

Badge Blueprints

Outdoors Badges

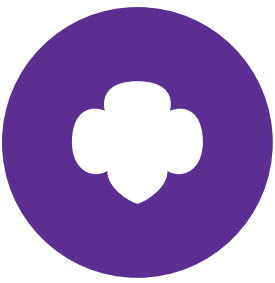
Junior-Ambassador | Grades 4-12

Earning badges is a great way for Girl Scouts to explore their interests and learn new skills. Badge Blueprints takes volunteers and Girl Scouts step-by-step through all the requirements to earn the badge. This resource covers badges for Girl Scout Juniors through Ambassadors.

Each month, the Emerson Resource Center will offer a new lineup of Badge Blueprints. For this month, check out these badges centered around nature and the outdoors! After completing all required steps, make sure to check out the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri Shop to purchase the grade-level specific badge.

Note to Adult: This Badge Blueprint is intended for use by the Girl Scout adult leading the activity. The tone and information provided helps the adult speak to the Girl Scouts who are participating in this Badge Blueprint.





Flowers Badge

Junior | Grades 4-5

Purpose: To experience the beauty of flowers.

Step 1: Grow Your Own Flower

Purchase a package of seeds for a flower you think is beautiful.

- Plant the seed, water it, and take care of it until it blooms.
- Keep the seed packet so you'll have the instructions and can track what to expect as it grows.

Step 2: Change a Flower's Color

Try a fun science experiment using a **white carnation**.

- Cut the stem and place it in a glass of water mixed with food coloring.
- Make several different containers with different colors to see which ones work best.
- Observe how long it takes for the color to move through the petals.

Step 3: Discover Medicinal Flowers

Humans who use plants to help people get well are called **ethnobotanists**.

- Learn about this science and research three different flowers or herbs that are used to make medicine or promote healing.
- Find out what each plant is used for and how it helps people.

Step 4: Make a Flower Lei

In Hawaii, people are welcomed with a beautiful flower necklace called a **lei**.

- Make your own lei using fresh or artificial flowers to welcome someone to your home or troop meeting.
- Talk about how giving flowers can show friendship and kindness.

Step 5: Create a Flower Bouquet

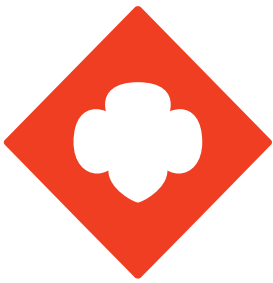
Design your own bouquet with several of your favorite flowers.

- Cut the flowers to the length you want, twist wire around the stems to hold them together, and cover the wire with ribbon.
- Share your bouquet with someone special or use it as a cheerful decoration.

Bonus Activity:

Find out which flower represents your birth month!

- For example, the birth flower for **May** is **Lily of the Valley** and for **February** it's **Violet**.
- Research all twelve months and share each flower with the "birthday girl" of the month.



Trees Badge

Cadette | Grades 6-8

Purpose: I will know more about trees and their connection with people and the community.

Step 1: Dream Up a Tree House!

Research different tree houses and how they are built. Then, draw a plan for a tree house you'd like to live in. Share your design with friends or family and ask for feedback—how livable is your tree house?

Step 2: Tree Treasure Hunt

Take a walk in your neighborhood or at a Girl Scout camp. Identify a least five different types of trees. Make a **tree map** showing where each tree is located and note how it got there—was it planted or did it grow naturally?

Step 3: Create Tree-Inspired Art

Explore how to make art or useful things using parts of a tree!

- Press leaves between sheets of waxed paper to make coasters or book covers.
- Use acorns, twigs, or pine cones to make a sculpture or another creation of your own.

Step 4: Plan a Tree Garden

Visit a **local garden nursery** and talk to the staff about trees. Ask questions like:

- What trees grow best in our community?
- Which trees live the longest?
- What trees can be planted in a flower garden?

Look around, take notes, and then design a **tree garden** for your community. Share your plan with the nursery staff and ask for their feedback.

Step 5: Learn from an Arborist

Find out what an **arborist** does to care for trees. If possible, join an arborist during a tree inspection in your community, especially after a storm. Learn what happens when lightning strikes a tree and how they decide if a tree can be saved.

Bonus Activity

Work with your troop to plant a **legacy tree** in your community! Ask a local business, park, or school if you can plan it on their property. Decide together what kind of tree to plant, invite families and friends, and hold a special **tree planting ceremony** to celebrate.





Sky Badge

Senior | Grades 9-10

Purpose: I will appreciate the magic of the sky—from science to stars and stories.

Step 1: Red Sky at Night...

Take **five photographs** of the sky showing different colors (such as red, orange, blue, gray, or purple).

- Describe what causes each color.
- Explain the **scientific reason** behind it—what happens in the atmosphere to make the sky look that way?

Step 2: Layers of the Sky

The atmosphere around Earth is made up of different layers, each with special jobs.

- Learn about each layer—**what gases it contains** and **what it does** to help humans on Earth.
- Find out **which layers reflect radio waves** and allow radio signals to travel long distances around Earth.

