

BROWNIE OUTDOOR ART CREATOR BADGE – MEETING 1

Badge Purpose: When girls have earned this badge, they'll know how to do different kinds of fun art projects outdoors.

Activity Plan Length: 1.5 to 2 hours

Time	Activity	Materials Needed
15 minutes	Getting Started <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls recite the Girl Scout Promise + Law 	<input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Girl Scout Promise and Law poster
25 minutes	Natural Patterns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls will explore the different kinds of patterns that exist in nature. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Phone or computer with internet access or Natural Patterns handout <input type="checkbox"/> Cameras <input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Sketchbooks, pencils, and/or colored pencils
20 minutes	Circle Loom Weaving (Part 1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls will paint a weaving loom. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Chinet plates (two per girl) <input type="checkbox"/> Tempera paints <input type="checkbox"/> Paint brushes <input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Newspaper or craft paper
15 minutes	Snack Chat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls will enjoy a healthy snack while learning more about patterns in nature. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Healthy snack <input type="checkbox"/> Book about patterns in nature
15 minutes	Wrapping Up	<input type="checkbox"/> (Optional) Make New Friends lyrics poster

Getting Started

Time: 15 minutes

Materials Needed: (Optional) Girl Scout Promise and Law poster

Welcome everyone to the meeting, recite the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Activity #1: Natural Patterns

Time: 25 minutes

Badge Connection: Step 1 – Find art ideas outdoors and Step 4 – Be a nature photographer

Materials Needed: Phone or computer with internet access or Natural Patterns handout; cameras; (optional) sketchbooks, pencils, and/or colored pencils



Prep Needed:

- If using, print out the Natural Patterns handout (at the end of the activity plan).
1. Share with girls that many artists have been inspired by nature. Today, they'll be going outside to get some inspiration for their own art.
 2. Ask girls to share what they know about patterns. Most likely, girls will explain that patterns are something that repeats itself (like the pattern blue red blue red, etc.).
 3. Explain to girls that patterns also exist in nature, though they look a little bit different than patterns that we might see in wrapping paper or clothing. These patterns aren't accidental—scientists figured out that they can use math to explain certain patterns in nature, things like what shape the leaves of a plant will grow into, and the spiral of a snail's shell.
 4. Look through National Geographic's photo collection to give girls a sense of the types of patterns that exist in nature (<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/photography/patterns-in-nature/>). Or, if using, show them the Natural Patterns handout.
 5. Then, head outside as a group and see what patterns exist in the outdoor spaces around you. If you have cameras available, photograph the interesting patterns that you see. If cameras aren't available, use sketchbooks and pencils or colored pencils to record what you see.

Activity #2: Circle Loom Weaving (Part 1)

Time: 20 minutes

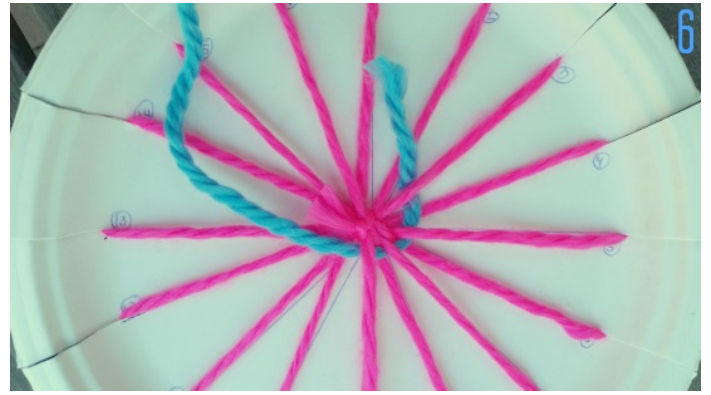
Badge Connection: Step 2 – Make something and Step 5 – Design with nature

Materials Needed: Chinnet plates (one per girl); loom template; tempera paints; paint brushes; (optional) newspaper or craft paper

Prep Needed:

- (Optional) If using, cover surfaces with newspaper or craft paper to protect them from paint.
 - (Optional) Set up a paint station. Girls can use an extra Chinnet plate as their "palette" and go up to the paint station to get different colors as they need.
 - Create your loom template: measure and cut 19 equally-spaced notches on the rim of a Chinnet plate. Make sure not to cut past the rim (*see photo for example*).
1. Note: If weather permits, do your art projects outdoors. If not, move girls into an indoor space for this activity.
 2. Some girls might have noticed that spider webs are a kind of pattern than exists in nature. Today, they'll be weaving a web of their own to hang on their walls!
 3. Hand each girl a Chinnet plate. Encourage girls to use the paints to create a pattern on their plates. Use a variety of different-sized brushes to create intricate patterns.
 4. If you took photographs or made sketches while on your nature walk, have them available for girls to scroll through as they work on their plates for additional inspiration.
 5. Note: Girls will complete this activity in the next meeting.





