

Beach and Bay the Gulf Coast Way

Patch Requirements for Juniors



To earn this fun-patch, you will need to complete at least one activity from each of the four parts of the patch, plus an additional two activities of your choice. Have Fun and Good Luck!

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Sea and Shore:

Look at the sand. How is it different in different places? Try to make a sand castle in each of the different types of sand.

Go to a local or state beach with a visitor's center, or the National Seashore. Participate in the Visitor's Center activities. Then, take a walk on the beach there. How is this beach different from other beaches? Why?

Have you ever cooked on the beach? It's a lot of fun. What are some different ways to cook on the beach? Like Buddy Burners, grills, or an open fire. Can these methods be used to cook at campsites or other expeditions?*

When you come to the beach, what kinds of food do you bring? Which kinds of food would you bring to cook? Which kinds of foods would easier/harder to cook on the beach? For example, spaghetti vs. hot dogs. Which foods would be easier to cook over a certain flame.

[** This can be an at home observation, or an on-the-beach activity]

Water Works:

When you are driving near the water – like on the beach or on a bridge – what kinds of water vehicles do you see? How are they different from each other?

When you are on the beach, look at the water. How clear is it? What kinds of things would affect how clear or murky the water is?

At your house, or walking down the beach, look for different substances – metal, wood, pipe, etc.—what will (at home), or what has (on the beach), salt water done to these different substances?

On the beach, search the seaweed. Look through the seaweed in the water, near the waters' edge, and completely away from the water. What different types of animals live in these different seaweeds?

Safety Stuffs:

We live at the coast, and hear about *hurricanes* a lot. But, what exactly *are* hurricanes? What are they, and what do they do? Now make one. Get one water bottle, food coloring, water, cooking oil, a small rock, and sparkly stuff. Fill the water bottle 2/3 of the way with water, 1/3 of the way with oil. Put in the sparkles a rock. Twist the cap on tight*, and swirl around to make a "hurricane in a bottle". Was the rock picked up?

Think about the water... There are fish and waves and seaweed. There is also riptide. What is riptide, and how can it be dangerous? For a safe demonstration of riptide, fill a large container- like a sink, bathtub, or fish tank- with water. Put your arm in strait up and down. Now move your arm back and forth a few times, then stop moving your arm. Does it seem like your arm is trying to be pulled more than one way at the same time? This is basically what riptide does.

When you go to the beach, what all kind of things do you take with you? Which items do you take to keep you safe? What are some of the other items for? Make a beach safety kit with items like sunscreen and an extra set of clothes.

Clean to be Green:

When you go to the beach, take an H-E-B bag, your imagination, and a friend or family member(etc.) and create a game, like a relay race, while you pick up trash in your area.

Participate in a beach clean up.

At home, or with your Girl Scout troop, gather some everyday items—glue, pipe cleaners, bottle caps, etc.—and make some SWAPS with a 'Go Green' theme. Present to troop, and tell about.**

[** SWAPS—Special Whatchamacallit Affectionately Pinned Somewhere. Purpose of SWAPS are to give out. Must make *at least* two—one to keep and one to give away.]

This patch program was created by Mary Hediger as part of her Girl Scout Silver Award project.

“Beach and Bay the Gulf Coast Way” patches can be purchased from any of the five GSGST service centers for \$2.00 each. Call 1-800-929-5229 for more information.