

MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS PATCH PROGRAM

PURPOSE:

To provide an opportunity for in-depth exploration of the heritage and culture of the Greater St. Louis area for Girl Scout Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors.

INTRODUCTION:

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

ACTIVITIES:

A girl **must complete EIGHT activities** to earn this Interest Patch.

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.
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?
3. St. Louis has been immortalized in song and film for hosting the 1904 World's Fair. Explore the history of developing this exposition. 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 recent World's Fair. E.g., Knoxville - 1982 or New York - 1965.
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.
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?

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6. The silhouette on “Our Own Council’s Interest 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.
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.
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. Volunteer your services for at least one month.
9. Practice being an 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.
10. Exploration of the western territory required protection by the United States military. Visit the site of an historic or an active military installation and learn about its role in the “Westward Expansion.”
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.

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