

Girl Scouts of Mt. Wilson-Vista Council

Our Own Council's Gabrielino Missions Badge (Juniors)

PURPOSE: To learn about the Spanish Mission in our Council area, and to explore Mission life in early California.

Juniors: Complete 6 activities including the starred ones

*1. Locate and read books and information about Mission San Gabriel Arcangel in our Council area. Learn some history about the California Missions. Tell how and why they were built, and what has happened to them. Learn about the influence and effect of the San Gabriel Mission in the early days of the Los Angeles area.

*2. Visit and tour the Mission. Be sure to notice the architecture, the methods of construction, and the surrounding buildings. If possible, visit another Mission and compare.

3. Learn how Mission Gabrielino Indians lived and how that differed from their non-Mission tribespeople.

Choose:

- a) Mission and non-Mission diet and cooking methods
- b) Mission and non-Mission clothing and housing
- c) Mission and non-Mission daily activities

*4. Learn and demonstrate three job skills (crafts) taught to the Mission Indians by the Padres and Soldiers. Select from:

- a. Make a candle
- b. Make soap from fat and lye
- c. Card and spin wool (or cotton)
- d. Weave a small item –mat, purse, table runner, basket
- e. Make a pottery item – small bowl, miniature floor tile, miniature roof tile, plate
- f. Make adobe bricks
- g. Try your hand at mural painting

5. Learn about the importance of the bells and music at the Missions. Teach your troop two songs that were sung every day at the Missions.

6. Learn the organization of the typical Mission complex. To do this you might:

Construct a model of of our Council's Mission San Gabriel, or one of the other Missions

– OR –

Draw an aerial plan of one of the Mission complexes

-- OR—

Make a display of all of the California Missions and where they were located.

7. Using the facts and skills you have learned in the other activities, select any method you wish to organize an exhibit about what life was like at a functioning Mission.

8. Develop a Service Project relating to what you have learned earning this badge.

For: Junior Girl Scouts

Recognition: May purchase badge at the Council Store

Placement: May be worn on the badge sash/vest along with other official badges

Gabrielino Missions Badge LEADER'S GUIDE

The term "Native Americans" is not used by all people. Some of the native peoples use American Indian, Native American, or Indian. We realize that each tribe or group of peoples has different views on these terms. It is important that participants remind themselves of the responsibility and sensitivity we need to carry when learning about another culture, especially an ancient culture whose meaning could be easily lost in these modern times. As Girl Scouts, we believe there is something to be learned from every culture. We believe our strength is in our diversity. We also recognize that stereotypes can only be broken by knowledge and experience. That is why Girl Scouts encourages our membership to reach out to other communities and embrace diversity with programs like these. Plan to discuss these topics with your girls as they complete this badge.

This badge is designed to be done on its own or in combination with the Council's own Gabrielino Lore badge. Done together, they may complement Junior girls' understanding of our local community, its resources, and the history of the peoples who live in it. Take advantage of the outstanding resources available only here while working on these badges. Badgework has links to an international day booth, craft entries to the LA County Fair, a Service unit craft day, camping at Catalina, museum overnights, day trips, many badges, and school requirements the girls are already doing.

This guide is intended to share the resources that one leader found in researching these activities, not to restrict your own creativity in coming up with other options, resources, or places to visit.

1. Bibliography for reading requirement: (*badge activity number book can be used for*)
 - A. Barton, Bruce Walter – Tree at the Center of the World – Ross-Erickson Publishers, Santa Barbara, 1980. (Check you library) (#1,3,4,6)
 - B. Bauer, Helen – California Mission Days – Doubleday & Co., 1951. (Check your library) (#1,3,4,6)
 - C. DaSilva, Owen, O.F.M. – Mission Music of California – Warren F. Lewis, Publisher, Los Angeles, CA 1954. (#5)
 - D. Lummis, Charles F. – Spanish Songs of Old California – Charles Lummis, Publisher, Los Angeles, CA 1923. (#5)
 - *E. The Chumash People – Materials for Teachers and Students, published by The Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 1982. Can be obtained by calling/writing the museum, from the publisher EZ Nature Books, PO Box 4206, San Luis Obispo, Ca 93403, or from the bookstore at the Southwest Museum (see below). Much of the material culture ie. Houses, baskets, beads, crafts, were the same between the Chumash and the Gabrielino. But they came from different origins with different language structures, stories, and traditions. Be sure to check Miller (M-below) for these. (#1,3,4)
 - *F. MacMillan, Diane – Missions of the Los Angeles Area – In the California Missions series, 1996. (#1,3,4,5,6)
 - G. Sunset Books- The California Missions, a Pictorial History and Guide – 1979. (1,3,4,5,6)
 - H. O'Dell, Scott- Island of the Blue Dolphins – HoughtonMifflin Co, 1960. Still in print and available everywhere- a classic, Newbery Award Winner, and required reading for a lot of kids. (#3)

- I. O'Dell, Scott – Zia – HoughtonMifflin Co, 1976. Also available everywhere, the sequel. (1,3,4,5)
 J. Schoenherr, Allan – A Natural History of California – University of California Press, 1992. (3)
 K. GSUSA- Exploring the Hand Arts (#4,6)
 *L. Miller, Bruce W. – The Gabrielino- Sand River Press, Los Osos, Ca. 1991.- **The guide** on the subject! (#3,4)
 *I recommend the leaders referring to E, F & L. the others as desired.

