August Patch of the Month

State Parks

Girl Scouts love getting outside, especially in our majestic state parks!

Learn more about your state park, design your own park, then get ready for your epic outdoor adventure as you plan for Girl Scouts Love State Parks weekend in September.

About Girl Scouts Love State Parks
This second annual event aims to get more girls and their family and friends outside to experience the great outdoors, an integral part of the organization’s all-girl leadership program. Join thousands of girls in hundreds of state parks across the United States to find adventure, explore nature, and learn what Girl Scouts is all about! This year’s event will be held on September 12—13, 2020. Stay tuned for more information!
Find out how many state parks are in Kentucky and/or Indiana. Draw a map of your state and highlight the parks near your home. Find the park located closest to your home and find out some of the things you can do there.

Find out more about the history of state parks. What is the difference between state parks and national parks?

Use your imagination and materials you have at home to construct a park in your living room, backyard, or even your family's parking spot. Or, get creative and make your very own park diorama.

**Build Your Own Mini Park**
1. Decide where you want to build your park. It can be inside your home, in your yard, or even your front porch. Anywhere as long as it's OK with your family! Once you've chosen your space, mark the edges with blocks, string, or anything that defines your space.

2. Imagine what you want in your park. This is your park, so it can have anything that you want! Here are some categories to give you an idea:
   - Things from nature (sticks, rocks, plants)
   - Somewhere to sit and have a snack
   - A place to exercise or play a game
   - Nature landscapes like lakes, rivers, or mountains
   - Animals (your favorite stuffed animals)

3. Plan & gather materials. Now that you know what you want in your park, gather your materials and don't forget to ask permission before taking anything. Using paper, organize your materials and create a plan by listing everything you're going to use. Then draw a model of your park and where you are going to place your items.

4. Build your mini-park! Using your plan and gathered materials, build your park. Don't forget, every good park has a name, so think about what you will call your park.

**Build Your Own Park Diorama**
1. Sketch an outline of your park. Before you get started, grab pencil and paper, draw a box, and plan where you want everything in your diorama to go. Think about all of the different parts you want to include, like mountains, trees, or water.

2. Make a list and gather materials. Make a list of everything you think you might need to create your park, then gather it all up. You'll need at least a box, Buddy Bison, some natural materials, and supplies for decorating and crafting.

3. Start building your park. Focus on all of the parts of the park you plan to draw first. Next, decorate with your natural materials, markers, and more!

**Suggested Materials**
- scissors
- cardboard box
- glue or tape
- grass & rocks from your yard
- pencil & paper
- paint or markers
- clay/play dough
Take Action

Girl Scouts love getting outside, especially in our majestic state parks! Join us for an epic outdoor adventure at a Kentucky State Park on September 12–13, 2020. To get ready for your adventure, begin planning what you want to do!

1. Which park are you going to visit?

2. Who is going with you?

3. What should you bring?

4. What will you eat?

5. What will you do?

Check out these activity ideas:
- Explore what the park has to offer. Take a hike, paddle a canoe, fish, geocache, etc.
- Earn an outdoor badge
- Have fun working on a hands-on nature project
- Create a video that provides outdoor tips and tricks, including:
  - Leave No Trace Principles
  - Campfire Cooking Instructions
  - Tips for Packing for Camp
  - Outdoor Songs and Games
- Work on your own Take Action Project or Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award project (Contact the park in advance to explore what’s possible)