



## Black History Patch Program-February

### Purpose-History of Black History

*The purpose is to learn more about the history and culture of African American people. In 1926, Woodson proposed and launched the annual February observance of “Negro History Week,” which became “Black History Month” in 1976. It is said that he chose February for the observance because February 12th was Abraham Lincoln’s birthday and February 14th was the accepted birthday of Frederick Douglass. The Father of Black History Month, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, was born in 1875 near New Canton, VA. He was the son of former slaves. In 1907, he obtained his BA degree from the University of Chicago. In 1912, he received his PhD from Harvard University. (<https://woodsonmuseum.org/about-us/>)*

### DISCOVER (DBJ-minimum of two activities, CSA-minimum of two activities)

- Discover who the first African-American Honorary President of GSUSA? How was she chosen? Discuss with others why this was important.
- Learn about Barbara Jordan. Why was she important to African-American, Women's and Texas History?
- Learn about the first African-American Girl Scout Troop. When was it formed? Where was it located? When did GSUSA begin to desegregate troops?
- Discover the name of one African American and one contribution they made in one of the following areas: Education, Arts, Sciences, Medicine, Theater, Sports, Civil Rights
- Teach your girls more about Bold leader women during black history month with this great booklet called [Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History found here.](#)
- Research to find three historic games of young African Americans. Demonstrate and play one of them with your troop.

### CONNECT (DBJ-minimum of one activity, CSA-minimum of two activities)

- Discover which African-American discovered the traffic light. Then play Red Light, Green Light with your troop.
- Learn the importance of Misty Copeland in Modern African-American history and watch some of her interviews and dancing. Check out A Ballerina’s Tale: The Incredible Rise of Misty Copeland to hear her story! Then, do some ballet with your troop/friends!
- Take a “Black History” Tour of your town or a nearby city. (see resources)
- Create a scavenger hunt by giving participants questions that they need to answer about Black History
- Watch an African American film on black history.
- Listen to a musical selection from at least one artist on the list. Below you will find a listing of some of the more prominent singers, songwriters & musicians.
  - Jessye Norman
  - Gertrude “Ma” Rainey
  - Lena Horne
  - Thomas A. Dorsey
  - “Blind” Willie McTell
  - Otis Redding
  - “Blind Tom” Bethune

- Ray Charles
- James Brown

**TAKE ACTION** (DBJ and CSA-Choice of at least one activity)

- Have a party with your troop to celebrate Black History Month! Share about legendary African-Americans, listen to jazz, enjoy soul food and more!
- Create a poster or display about a famous African-American woman for a local community center. Describe how she is famous and what you admire about her? Include any information if she was a part of the civil-rights movement. Share with your troop.
- Research the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). How and why was the organization started? What is its mission? Who is the current President of the Chapter in your city/county? Invite him/her to speak at one of your troop meetings.
- Visit <http://africa.waggggs.org/en/about> and discover the number of African countries involved in Girl Scouting. Connect with one of the countries and get to know a troop of girls by contacting the Director of the African Region. Become pen pals or simple exchange Girl Scout goodies.
- Arrange (sponsor, provide refreshments, etc.) for a free public showing of a video dealing with African – American History at your local library
- Volunteer at an African American church “homecoming,” an African American Heritage event sponsored by your community or government, or at an African American Heritage Festival.

This patch program available to all girls including registered Girl Scouts of West Central Florida in all grade levels.

Patches are available for purchase through the Girl Scouts of West Central Florida Girl Scout store for \$2.75 each. Tampa Store: 813-262-1793.

Shop 24/7 Online <http://www.girlscoutshop.com/WEST-CENTRAL-FLORIDA-COUNCIL>

**RESOURCES FOR LEADERS**

- [Girl Scouts of the United States of America](#)
- [Black History Patch Program FAQs](#)
- [Local Museums and Events by County](#)
- [BlackPast.org: An Online Reference Guide to African-American History](#)
- [History Channel.com](#)
- [A Ballerina's Tale: The Incredible Rise of Misty Copeland](#)
- [University of Texas Division of Diversity and Community Engagement: Barbara Jordan Statue Project](#)

\*Curriculum & patch design adapted from Girl Scouts of Central Texas and other councils programming