



GIRL SCOUTS OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

## IN THE MUD

A GS NORCAL COUNCIL'S OWN BADGE PROGRAM

### IN THE MUD BADGE

TO ENCOURAGE AND INSPIRE GIRLS TO EXPLORE  
THE WORLD OF SAN FRANCISCO BAY.



#### PURPOSE

Many kinds of animals make their homes in the mud under water. Learn about these animals and how they live in such a dark and squishy place with this Badge !

#### REQUIREMENTS

Complete 4 of the following activities.

All members of Girl Scouts of the USA are eligible to earn the In the Mud Badge.

The In the Mud Badge is an official award and should be worn on the front of the vest or sash.

#### ORDER INFORMATION

To order the In the Mud Badge, please visit [www.girlscoutsnorcal.org](http://www.girlscoutsnorcal.org) and purchase the items online. Please note that shipping and handling will be added to all online orders.

Members of Girl Scouts of Northern California will not be charged for shipping and handling if they use the GS NorCal Council's Own Order Form and have badges shipped to the closest GS NorCal store in their area for members to pick up.

ORDER PATCHES ONLINE AT [WWW.GIRLSCOUTSNORCAL.ORG](http://WWW.GIRLSCOUTSNORCAL.ORG)  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON PATCH PROGRAMS CONTACT [PATCHES@GIRLSCOUTSNORCAL.ORG](mailto:PATCHES@GIRLSCOUTSNORCAL.ORG)

## IN THE MUD BADGE FOR BROWNIE GIRL SCOUTS

Complete 4 of the following activities.

### 1. LIFE IN THE MUD

Collect a scoop of mud from the bottom of the Bay. Search for signs of life by carefully sifting through the mud and looking closely. Another way to find animals that live at the bottom is to gently turn over a rock at the Bay's edge when the tide is out. What do you see? Count how many creatures you find and report your discoveries to a friend. Be sure to return any animals you see to the mud and remember to gently flip back over any rocks that you overturned. We want to leave the animals' homes as we found them!

### 2. ANIMAL OBSERVATIONS

Visit the Marine Science Institute, an aquarium or another place where you can see animals that live in the Bay or ocean. Observe three animals that spend their lives at the bottom and answer the following questions for each animal.

1. Does it live buried under the mud or on top? Does it move or stay in one place? If it moves, how does it move? Can it see?
2. How does it eat? Can you find a mouth? Does it have teeth? What do you think it eats- big or little things? Does it use another part of its body to help it eat? How does it find food?
3. How does it protect itself? Is it hard or soft on the outside? Does it have pincers? Can it swim, move away or bury itself if it is in danger?

### 3. STRANGE FISH

Not all fish look the same. Fish that live at the bottom are some of the strangest looking fish of all! Learn about one fish that lives at the bottom of the Bay. How is it different from other fish that you've seen? Describe to a friend how its unusually shaped body might help it live on the bottom.

### 4. TOP AND BOTTOM

Either in person or in pictures, look at a fish that lives near the bright surface of the water and one that lives at the dark bottom. How are they different? How are they the same? Does where they live affect what they eat and how they protect themselves?

### 5. FANCY FEATHERS

Make up a story about what your life would be like if you were an animal that lived at the bottom of the Bay. What would you do every day? How would you find food? Where would you live? In the mud? On a rock?

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## IN THE MUD BADGE FOR BROWNIE GIRL SCOUTS CON'T.

### 6. SHARKS IN THE BAY

There are a few kinds of sharks that live in the San Francisco Bay. The leopard shark is one of them...and it lives on the bottom! Learn why leopard sharks are able to sit still on the bottom of the Bay while other sharks must constantly swim to stay alive. Find out what leopard sharks love to eat, how they find their food and how big they get?

The mascot of Girl Scouts Save the Bay is a leopard shark named Mazu. Why do you think she was chosen as our special friend of the Bay?



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