



Florida History

PURPOSE

The purpose of this program is to educate Girl Scouts on the state of Florida as they become more familiar with the areas in which they live; at the county level, in the Girl Scout council area, and the entire state of Florida.



LEGACY

Girl Scouts in Florida have the privilege of living in one of America's greatest states. Florida has a rich, dramatic history and a deeply varied culture. The Florida History patch was originally created by the Gateway Girl Scout Council to celebrate Florida's 150th Anniversary as a state.

GIRL SCOUT LEVELS / REQUIREMENTS

To earn the Florida History patch, Girl Scouts need to complete a Take Action Project along with the following requirements. The patch is divided into 3 area segments: County, Council and State. Within each area segment, activities are divided into 2 sections: Discover and Connect. With the exception of Daisy Girl Scouts, Girl Scouts are encouraged to complete at least one activity from each section: Discover and Connect.

- Daisy Girl Scouts: 1 activity from each area segment
- Brownie Girl Scouts: 2 activities from each area segment
- Junior Girl Scouts: 3 activities from each area segment
- Cadette/Senior/Ambassador Girl Scouts: 4 activities from each area segment

Please review the [Girl Scout Internet Safety Pledge for All Girl Scouts](#).

RESOURCES

- Useful resources can be discovered online or by visiting your local county library. You can also check out museums, the Florida Park Service, the Florida Department of Tourism, local Chambers of Commerce. Some resources to get you started are below.



- For more information about our state's symbols, visit <http://www.stateofflorida.com/florida-symbols.aspx> or <http://www.statesymbolsusa.org/states/united-states/florida>.
- For more information about weather stations, visit <http://stayathomemoms.about.com/od/educational-activities/a/Make-A-Home-Weather-Station.htm>

ACTIVITIES

Area Segment #1 – County Area

DISCOVER

- ACTIVITY #1: Learn about your county government.
 - Who are the commissioners for your county? What do they do, when do they meet and how can you communicate with them if you would like to engage them in your future crusades?
 - Who is the commissioner for the area you are in? Choose one of the female commissioners for your county and find out what she does and what causes are her main focus?
 - What municipality do you live in?
 - Where is the county seat in your county and what is a county seat?
- ACTIVITY #2: Identify businesses and/or industries in your county.
 - What is the most important industry for your family, how does it support you?
 - Identify a business/industry in your county you would like to work in and research what experience/education you need to get the job.
- ACTIVITY #3: Do some research to find out about the founding and settlement of your county.

CONNECT

- ACTIVITY #4: Visit a historical site in your county.
- ACTIVITY #5 Have a heritage supper. Research and plan food and entertainment from the past.

Area Segment #2 – Council Area

DISCOVER

- ACTIVITY #1: Find out about your Girl Scout council.
 - What is the name of your council? What counties are included in your council? Where is the headquarters? Where are the retail stores? Locate these counties and locations on a map.
 - What programs does your council offer for Girl Scouts? What is the CEO Girl Advisory Board and what do they do?
- ACTIVITY #2: Do some research to find three important historical events that occurred in your council's area.
- ACTIVITY #3: Learn about three important people from your council's area (historical or today).

CONNECT

- ACTIVITY #4: Visit a historical site in your council's area.
- ACTIVITY #5: Investigate and/or attend a festival or annual event in your council's area.

Area Segment #3 – State Area

DISCOVER

- ACTIVITY #1: Choose one of the following art activities to complete.
 - Create a placemat showcasing 10 important historical places in Florida just like the ones you sometime see in restaurants.
 - Create an old-fashioned postcard and depict a different historically important event in each of the letters.



- ACTIVITY #2: Gather photos and include biographies about three nationally known people from Florida, (at least one should be a woman).

- **ACTIVITY #3:** Learn about Florida government.
 - Find out the names of the state senators and representatives.
 - How many are there?
 - What do they do and how can you connect with them?
- **ACTIVITY #4:** Learn about the history and settlement of one of the following populations in Florida:
 - African Americans
 - Hispanic/Latin Americans
 - Native Americans
 - Europeans


CONNECT

- **ACTIVITY #5:** Visit two historical sites in the state. (The sites must be different from any that you may have visited prior to completing this patch.)
- **ACTIVITY #6:** Investigate and/or attend a festival or annual event in your state.

TAKE ACTION

Share what you've discovered while doing this program by completing a Take Action Project. Some suggestions are listed below:

- **Be a Volunteer in Your Community**
 - Some examples are to remind people to vote, help at a soup kitchen, collect items for your local animal shelter, plant a tree or garden, or clean up a park or beach.
- **Become a Historian**
 - Contact a historical site and ask if there is a way you can volunteer.
- **Florida Fun**
 - Discover the symbols of Florida; such as the state's bird, animal, flower, tree, flag, song, motto, etc. Share the information you've learned with others by making a coloring book or scrapbook.
 - Make a map of the state and create a game that helps other Girl Scouts identify where the counties are located.

- 
- Display a map that includes statistical information about the population across the state and population changes over the years.
 - Your Choice
 - Any other activity that you can create that would educate others in your community on Florida history.