



Girl Scouts Greater Los Angeles

Our Own Council's Gabrielino Missions Try-it

PURPOSE: To learn about the Gabrielino Indians and Mission life that shaped the early history of our Council area.

Brownies: Complete 4 activities

1. Learn about the Spanish Missions in early California or learn about the San Gabriel Mission in our Council area. Visit the Mission and take a tour. Learn about the daily activities of the people, including the Indians, who lived at the Mission.

2. Learn about the Gabrielino Indians that lived in the Los Angeles area before the Mission came and how they lived. Read a book, or visit the Museum nearest you that has Gabrielino artifacts on display, or visit another site where you can learn about the Gabrielinos houses, clothes, food, crafts.

3. Learn and demonstrate a Gabrielino craft or skill.
Choose:
 - a) Make a small basket using Gabrielino techniques
 - b) using a cave painting motif, make a picture for your wall on fine sandpaper using colored chalk
 - c) Make a model or picture of a Gabrielino plank canoe
 - d) Make a model or picture of a Gabrielino house in a typical setting
 - e) String a necklace of shells.
 - f) Make and play a typical musical instrument

4. Learn about life for the Gabrielino Indians after they moved to the Mission. Learn and demonstrate one of the job skills (crafts) taught to the Mission Indians by the Padres and Soldiers. Select from:
 - a. Make a candle
 - b. Make soap from fat and lye
 - c. Card and spin wool (or cotton)
 - d. Weave a small item – place mat, purse, table runner, basket
 - e. Make a pottery item – small bowl, miniature floor tile, miniature roof tile, plate
 - f. Make adobe bricks
 - g. Try your hand at mural painting

5. Demonstrate and share what you have learned about Mission life.

You may use these ideas or come up with your own:

Collect pictures, brochures of the Mission you visited and make a display

-ORPlan

and carry out a typical Mission meal

- ORUse

skits, storytelling, puppets, pictures, or any other method to demonstrate life at a functioning Mission

6. Demonstrate and share what you have learned about Gabrielino life.

You may use these ideas or come up with your own:

Collect pictures, brochures of the Museum or Indian site you visited and make a display

-ORPlan

and carry out a typical meal of non-Mission Gabrielinos

- ORUse

skits, storytelling, puppets, pictures, or any other method to demonstrate life for non-Mission Gabrielinos, either Island, coastal, or inland groups

For: Brownie Girl Scouts

Recognition: May purchase Try-it badge at the Council Store

Placement: May be worn on the badge sash/vest along with other official badges

Girl Scouts Greater Los Angeles!

Gabrielino Missions Try-it LEADER'S GUIDE

The term "Native Americans" is not used by all people. Some of the native peoples use American Indian, Native American, or Indian. We realize that each tribe or group of peoples has different views on these terms. It is important that participants remind themselves of the responsibility and sensitivity we need to carry when learning about another culture, especially an ancient culture whose meaning could be easily lost in these modern times. As Girl Scouts, we believe there is something to be learned from every culture. We believe our strength is in our diversity. We also recognize that stereotypes can only be broken by knowledge and experience. That is why Girl Scouts encourages our membership to reach out to other communities and embrace diversity with programs like these. Plan to discuss these topics with your girls as they complete this badge.

This Try-it is designed to complement the girls' understanding of our local community, its resources, and the history of the peoples who live in it. Take advantage of the outstanding resources available only here while working on these badges.

Badgework has links to an international day booth, craft entries to the LA County Fair, a Service unit craft day, camping at Catalina, museum overnights, day trips, many badges, and school requirements the girls are already doing.

This guide is intended to share the resources that one leader found in researching these activities, not to restrict your own creativity in coming up with other options, resources, or places to visit.

Bibliography for reading requirement: (badge activity number book can be used for)

