



Girl Scouts of California's Central Coast  
Celebrates National Author's Day!

November 1<sup>st</sup> is Author's Day, a day to honor all your favorite authors and poets!

Writing is an art. A turn of phrase. An observation of everyday life and the human condition. Authors and poets entertain us, move us—and every now and then—change us.

Celebrate National Authors Day by *Discovering* more about your favorite author or poet, *Connecting* with local authors and poets and *Taking Action* by sharing your joy in reading and writing with others.

***Good for girls working on their...***

- Brownie, My Family Story Badge
- Junior, Scribe Badge
- Senior, Novelist Badge

\*\*To earn the patch girls *must* complete at least one activity from each section.

\*\*Patch program open until patches run out.

Discover:

- Learn more about your favorite author or poet.
  - Find answers to the following.
    - How many books has your favorite author or poet written?
    - When was their work first published? Hint: some authors and poets were published first in magazines.
  - Learn something interesting about your favorite author or poet, such as their favorite color, their favorite author or poet, where they grew up, do they use a computer, typewriter or write long hand, etc.
- Give some time to the author inside of you. Take an hour to write a story, a recent experience, or a poem.
  - Share your story with family and friends.
  - If you feel comfortable send your story, experience or poem to [media@ girlscoutscs.org](mailto:media@girlscoutscs.org). Be sure to send a photo of yourself along with your name, troop # or city.
- Find out which authors and/or poets are favorites of the following people.

- Your best friend
- Your brother or sister
- One of the adults you live with

### Connecting:

- Research a local author or poet in your community or county. Find the answer to the following.

- How many books or poems have they had published?
- Can you access these publications in your local library?

- Thanks to social media, authors, poets and readers can have much more interaction. ***With an adult's permission***, send your favorite author or poet a quick tweet letting them know how they made a difference for you! And why you enjoy their writing. And don't forget to hashtag with #NationalAuthorsDay.

- Learn about an author or poet from another country. Find a translation of their writing in the language you feel most comfortable with.

- Answer the following questions.
  - What felt familiar about their writing?
  - What felt different?
- Then share your experience with your family and friends.
  - Did the writing move you? Why?
  - Did you learn something new? What?
  - Would you like to read more by this author or poet? Why?

### Take Action:

- Write a sequel to the fairy tale Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

- Use the following prompts to get your sequel going.
  - Five years (or ten years) have passed. What has happened to Goldilocks? To the Three Bears?
  - Goldilocks and Baby Bear are teenagers. What are they like?
  - Goldilocks and Baby Bear are adults. What kind of lives do they live?
- Share your sequel with your family and friends.
- Send your sequel to [media@girlscoutscsc.org](mailto:media@girlscoutscsc.org). Please include a photo of yourself, your name, troop # or city.

- ***With an adult's permission***, invite your family and friends to participate in a poetry slam via zoom. ***(Please review all zoom safety features before participating in this activity.)*** Don't know what a poetry slam is... a form of performance [poetry](#) that combines the elements of

performance, writing, competition, and audience participation. It is performed at events called poetry slams, or simply slams. The name *slam* came from the high-energy performance style of the poets.

- Watch these videos to see young poets in action.
  - [Asha Christensen at TEDxKids](#)
  - [If You Give a Child a Word— spoken art](#)
  - [Notes to Beauty | 7th Graders Compete with Slam Poem](#)

- Want your family and friends to see why you love a particular author? Why not gift them a book written by that author?

- Write your life story! Your life is full of interesting experiences!

- Think about all the times you've told friends or family members stories about something funny, frightening, interesting or challenging that happened to you. One of these stories might make a great book!
- Turn your life stories into fiction using your imagination! Change the names of everyone involved and add a few exciting incidents that didn't really happen. For example, you could write a book inspired by your experiences at camp, about starring in a school play alongside your crush, or about the trials and tribulations you faced while trying out for a team.