Junior Flowers Badge

STEPS
1. Uncover the science of one flower
2. Look under the petals
3. Find out how flowers help people
4. Have fun with flowers
5. Send a message in flower code

When you've earned this badge, you'll know all that's wonderful about flowers.
STEP 1: GO ON A FLOWER HUNT

Scientists called botanists track the history of different kinds of flowers. Become a botanist and figure out how, when, and where one flower was first bred or found. Learn about when it blooms and what it looks like.

Flowers are everywhere! Take a walk around your neighborhood and count how many kinds of flowers you can find. Which ones are the most common? Notice how flowers come in different colors, sizes and shapes.

STEP 2: STOP AND SMELL THE FLOWERS

Flowers aren’t just pretty. They may look like they aren’t doing a lot, but they’re actually quite busy!

Find a flower growing outside that smells and watch it until you see something happen. Make sketches or jot notes in a notebook about what visits the flower. How long did it take for something to visit? Based on your observations, why do you think flowers smell? Find out if you’re right!

Or, dye a flower. See a flower’s root system in action by coloring several white flowers (carnations work well). Cut the stems and put the flowers into water that contains your favorite color of food dye. The petals should soon be your favorite color!

STEP 3: FIND OUT HOW FLOWERS HELP PEOPLE

Not only do flowers have a lot going on inside them, but they do a lot for people. Find out how flowers benefit people.

Some flowers will eventually become the fruit of their plant. This includes fruits like apples, oranges, pears and berries. Watch this fascinating time lapse of how a pear blossom becomes a pear to learn how a flower becomes a fruit: www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ttRgMj7PdQ.

Find a flower that turns into a fruit and make a delicious snack to share with everyone. Don’t forget that sometimes the flower is the food itself!

**Ticks on a Toilet Seat**

Apples  
Peanut butter  
Mini Chocolate Chips  
Butter Knife

1. Wash the apple.  
2. Lay the apple on its side and cut round slices about a quarter inch thick.  
3. Lay out the round slices and cut the core out of the middle until they look like donuts.  
4. Spread peanut butter on the apple slices.  
5. Sprinkle mini chocolate chips as desired.
STEP 4: HAVE FUN WITH FLOWERS
Make your own flowers that never wilt!

What you will need:
- Paper of assorted colors- Printer paper works best, but can be any kind that is easily movable. Definitely white and yellow if you plan on making a true daisy!
- Gatorade bottle lids- or some other small circular item for tracing, at least half-dollar size
- Something to trace the Gatorade lid- (Pencil, pen, marker, crayon)
- Scissors
- Stick of glue
- Green paper drinking straws or popsicle sticks they can color to make green.
- Sturdy tape- Clear packing tape, or colorful duct tape is fun!

Instructions:
1. Place the circular item on the paper and trace the Gatorade lid on the yellow piece of paper and cut it out.
2. Cut 15 half-inch strips of paper from the short edge of the printer paper.
3. Glue the ends of the paper strips together to make a teardrop loop.
4. Glue the glued ends to the center of the circular piece of paper. Start with 4 of the loops, and glue them in pairs across from each other, the pairs should make 90 degree angles. Take 4 more loops, and add them centered between each of the loops you have already glued in place. Now take the remain 7 loops and place them between each of the existing loops.
5. There should be one space left over. This is where your stem goes. Attach the stem to the back of the flower, the side where all the loops are glued, with a piece of tape.

Source: http://www.easypeasyandfun.com/paper-flower-craft/

STEP 5: SEND A MESSAGE IN FLOWER CODE
Many flowers are symbols that send a specific message when you give them.

Using the paper flowers you made in Step 4, you can make a smaller version to make a SWAP for your friends in Girl Scouts. SWAPS are a big part of Girl Scouting! SWAPS means “Some Whatchamacallit Affectionately Pinned Somewhere,” and are given to friends we meet through Girl Scouts. They can be worn on the back of a vest or sash, but can also be kept on a hat, backpack, or anywhere else things can be pinned! Just make sure you put it somewhere you’re not going to lose it!

A daisy is a fun way to remember your time in the girl scouts, and in America, daisies are given to other people as a symbol of “cheer.” So give a friend some cheer, by making her a small version of your daisy!

Instructions: Made the same way, just make the strips and the circle smaller. Instead of placing a stem, make 16 strips and place the extra strip where the stem would have gone. You would then attach a safety pin to the daisy. This can be done by taping the safety pin to the back of the daisy.