

Amphibians Girl Scout Patch

REQUIREMENTS:

Complete the three starred (*) activities AND
Daisies add 1 activity
Brownies add 2 activities
Juniors add 3 activities
Girl Scouts 11+ add 4 activities



DISCOVER:

_____ **All About Amphibians.* Learn about amphibians, and answer as many of these questions as you can. What does the word “amphibian” mean? What are the different types of amphibians? Where in the world can they be found? What do they eat? How long can they go without water? How do they protect themselves from predators? Why are some more brightly colored than others? What else did you learn?

_____ *Amphibian Habitats.* Learn about the different types of habitats in which amphibians are found around the world. Which animals share these habitats with amphibians? Are any of these animals endangered?

_____ *An Amphibian Near You.* Visit the ABQ BioPark Zoo. Go to the “Amphibians: Life on a Limb” exhibit and answer the following questions: What role do amphibians play in an ecosystem? How can amphibians measure the health of an environment? What is the purpose of the chemicals found in the skin of some amphibians? How can these chemicals benefit humans? What cultural significance do amphibians hold for some cultures? What else did you learn about amphibians?

CONNECT:

_____ **Comparing Local Amphibians.* Use the attached brochure or pick one up in the “Amphibians: Life on a Limb” exhibit, or go online to find out which amphibians can be found in New Mexico. Next, go on a nature hike to see if you can find any of the amphibians in the wild that are on the brochure.

_____ *Build Your ID Chart.* Pick two amphibians from the brochure or from your online research and make a comparison chart. Be sure to include which habitat they are found, what they eat, what likes to eat them, how long they live, and other fun facts! Next, make a larger chart with the rest of your troop to see what everyone else discovered.

_____ *Life Cycle.* Amphibians have an amazing life cycle. See the attached activity to help you identify the different stages of this life cycle. How does this compare with the life cycle of reptiles? What about that of humans?

_____ *Dangerous Beauty.* Amphibians have some neat defenses to escape from predators. Flashing their bright colors, mimicking other poisonous animals, and camouflage to name a few. Find an amphibian in the “Amphibians: Life on a Limb” exhibit or online, and determine what defense mechanism it uses to out-smart predators.

_____ *A Big Job.* Stop by the ABQ BioPark Zoo during one of our Discovery Days (our 2013 Earth Day celebration is April 20!) and interview a keeper or volunteer who works with amphibians. Find out about their job, what they studied in school, and ask for any advice they have for someone who wants to work with amphibians, too. Visit www.abqbiopark.com for a list of events.

TAKE ACTION:

_____ **Saving Amphibians.* Learn about amphibian decline and conservation. Why are they so endangered? What can you do to help amphibians? See the attached flyer for 10 simple ways to help. Make a list of at least three actions your troop will do this year.

_____ *Start a Drive.* The New Mexico BioPark Society helps fund important conservation work at the BioPark, included amphibian conservation, and have your troop start a drive to make a donation. Or, start a drive to collect old batteries in your school and neighborhoods and bring any collected batteries to the ABQ BioPark Zoo’s Administration Building.



PATCHES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE GIRL SCOUT SHOP, LA TIENDA, FOR \$2.00 EACH.