

# Native American Heritage Patch

## Girl Scouts of New Mexico Trails Patch Program

Girl Scouts of all cultures will develop an understanding and appreciation of the culture of Native American Indian Heritage through Discover, Connect and Take Action.

### To earn your Native American Heritage Patch you must complete:

- **Daisies & Brownies:** Each activity with a \* and one additional activity for each Discover, Connect, and Take action to total 5 activities.
- **Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors, & Ambassadors:** Each activity with a \*, two additional activities for each Discover, Connect, and one or more Take Action to total 7 or more activities.



## DISCOVER

- \* What Native American tribes are in New Mexico? Research the history of the tribe of your choosing. Learn about the customs, their leadership, and how their leaders were chosen.
- Learn about the art of one (or more) of the many Native American tribes in New Mexico. What are they known for? Painting, pottery, jewelry making, etc.? What types of materials are used when this art is made? Where did this tribe source (find) their materials? Draw an example of one of these types of art.
- Research stories or poetry from a Native American authors. Read it to your troop/family and talk about it. What does it mean?
- Visit or research a historic site and learn about how it impacted the local native population.
- Identify and learn about one or more current Native American personalities, local or national.
- History Lesson-Learning about modern Native Americans is very important, but to understand modern Native Americans, you also need to learn their history. Research historical Native American homes. How many types were there? Which types of these homes did the New Mexico tribes live in?
- Certain food recipes or ingredients are culturally significant. Select one of the many Native American tribes in New Mexico. Find a recipe and look at its ingredients. Nowadays we can go to the grocery store and buy these items, where would a person find these ingredients 100 years ago? Were the ingredients grown by that tribe? Found in the wild? Was it traded for with another community? Were they introduced to the community from contact with Europeans?
- Learn something about local Native American languages. We have taken many words from the native vocabulary and made them a part of our American language. Find out some of the native words we use today. Also, find out some of the towns and cities that use Indian names. Find out if there is anything in your town with a native name, word, or phrase.

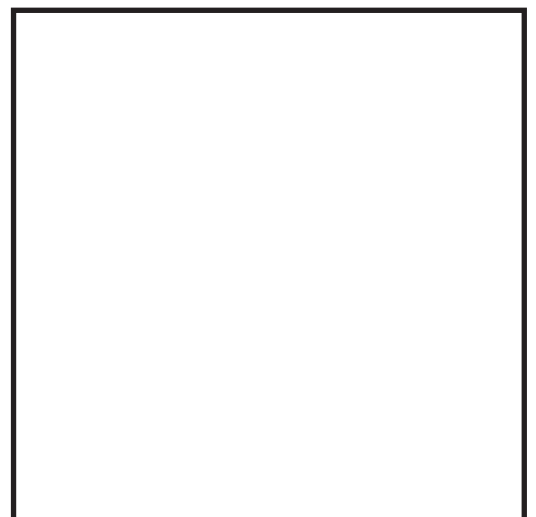
## CONNECT

- \*What is the difference among Native American, indigenous, and other terms? When is do you use each term? Practice what you have learned.
- Try your hand at making a piece of art in the style of a Native American tribe in New Mexico. What materials were used? Was the art made from specific colors? Is there a cultural meaning behind the materials or colors? Avoid using Native symbols as many have special meaning to tribes. Create your own symbols in place of traditional Native symbols. Share your artwork and research with your friends, family or troop what you've discovered.
- Talk to a policy maker about how they consider Native American issues in their decisions and votes.
- Attend the Gathering of Nations held in Albuquerque annually. Shop for native art, taste foods, and observe native dances.
- Talk to your school to see if there is a Native American student organization. If so, see if you can attend a meeting to learn more about your peer's experiences.
- Visit the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque. Here you can learn about Pueblo culture, eat at the Indian Pueblo Kitchen, and shop at the Indian Pueblo store. Be sure to check their calendar of events for exciting performances and art festivals.
- Visit a feast day or other event open to the public at a Pueblo. Observe how the community interacts with each other and guests. How is it similar or different from other events and family gatherings you have been to?

## TAKE ACTION

- Learn more about how to be an advocate for Native American concerns.
- Take what you learned in this patch and write a letter to an elected official to address a Native American issue.
- Teach your troop or another group about what you learned about in earning this patch. What surprised you? What would you like to learn more about? Are there issues you would like to address in other ways?
- Share Knowledge-Create a poster, video, skit, picture, diorama, or collage displaying what you learned about Native Americans throughout this patch program. Share with your family, troop, and classmates.
- Design your own Native American Heritage patch. Draw a picture of a patch you think best represents what you've learned while earning your Native American Heritage Patch and submit your drawing to [customercare@nmgirlscouts.org](mailto:customercare@nmgirlscouts.org).

**Native American Heritage patches may be ordered at [www.bit.ly/GSNMTPatches](http://www.bit.ly/GSNMTPatches)**



Draw your patch design here.