- A. Barton, Bruce Walter – Tree at the Center of the World – Ross-Erickson Publishers, Santa Barbara, 1980. (Check you library) (#1,2,4,5)
- B. Bauer, Helen – California Mission Days – Doubleday & Co., 1951. (Check your library) (#1,2,4,5)
- C. Bauer, Helen – California Indian Days – Doubleday, 1950. (Check your library) (#1-6)
- D. DaSilva, Owen, O.F.M. – Mission Music of California – Warren F. Lewis, Publisher, Los Angeles, CA 1954. (#1,4,5)
- E. Grant, Campbell – Rock Paintings of the Chumash – University of California Press, Berkeley, 1966. (The Gabrielinos artistic styles were similar enough that you can get the feeling for their art by seeing that of the Chumash) (#2,3)
- F. Gudde, Edwin G. – California Place Names – University of California Press, Berkeley, 1969. (Current editions available for purchase, but can also be obtained from the library) (#2,6)
- G. Lummis, Charles F. – Spanish Songs of Old California – Charles Lummis, Publisher, Los Angeles, CA 1923. (#1,4,5)
- *H. The Chumash People – Materials for Teachers and Students, published by The Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 1982. Can be obtained by calling/writing the museum, from the publisher EZ Nature Books, PO Box 4206, San Luis Obispo, Ca 93403, or from the bookstore at the Southwest Museum (see below). Much of the material culture ie. Houses, baskets, beads, crafts, were the same between the Chumash and the Gabrielino. But they came from different origins with different language structures, stories, and traditions. Be sure to check Miller (O-below) for these. (#2,3,6)
- *I. MacMillan, Diane – Missions of the Los Angeles Area – In the California Missions series, 1996. (#1,2,4,5,6)

- J. Sunset Books- The California Missions, a Pictorial History and Guide – 1979. (1,2,4,5,6)
- K. O’Dell, Scott- Island of the Blue Dolphins – HoughtonMifflin Co, 1960. Still in print and available everywhere- a classic, Newbery Award Winner, and required reading for a lot of kids. (#2,3,6)
- L. O’Dell, Scott – Zia – HoughtonMifflin Co, 1976. Also available everywhere, the sequel. (1,4,5)
- M. Schoenherr, Allan – A Natural History of California – University of California Press, 1992.
- N. GSUSA- Exploring the Hand Arts (#,3,4)
- *O. Miller, Bruce W. – The Gabrielino- Sand River Press, Los Osos, Ca. 1991.- The guide on the subject! (#1,2,3,4,5,6)
- P. Bryan, Bruce. – Archaeological Explorations on San Nicolas Island – published by the Southwest Museum, available at their bookstore. (#2,3,6)

*I recommend the leaders referring to H,I,O. the others as desired.

Check your local library- there are extensive collections of material on the topic.

The Southwest Museum shop is a great resource for books, basketweaving kits, coloring books, and much else. Admission is free if only going to the shop. Can be reached from the Gold line- Southwest museum stop.

Booklets and pamphlets available from each Mission, written especially about each

Mission or the mission system.

1. The San Gabriel Mission provides guided tours by prior arrangement, and they provide a mapped self-guided tour. Cost of admission \$3/ child, \$5/adult. Most Missions have guided tours of some sort. All have shops where pamphlets, books, postcards, etc., can be purchased. Some of the Missions are still churches. Arrange tours by writing or calling. Descriptive materials can be obtained by writing to the Missions not visited and sending money to cover costs.

Troop: If the entire troop can't visit the Mission, split up by patrols, then share at the troop meeting. /Individual: Encourage the individual badge worker to visit at least one of the Missions. (refer to A,B,C,D,E,I,J,L)

2. Girls can learn about pre-Mission Gabrielino life by visiting:
Southwest Museum (now a part of the Autry Center) (#2,3,4,6,8)
234 Museum Dr (323) 221-2164

Can be reached from the Gold line- Southwest museum stop.

*no admission charged if going only to the bookstore. All the important books above can be purchased here. I recommend a trip by the leaders just for material before starting on the badge. Use bookstore as a resource for books, coloring books, basketweaving kits, and much else.

LA County Museum of Natural History (if you are doing a Museum sleepover with your troop here ie Camp Dino, next am you have free admission to the exhibits and can view the tule huts and

other items) (#2,3,4)

Smith Park, San Gabriel. The west end of this city park has been made into a semblance of the Gabrielino village that was once on this site, with huts, native plants, descriptive elements, maps of local tribe sites, and images of the food, tools, crafts, and lifestyle of the pre-mission Indians. (#3,4,5)

Catalina Island Museum, Casino, Avalon

Red Box Station, Angeles Crest Highway

LA County Arboretum (per report)

Troop/ Individual: A checklist of items to see can be distributed for a trip to one of the

museums or to Smith Park. Or each girl can be given one thing to research, draw or obtain pictures of, to describe to the rest of the troop.

Troop: Each patrol draw something they saw on the trip and make a troop display./

Individual: Share with the troop by giving a short talk and displaying brochures and/or drawn pictures. (refer to A,B,C,E,F,H,I,J,K,O,P)

3. Troop: by patrols, divide and share/ Individual: Share knowledge with the troop.

A good chance for an all day craft session is with resource people from local museums, etc.

