



Girl Scouts of San Geronio Council  
**EXPLORING THE NIGHT'S CANDLES**  
**Patch Program**



**Objective:** To provide girls with a better understanding of space exploration and its place in present society.

**To Earn the Patch:**

- Brownie Girl Scouts must complete three activities chosen from two or more sections.
- Junior Girl Scouts must complete four activities chosen from three or more sections.
- Cadette Girl Scouts must complete five activities chosen from four or more sections.
- Senior Girl Scouts must complete six activities chosen from five or more sections.

**Recommended Resources:** Library, internet or astronomy clubs.

**I. History**

1. Read a story or watch a movie/documentary about a space flight that actually occurred.
2. Research and learn about how the space program began in the United States. How and why did the program start, and how is it different today?
3. Use books, magazines, the internet, etc. to find pictures or drawings of early space craft. Compare your findings with the space crafts of today. Use one of the following media to create a space craft of the future:
 

■ Charcoal	■ Paint
■ Modeling Clay	■ Recycleable Materials
■ Plaster of Paris	■ Papier-mache
■ Wood	
4. Find diagrams of old spacecraft. Make a simple drawing of one. Study drawings or diagrams of current spacecraft. Make a second drawing showing what you think the spacecraft of the future will look like. Explain the differences in the two drawings.
5. Study the life of someone presently or previously in the field of space exploration or astronomy. Find out what responsibilities their job entailed, why they chose to work in that field, and any major accomplishments they may have had. Share your findings with your troop or group.



**II. Career Exploration**

1. Use your resources to determine the basic requirements to enter the space program as:
  - Ground Personnel
  - Astronaut
  - Engineer
2. Locate and list at least five women who are currently involved in the United States space program. Find out how they became interested in space exploration, and if possible, if they were ever a Girl Scout.
3. Make a list of at least 10 jobs relating to space exploration. Investigate a minimum of two of these professions to find the following information:
  - Required Education
  - Salary Range
  - Typical Hours of Work
  - Accessibility for entry level positions
  - Opportunities for advancement



- ★ 4. Choose one job that might interest you as a career. Share your interest with your troop, family or guidance counselor. Discuss ways of finding out more information about this job. ★
- 5. Visit an observatory. Arrange to talk with several people working in different positions at the facility. What do they like best about their job? Least? What made them decide to enter their field? What is a typical day of work at the observatory?

**III. Service** ★

- 1. Find a way to share information about women's role in the space program with younger Girl Scouts. Carry out your plan.
- 2. Put on a skit for others demonstrating several constellations.
- 3. Plan and carry out a star-gazing party for your service unit or younger girls. ★
- 4. Make a star chart to be added to your service unit library.
- ★ 5. Make a list of space-related field trips for your service unit. Include a map of directions, hours of operation, cost, program or sight offered, mailing address and telephone number for each site. If possible, include a brochure or flyer from each site.

**IV. Technology**

- 1. Learn a little about how spacecraft are designed. Then make a model of your own using household items.
- 2. Build your own model rocket. With proper adult supervision, test your rocket.
- 3. Learn the parts of a telescope and how it works. Use the telescope to find a planet, a star and a constellation.
- 4. Build your own telescope and use it at a stargazing party or in your own backyard. Show a friend, a younger Girl Scout, or a small child how to use it.
- 5. Try your hand at a computer flight simulator.

**V. Astronomy**

- 1. Hold a "sparkle party". Make decorations and plan refreshments to fit your theme. Learn the difference between a star and a planet. Try to find them in the sky. Have a contest to see which team can find the most constellations.
- 2. Write an acrostic poem about space using a word you have learned. Example:
 

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★

**S**himmering

**T**hroughout the

**A**tmosphere

**R**esiding in

**S**pace

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★

★

★

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- 3. Play "constellation charades". Using a flashlight, have one group form a constellation while others try and guess which constellation they have formed.
- 4. Attend a show at a planetarium. Don't forget to see the exhibits while you are there. Create a scavenger hunt for others to follow when they visit.
- 5. Find out what legends have been told to explain constellations. What stories can you remember being told to you? Choose your favorite and share it with your troop or group.

**EXPLORING THE NIGHT'S CANDLES patches are available in the Girl Scouts of San Geronio Council Shop for \$1.50 each + tax.**

