover more about Black Wall Street and the African-American duo that provided the leadership and initiative necessary for the beginnings of Black Wall Street.
8. Research four fields from the list below. When researching each field, discover at least one African-American (past or present) and the notable contributions made in that field.
 - Education
 - Medicine
 - Arts & Entertainment
 - Literature

- Sports
- Civil Rights
- Military
- Politics

Connect

1. With the knowledge you learned from activity 8 in the Discover section, create a game that helps you share your knowledge with others. Play a trivia game with the facts you learned, consider adding additional facts and photos so that you have enough questions for everyone to have a chance to play. Here's an example modeled after the game Jeopardy:
(Question) *Best known for advancing civil rights through nonviolence and civil disobedience.*
(Answer) *Who is Martin Luther King Jr.?*
2. Learn about the first African-American Girl Scout troop. When was it formed? Where was it located? When did the Girl Scouts USA begin to desegregate troops? Journal about how it might have felt to be a member of the troop or the troop leader.
3. Connect with your troop, family or friends to learn about African-American life and culture in North Carolina by visiting (in person or virtually) the [North Carolina Museum of History](https://www.ncmuse.org/). How does the museum celebrate Black History Month?
4. Connect with your troop, family or friends and visit (in person or virtually) one of the following:
 - African-American Heritage Trail in Fayetteville.
 - <https://www.visitfayettevillenc.com/things-to-do/cultural-heritage-trails/african-american-heritage-trail/>
 - Harvey B. Gantt Center for American-American Arts & Culture in Charlotte.
 - <https://www.ganttcenter.org/>
 - African-American Heritage Museum in Wilmington.
 - http://www.aahfwilmington.org/aahmw_home.html
 - International Civil Rights Center & Museum in Greensboro.
 - <https://www.sitinmovement.org/>
 - Historic Stagville in Durham.
 - <https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/historic-stagville>
5. Jazz is a huge part of the African-American history. Listen to famous Jazz artist such as: Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald, and Dizzy Gillespie. Sit, relax and listen, or get up and dance!
6. Read Shane DeRolf's poem "The Crayon Box that Talked" (included at the end of the activity list). Discuss the poem as a troop.
7. Research the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). How & why was the organization started? What is the mission of the NAACP? Who is the current President of the NC State Chapter? Who is the President of the Chapter in your County? Invite him/her to speak at one of your meetings.

Take Action

1. Make a collage of African-American people by cutting pictures from poplar magazines. How many pictures did you find? Were they easy to find? Why or why not? How do you feel about this? Share your feelings with your troop, friends, or family.

2. What song is known as the Black National Anthem? Learn the lyrics, the author & sing during a troop meeting or troop activity.
3. Complete the [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion council patch program](#) for your Girl Scout level. Purchase the DEI patch and wear it underneath the Building Beyond Today patch.
4. Visit pbs.org and read the [10 Black History Little Known Facts](#) article. Create a poster or skit for one of the facts and share it with your troop or family.
5. Visit the [African Region](#) within the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) website. The WAGGGS Africa Region represents how many Member Organizations? What is the membership total of girls and young women? Contact the director in one of the regions to inquire about connecting with a Girl Scout troop there. Become pen pals or simply exchange Girl Scout goodies.
6. Dig into Black History Month on the [Smithsonian Learning Lab](#) website. *The Lab is a free, interactive platform for discovering millions of authentic digital resources, creating content with online tools, and sharing in the Smithsonian's expansive community of knowledge and learning.* Share what you discovered / created with your troop, family, or friends.
7. Celebrate Black History Month.
 - Listen to Jazz music
 - Prepare a recipe from *What Mrs. Fisher Knows About Old Southern Cooking*, believed to be the first cookbook written by an African-American
 - Read a book with an African-American main character
8. Create a poster or display about a famous African-American woman. Why is she famous? Is there something about her you admire? Was she a Girl Scouts? Be sure your display includes information about her life and her accomplishments. Display at your school, church, or service unit.
9. Create a unity wreath as a troop. Trace everyone's hands on white paper. Then paint the hands different skin tones. Make sure to represent the multiple skin tones of the world. Then cut the middle out of a paper plate and glue the hands around the plate. Display at your meeting.

The Crayon Box That Talked

Shane DeRolf

While walking in a toy store the day before today
I overheard a crayon box with many things to say.

"I don't like Red!" said Yellow, and Green said, "Nor do I!
And no one here likes Orange, but no one knows just why."

"We are a bunch of crayons that doesn't get along,"
said Blue to all the others, "Something here is wrong!"

Well, I bought that box of crayons and took it home with me,
And laid out all the colors so the crayons could all see.
They watched me as
I colored with Red and Blue and Green,
And Black and White and Orange and every color in between.

They watched as Green became the grass and Blue became the sky.
The Yellow sun was shining bright on White clouds drifting by.

Colors were changing as they touched becoming something new.
They watched me as I colored, they watched 'til I was through.

And when I'd finally finished I began to walk away.
And as I did, the crayon box had something more to say.

"I do like Red!" said Yellow, and Green said, "So do I!
And, Blue, you were terrific so high up in the sky!"

"We are a box of crayons, each one of us unique.
But when we get together the picture is complete."

