

Scouting Around McAllen



Patch requirements created by Rita Ramirez

Please Note: Girl Scouts of Greater South Texas tries to keep the information in this packet updated, but we recommend that you call each location ahead as you plan your visits. Please send an email to program@gsgst.org if you notice that any of the information is out-of-date or inaccurate.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SCOUTING AROUND MCALLEN

Complete the starred activity (**) and three additional activities to earn the patch.

1. OLD HIDALGO PUMPHOUSE

Location & Contact Information:	902 S. 2 nd Street Hidalgo, TX 78557 Phone: (956) 843-8686 Website: http://www.worldbirdingcenter.org/sites/hidalgo
Hours:	Monday thru Friday: 10:00am-5:00pm Sunday: 1:00pm-5:00pm CLOSED on Saturday
Admission:	Children: \$1.00 Adults: \$3.00 Seniors: \$2.00
What to do:	Tour the pumphouse and view the video on its history.
Answer these questions:	1. What year was the pumphouse built? 2. What is the name of the river that runs next to the pumphouse?

2. RANCHO EL CHARCO

Location & Contact Information:	401 N. Kika De La Garza La Joya, TX 78560 Phone: (956) 585-5707 Website: http://www.ranchoelcharco.com
Hours:	Call one week in advance to make reservations.
Admission:	\$5.00 per person for carriage ride. Additional activities have additional costs. Call April for information.
What to do:	Ride in a carriage through the natural setting.
Answer these questions:	1. How many acres does Rancho el Charco cover? 2. What animals do you see at the ranch?

3. BENTSEN-RIO GRANDE VALLEY STATE PARK

Location & Contact Information:	2800 S. Bentsen Palm Drive Mission, TX 78572 Phone: (956) 585-1107 Website: http://www.worldbirdingcenter.org/sites/mission
Hours:	Sunday thru Saturday: 7:00am-10:00pm
Admission:	Children under 12: Free Adults: \$5.00 Seniors: \$3.00

What to do: Hike a birding trail

Answer these questions:

1. Who was the park named after?
2. How many acres does the park have?

4. QUINTA MAZATLAN – WORLD BIRDING CENTER

Location & Contact Information:

600 Sunset
McAllen, TX 78501
Phone: (956) 688-3370
Website: <http://www.quintamazatlan.com>

Hours:

Tuesday thru Saturday: 8:00am-5:00pm
CLOSED Sunday & Monday

Admission:

Children under 4: FREE
Children over 4: \$1.00
Adults: \$2.00
Seniors: \$1.00

What to do: Role-play as scientists who study birds (ornithologist) while observing, describing, and analyzing adaptive characteristic of birds.

Answer these questions:

1. What does the Spanish word “Quinta” translate to mean?
2. What does the Spanish word “Mazatlan” translate to mean?
3. How many years did the Matthews Family live at Quinta Mazatlan?

5. MUSEUM OF SOUTH TEXAS HISTORY

Location & Contact Information:

121 E. McIntyre
Edinburg, TX 78539
Phone: (956) 383-6911
Website: <http://www.mosthistory.org>

Hours:

Tuesday thru Saturday: 10:00am-5:00pm
Sunday: 1:00pm-5:00pm
CLOSED Monday

Admission:

Children ages 0-3: Free
Children ages 4-12: \$3.00
Adults: \$5.50
Seniors: \$4.50
Other discounts available to students and military.

What to do: Journey through the permanent exhibits including ancient animals and plants, native peoples and their encounters with the Europeans, and the establishment of the region as a frontier of New Spain.

Answer these questions:

1. What was the museum's former name?
2. What year was the original building built?

6. EDINBURG SCENIC WETLANDS & WORLD BIRDING CENTER

**Location &
Contact
Information:**

714 Raul Longoria Rd.
Edinburg, TX 78539
Phone: (956) 381-0715
Website: <http://www.worldbirdingcenter.org/sites/edinburg>

Hours:

Monday thru Thursday: 8:00am-5:00pm
Friday & Saturday: 8:00am-6:00pm
CLOSED Sunday

Admission:

Children: \$1.00
Adults: \$2.00
Seniors: \$1.00
Call ahead for group rates.

What to do:

Observe birds from all five observation decks.

**Answer these
questions:**

1. What is the official bird for the city of Edinburg?
2. What year did the city of Edinburg open its World Birding Center?
3. What kind of birds will you find at the Birding Center?

7. VALLEY NATURE CENTER

**Location &
Contact
Information:**

301 S. Border Ave.
Weslaco, TX 78599
Phone: (956) 969-2475
Website: <http://www.valleynaturecenter.org>

Hours:

Tuesday thru Friday: 9:00am-5:00pm
Saturday: 8:00am-5:00pm
Sunday: 1:00pm-5:00pm
CLOSED Monday

Admission:

Children 0-12: \$1.00
Adults: \$3.00
Seniors: \$2.50

What to do:

Take a group hike on a nature trail and connect to nature using your senses.

**Answer these
questions:**

1. What two snakes are found in the Valley that are poisonous?
2. How many legs does an insect have?
3. How many legs does a spider have?

