

Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York, Inc.
8 Mountain View Avenue
Albany, NY 12205
(518)489-8110 Fax (518)489-8065
www.girlscoutsneny.org



Winter Funderland Patch Program

Winter in the Northeast is a wonderful and exciting time of year. The snow is falling; the air is crisp and clean. Wildlife has prepared for a long cold season. Families and friends celebrate a variety of holidays and a brand new year is upon us. There are all sorts of sports to try, foods to enjoy, fun projects and interesting wildlife to observe. Winter is also a good time to help those in need in your community!! A **Funderland** of activities to enjoy for all ages!!

This patch program was designed to encourage Girl Scouts to try a variety of activities available to those who are fortunate enough to experience winter in the northeast.

Special thanks to Troop 1330 for this program, developed as part of their Junior Bronze Award.

When you have completed the patch program you may purchase patches from the GSNENY Store.

Requirements

Daisy	4 activities from at least 2 different categories
Brownies	5 activities from at least 3 different categories
Juniors	6 activities from at least 3 different categories

*****In addition to the above requirements*****

All age levels must review signs, symptoms and prevention of hypothermia and frostbite. Information can be found on the internet and at your local library.

Arts & Crafts

1. Make paper snowflakes and use them to decorate a room, table, or other project.
2. Make holiday ornaments for your troop, friends or families, or use these homemade ornaments as part of a service project to decorate a group home or other community facility.
3. Make a snow globe using small jars such as recycled baby food jars, winter themed small figurines or animals and glitter. Glue the figurines to the inside of the lid. Fill the jar 2/3 with water and add some glitter. Let glue dry before attaching lid. Place a small amount of glue inside the edge of the lid. Let glue dry before turning jar over. Decorate lid (bottom of globe) with winter or holiday fabric scraps & ribbon.
4. Create a sock snowman using a clean white sock stuffed with poly fill. Decorate snowman with paint, marker or stitching. Use yarn, sewing scraps and old buttons for decorations as well. This is a great way to recycle all those extra buttons, scraps and odd socks.
5. Design & create your own winter scarf. Experiment with different types and textures of yarn and stitching. Ask a grandparent or other adult to help you learn to knit or crochet.

6. Design and create your own winter jewelry by recycling old beads, or broken costume jewelry you have on hand. Experiment with nature; paint a small winter scene or winter wildlife on a small piece of fabric or stone. Glue a safety pin on back for a decorative pin.

Winter Activities (be sure to dress appropriately for the weather and temperature for outdoor activities)

1. Get together with your troop and go sledding (be sure the appropriate paperwork is completed and the site meets all Safety Activity Checkpoints requirements).
2. Build a snowman or snow creature with your troop.
3. Create snow angels.
4. Work with your troop to create a winter themed play. Perform your play for your families.
5. Take a winter nature hike. Take notice of the wildlife and how it differs from that you might see during a spring/summer/fall hike. See if you can identify tracks in the snow. Write down what you observe and compare with others on the hike. What did you observe that someone else did not?
6. Plan a winter party without a holiday theme. Decorate with a snowy theme or try a beach or Hawaii theme. Serve food and beverages fitting to your theme.

Winter Sports (for all fields trips, be sure the appropriate paperwork is completed and the site is Council approved). Dress appropriately for the temperature and activity.

1. Go skating at a local ice skating rink.
2. Participate in or watch an indoor arena sport such as hockey or arena football.
3. Organize a skiing (downhill or cross country), snowboarding or tubing day at a local winter resort. The northeast has a lot to offer; research on the Internet which resorts offer the most of what your troop wants to try. Ask for group or Girl Scout discounts.
4. Try snowshoeing on your winter hike, or in your back yard. How different does it feel to walk on the snow in snowshoes rather than boots? Is it easier or more difficult?



Foods

1. Get together with your troop for a cookie exchange. Everyone bring a simple family cookie recipe. Be sure all your ingredients are available. After everyone helps make the cookies, exchange different varieties to bring home for your family to try.
 2. Make a gingerbread house using a variety of ingredients such as graham crackers, cookies, colorful candies and frostings. Use a variety of colors and shapes.
- OR**
3. Organize a gingerbread making activity with a younger troop. Help them to design and build their own unique gingerbread houses.
 4. Roast chestnuts. Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Each nut will have to be notched with a knife before roasted, have an adult help with this. Bake for 30 minutes or until the skin opens and the insides are tender. Be careful, the nuts are HOT when fresh out of the oven. Let cool a bit before cracking them open.
 5. Make Homemade Hot Chocolate: You can also look online or in a cookbook. Ask a family member if there is a favorite family recipe for homemade hot chocolate. *Here is an easy recipe to try—have an adult help!*

Makes about 12 - 4oz servings: 6 cups low fat milk, ½ to ¾ cup chocolate syrup (depending on how chocolaty you like it), a bag of mini marshmallows. Mix together in saucepan over medium heat until just before boiling. Using a ladle, fill an average size

mug 1/2 way. Add several marshmallows to each cup & serve. Try stirring with a peppermint stick or cinnamon stick to add a different taste! How does your homemade hot chocolate compare to the instant packets? Try a taste test!

6. With your troop help cook and/or serve a holiday meal at a local nursing home or community organization.

Winter Service

- Gather your troop on a snowy day and offer to shovel driveways and sidewalks for elderly or ill neighbors.
- Organize a Food Drive with other troops to help stock your local food pantry.
- Organize a Pet Food Drive with another troop and donate to a local animal shelter.
- Collect gently used warm coats, boots and other winter outerwear for the needy in your community.
- Visit a nursing home or senior residence around the holidays. Share your homemade holiday ornaments or homemade cards.

OR

- Organize a post holiday caroling event with your troop to a local nursing home or senior residence. After the holidays there are often less visitors and activities for the residents to enjoy.
- Plan and organize your own service project. Discuss your plan with your leader or another adult.



Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York, Inc.
8 Mountain View Avenue
Albany, NY 12205
(518)489-8110 Fax (518)489-8065
www.girlscoutsneny.org

PATCH PROGRAM EVALUATION

Council _____ Troop _____ Service Unit _____ Age Level _____

Leader's Name _____

Address _____

Street

City

Zip

Phone (h) _____ (w) _____ Email _____

Our troop of _____ girls worked on and completed the _____ Patch Program.

Please complete the following evaluation with responses from the girls.

1. Why did you choose this program? _____

2. How much time did you spend on it? _____

3. What outside resources did you use? (people, facilities, equipment, etc.) _____

4. What part did you like best? _____

5. What would you do differently another time? _____

6. What are some things you learned to do for the first time or better? _____

7. How did the adults feel about the program? _____

Patches may be obtained from the GSNENY Store.
Evaluation forms may be submitted to Linda Stephen lstephen@girlscoutsneny.org