

Giraffe Girl Scout Patch

REQUIREMENTS:

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



DISCOVER:

_____ **All About Giraffes*. Learn about giraffes. Where do they live? What do they eat? How long can they go without water? How do giraffes “hide” from predators? Find out the different subspecies of giraffes and the differences in their spot patterns.

_____ *Giraffe Neighbors*. Learn about the animals that share habitat with giraffes. Create a list of five other animals that live with giraffes in Africa. Are any of these animals endangered?

_____ *A Giraffe Near You*. Visit the ABQ BioPark Zoo. Observe and record the behavior of an individual giraffe and how the giraffes behave with each other. How do the mother and baby giraffe behave with one another?

CONNECT:

_____ *How Big Is a Giraffe?* Use a piece of rope the length of an adult male giraffe’s height (18 feet). How many Girl Scouts in your troop does it take to equal the length of a giraffe? (Hint: you can spread the rope on the floor and have members of your troop lie down in a line until you find the answer!) Why don’t giraffes get dizzy when they lift up their heads? Find out about the blood circulation of giraffes and explain what a wonder net is. Use a filled gallon of water and explain that this is only 1/3 the weight and half the size of a giraffe’s heart; explain why giraffes need such large hearts.

_____ *Can You Spot the Giraffe?* The spots on giraffes help them blend in with their habitats. Look at pictures of the different subspecies of giraffes. Are their spot patterns different? Do these subspecies live in different habitats? How do these patterns help each subspecies blend in with each habitat? What species can you find at the ABQ BioPark Zoo?

_____ *Compare*. Which common animal most resembles a giraffe – a dog, a cow, or a rabbit? Talk about four-chambered stomachs and hooves. Define ruminants and find out what other animals fit this definition. Have each troop member make a giraffe tongue (cut a piece of fabric that is 18 inches long by 2.5 inches wide) and talk about its length and how giraffes use their tongues to eat – explain what prehensile means. What other animals use prehensile organs?

_____ *A Big Job*. Stop by the ABQ BioPark Zoo during one of our Discovery Days and interview a keeper or volunteer who works with giraffes. Find out about their job, what they studied in school, and ask for any advice they have for someone who wants to work with giraffes, too. Visit www.ABQBioPark.com for a list of events.

TAKE ACTION:

_____ **Saving Giraffes*. Learn about giraffe conservation. Is their habitat in danger? What is being done to help giraffes and to protect their habitat? Make a list of three things your troop can do to help giraffes and their habitat, and a plan of action to do at least one of the items from your list.

_____ *Animal Enrichment*. What is enrichment and how does it help keep giraffes healthy and happy at the ABQ BioPark Zoo? Go to www.ABQBioPark.com for a schedule of Summer Discovery Days, and come meet giraffe keepers and make enrichment items for other Zoo animals.

_____ *Adopt a Giraffe*. Research organizations, such as the NM BioPark Society or the Giraffe Trust, that support giraffe conservation, and sponsor a giraffe as a troop.



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