

Patch Program

Celebrate America 250

Celebrate 250 years of freedom! This unique GSEWNI patch honors a legacy of freedom started in 1776 that continues thru the birth of Girl Scouts in 1912 and the birth of our Council in 1932. The common theme is liberty—in earning this patch, Girl Scouts uplift a spirit of freedom that has been part of our Girl Scout movement since the start. America 250 and Girl Scouts—let freedom ring!

Grade level requirements:

- **Daisies** - Complete 1 activity from each section.
- **Brownies and Juniors** - Complete 1 activity from each section, plus 2 more from any section.
- **Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors** - Complete 1 activity from each section, plus 4 more from any section.

Learn

Take a look back at 250 years of American history and traditions.

- Read a book (fiction or non-fiction) to learn about life in America during the Revolutionary War.
- Find and listen to at least 3 patriotic or national songs. Learn the words to one and sing it with your troop or family.
- Learn about Girl Scouting during America's 200th birthday in 1976. What was different? What is the same? Find a badge that girls could have earned in 1976 and do at least one of the requirements.

- Research an influential, historical American woman. Write a short essay or create a presentation about how she inspired Americans and how her actions helped shape America today.
- Learn how to have a Flag Ceremony, then participate in one at an event or troop meeting. If you are already a Flag Ceremony expert, help a group of younger Girl Scouts learn it.

Create and Celebrate

Get creative as you prepare to celebrate America's 250th birthday!

- Craft something red, white, and blue that you can wear on to celebrate the 250th birthday on the 4th of July.
- Find and make a craft or a recipe that would have been popular in the United States 250 years ago.
- Draw, paint, or make a collage of symbols of American freedom.
- Create a work of art that represents America the Beautiful (using the song for inspiration, or that represents your own vision of our country's beauty).
- Write your own poem or song celebrating America 250. Recite or perform your piece for friends, family, or your troop!

Connect

Get involved with your local community to discover what makes your home a special part of the USA.

- Attend an America250 event in your area. You can find information about upcoming events at <https://america250wa.org/events> and <https://america250.idaho.gov/events>

- March, walk, or ride in a parade.
- Visit a historical site, a local landmark, or a museum with an exhibit on local or national history. Take a tour if available! Share at least 3 facts you learned while visiting with your friends, family, or troop.
- Create a map or brochure that you could give to a tourist visiting your area. Highlight at least 5 local landmarks or places that make your area special, with information on how to visit them. If you can, visit these places and take your own photos to use for your map or brochure.
- Collect recipes that have been passed down through the years, from your family and from your community. As a troop, combine all of your recipes to make a cookbook to share. Here's one to get you started: America's 250th Apple Pie, from the Washington State Apple Commission. <https://america250wa.org/americas-250th-apple-pie/>

Take Action

Put what you've learned into action and help make a difference for your community and for America.

- Participate in Washington State's Day of Service on June 14th
<https://america250wa.org/resources/key-commemorative-dates/day-of-service/>
- Participate in the America250 in Idaho Service Challenge
<https://www.idahokindness.com/>
- Make cards or write letters of gratitude to active-duty military, veterans, and/or first responders.

When you have completed your project, share it with GSEWNI by completing this form:
<https://forms.gle/qP6Nqb5iuW32cqzQ9>

