

Disability Awareness



Disability Awareness Fun Patch

Disability acceptance is more than just awareness. It's creating a world where everyone feels included and valued. To create a more inclusive world tomorrow, people need opportunities to gain awareness and understanding of disabilities today.

As Girl Scouts, we deeply value diversity and inclusion. A Girl Scout is a friend and ally to everyone. We invite you to take this opportunity to learn more about the many disabilities in the world and practice inclusion. We've got plenty of activities to choose from, so you can make new discoveries and have tons of fun learning while earning a fun patch!

Number of activities required to get the patch:

Daisy (3) • Brownie (3) • Junior (3) • Cadette (3) • Senior (3) • Ambassador (3)

Glossary of Terms (from the ADA National Network)

Accessible: Means a person with a disability is afforded the opportunity to acquire the same information, engage in the same interactions, and enjoy the same services as a person without a disability in an equally effective and equally integrated manner, with substantially equivalent ease of use.

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA): A civil rights law that prohibits, under certain circumstances, discrimination based on disability. It affords similar protections against discrimination to Americans with disabilities as the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which made discrimination based on race, religion, sex, national origin, and other characteristics illegal.

Inclusion: The practice or policy of providing equal access to opportunities and resources for people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized, such as those with physical or intellectual disabilities and members of other minority groups.

Universal design: Also known as "inclusive design" and "design for all," this is an approach to the design of products, places, policies, and services that can meet the needs of as many people as possible throughout their lifetime, regardless of age, ability, or situation.



Now go get your patch!



Scan with
your phone



Theme

Activities

Theme	Activities
Art	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sketch a portrait of a member of the Disability community, past or present, whom you admire. Then write a paragraph or draw a picture about their contribution to our country and why you chose them.2. Make a music playlist featuring 12 artists with disabilities. Talk about which songs you like the most.3. Identify five books written by authors with disabilities that you would like to read, and start reading one of them!4. Create your own painting or drawing in the style of an American disabled artist. Learn a little about their life and work while you are at it!5. Create a poster displaying three quotes you love by three historical or contemporary leaders from the disability community.6. Watch and share with your friends a movie or documentary that features a main character with a disability. Some examples you might want to consider include <i>Wonder</i>, <i>Soul Surfer</i>, <i>Walk. Ride. Rodeo.</i>, <i>Simon Birch</i>, <i>Ray</i>, <i>The Theory of Everything</i>, <i>Breathe</i>, <i>Me Before You</i>, <i>CODA</i>7. Memorize a poem (or part of one) from a disabled poet (e.g., Richard Hopley, Jennifer Bartlett, Raymond Antrobus, Laurie Clements Lambeth, Denise Leto, Lisa Gill). Read about their journey to becoming a poet.8. Read about the ADA Protests and their importance to the disability community. Write a poem about that historic day.
Community	<ol style="list-style-type: none">9. Learn about and practice using person first language.10. Learn the American Sign Language (ASL) alphabet and a few key phrases.11. Learn the braille alphabet and practice writing your name.12. Research and read about historical disability rights activists and how they advocated for their communities. Share what you learned with your troop or family.13. Participate in Spread the Word's pledge to Go All In(clusive). The pledge is to make inclusion a reality for all people, with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities. Learn more at Spreadtheword.global.14. Attend a Disability Celebration or event, like Special Olympics, and go to three booths to participate in activities and learn about different disabilities.
Discovery	<ol style="list-style-type: none">15. Learn about a famous public figure who has a disability. Research the nature of the person's disability, how it impacted their life, and the contributions they made to society. Some examples to consider are Juliette Gordon Low, Stephen Hawking, Temple Grandin, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Walt Disney, and Helen Keller.16. Research and learn about adaptive equipment. Some examples to consider are AAC communication devices, wheelchairs, hearing aids, and canes.17. Interview a person with a disability and learn about their life.18. Read a book about what it is like to have a disability, like "<i>My Brother Charlie</i>" by Holly Robinson Peete and Ryan Elizabeth Peete, "<i>A Kind of Spark</i>" by Elle McNichol, "<i>A Face for Picasso</i>" by Ariel Henley, "<i>Rolling Warrior</i>" by Judith Heumann, or find one on your own.19. Find three (or more) inventions created for people with disabilities. Draw them and write a caption for each, providing the name of the item invented, the name of the inventor, and the reason the item was created.20. Talk to someone who works with people with disabilities, such as a teacher, speech therapist, occupational therapist, or physical therapist. Find out what they do and how they help.21. Educate yourself about ableist language and alternative words. Share what you've learned with your group.22. Go to Gold Award winner Annie Barnes website, livingtreejoy.com and learn more about Disability Awareness.