DickBlick.com – Great art supply online resource, see weaving kits.

WildPonyBaskets.com – web site show all kits, available as individual kits with materials & instructions, or group kits.

Southwest Museum shop also sells the wildpony basket weaving kits, and many other craft items.

The girls can use a motif for embroidery on a purse, shirt, etc., or hook rug/wall hangings, or as an applique. Olivella shells are easy to string into jewelry.

(refer to A,C,E,H,N,O)

4. Plan a "Craft Day" and gather up resource people and have several of the crafts going at once. Instructions for all of these are available in current publications or on the internet.

Soap recipe is on the can of "Red Devil Lye."

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WildPonyBaskets.com – web site shows all kits, available as individual kits with materials & instructions, or group kits.

Southwest Museum shop also sells the wildpony basket weaving kits.

Troop: Provides great opportunity for an all-day fun time. Perhaps the crafts area could be set up as a wide game. /Individual: The easiest ones to accomplish by the individual are probably: d, e, and g.

5. You might share what you have learned with another troop or with younger girls, or make a display to show others. Troop: Make costumes and prepare a meal to serve to parents or another troop, or a demonstration for international day. See A,B,I,J. Advice on the menu for the meal:

Stew – Make a jerky, garlic, onion, chili peppers, potatoes, and other vegetables as the garden provides.

Bread and butter – Adobe oven recipe.

Lard Cookies – Similar to Scottish shortbread, only made with unbleached white flour and lard instead of butter.

Some adapted recipes: 1. Native American Fry Bread 3 cups Flour 2 tsp Baking powder 1 Tblsp Shortening Salt to taste Cooking oil Work shortening into other ingredients. Add enough warm water to handle dough easily and work until smooth, soft, and elastic. Use very little extra flour. Form smooth balls the size of lemons. Brush with shortening and let stand for about 45 minutes. Pat each ball until it is

round, flat, and about 3 inch thick. Poke a hole in the center with your finger in order to let the "chindi" (spirits) out and help the bread to cook evenly. *Fry in two inches of hot cooking oil until brown on one side. *Turn only once with tongs. *Drain on paper towels. Eat with butter, cinnamon, or fruit spread. (Recipe from Phoenix Native American School Girl Scout Troop.)

2. Jerky *Have beef, venison, or chicken cut in very thin slices. Then tear into strips with the grain so it will be stringy. Prepare a very strong brine (1 cup water to 2 cup salt) solution. Native Americans used no seasonings, but you may want

to add Worcestershire, teriyaki, barbecue, garlic, soy, or other strong flavors to the salt and water. Soak the

meat for 24 hours, stirring occasionally. Lay strips over a line in the sun or on a rack in an oven at a very

low temperature (a pilot light is enough). Let it dry until it is crisp (about 24 hours). Pat off any moisture occasionally with a paper towel. Store in an airtight container. Jerky may be eaten as a snack or rehydrated

in cooked dishes. It will not spoil. 3. Roasted Nuts Using raw, shelled nuts and salt to taste, place the nuts in a shallow baking pan. *Roast in 300-degree oven for one hour. *Stir frequently so that nuts brown evenly. The Native Americans used many nuts. Hazelnuts, walnuts, filberts, and pinon nuts

are native to America. (Refer to h for a lot of recipes, O)

6. Herb teas made of Yerba Buena are available in Health Food Stores. Also some of these stores have acorn meal! Cornmeal is a good substitute. Acorn can be poisonous unless properly prepared. Do not attempt to prepare your own acorn meal unless you have directions! The Indian "cakes" were leavened with

only salt and maybe natural wild yeast. Generally, meal, salt and water were mixed and sort of dry-fried on

an ungreased griddle. Berries favored were native cherries, blackberries, and elderberry, some of which may

be found fresh, otherwise they are canned. Nuts favored were walnuts and pine nuts.

(refer to C,H,O)

See #5 for adapted recipes.

Troop: Divide up by patrols and share./ Individual: A poster may be the easiest to do.

This can make a nice addition to an international day.

Special thanks to the Tres Condados Girl Scout Council for permission to use and adapt their Chumash Lore and TriCounty Mission badges. Created by Jossalyn Emslie, Troop 353, Mission-Camellias SU, Mt. Wilson-Vista Council.