



Meet Me In St. Louis Patch Program

The purpose of the patch program for **Girl Scout Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors** is to provide an opportunity for in-depth exploration of the heritage and culture of the greater St. Louis area.

The development of St. Louis City and County has had a major impact on the other areas in this Council's service area. For this reason, the patch for older girls focuses on contributions of this specific area. Schools, public libraries and historical organizations throughout the Council service area should have additional information on the development of other communities.

The Girl Scout program is based on the principles of the Girl Scout Promise and Law, and the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, which engages girls to Discover who they are and what they stand for, Connect with others and Take Action to make the world a better place. A Girl Scout leader helps girls in developing the necessary life skills to become the best they can be. The leader encourages girls to manage tasks, to challenge themselves and cheers their accomplishments. Journey resources, *The Girl's Guide to Girl Scouting* and Program Standards, found in *Volunteer Essentials* and established by the national organization, are guides for troops in judging and improving the quality of program for girls. They are intended to help leaders by indicating practices which experience has shown to be effective in achieving a well-rounded troop program.

Troop program should meet the needs and interests of girls and include opportunities for:

- A wide variety of fun activities
- Individual and group participation
- Value development and skill building
- Interaction with troops at the same and different levels.
- Exploration of potential roles of women
- Understanding and appreciation of several cultures other than their own
- Active participation in the community

Requirements:

A girl must complete six activities to earn this patch.

Time Frame:

October 1 – September 30 of each year. This program is available online at [www.girlscoutsem.org>Programs>Patch Programs](http://www.girlscoutsem.org/Programs/Patch%20Programs)

Patch:

Upon completion the Meet Me in St. Louis patch may be purchased in the Girl Scout Shop.

**Contacts:**

In addition to the Emerson Resource Center, questions about the program can be directed to Lucretia Penn, 314.592.2337 or lpenn@girlscoutsem.org

Activities: Choose at least six of the following activitiesActivity 1:

Identify at least five different cultures, which were represented by the original settlers of the St. Louis area. Explore the reasons for their migrations to this part of the country. Attend an ethnic festival that displays the arts, crafts, dance, music and/or food of one of these groups. Discuss the cultural and historical contributions made by these ethnic groups.

Activity 2:

For many years, organized religion has provided mankind with hope for the future and courage to endure the present. Visit at least three historic churches of different denominations in the St. Louis area or in your community. How do the architecture and interior layouts of these buildings reflect the customs of the religion? What role did these congregations play in the development of their surrounding neighborhoods?

Activity 3:

St. Louis has been immortalized in song and film for hosting the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition (World's Fair). Explore the history of developing this event. Find a map of the fairgrounds and compare it with the current landscape. Compare and contrast the exhibitions and purposes of the 1904 World's Fair, with a more recent World's Fair (e.g., Knoxville, 1982 or New York, 1965).

Activity 4:

St. Louis is the home of several firsts in food, science, technology and education. Identify three "firsts" that occurred in the St. Louis area. Discover why this area served as the birthplace for these original developments or products.

Activity 5:

The St. Louis area is the site for many corporate headquarters. Find out why at least five corporations chose St. Louis as their home. What major contributions (if any) have each of these five major corporations made to the community?

Activity 6:

The silhouette on the patch is symbolic of the area it represents. Many other municipalities and neighborhoods have crests, shields or logos for identification. Collect at least seven different municipal identifications. Explain their meaning and share your knowledge with others.

Activity 7:

Museums are used to preserve our heritage. They are windows to our past. Visit at least three museums in our Council area (one of those could be the Missouri Historical Society). Discover how the museum originated, how the historical artifacts are obtained and stored, how the museum is currently funded, and what types of volunteer and staff opportunities are available at these organizations.

Activity 8:

Without the efforts of local associations, often composed of volunteers, a great deal of our heritage would not be preserved. Contact a local group which supports historical or archaeological preservation. Explore the types of projects this group sponsors, past and present.

Activity 9:

Practice being a historian. Develop a mural, display, pamphlet or other communications tool which describes the heritage of your community. Share your creation with newcomers to your area.

Activity 10:

Exploration of the western territory required protection by the United States military. Visit the site of a historic or an active military installation and learn about its role in the westward expansion of settlers.

Activity 11:

Many social programs, designed to aid needy citizens in our country, were pioneered in cities such as St. Louis. Explore the history and current status of at least three specific social institutions from this area, e.g., orphanages, neighborhood houses, city/county hospitals, public schools, etc.

**Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri
Patch Program Evaluation**

Indicate which Patch Program (check one)

- Show Me Paddle Wheels and Wagon Wheels Meet Me in St. Louis
 Economize Energy Juliette Low World Friendship Disability Awareness
 Superstar Troop

Troop #: _____ Leader Name: _____

As a leader, would you recommend this patch program to another troop? Yes ___ No ___

Number of girls who are participating in this survey:

___ Daisy ___ Brownie ___ Junior ___ Cadette ___ Senior ___ Ambassador

Read these questions to the Girl Scouts and record the total number of Yes and No answers to each question.

	Yes	No
1. While doing this patch, did you try something new?	_____	_____
2. Did you learn something that you will use outside of Girl Scouts?	_____	_____
3. While doing this patch, did you think about something in a new way?	_____	_____
4. Did the girls in your troop work together to complete this patch?	_____	_____
5. Did you talk to anyone outside your troop about what you learned?	_____	_____
6. Would you recommend this patch program to another girl?	_____	_____

Return completed form by mail or in person to the Girl Scout Shop, 2300 Ball Dr., St Louis, MO 63146.