



AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE BADGE

Girl Scouts West Central Florida Council's Own Badge

To earn the African-American Heritage Badge, complete at least two activities from Discover, Connect and Take Action.

Discover – Girls will develop a strong sense of self and develop positive values and use their knowledge and skills. They will be able to identify with their gender and cultural, linguistic, racial and ethnic groups. They will be able to examine their own and other values from individual, cultural and global perspectives.

1. Many Black women made significant contributions in history. Read about one of them. What is she best known for? What qualities did she possess that you admire? Did she have to overcome any hardships? Some women to consider: Ida B. Wells Barnett, Mary McLeod Bethune, Mary Ann Shadd Cary, Bessie Coleman, Ellen Craft, Mary Eliza Mahoney, Mary Church Terrell, Sojourner Truth, Harriet Ross Tubman, Madame C.J. Walker, Rosa Parks.
2. Many of the inventions we enjoy today were invented by African-Americans. Make a list of all the inventions you can find. Compare your list with others. How many of these inventions are still in use today?
3. Find out if there are any people in your community who participated in the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960's. Ask them to come and share with your troop why they got involved with Civil Rights. How have things changed since the 1960's.

Connect – Girls care about, inspire and team with others to advance diversity in a multicultural world. Girls learn to think and act in a way that promotes an inclusive environment, respecting and valuing diverse backgrounds, viewpoints and life experiences. Girls are more aware of issues and experiences of people from various backgrounds and feel connected to their communities, locally and globally.

1. Find out about the African-American celebration of Kwanzaa. When and why is it celebrated? What are the principles of Kwanzaa? Conclude your study with a karamu (celebration feast). Watch a Kwanzaa video:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qD-04G3_F7E
2. Make a toy, play a game, or learn a dance that children in Africa enjoy.
Watch African children dance <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b74anAWWDu8>

4. Visit a museum of exhibit of African-American art or pottery.
Visit a gallery online:
<https://www.kimbellart.org/Collections/Collections.aspx?P=1&Focus=0&TypeID=74&subCat=75>

4. Collect newspaper or magazine stories about African-American athletes, artists, or
5. Learn about the first African-American President of the United States, Barack Obama. Have girls talk about what they would do if they were president and how would they can change the world.

Suggested resource: *Barack Obama Son of Promise, Child of Hope*, By Nikki Grimes Illustrated by Bryan Collier. Excerpt: Ever since Barack Obama was young, Hope has lived inside him. From the beaches of Hawaii to the streets of Chicago, from the jungles of Indonesia to the plains of Kenya, he has held on to Hope. Even as a boy, Barack knew he wasn't quite like anybody else, but through his journeys he found the ability to listen to Hope and become what he was meant to be: a bridge to bring people together.

This is the moving story of an exceptional man, as told by Nikki Grimes and illustrated by Bryan Collier, both winners of the Coretta Scott King Award. Barack Obama has motivated Americans to believe with him, to believe that every one of us has the power to change ourselves and change our world.

Take Action: Girls act to make the world a better place and educate and inspire others to act. Girls will feel empowered to make a difference in the world and recognize that they can use their voice and actions to be an agent of change.

1. Participate in a parade or celebration for Martin Luther King Day or Black History Month or make a poster promoting Black History. Display it in your school, public library, place of worship or somewhere in your community..
2. Many African-Americans worked hard to create change and to promote Civil Rights. Martin Luther King is probably the most famous. Read his "I Have a Dream" speech. Write your own speech and tell what your dream for our nation would be. Host an Orator event or contest at your school, in your community, your place of worship or in your Girl Scout Service Unit.
3. Read a book or some poetry by an African-American author. Make a display of the book(s) you chose and tell what you like best about the author. Find some younger level books to share with a Brownie or Daisy troop or host a poetry slam promoting African-American authors.
6. Yes we can... make the world a better place! We can find cures for diseases, feed the hungry and help people have clean drinking water in another country. With your troop discuss what "Yes We Can" means to them and talk about how they can make a difference in the world and become an agent of change. (*definition-* agent of change:

one who acts or exerts power; one who is authorized to act for, or in place of another). With your troop, develop a Take Action project to make the world a better place.

Craft Idea: make a "Donation- YES WE can" to save money for your favorite cause or charity to make the world a better place. Craft is inspired by President Barack Obama's famous 2008 presidential campaign phrase, "Yes we can." (see directions)

Other resources:

MLK resources- <http://webtech.kennesaw.edu/jcheek3/mlk.htm>

Great website with lots of ideas for all age groups:
<http://www.teachervision.fen.com/black-history-month/teacher-resources/6602.html?detoured=1>

<http://www.ibike.org/library/africakids.htm>

<http://pbskids.org/africa/>

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/Games/ActionGames/Crittercamafrika>

<http://www.black-inventor.com/>

Barack Obama: Yes We Can speech: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fe751kMBwms

“Donation- YES WE can” craft

What you'll need:

