

Explore Poquoson

ci.poquoson.va.us/

Poquoson lies in the Virginia peninsula. As demonstrated through its name, Poquoson contains much history which shaped Virginia.

GUIDELINES: Visit Poquoson. Complete the number of activities for your grade level according to the grid below.

	DISCOVER	CONNECT	TAKE ACTION	ANY ACTIVITY UNDER ANY KEY	TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIVITIES
Girl Scout Daisy	1	1	1	0	3
Girl Scout Brownie	1	1	1	1	4
Girl Scout Junior	1	1	1	2	5
Girl Scout Cadette	1	1	1	3	6
Girl Scout Senior	1	1	1	4	7
Girl Scout Ambassador	1	1	1	5	8

DISCOVER

- Locate Poquoson on a map and make note of the surrounding cities. Where does the name “Poquoson” come from? When was Poquoson established as a city? What is the current population?
- Investigate *Plum Tree Island National Wildlife Refuge*. What animals currently inhabit the island? What can you learn about the marshes in the area? What are some common sea creatures that live beyond the shores? To get started, check out this website: fws.gov/refuges/profiles/index.cfm?id=51512.
- Learn more about the Algonquian tribes. Discover information regarding their migratory patterns, their languages, and specifically, their influence upon the area surrounding Poquoson.
- Consider the economic benefits of having access to multiple bodies of water. How do you think this influenced trade in the region and relations between the settlers and Native Americans? Do you think this still has any relevance today?
- Investigate the city’s political system. How many members serve on the city council? Are they elected and if yes, how so? How long do their terms last? How is the mayor elected? Who currently is serving in these listed positions? To become personally involved, consider attending a city council meeting, which take place on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 500 City Hall Avenue.

CONNECT

- Visit the Poquoson Museum to learn more about the city’s history and is dedicated to preserving the heritage which exists in Poquoson. With the goal of the Poquoson Museum in mind, it clearly is a place where students can absorb the historical content of the city in an accessible way. To learn more and to plan your visit, take a look at their website poquosonmuseum.com/.
- Take a trip to Tabernacle United Methodist Church, 831 Poquoson Ave., the earliest Methodist church in York County which was established in 1817. While there, reflect upon the significance of religion and tradition that must exist within the congregation as they preserve the churches values in current times. For more information, call (757)868-6842 and take a look at the following website: tabernacleumc.org/.
- Venture to Emmaus Baptist Church, 814 Yorktown Road, which was established in 1878 and has been at the current location since 1888. During your visit, be sure to check out the cornerstone of the church; the year the church was constituted is written there. How has the church changed or grown since the time it was constituted? To plan your trip or to learn more about the history of the church, call (757)868-9215 and visit their website emmausbaptistchurch.org/.
- Visit Weston Cemetery located in the 1400 block of Poquoson Ave. Be on the lookout for some of the oldest marked graves in Poquoson; some date back as early as 1798. Find several that date back to the 1800s or as early as you can find.

TAKE ACTION

- While visiting one of the sites listed above, take some photos and create a collage or poster of the location. Be creative and decorate as you see necessary. Once finished, share the finished product with your family and your Girl Scout troop.
- At any of the places listed above under CONNECT, ask if there are any volunteer opportunities you might be able to participate in to give back to the Poquoson community.
- Call the Poquoson Library, 500 City Hall Ave. at (757) 868-3060 to see if there are any volunteer opportunities for you individually or for your whole Girl Scout troop to help out in. Keep in mind there may be some age limitations, causing this activity to only be suitable for older Girl Scouts.
- Create a PowerPoint presentation on Poquoson, outlining the history of the city and how it was established, in addition to information about its current political system. Approach this as you would a class lecture and be prepared to answer questions about Poquoson. Present this information to your fellow Girl Scout troop to inspire them to visit Poquoson too.