Create a simple chart or drawing to show what you learned.

Step 3: Sky in Motion

Visit your **nearest airport** (with an adult).

- Watch planes take off and land.
- Identify at least one **type of airplane** you see.
- Count how many **runways** are open.
- Find and describe where the **air traffic control tower** is located and what it does.

Step 4: Light Pollution

Explore what **light pollution** is and why it matters.

- What causes it?
- What effects does it have on humans, animals, and the environment?
- Does the **state of Missouri** have any laws that regulate industrial or outdoor lighting?
- Learn what people can do to **reduce light pollution** in their communities.

Bonus: Research places in the **United States** where there is **zero light pollution** (also known as Dark Sky Parks).

- Name five of them.
- Can you visit one of those places—or watch a video that shows what the night sky looks like there?

Step 5: Sky Art

Create a **piece of art** that celebrates the **wonders of the sky**—it could be a painting, poem, photograph, sculpture, or song.

- Share your artwork as part of a **presentation** about what you learned while earning this badge.



Water Badge

Ambassador | Grades 11-12

Purpose: Explore water in its natural state and learn about water safety, sound, and global issues.

Step 1: Discover Your Favorite Water Place

Think about a **natural water spot** you enjoy—a creek, lake, or waterfall. Make a plan to visit. Consider:

- How will you get there?
- What activities will you do while there?

Step 2: Capture the Sounds of Water

Be creative! Record the sounds of water in different settings:

- A waterfall
- Waves crashing on a beach
- A stream running down a hillside
- Water hitting the shore of a lake

Share your sound composition with others and discuss ways it could be used (i.e., in storytelling, music, or education).

Step 3: Learn About Water Hazards

Research water-related hazards in your community. Consider:

- What causes them?
- What happens when they occur?

Discuss a **major water hazard event** you know about. Consider:

- What caused it?
- How can people stay safe during such events?

Step 4: Explore Global Water Issues

Research a **major water issue** in an **underdeveloped country**. Talk with a water scientist about the issue. Develop a list of 10 questions to ask the scientist, including:

- How did they become interested in water?
- What did they study to work in this field?
- What solutions exist to keep people safe and prevent illness?

Step 5: Water Scavenger Hunt

Lead a group of younger Girl Scouts on a scavenger hunt to a water source. Take the group on a tour and ask each girl to find items or features related to the location. Recognize the girls who successfully identify everything on the list.



How to Get Your Girl Scout Badge

When you finish the steps to earn a badge, it's time to celebrate your hard work by getting the badge for your uniform! There are two easy ways to get your badge:

1. Stop by the Girl Scout Shop

Visit the Girl Scout Shop at **2300 Ball Dr., St. Louis 63146**. You'll find badges, uniforms, fun Girl Scout gear, and more!

2. Shop Online

Go to girlscoutsem.org and click the **Shop** button at the top of the page. You'll see links to the Shop hours, location, and **email orders** (includes instructions for placing an online order through the GSEM Shop).

Tip for Leaders and Families: You can purchase badges individually, or leaders can place a troop order to celebrate all the Girl Scouts at once.



**Junior Flowers
Badge**



**Cadette Trees
Badge**



Senior Sky Badge



**Ambassador Water
Badge**



Emerson Resource Center

The Emerson Resource Center (ERC), located in the Girl Scout Service Center, is dedicated to supporting volunteers and leaders, offering a variety of resources from outdoor equipment to program essentials and everything in between. The ERC is a lending library with items available to borrow such as books, kits, equipment for ceremonies, songs on CD, badge activity kits, and programs-in-a-box.

For more information on the ERC or assistance with resources, contact Kathy Dabrowski, Senior Manager, Archives and Special Collections, at 314.592.2324 or kdabrowski@girlscoutsem.org.

GSEM Shop and Build-A-Bear Workshop®

Make sure to stop by the Girl Scouts of Eastern Missouri Shop to get all the essentials, explore the latest in uniforms and apparel, and everything else Girl Scouts needs to express themselves!

And, located within the Shop, the new Build-A-Bear Workshop® is now open—providing a hands-on opportunity for the community to build plush companions while fostering creativity, confidence, and joy!

Book Your Party Today!

Celebrate birthdays, team milestones, or any special occasion with us. Our expert staff will guide your group step-by-step through the bear-making process and ensure every guest leaves with smiles (and a new cuddly companion!).

Shop & Play

Not hosting a party? No problem! The store is open for walk-in customers to purchase bears and accessories. Stop by anytime to bring a new furry friend home.

To learn more or reserve your party, visit girlscoutsem.org/buildabear.

Shop and Build-A-Bear Workshop® Hours

Monday-Wednesday: 10 am-5 pm

Thursday-Saturday: 10 am-7 pm

Sunday: noon-5 pm

**Hours subject to change*

Shop Location

2300 Ball Drive
St. Louis, MO 63146



girl scouts 
of eastern missouri

2300 Ball Drive | girlscoutsem.org | 314.592.2300

