



Automotive History
Fair Winds Girl Scout Council
Interest Patch for Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts

The auto industry has a great impact on our community. Being so rich in automotive history, this patch was created to further the knowledge of young adults.

Select eight of the 12 activities

1. Pioneers of Automotive History

Identify at least three people who were involved in the early stages of automotive history in our area. Tell how they each became involved; explain the significance of their contribution and what period of time did they devote to this contribution.

2. Community Involvement

Tell how the development of the automotive history has affected our community in the early 1900s, mid 1900s and the present time. Include employment statistics. Progress means physical changes in our community. When new plants are built how does it affect the surrounding areas such as housing, traffic patterns, noise and pollution?

3. International Involvement

List the countries involved in the early development of the automobile. What countries are major producers of cars today? What is the impact of foreign import/export car products on our economy?

4. Career Involvement

Talk with someone who has been involved with the automotive industry for at least 20 years. Discuss changes and improvements in their job responsibilities (working conditions, wage range, automation - robotics - computers)

5. Horseless Carriage

Visit a museum or other informative display of historical cars or collect information on the development of cars. Trace the engineering and design changes that were made and the reasons for the changes.

6. Her Story

Women in a New World ... growing and learning. Discuss different careers that the automotive industry makes available to women. Choose one career in which you may be interested. Find out what qualifications you would need and what duties you would perform.

7. Noteworthy Sites

Name three landmarks named after a leader in the automotive industry. Choose one site and describe the physical and historical origin of that landmark.

8. Creative Designs

From your drawing board to the dealership requires determination. You may draw or create to scale the car of your dreams. Share your creation with others in your community.

9. Energy Efficiency

List at least 3 types of fuel available. List the pros and cons of each fuel and compare the cost, availability and feasibility of each.

10. Time Cards

Find out how many employees it takes to manufacture one automobile. Using the career cards, list the jobs available in the auto industry.

11. Unions

What effect did the unions have on autoworkers? Discuss changes in the conditions of the auto industry. Compare present conditions to the early stages of the industry.

12. To Buy or Not To Buy

Visit a car dealership and gather facts on buying, leasing, or renting a car of your choice. Compare full size vs. compact prices of standard vs. deluxe. Evaluate gas consumption, insurance rates. Describe other expenses involved in the total upkeep of a car.

You can discover some of the answers by visiting Sloan Museum in the Flint Cultural Center. If you know of online sites, please let the webmaster know so she can add them to the site.