Check your local library- there are extensive collections of material on the topic. The Southwest Museum shop is a great resource for books, basketweaving kits, coloring books, and much else. Admission is free if only going to the shop. Can be reached from the Gold line- Southwest museum stop.

Booklets and pamphlets available from each Mission, written especially about each Mission or the Mission system.

2. The San Gabriel Mission provides guided tours by prior arrangement. Cost of admission: \$3/child, \$5/adult. Most Missions have guided tours of some sort. All have shops where pamphlets, books, postcards, etc., can be purchased. Some of the Missions are still churches. Arrange tours by writing or calling. Descriptive materials can be obtained by writing to the Missions not visited and sending money to cover costs. Troop: If the entire troop can't visit the Mission, split up by patrols, then share at the troop meeting. /Individual: Encourage the individual badge worker to visit at least one of the Missions.

3. Girls can learn about pre-Mission Gabrielino life by visiting:

Southwest Museum (now a part of the Autry Center)

234 Museum Dr (323) 221-2164

Can be reached from the Gold line- Southwest museum stop.

*no admission charged if going only to the bookstore. All the important books above can be purchased here. I recommend a trip by the leaders just for material before starting on the badge. Use bookstore as a resource for books, coloring books, basketweaving kits, and much else.

LA County Museum of Natural History (if you are doing a Museum sleepover with your troop here ie Camp Dino, next am you have free admission to the exhibits and can view the tule huts and other items)

Smith Park, San Gabriel. The west end of this city park has been made into a semblance of the Gabrielino village that was once on this site, with huts, native plants, descriptive elements, maps of local tribe sites, and images of the food, tools, crafts, and lifestyle of the pre-mission Indians

Refer to A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I,L

Red Box Station, Angeles Crest Highway

LA County Arboretum (by report)

4. Plan a "Craft Day" and gather up resource people and have several of the crafts going at once. Instructions for all of these are available in current publications or internet sites.

Soap recipe is on the can of "Red Devil Lye."

DickBlick.com – Great art supply online resource, see weaving kits.

WildPonyBaskets.com – web site shows all kits, available as individual kits with materials & instructions, or group kits.

Southwest Museum shop also sells the wildpony basket weaving kits.

Troop: Provides great opportunity for an all-day fun time. Perhaps the crafts area could be set up as a wide game. /Individual: The easiest ones to accomplish by the individual are probably: d, e, and g.

5. Borrow a hand-bell if possible, and use to “signal” changes in the meeting program to get the flavor of “living by the bell.” (*see C,D*)

6. Many 4th graders have school requirements that send them on a trip to the SG Mission, or constructing a model of a California Mission. Plan ahead so it is work intended for the badge requirement.

7. Use your imagination to come up with a way to share what you have learned. Some ideas:

Troop: Make costumes and prepare meal to serve to parents or another troop, or a demonstration for international day. See A,B,E,F. Advice on the menu for the meal: Stew – Make a jerky, garlic, onion, chili peppers, potatoes, and other vegetables as the garden provides.

Bread and butter – Adobe oven recipe.

Lard Cookies – Similar to Scottish shortbread, only made with unbleached white flour and lard instead of butter.

Some adapted recipes: 1. Native American Fry Bread 3 cups Flour 2 tsp Baking powder 1 Tblsp Shortening Salt to taste Cooking oil Work shortening into other ingredients. Add enough warm water to handle dough easily and work until smooth, soft, and elastic. Use very little extra flour. Form smooth balls the size of lemons. Brush with shortening and let stand for about 45 minutes. Pat each ball until it is round, flat, and about 3 inch thick. Poke a hole in the center with your finger in order to let the "chindi" (spirits) out and help the bread to cook evenly. *Fry in two inches of hot cooking oil until brown on one side. *Turn only once with tongs. *Drain on paper towels. Eat with butter, cinnamon, or fruit spread. (Recipe from Phoenix Native American School Girl Scout Troop.) 2. Jerky *Have beef, venison, or chicken cut in very thin slices. Then tear into strips with the grain so it will be stringy. Prepare a very strong brine (1 cup water to 2 cup salt) solution. Native Americans used no seasonings, but you may want to add Worcestershire, teriyaki, barbecue, garlic, soy, or other strong flavors to the salt and water. Soak the meat for 24 hours, stirring occasionally. Lay strips over a line in the sun or on a rack in an oven at a very low temperature (a pilot light is enough). Let it dry until it is crisp (about 24 hours). Pat off any moisture occasionally with a paper towel. Store in an airtight container. Jerky may be eaten as a snack or re-hydrated in cooked dishes. It will not spoil. 3. Roasted Nuts Using raw, shelled nuts and salt to taste, place the nuts in a shallow baking pan. *Roast in 300-degree oven for one hour. *Stir frequently so that nuts brown evenly. The Native Americans used many nuts. Hazelnuts, walnuts, filberts, and pinon nuts are native to America. (*Refer to E for a lot of recipes, B,F*)

8. Service is intrinsic in the Girl Scout program. Use the opportunity of learning a new subject and skills to share it with others, or to offer service to one of the facilities you learned from or visited.

Special thanks to the Tres Condados Girl Scout Council for permission to use and adapt their Chumash Lore and TriCounty Mission badges. Created by Jossalyn Emslie, Troop 353, Mission-Camellias SU, Mt. Wilson-Vista Council.