

Girl Scouts of Mt. Wilson-Vista Council

Gabrielino Lore Badge

PURPOSE: To explore the culture of the Gabrielino people prior to the coming of the Spanish.

Juniors: Complete six activities including the starred ones.

*1. Read Island of the Blue Dolphins and at least one other book or information source on the pre-mission Gabrielino Indians of the Los Angeles Coast and basin.

*2. Visit the museum nearest to you that has Gabrielino artifacts on display. If possible, arrange for a museum docent to conduct a guided tour to help you understand more about the Gabrielino people.

3. Describe the geography and climate of Gabrielino territory, including the Island Gabrielinos. Tell about the animals and plants that lived in the different environments.

4. Describe the houses, clothes, utensils, craft skills, and weapons of the Gabrielino people.

5. Find 5 local places that have Gabrielino names and explain what they mean. Try to visit at least one (1) site known to have been a Gabrielino Village site in your area

--OR--

Take a trip to Catalina or another of the lower Channel Islands. Learn about the Island inhabitants and trade with the coastal groups.

*6. Learn and demonstrate a Gabrielino craft or skill.

Choose:

- a) Make a small basket using Gabrielino techniques
- b) Using a cave painting motif, make a picture for your wall on fine sandpaper using colored chalk
- c) Make a model or representation of a Gabrielino plank canoe
- d) Make a model or representation of a Gabrielino house in a typical setting
- e) String a necklace of shells.

7. Share or demonstrate what you have learned about the Gabrielinos. You might teach a craft or skill you have learned to younger girls, or make an exhibit for your troop, school, or others.

8. Learn what the Gabrielino ate and drank. You might use these ideas:
 - a) Serve your troop a sample of an herb tea like the Gabrielino would have had;
 - b) Make small pancakes of acorn meal with typical nuts and berries;
 - c) Make a poster display board of pictures and actual samples of 6 favorite Gabrielino foods with a brief description of where the people found them and how they prepared them for eating.

9. Develop a Service Project relating to what you have learned in completing 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 Lore 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 Missions 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 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)
- B. Bauer, Helen – California Indian Days – Doubleday, 1950. (Check your library) (#1,3,4,5,6,8)
- C. Grant, Campbell – Rock Paintings of the Chumash – University of California Press, Berkeley, 1966. (The Gabrielinos artistic styles were similar enough that you can get the feeling for their art by seeing that of the Chumash) (#6)
- D. Gudde, Edwin G. – California Place Names – University of California Press, Berkeley, 1969. (Current editions available for purchase, but can also be obtained from the library) (#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. (#1,4,6,7,8)
- F. Bryan, Bruce. – Archaeological Explorations on San Nicolas Island – published by the Southwest Museum, available at their bookstore. (#1,3,4,5)

- G. MacMillan, Diane – Missions of the Los Angeles Area – In the California Missions series, 1996. (#1,3,4,6,8)
- H. Sunset Books- The California Missions, a Pictorial History and Guide – 1979. (1,3)
- *I. 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. The true story of the last of the Island Gabrielinos. (#1,3,4,5,8)
- J. O’Dell, Scott – Zia – HoughtonMifflin Co, 1976. Also available everywhere, the sequel- the Indians’ life in the Mission. (1)
- K. Schoenherr, Allan – A Natural History of California – University of California Press, 1992. (3)
- L. GSUSA- Exploring the Hand Arts (#6)
- *M. Miller, Bruce W. –the Gabrielino- Sand River Press, Los Osos, Ca. 1991.- **The guide** on the subject! (#1,3,4,6,8)
- *I recommend each girl purchasing I, and the leaders referring to E & M. the others as desired.

2. **Southwest Museum (now a part of the Autry Center)** (#2,3,4,6,8)
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) (#2,3,4)

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. (#3,4,5)

Catalina Island Museum, Casino, Avalon

Red box Station, Angeles Crest Highway

LA County Arboretum (per report)

Troop: Each patrol draw something they saw on the trip and make a troop display./ **Individual:** Share with the troop by giving a short talk and displaying brochures and/or drawn pictures.

3. **Troop/ Individual:** Concentrate on the 3 basic general areas: islands, shore, and inland mountains and valleys. Share with the troop. (*Refer to E, K, especially M, G-pg 19 has a great map of tribal geographic distribution*)

4. **Troop/ Individual:** A checklist of items to see can be distributed for a trip to one of the museums or to Smith Park. Or each girl can be given one thing to research, draw or obtain pictures of, to describe to the rest of the troop.

5. **Troop/ Individual:** A poster can be done to share with the troop, or the girls can do this together at Smith Park. (*Refer to B, D, M, Smith Park*) Use the Gudde Book, California Place Names – a fascinating adventure!

6. **Troop:** by patrols, divide and share/ **Individual:** Share knowledge with the troop.

A good chance for an all day craft session is with resource people from local museums, etc.

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

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

Southwest Museum shop also sells the wildpony basket weaving kits, and many other craft items. The girls can use a motif for embroidery on a purse, shirt, etc., or hook rug/wall hangings, or as an applique. (*Refer to C,E,F,I,L,M*) Older girls can also read the Hudson, Travis Book, Crystals in the Sky. Olivella shells make easy jewelry.

8. Herb teas made of Yerba Buena are available in Health Food Stores. Also some of these stores have acorn meal! Cornmeal is a good substitute. **Acorn can be poisonous unless properly prepared.** Do not attempt to prepare your own acorn meal unless you have directions! The Indian "cakes" were leavened with only salt and maybe natural wild yeast. Generally, meal, salt and water were mixed and sort of dry-fried on an ungreased griddle. Berries favored were native cherries, blackberries, and elderberry, some of which may be found fresh, otherwise they are canned. Nuts favored were walnuts and pine nuts. This requirement is a natural for older girls.

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, M*)

Troop: Divide up by patrols and share./ **Individual:** A poster may be the easiest to do. This can make a nice addition to an international day.

9. Service is intrinsic in the Girl Scout program. Encourage either the troop or the individual badge worker to find a need and fill it!

Some ideas for a service project at one of the sites you visited or learned from:

- Pick up trash.
- Help with office work (file papers, etc.)
- Help set up new exhibits.
- Make small care packages or thank you cards for docents.

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.