



California Mission Patch

Purpose: To learn about the Spanish Missions in our Council area, and to experience something of that life via foods, crafts and music.

Juniors: Complete requirements **1, 2, 5, 9**, plus 2 more.

- 1. *Read several books about the Missions in our Council. Learn the proper pronunciation of each Mission's name. Find out why they were given their particular names.**
- 2. *Visit two or more Missions. If possible, obtain guided tours. Learn how these Missions are similar and how they are different. What was a landmark cross? Where was each Mission's landmark cross located? Visit the sites of these crosses if you can; tell what you were able to see.**
3. Collect brochures, pictures, etc., of each of the Missions and make a display board for you troop meeting showing all the Missions and where they are located in our Council area. Highlight the difference and similarities you learned about in Requirement #2.
4. Learn how Mission neophytes (Indians) dressed in 1820 and make a neophyte costume, male or female. – OR - Learn what they ate at the Missions and cook a typical Mission meal for your family or troop.
- 5. *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 a soap from fat and lye**
 - c. **Card and spin wool (or cotton)**
 - d. **Weave a small item – place mat, purse, table runner**
 - e. **Make a pottery item – small bowl, miniature floor tile, miniature roof tile, plate**
 - f. **Carve a simple spoon from wood**
 - g. **Make a few small adobe bricks and construct a miniature section of a Mission wall**
6. 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.
7. Construct a model of one of the Missions in our council's range – OR – Draw an aerial plan of one of the Mission complexes.
8. Missions have a controversial place in history, particularly among Native Americans. Learn more about why this is so by reading several books or articles about mission life for the Native Americans. Present your findings to your troop.
- 9. *Service Project: contact one of the Missions and explain your Badgework. Find out what you can do or make for the Mission.**



LEADER'S GUIDE

1. Suggested bibliography for reading requirement – all are “easy read”: Suggested books: check your local library.

Barton, Bruce Walter – Tree at the Center of the World – Ross-Erickson Publishers, Santa Barbara, CA 1980.

Bauer, Helen – California Mission Days – Doubleday & Co., 1951.

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

DaSilva, Owen, O.F.M. – Mission Music of California – Warren F. Lewis, Publisher, Los Angeles, CA 1954.

Lummis, Charles F. – Spanish Songs of Old California – Charles Lummis, Publisher, Los Angeles, CA 1923.

Sunset's – California Missions – Lane Publishing Co., Menlo Park, CA (revised 1980). Select those segments, which pertain to our Missions.

Troop: Reading can be done on a patrol basis with each patrol sharing its report in the troop meeting.

Individual: Stress and encourage the individual badge worker to read as a minimum the Bauer book and the applicable segments of the Sunset book.

2. All Missions in our council have guided tours of some sort. All have shops where pamphlets, books, postcards, etc., can be purchased. Several of the Missions are still churches, only La Purisima is a State Park. Arrange tours by writing or calling.

Troop: If the entire troop can't visit all the Missions, split up by patrols, then share at the troop meeting.

Individual: Encourage the individual badge worker to visit at least three of the Missions.

3. Descriptive materials can be obtained by writing to the Missions not visited and sending money to cover costs.
4. Advice on costuming can be obtained from the docents at La Purisima Mission. There are easy to make costumes, well within the skills of most Juniors with help. This could be an all-day sewing project, or part of a crafts-day, during which requirements in #5 are fulfilled. The Bauer book has good pictures as a guide for this.



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.

Troop: Make costumes and prepare meal to serve to the parents or sister troop on one of the Missions Anniversaries or at a special troop function.

5. 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. Soap recipe is on the can of “Red Devil Lye.”

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: a, d, e, and g.

6. Borrow a hand-bell if possible, and use to “signal” changes in the meeting program to get the flavor of “living by the bell.”
7. If a model was done as 5th or 6th grade school work, that person should do another, or different one. 4th graders can use the model made at school.
8. A variety of books and articles have been written about mission life for Native Americans, and the effect on native populations. Books listed above may delve into this subject; other research at your local library and/or online will also reveal sources of information. As always, any research done online should be supervised by an adult.
9. Service is intrinsic in the Girl Scout program. Have the troop or individual search out a need and fill it. Service projects can be done for a different Mission than the ones visited. Here are some ideas for troop service projects:
 - a. Pick up trash
 - b. File papers in the office
 - c. Serve juice and cookies to Mission staff and volunteers
 - d. Serve a meal at a homeless shelter connected to the Mission
 - e. Pack emergency toiletry kits for a women’s shelter or disaster program affiliated with the mission