Activity and photo from: <http://bedtimemath.org/paper-plate-weaving/>

Activity #3: Snack Chat

Time: 15 minutes

Badge Connection: Questions link to multiple badge steps

Materials Needed: Healthy snack; book about patterns in nature

Prep Needed:

- Check out a book about patterns in nature from the library (book suggestions below).
- 1. While girls are enjoying snack, read them a book about patterns in nature. After reading, discuss:
 - Why do you think there are so many different kinds of patterns in nature?
 - Which kinds of patterns do you like the best?
 - What's something new you learned about the patterns that you see in nature?

Book Suggestions:

- *Swirl by Swirl* by Joyce Sidman
- *Patterns in Nature* by Jennifer Rozines Roy
- *Flow Spin Grow* by Patchen Barrs

Wrapping Up

Time: 15 minutes

Materials Needed: (Optional) Make New Friends song lyrics poster

Close the meeting by singing Make New Friends and doing a friendship circle.

More to Explore

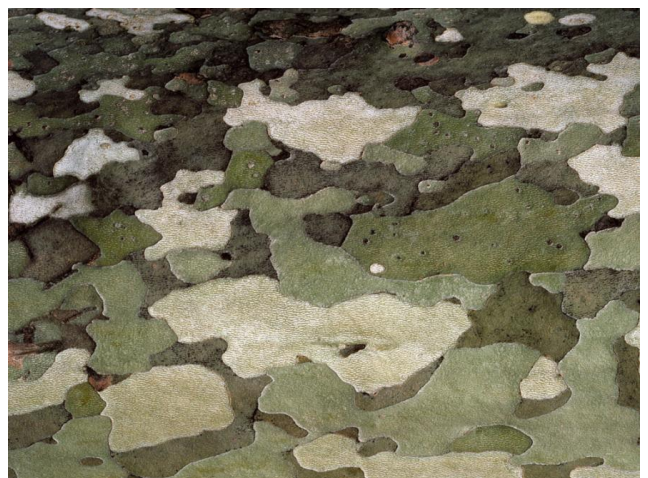
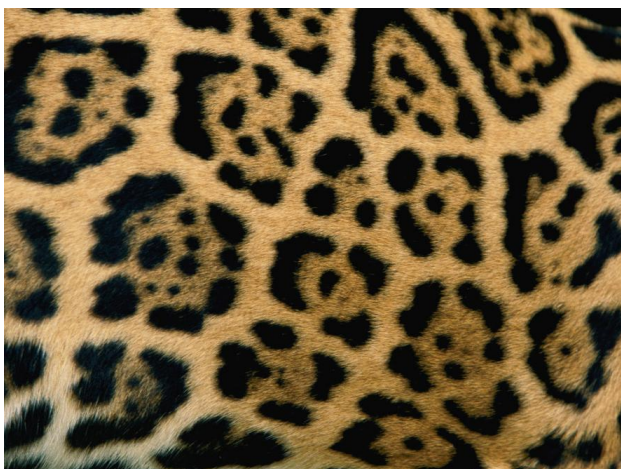
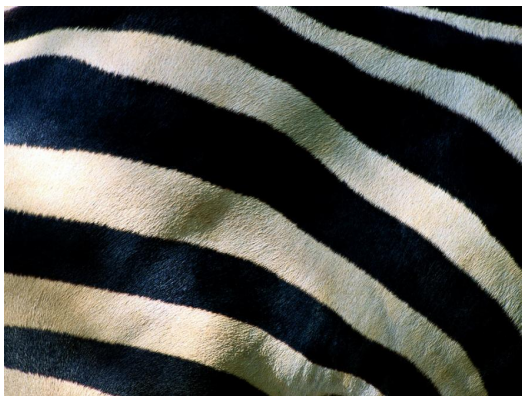
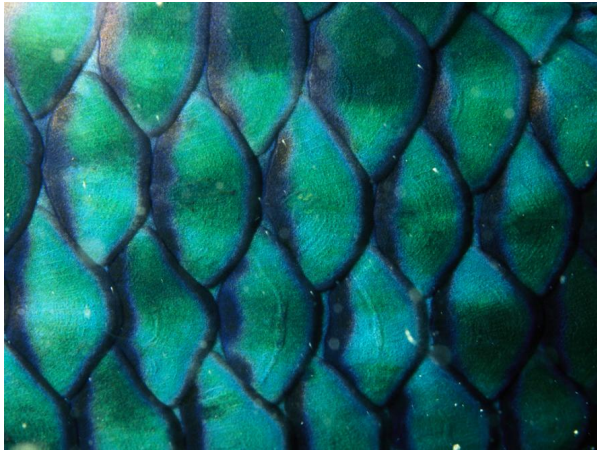
- Field Trip Ideas:
 - Visit the zoo to see how patterns show up in animals' fur, scales, and feathers.
 - Visit a science lab (see if your local middle or high school will grant you permission) and look at leaves and other natural objects under the microscope to see patterns on the cellular level.
- Speaker Ideas:



- Invite a textile artist (like a weaver or quilter) to your troop meeting to talk about how they use patterns in their art.



Patterns in Nature



Source: www.nationalgeographic.com/photography/patterns-in-nature

