

## Girl Scout Multicultural Community Celebration

# Black History Month Patch

The Girl Scout Multicultural Community Celebration patch series is designed to celebrate the countless contributions that diverse communities have made and continue to make in the United States. You can earn up to 5 patches and complete the circle over the course of the year! Girl Scouts of all levels and their leaders have plenty of activities to choose from to learn interesting new things and earn each segment of this fun patch.

Other segments include:

- Hispanic Heritage Month
- Native American Heritage Month
- Asian American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander Month
- LGBTQ+ Pride Month

Patches can be purchased through the [Girl Scout Shop](#).



February is Black History Month, an annual celebration of achievements and contributions by the African American and Black communities—a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history. Also known as African American History Month, the event was the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson known as the “father of Black history” and other prominent African Americans. February was chosen by Woodson for the originally week-long observance, as it coincides with the birthdates of both former US President Abraham Lincoln and social reformer Frederick Douglass. Both men played a significant role in helping to end slavery. Woodson also understood that members of the Black community already celebrated the births of Douglass and Lincoln and sought to build on existing traditions.

Heritage month celebrations are important in providing the space to teach, learn, and appreciate the cultural richness of the communities they represent within the wider American narrative.

Learn more about [Black History Month](#).



# Girl Scouts

## Black History Month

### Fun Patch Activities

## Black History Month Celebration

### “I’m A Girl Scout!” Fun Patch

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements and contributions of the African American and Black communities—a time (though not the only time!) for emphasizing the central role of this varied community throughout U.S. history. Also known as African American History Month, the event grew out of “Negro History Week,” the brainchild of noted historian Carter G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans.

We’ve got plenty of activities for you to choose from as you join the Black History Month celebration. You’ll discover and learn your way to earning a Fun patch!



#### Number of activities required to get the patch:

Daisy (3) • Brownie (4) • Junior (6) • Cadette (8)  
Senior (10) • Ambassador (12)

Now go get your patch! [www.girlscoutshop.com](http://www.girlscoutshop.com)

### Theme

### Activities

#### Art

1. Sketch a portrait of a Black individual past or present who you admire, and write a paragraph about their contribution to our country and why you chose them.
2. Make a music playlist featuring 12 Black artists with different styles of music and from different decades. Read the National Museum of African American History and Culture’s blog post “Celebrating Black Music Month” for some inspiration and history.
3. Identify five books written by African American authors that you would like to read—and start reading one of them!
4. Research art (sculptures, murals, etc.) that Black artists have contributed to your community or places you’ve traveled.
5. Watch and share with your friends a movie or documentary about Black history in the United States.
6. Memorize a poem (or part of one) by an African American woman poet and recite it to your family or troop. You might consider “Rise” by Maya Angelou or Nikki Giovanni’s “Rosa Parks.” Learn more about your chosen poet’s career.
7. Learn about African American folk art and share with your family or troop a picture of your favorite piece, some background information about it, and why you like it.
8. Create a poster displaying three quotes you love by three historical figures from the African American community.
9. Listen to some prominent Black jazz musicians, such as Louis Armstrong, Dizzy Gillespie, and Duke Ellington. While tuning in, free-write phrases or words that describe how the music makes you feel. For an extra point, type the words into wordle.net to make a colorful word cloud that represents jazz music to you.
10. Read about Shirley Chisholm, the first African American woman elected to Congress and the first woman and African American to seek the nomination for president of the United States. Write a poem about her accomplishments!
11. Learn about traditional African dance and drumming from the country of your choice.

## Theme

## Activities

### Community Traditions

12. Cook a recipe you can enjoy with your troop, friends, or family that originates in the African American community. For an extra point, watch an episode of *High on the Hog: How African American Cuisine Transformed America*.
13. Learn what Kwanzaa is about and when it is celebrated. Make a list of the seven principles and what they mean.
14. Learn about a famous Black chef and their contribution to the food industry.
15. Read about the history of quilting in the African American community then create a picture inspired by a favorite quilt from your reading and share your creation and what you like about the quilt with your family and troop.

### Discovery

16. Read about the history of the Black Lives Matter Global Network Foundation and make a poster that shows your support.
17. Draw a map of the African continent and label the countries that comprise it.
18. List five major events of the Civil Rights Movement, noting the dates and two or three details about each one.
19. List five Black woman scientists, along with a sentence (or more!) about the work of each woman.
20. Learn about the legendary gospel vocalist Mahalia Jackson and how she prompted Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to improvise his "I Have a Dream" speech. Then listen to the gospel classic "I've Been 'Buked, and I've Been Scorned" that Dr. King requested she sing at the 1963 March on Washington.
21. Read about the significance of the Underground Railroad and create your own map showing the routes.
22. Attend a virtual exhibit or program offered by the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, then share what you learned with your family or troop.
23. Research the term "diaspora" and learn what the term "African diaspora" refers to.
24. Draw the mythic Sankofa bird from Ghana and learn what it symbolizes.
25. How did Black History Month get started? Learn more about National Freedom Day and Negro History Week.