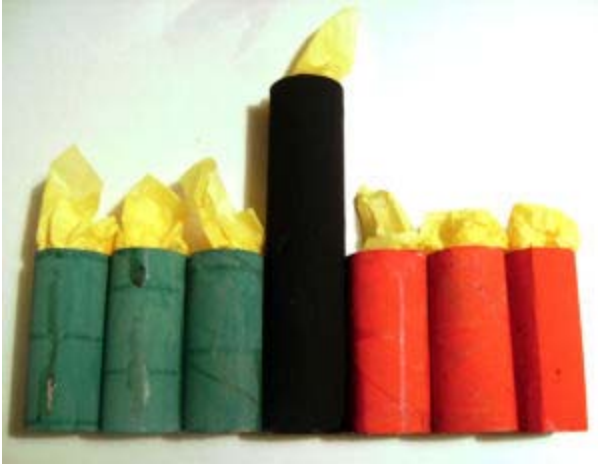
- Empty vegetable can
- 1 sheet of white construction paper
- ½ sheet of felt (we used red)
- 1 chenille stem (we used white)
- Red and blue paint, markers, or crayons
- Assortment of colored glitter pens
- White craft glue
- Scissors
- 2” wide strip of yellow or gold felt, enough to go around your can (optional)
- White acrylic paint (optional)
- Red glitter glue (optional)

How to make it:

1. Measure the width of the can and cut out a strip of construction paper that will cover the entire width of the can.
2. Write the phrase "Yes We Can" across the piece of construction paper. Decorate the rest of the paper using paint, markers, and glitter.
3. Trace round bottom of can on to a piece of scrap paper.
4. Cut out the circle you just traced on the scrap paper. Place it on to the felt. Either hold it in place with your fingers or use a safety pin to attach it. Use scissors to cut around the circle, leaving a 1” border. You should now have a large felt circle.
5. Fold the felt circle in half. Using the scissors, cut a slit in the middle. Open up the half circle.
6. Place the felt circle on top of the can and secure with the chenille stem, wrapping a couple of times to tighten. Do not glue!
7. When glitter glue on the paper is dry, glue the “Yes We Can” band around the can.

Tips:

- You can create this craft a little differently using white paint and a piece of felt. First paint the outside of the can with the white paint. Let dry. Then take the optional piece of felt and decorate it with the phrase "Yes We Can" using the optional red glitter glue. When glitter is completely dry, attach the felt to the can using glue.
- Change out the colors if you don't have the ones that we suggest. We chose a patriotic theme but you can pick whatever colors you like. If you are saving for breast cancer research, use a pink theme, and so on.
- Keep this can in a heavily trafficked area of your house to remind everyone in the family of the cause you are supporting.



Every family celebrating Kwanzaa displays a kinara, a candelabra for 7 candles representing the seven days of the Kwanzaa holiday and the [seven principles of Kwanzaa](#). Each night a particular candle is lit.

You will need:

6 small cardboard tubes
1 long cardboard tube
Paint in green, red and black
Yellow tissue paper
PVA (white) glue

Instructions:

Paint 3 of the small tubes in red and the other 3 in green. Paint the long tube black. When the tubes are dry glue them side by side so they form a line, the three green one side, three red the other and the black tube in the centre. Scrumple up a sheet of yellow tissue paper and push into the top of each tube so that it looks like flames.



People in western Africa wear clothes from a cloth made of thin strips of fabric woven together. Why not weave yourself a paper placemat in the colors of Kwanzaa?

You will need:

A sheet of red card
Green and black paper

Instructions:

Fold the card in half lengthways. Cut long lines in the card about 1 inch apart and about 1 inch from the edge of the card.

Cut the paper into strips about 1 inch wide. Take a strip of paper and pass it under the red card and then up through the first slit, down through the second and back up through the third and so on until you reach the other side of the card. Push it up so it sits as close to the top of the red card as it can reach.

Repeat with a different colored strip of paper, starting the other way, down through the first slit and up through the second and so on. Repeat until the card is full.

Laminating will protect your mat.

See weaving in Africa in action:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPG7252dD0E>



Kwanzaa is often celebrated with traditional African music, with the rhythm provided by African drums. Here is a craft idea for making your own.

You will need:

A terracotta plant pot
Acrylic paints in red, green and black
Sheet of paper
Elastic band

Instructions:

Paint your terracotta pot in the Kwanzaa colors and leave to dry.

Cut a large circle of paper and fasten it over your pot with the elastic band, pulling it tight. Play away.

Watch clip: Drums and Dance on youtube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bq7IqE9vnuE&feature=related>



Adinkra is a type of cloth worn in Western Africa. It is a printed grid pattern made up of combed grid lines and a small shape printed in the squares.

You will need:

Black paint

Paper

Potato

Wide toothed comb

Instructions:

To make the grid, dip the comb deep in the paint so that most of the length of the teeth are covered. Drag the comb along the paper, turning the comb over and adding more paint when needed until you have drawn a grid pattern.

Cut the potato in half and cut out a design from one side. Dip your potato in the paint and stamp the design in the centre of your grid.