World in My Community



Complete six activities.

1. Map It Out
Design or use a prepared map of your neighborhood, county, parish, town, or community. On the map, highlight contributions of people from different ethnic groups, either from the past or present. These could be restaurants, shops, street names, statues, or memorials, businesses, park names, trails, historic houses or buildings, agriculture and plants, specific neighborhoods, etc. See how many different ethnic groups you can find.

2. What's in a Name?
Open a community telephone book to any page. How many different family names are on the page? Open to another page. How many different family names are there? Find a name you think is unusual or interesting. Imagine the family history of a person with that name, and write a short story, a poem, or diary entries.
OR
Create a song or drawing about the exciting things that may have happened in that person's life.
OR
Find out the origin of the name. What can you discover about its history?

3. Getting Around
Read "Fight Prejudice and Discrimination" (pages 74–75) in the Junior Girl Scout Handbook. Survey your community or school to find out how easy or hard it is for people with disabilities to get around. If possible, as part of your survey, interview a fellow Girl Scout or someone you know with a disability.

4. Celebrate!
Participate in a cultural event, parade, or festival for an ethnic group other than your own. Learn about the event's meaning and background.

5. Let's Dine Out
Visit a restaurant or home that serves food different from the food your family cooks. Ask the waiter, restaurant manager, or host about the ingredients and styles of cooking. Find out if the recipe was changed because of different tastes or available ingredients. Ask if any special holiday recipes or dishes are traditionally served.

6. Welcome Wagon
Ask your school principal or secretary if there are any students who have arrived recently from another country or part of the United States. Ask the students before or after school or during lunch to tell you about the similarities and differences between their new community and their old one. Share with them some favorite things about your community.

7. Let's Get Together!
Help organize a backyard or neighborhood fair, a wide game, sports day, fashion show, craft fair, or other event. Create a special activity or game showing all the different types of people who live in your community.

8. Culture Sleuth
Try to learn more about the history, customs, and heritage of an ethnic group different from yours found in your community. Demonstrate what you have learned through a skit, puppet show, series of drawings or posters, a short story, a shadow box display, clay figures, or a speech.