

Girl Scout Traditions and History!

Traditions give Girl Scouts a sense of history and inspire them to be the best they can be.

Girl Scouts has a long and meaningful history. We can honor the Girl Scout history through traditions. In this patch program, you will learn about Juliette Gordon Low, the founder of Girl Scouts, and a few of her favorite Girl Scout traditions.

SWAPS: Girl Scouts often make small tokens of friendship to exchange with Girl Scouts they meet while traveling. These little gifts are called SWAPS, which stands for Special Whatchamacallits Affectionately Pinned Somewhere.

Songs: Singing is a huge part of the Girl Scout experience and is a great way to create sisterhood.

Flags: A flag ceremony honors the American flag as the symbol of our country and all the hopes, dreams, and people it represents. If your group includes girls from other countries, invite them to honor their flags, too.

How to earn the Tradition patch the Girl Scout way:

Steps:

1. **Discover**—Learn about the history of Girls Scouts.
2. **Connect**—Get together with other Girl Scouts to celebrate the history and honor the traditions of Girl Scouts.
3. **Take Action**—Share your knowledge of Girl Scout history and traditions in your community.

Materials Needed:

In order to complete this patch, you'll need a few things:

- resources on the history of SWAPS, Girl Scout songs, flags, and Girl Scouts (You can either go online with an adult, ask a professional, or visit your public library.)
- supplies to make SWAPS of your choice
- pencil/markers/paper to make songbooks
- an American flag

Step 1

Take a step back in time.

Complete the Juliette Gordon Low Activity sheet to learn about Girl Scouts founder, Juliette Gordon Low (see page 3),

OR

Watch a video to learn about Juliette Gordon Low and how Girl Scouts was founded. Below are a few suggested videos:

Hands on History: Juliette Gordon Low: https://youtu.be/JnFnx_ZTdaM

Quick History: Juliette Gordon Low: https://youtu.be/nQebHzif_Os



girl scouts
western pennsylvania

800-248-3355
gswpa.org

Step 2

Gather all Girl Scouts.

Get together with other Girl Scouts to honor and celebrate the Girl Scout history and traditions. Do at least two of the below items to complete this step:

1. Make and exchange SWAPS.
2. Sing at least five traditional Girl Scout songs or make your own Girl Scout songbook.
3. Perform an opening and closing flag ceremony.

Step 3

Share the traditions.

It's time to share what you've learned about Girl Scouts with your community.

Do at least two of the below items to complete this step:

1. Host a SWAPS exchange with other Girl Scout troops.
2. Host a sing-along with other Girl Scout troops.
3. Offer to perform a flag ceremony for a local community event.



All done? CONGRATULATIONS!

You've completed all the necessary steps to earn the Tradition patch.

After completing the activities from each step, visit or call a Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania retail shop at 800-248-3355 to purchase your patch.* A patch may be worn on the back of a vest, sash or tunic.

*Patch shown may be substituted with similar patch, based on availability.

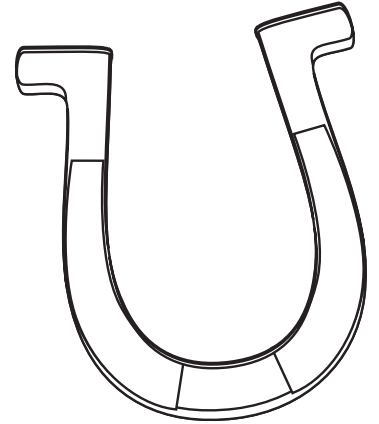
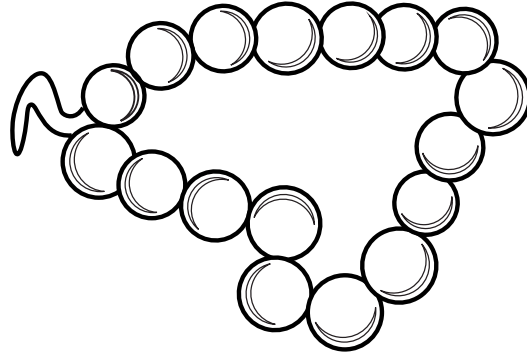
Juliette Gordon Low Activity

Color the pictures below to learn about Juliette Gordon Low!

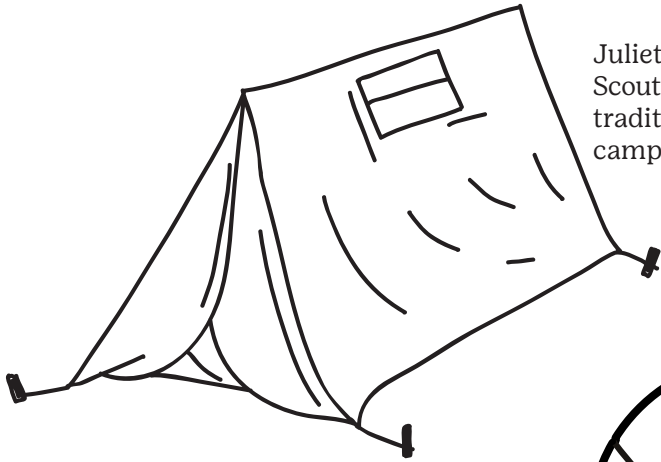


Juliette Low's nickname was Daisy.

Juliette sold her pearls to fund the Girl Scout movement.



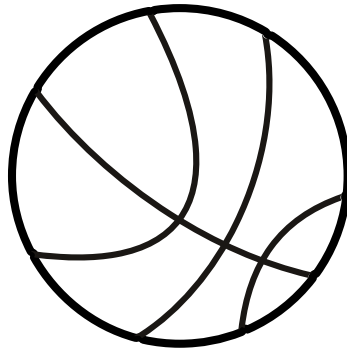
Juliette Low loved animals and had a horse named Fire.



Juliette Low's Girl Scouts did non-traditional activities like camping.

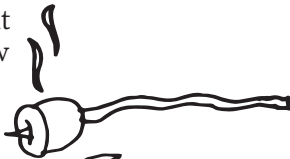


Juliette Low was born on Halloween October 31, 1860.

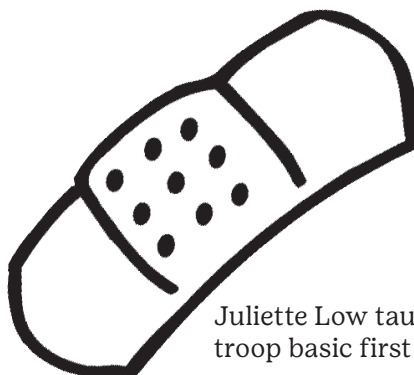


Juliette Low played basketball with her troop.

Juliette Low taught her Girl Scouts how to cook over a campfire.



Juliette Low was deaf and did not exclude disabled girls from Girl Scouting. This means "I love you" in sign language.



Juliette Low taught her troop basic first aid.

