

Explore U.S. Coast Guard Pride Patch



Guidelines: Complete the required activity and then the number of activities for your grade level according to the grid.

	Discover	Connect	Take Action	Any Activity Under Any Key
Girl Scout Daisy	1	1	1	0
Girl Scout Brownie	1	1	1	1
Girl Scout Junior	1	1	1	2
Girl Scout Cadette	1	1	1	3
Girl Scout Senior	1	1	1	4
Girl Scout Ambassador	1	1	1	5

DISCOVER

- The Coast Guard is the oldest maritime service. It is a combination of five different government agencies that were once independent: The Revenue Cutter Service, the Lighthouse Service, the Steamboat Inspection Service, Bureau of Navigation and the Life-Saving Service. Find out how each of these different services might influence the missions of the Coast Guard today.
- Find out who the only Coast Guardsman to win the Congressional Medal of Honor was, what it was for and when it was awarded.
- Explain the difference between an enlisted member and an officer.
- Choose a cutter currently in service in the Coast Guard. Find out why it is named what it is and when it was commissioned.
- Find out about some of the famous animals that have served with the US Coast Guard.
- Learn about the history of the US Coast Guard. Link to a downloadable coloring book on 200 years of Coast Guard History: (http://www.uscg.mil/TOP/downloads/coloring_books/200yrs/)
- Learn about the different boats, cutters and aircraft that the Coast Guard uses. (<http://www.uscg.mil/datasheet/>)
- Learn about what some of the missions or duties that the Coast Guard is tasked with. (<http://www.uscg.mil/top/missions/>) Think of ways that these duties might have an effect on your life.

CONNECT

- Tour the Old Coast Guard Station in Virginia Beach, VA. You can also tour some of the exhibits on-line if you cannot tour the actual building. (www.oldcoastguardstation.com)
- Visit a lighthouse in your area and find out about its history. Draw a picture of this lighthouse and write a story about what it would be like to be a lighthouse keeper.
- Visit a Coast Guard base. Tour a boat, cutter, or aircraft. Learn from the crew of the boat or aircraft what it is like to be stationed at such a unit. Learn about what kind of jobs they might do.
- Research Boating Safety course options and age requirements for each. Take an online, home study or classroom course on boater safety to obtain your boater card and certification.
<http://uscgboating.org/recreational-boaters/boating-safety-courses.php>
http://www.boatcourse.com/Virginia_PWC/default.aspx

TAKE ACTION

- Gather boating safety tips, and information on National Safe Boating week (usually in May), safe vessel checks, etc. Hold a boaters safety event for your troop families or your service unit, invite Coast Guard Active Duty or Auxiliary to do presentations and set up displays, provide printed materials, hands on displays and interactive demonstrations.
 - <http://www.uscgboating.org/>
 - <http://www.uscgboating.org/safety/publications.htm>
 - http://www.uscgboating.org/safety/fedreqs/equ_pfd.htm
 - <http://www.uscgboating.org/safety/bui.htm>
 - <http://www.safeboatingcouncil.org/>
- Learn about the Coast Guard Auxiliary at <http://www.cgaux.org/>. What is their primary function? What are the three service areas? What is the minimum age to join? What are the requirements to join? Share this information in a presentation to adults and girls.
- Write a minimum of one paragraph explaining what the goal of YOUR OWN activity is. When writing the goal, take time to consider questions such:
 1. What interests you most about this topic?
 2. What would you most like to learn, do, or share?
 3. What do you hope to accomplish?
 4. What do you want to come away with from this experience?
 5. When you have completed your activity, what will you have learned, done, or shared?
 6. How will you measure your success?
- Once you've written the explanation, list the steps you'll take to achieve this goal.
- Review what you've written with your adult advisor before beginning work on YOUR OWN goal's activity. Discuss how the chosen steps will enable you to reach your goal.
- Listen to and then sing the Coast Guard Anthem. (<http://www.uscg.mil/top/downloads/anthem.asp>)
- Invite a member of the United States Coast Guard to visit your troop and explain what his/her role in the Coast Guard is. Ask him/her to explain some of the differences between the Coast Guard and other branches of the military. Ask him/her some of the places you can be stationed while in the Coast Guard.
- Invite the spouse or child of a member of the United States Coast Guard to visit your troop and interview them. What is it like to have a family member in the Coast Guard? Where have they lived? How does their life differ from yours?