**8. WESLACO MUSEUM

**Location &
Contact
Information:**

500 S. Texas
Weslaco, TX 78596
Phone: (956) 968-9142

Hours:	Monday thru Friday: 10:00am-4:00pm Saturday: 1:00pm-4:00pm CLOSED Sunday
Admission:	Admission is free.
What to do:	Tour the museum and find out why in 1971 this museum was known as the world's smallest museum.
Answer these questions:	1. Where were some of the artifacts stored before the museum moved to its present location? 2. Who was Weslaco's first postmistress?

9. MCALLEN INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Location & Contact Information:	1900 Nolana St. McAllen, TX 78504 Phone: (956) 682-1564 Website: http://www.imasonline.org/
Hours:	Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 9:00am-5:00pm Thursday: 9:00am-8:00pm Sunday: 1:00pm-5:00pm CLOSED Monday
Admission:	Children under 3: Free Children 4-12: \$3.00 Adults: \$7.00 Contact for costs of special tours for groups of at least 10.
What to do:	Tour the museum and explore the permanent collections.
Answer these questions:	1. What kind of dinosaur exhibit will you see at the museum? 2. What is the name of the Chinchilla?

10. OLD CLOCK MUSEUM & SHOP

Location & Contact Information:	929 E. Preston St. Pharr, TX 78577 Phone: (956) 787-1923
Hours:	Open Monday thru Friday. Call ahead for hours.
Admission:	
What to do:	Speak to Mr. Shawn and ask him which are his favorite clocks and why.
Answer these questions:	1. How long has Mr. Shawn been collecting clocks? 2. What are the future plans for the museum? To where will it move?

ANSWERS TO SCOUTING AROUND MCALLEN QUESTIONS

1. OLD HIDALGO PUMPHOUSE

Answer these questions:

1. What year was the pumphouse built?
A. 1909
2. What is the name of the river that runs next to the pumphouse?
A. Rio Grande River

2. RANCHO EL CHARCO

Answer these questions:

1. How many acres does Rancho el Charco cover?
A. 150 acres
2. What animals can you see at the ranch?
A. White-tail Deer, Javalina, Bobcat, Black Buck, Buffalo, Burros, Mules, Longhorn Cattle

3. BENTSEN-RIO GRANDE VALLEY STATE PARK

Answer these questions:

1. Who was the park named after?
A. Senator Lloyd Bentsen
2. How many acres does the park have?
A. 587 Acres

4. QUINTA MAZATLAN – WORLD BIRDING CENTER

Answer these questions:

1. What does the Spanish word “Quinta” translate to mean?
A. “Country house,” “Villa,” or “Estate”
2. What does the Spanish word “Mazatlan” translate to mean?
A. It is an Indian translation in Mexico meaning “Land of the Deer”
3. How many years did the Matthews Family live at Quinta Mazatlan?
A. 30 years

5. MUSEUM OF SOUTH TEXAS HISTORY

Answer these questions:

1. What was the museum’s former name?
A. Hidalgo County Historical Museum
2. What year was the original building built?
A. 1910

6. EDINBURG SCENIC WETLANDS & WORLD BIRDING CENTER

Answer these questions:

1. What is the official bird for the city of Edinburg?
A. Kingfisher
2. What year did the city of Edinburg open its World Birding Center?
A. 2003
3. What kind of birds will you find at the Birding Center?
A. Great Kiskadee, Ringed and Green Kingfisher, Buff-Bellied Hummingbird, Least Bittern, Least Grebe, American White Pelican,

Great Blue Heron, Black-bellied Whistling Duck

7. VALLEY NATURE CENTER

Answer these questions:

1. What two snakes are found in the Valley that are poisonous?
A. Coral snake and Diamondback rattle snake
2. How many legs does an insect have?
A. 6
3. How many legs does a spider have?
A. 8

**8. WESLACO MUSEUM

Answer these questions:

1. Where were some of the artifacts stored before the museum moved to its present location?
A. Edinburg Museum
2. Who was Weslaco's first postmistress?
A. Mrs. R. L. Reeves (Alameda) in 1920-1922

9. MCALLEN INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Answer these questions:

1. What kind of dinosaur exhibit will you see at the museum?
A. Dromaeosaurus
2. What is the name of the Chinchilla?
A. Charlie

10. OLD CLOCK MUSEUM & SHOP

Answer these questions:

1. How long has Mr. Shawn been collecting clocks?
A. His lifetime
2. What are the future plans for the museum? To where will it move?
A. The museum will move to Pharr, Texas upon completion of the renovation of the Texas Theater.

**SCOUTING AROUND MCALLEN
REPORT FORM**

TROOP #: _____ Leader's Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Date Completed: _____ Number of girls completing patch program: _____

Give a brief report of the girl's reaction to the activities: _____

What activity the girls like least? _____

What activity did the girls like the most? _____

Other comments: _____

NUMBER OF CENTER PATCHES NEEDED _____

NUMBER OF ROCKER PATCHES NEEDED _____

THE CENTER PATCH AND ROCKERS ARE \$1.50 PLUS TAX (.0825) EACH
ADD 10% FOR POSTAGE AND HANDLING (\$.50 MIN - \$7.50 MAX)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Report filed: _____ Number of patches: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Patches Mailed: _____ Receipt Number: _____