



February Patch of the Month

Black History Month

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.





About Patch of the Month

Looking for some additional fun activities for your troop or just to do on your own? Each month, girls can discover, connect, and Take Action in a specific subject area. Hands-on activities are available for all Girl Scout levels and can be done at meetings, as a pre-meeting activity, or as an at-home project.

Patch of the Month programs provide Girl Scouts an opportunity to enjoy a variety of activities while earning a fun patch. Patch programs are available to Girl Scouts of all grade levels. Completing patch programs can help complete a Journey and may satisfy requirements for certain badges. It's not necessary to complete the patch programs in the months specified—they can be completed at any time! All fun patches are placed on the back of the vest or sash.

Patch of the Month Evaluation

Once you have completed the program activities, please be sure to fill out the [Patch of the Month Evaluation](#).

How to Order Patches

Use the GSK Shop Form by clicking [here](#) to purchase your patch for \$2.00 each!



Black History Month Patch of the Month

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)

Theme

Activities

Art

1. Explore Black history through primary sources from the National Archives, including this 1970s [photo series](#) of Chicago by John H. White.
2. 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.
4. 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."
5. 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.
6. 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. Make a colorful word cloud that represents jazz music to you.

Community Traditions

7. 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* on Netflix.
8. Learn what Kwanzaa is about and when it is celebrated. Make a list of the seven principles and what they mean.
9. Learn about a famous Black chef and their contribution to the food industry.
10. 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

11. Identify five books written by African American authors that you would like to read—and start reading them!
12. Draw a map of Africa and label the countries that comprise it.
13. List five major events of the Civil Rights Movement, noting the dates and two or three details about each one.
13. Explore famous Black women scientists in history. Create a poster about a Black scientist including information about their lives, accomplishments, and continued legacy today.
14. Visit Roots 101 Museum or 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.
15. How did Black History Month get started? Learn more about National Freedom Day and Negro History Week.