

Deaf / Hearing Impaired Ribbon

Girl Scouts for All Appreciation Series Patch Program Ribbon 5

Purpose: To increase knowledge and understanding of people who experience deafness or hearing impairment.

- Girl Scout Daisies and Brownies must complete two activities.
 - Girl Scout Juniors must complete three activities.
 - Girl Scout Cadettes must complete four activities.
 - Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors must complete five activities.
1. Talk to an audiologist or other expert about the different types of hearing impairment and their causes. Learn about possibilities for correcting hearing impairment and ways to prevent it.
 2. Explore assistive technologies used in the workplace and at home for people who are hearing impaired. Your local library or the internet may have resources available for you to research this topic, including the Deaf Websites page here: <http://www.deafwebsites.com/>
 3. Take a field trip to a local museum and explore the different ways people with hearing impairment can use these facilities. Possibilities might include written signs, Sign Language interpreters, or videos with captions.
 4. Discuss different adaptations your troop could make to include a girl with hearing impairment. How would you arrange your space or conduct meetings and activities to ensure she would be included? How would you travel together? How would you support her? What would you do if people made fun of her?
 5. Invite a person who is deaf to speak at a troop meeting about her lifestyle and any assistive technology she uses.
 6. Learn some American Sign Language. Make a video or in-person presentation for a friend, or a sister Girl Scout in ASL. The Internet has several sources for this including these websites:
 - www.signlanguage101.com
 - www.lifeprint.com
 7. Learn about different types of social interaction options for those with hearing loss. Explore Sign Language Interpreting agencies and how they work. Discover how a deaf person may use a mobile device-what programs do they have on it to help? How does a deaf person communicate in a common social place like a grocery store if those around them do not know Sign Language?
 8. Explore the different resources available to people who are deaf at a public service center. Explore public resources such as written signage, video guide with captions, and interpreter opportunities. Find other such resources in your community.
 9. Read and discuss as a group a book about a person who is/was deaf in order to learn about their lifestyle. Examples can be found here for different age groups: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_children%27s_books_featuring_deaf_characters
 10. Create and complete a service project that will assist deaf people in your community. Central Texas is home to the Texas School for the Deaf at 1102 S Congress Ave, Austin, TX 78704 (512) 462-5353. In addition, the Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services program assists adults and children who are deaf or hearing impaired. To find the nearest office call the DARS Inquiries Line at 1-800-628-5115 or check the website at: <http://www.dars.state.tx.us/dbs/offices/OfficeLocator.aspx?div=4>

**Service projects may also be created to benefit the TSD GS Troop, please contact the GSFA Committee at gsfa@gsctx.org for more information.*