

Green 2 Troops – Brownie Outdoor Art Creator Badge

This badge focuses on connecting art with nature and encouraging creativity while promoting an environmentally friendly approach.

Complete 5 activities to earn the badge.

1. Explore Nature Art

Objective: Understand how nature can be an art medium and inspire creativity.

- **Activity:** Go on a nature walk in a local park, forest, or garden. As the girls walk, encourage them to collect natural objects like leaves, flowers, twigs, and pinecones. These items will be used to create art without creating waste.
- Guiding Principles:
 - Ensure they leave no trace—collect only what's naturally fallen or already detached.
 - Remind them to avoid picking plants or disturbing wildlife.
- Goal: At the end of the walk, have the girls gather in a circle and share the materials they found.

2. Nature Collages (Without Glue)

Objective: Create art from natural materials while keeping waste to a minimum.

- **Activity:** Girls create nature collages using only the natural materials they gathered on the walk. They can arrange the leaves, twigs, and other items on a flat surface to create patterns, landscapes, or abstract designs.
- No glue or tape: Encourage them to use the natural texture of the materials to "stick" them together, or simply place them close enough to create the effect of a cohesive artwork. Alternatively, you could use natural fibers like string or plant-based thread.
- Goal: The emphasis should be on appreciating the materials and creating with what's found in nature, ensuring no extra resources (like glue or paper) are needed.

3. Eco-Friendly Paint Using Natural Pigments

Objective: Create paints from natural, waste-free materials.

- **Activity:** Show the girls how to create their own eco-friendly paints using materials like:
 - Berry juice (blueberries, strawberries, blackberries)
 - Crushed leaves (for green)
 - Turmeric (for yellow)
 - Cocoa powder or coffee grounds (for brown)

- Beetroot juice (for pink or red)
- Use paintbrushes made from twigs or leaves as tools. Let girls explore creating abstract designs or nature-themed paintings using the homemade colors on recycled paper or on wooden slices.
- Goal: Encourage creativity and teach the girls about how art materials can come from sustainable, organic sources.

4. Rock Art

Objective: Use found stones to create temporary art pieces.

- **Activity:** Collect smooth, flat stones from nature and use natural paints or markers (again, the eco-friendly pigments from the previous activity) to paint them. Alternatively, use carvings or rubbings from nearby textures such as tree bark or leaves to create designs on the rocks.
- Waste-Free Tip: Once the art is completed, encourage the girls to leave the stones in place or return them to nature when they are done. They can even hide the decorated stones around the park or school to surprise other visitors.
- Goal: This activity not only creates art but also connects the girls to the idea of impermanence in nature—nothing needs to last forever.

5. Nature Sketching or Journaling

Objective: Practice observation and artistic representation of the natural world.

- **Activity:** Encourage the girls to spend time sitting quietly in nature, either in pairs or alone, to observe their surroundings. They can sketch trees, flowers, animals, or their favorite view. If sketching materials are needed, consider using recycled sketchbooks or scrap paper.
- Waste-Free Tip: If possible, use pencils or charcoal that don't require paper wrappers or plastic casings.
- Goal: This helps foster mindfulness, creativity, and a deeper connection with nature while keeping the process sustainable.

6. Create Art from Nature's Sound

Objective: Use the sounds of nature to inspire and create art.

- **Activity:** Go to a quiet outdoor space and listen to the sounds around them—birds, rustling leaves, flowing water, or wind. Have the girls create a piece of music or rhythm using natural instruments like sticks, stones, or pinecones (tap together or create percussion sounds).
- Optional: If possible, bring along reusable instruments like tambourines or rainsticks made from sustainable materials.
- Goal: To appreciate the environment through its sound and create a temporary "performance" of nature's music.

7. Sustainable Nature Mandalas

Objective: Create beautiful, temporary designs that don't harm the environment.

- **Activity:** Create nature mandalas by arranging items found on the ground, like leaves, petals, seeds, or small stones, into a symmetrical design. Mandalas are often circular in nature and symbolize balance and harmony.
 - **Waste-Free Tip:** Encourage girls to leave their mandalas in nature after they are finished, letting the wind and animals naturally take them apart.
 - **Goal:** Teach the concept of impermanence, letting the art go back to the earth and not causing harm.
-

Badge Reflection & Discussion:

- **Activity:** After completing the activities, gather the Brownies for a discussion. Ask them:
 - What did you enjoy most about working with natural materials?
 - How did you feel creating art with no waste?
 - What can we do to continue being environmentally friendly in our daily lives?
- **Goal:** Reinforce the importance of using natural resources responsibly and living sustainably, empowering the girls to continue engaging in eco-conscious creative activities.

This plan ensures that all the activities are environmentally friendly, educational, and fun while promoting the Brownie Outdoor Art Creator badge requirements. It teaches both creativity and the importance of preserving nature for future generations!