

A Year in the Life of Juliette Patch Program

Flower Power

Girl Scouts enjoy a deep connection to the natural world. Gardening teaches us to be careful and responsible, and allows us to appreciate the beauty of colorful things that we have worked hard to grow. This month's patch focuses on enjoying and protecting nature.



May

Flower Power



Girl Scouts enjoy a deep connection to the natural world. From flower and food gardens at home, to adventurous hikes in the outdoors, Girl Scouts learn to be protectors and admirers of nature. The Juliette Gordon Low Southern Magnolia tree grows in Savannah, in honor of Juliette for founding the Girl Scouts. A seedling from the Juliette Gordon Low Southern Magnolia was planted at the Museum of Science and Industry in Tampa, Florida, in the hope that more organizations around the world will garden in honor of Girl Scouting. As companion plantings, chocolate mint was chosen for its low-growing and sprawling fragrant foliage that brings to mind thoughts of Thin Mint cookies. This garden also includes daisies in a nod to Juliette's childhood nickname.

Girl Scouts of the Black Diamond Council are very fortunate to live in a part of the United States that is covered in tremendous natural beauty. From the North Country Trail and the Wayne National Forest in Ohio, to the gardens at Blennerhassett Island, to the hiking trails in the New River National Recreation area and the botanical gardens and arboretum in Morgantown, our Girl Scouts have endless opportunities to adventure outside!

From their beginning as Daisies, Girl Scouts blossom into leaders of courage, confidence, and character. This month's badge program will have you sowing seeds, exploring nature, and learning about what you can do to protect the environment.

Discover – Girls will discover themselves and the world around them.

Complete three discover activities.

- ◆ Go on a walk in nature. Some options are a local park or on a trail in the woods. Use your phone or a camera to take pictures of some different flowers or other plants. When you get home, use the internet to identify the plants you took a picture of.
- ◆ Visit a botanical garden or arboretum. These are very interesting to visit because the different plants are labeled.
- ◆ Learn about plant taxonomy- that's the system by which plants are given their scientific names. http://www.biology4kids.com/files/studies_taxonomy.html Learn the scientific names of some plants that live in your neighborhood.
- ◆ Make a miniature fairy garden <http://www.hgtvgardens.com/crafts/a-fairy-container-garden>
- ◆ Plant a flower bulb or a seed and help it grow!
- ◆ Learn about the parts of a flower and their function <http://mocomi.com/parts-of-a-flower/>

Special thanks to the Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains www.girlscoutsgwm.org for creating the original badge program upon which this is based.

- Try to list as many plants that are used for food as you can. What food plants are grown around where you live?
- Learn about different careers that work with plants. What does a botanist do? How about a florist? How many other jobs can you find where people work with plants?
- Learn how to press flowers. Then keep them in an album or even frame them!

<http://www.wikihow.com/Press-Flowers>

Connect – Girls care about, inspire, and team with others. They care about the effect that human influence can have on the environment, and seek to learn more about how the natural world is important to human survival and what they can do to protect it. Complete three connect activities.

- Talk with a professional who works in an environmental career. This can be a park ranger, a Division of Natural Resources officer, an environmental scientist, or even a member of a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting nature. What are some other careers that involve nature?
- Help an elderly neighbor tend their flower garden or food garden.
- Volunteer to do some light landscaping for a local charity, nonprofit, or church. Plant a few flowers or even a small flowering tree.
- Create a bouquet of flowers for someone that you care about. Make sure that you are allowed to pick the flowers from wherever you pick them!
- Learn about the symbolic meanings of different flowers. Most flowers are symbolic of a different sentiment or emotion. <http://aboutflowers.com/flower-a-plant-information-and-photos/meanings-of-flowers.html>
- Using what you learned about flower meanings, go to a florist or a local grocery store that sells bouquets. Based on the flowers that are in the bouquets, can you tell if the different arrangements of flowers have a special meaning?
- Some flowers eventually turn into fruits- apples are a good example! Find out about a flower that eventually turns into a fruit, and use the fruit to make a healthy snack for your family or friends.
- Some flowers and herbs have been used for medicine for thousands of years. Learn about some different flowers/herbs that some people believe offer a medical benefit.

Take Action – Girls act to make the world a better place. Learn what you can do to protect the planet and ensure flowers and foods are around for everyone to enjoy. Complete three take action activities.

- Plants are essential to human life, and bees are essential to plant life. Learn about the pollination process and how honeybees help plants reproduce.

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- ◆ Find out what is threatening the world honeybee population, and take action to help honeybees survive and thrive. <http://www.queenofthesun.com/get-involved/10-things-you-can-do-to-help-bees/>
- ◆ Learn about citizen science and how everyday people can help collect important data for scientists. Sign your troop up for Bumblebee Watch, or find another citizen science project to help with that involves plants. <http://www.bumblebeewatch.org/>
- ◆ Learn about how pollution threatens flowering plants. Make a presentation like a poster or Youtube video to help others understand this problem. Get creative!
- ◆ Go on a litter walk in a local park or other public area. Pick up as much litter as possible. It is much easier for other people to enjoy nature when there isn't trash all over the place!
- ◆ Volunteer at a local community garden and help grow produce to help feed the hungry.
- ◆ Choose a flower that you like and give a talk to your troop, class, or family about the history of that flower, its symbolism, what climate it grows in, etc.
- ◆ Learn about climate change and what effect it can have on plant and animal life.



Anchor

To order any of the rockers and anchor patches please email Courtney Hall at chall@gsesc.org, call (843)552-9910 x2000, or stop by the North Charleston shop!

**Main anchor patch: \$3
Monthly rocker patch: \$2**



Rocker



Juliette's Flower Power Program Evaluation

Troop Age Level: ☐ Daisy ☐ Brownie ☐ Junior ☐ Cadette
☐ Senior ☐ Ambassador

Troop Leader's Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone# :(day) _____ (evening) _____ (cell) _____

1. What did your girls discover about themselves during the activities?
2. What did they discover about others in their troop and/or community?
3. What did your girls gain from connecting with local organizations/resources?
4. How did your girls take action while earning this patch?
5. What activities did your troop/group enjoy the most?
6. Did you change or adapt any activities? In what way?
7. Would you suggest any changes?
8. Comments:

