



# Cadette Outdoor Art Apprentice Badge

Online, Outdoor Activities and Videoconference Meetings

Girl Scouts San Diego, Summer, 2020

Complete five requirements and Take Action, online and outdoors.

Some optional badge workshops will be offered by video-conference. More information at <http://sdrufc.com/summer/>. First meeting will introduce the activities, show examples, and answer questions. Two weeks later, girls will share their sketches and stories.

Additional guidance in the badge booklet from Girl Scouts USA, [www.gsusa.org](http://www.gsusa.org), \$0.99 to download. Follow council guidance on [internet use](#) .

## GSUSA BADGE REQUIREMENTS

1. Explore art outdoors
2. Make something—adapted to Explore color and light
3. Get to know—and create—sounds of nature
4. Be a nature photographer
5. Design with nature
6. Take action



## STEP 1 – Explore art outdoors

Art can be found everywhere, not just inside the four walls of a museum. Put on your artist's cap and head outside to gather ideas that will spark your creativity.



Learn about local world-famous nature art.

San Diego and southern California were a center of the art movement in the early 1900s called Plein Air. This is a French term that means “open air” or outdoors. Artists paint outdoors and directly from nature, often capturing light at different times of day. It is still popular, and many artists paint Plein Air.

View this 3-minute video of paintings of San Diego scenes. How many of these places do you and your family recognize? <https://youtu.be/2Wi9NliAcXI>

Watch this 8-minute video about today's painters, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D7VYzN2HLhE>



**OR** Dig into an artist who is inspired by nature and uses nature in her work. Find out what moves her when she's outdoors. Notice what materials does she use Why does she choose nature for her art? View the works of these local artists, and make an art piece that is inspired by their work.

- Monique Straub, San Diego landscape artist, <https://moniquestraub.com/available-art>
- Molly Paulick, native plants, <https://mollypaulick.com/california-native-plant-studies>
- Belle Baranceanu, artist and teacher, who painted murals at Balboa Park, La Jolla Post Office, and La Jolla High School <https://www.sdmaag.org/who-was-belle-baranceanu>

## STEP 2 – Explore color and light



Explore how color and light changes in nature. Sketch the same nature spot, at two different times of day. Maybe in full sunlight in the middle of the day, and right before sunset.

Head outside with pencils (can be colored or just a regular pencil) and sketch pad or white paper. Sit quietly in a place and sketch what you see. Notice the shapes of the things you see. Also notice the shadows and light and how it falls on the plants and ground. What season is it? What time of day? What colors do you see? What do you like about your scene?

Then return to this same place at another time of day. How did things change? Do you see the same shadows? The same light? The same colors? Why? Is the lighting different? Did weather make a difference in the scene? In what ways do your two impressions of the same scene differ.

Take a look at Sarah Burns doing a Plein Air sketch, [https://youtu.be/4\\_XFDdddLIs](https://youtu.be/4_XFDdddLIs)



**OR** Try watercolor painting. Discover how colors “pop” on paper. You will need a simple watercolor box, available at drug and “box” stores (Crayola makes a watercolor box with 8 colors and a paintbrush, around \$4). Purchase a small pad of watercolor paper or card stock or find some at a thrift store. White copy paper can be used instead of purchasing watercolor paper for this badge but the paper may wrinkle or get a hole if too much water is added.

Watch these two videos, and try Makoccino’s techniques:

Easy watercolor painting ideas for beginners, step by step, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3kojEoKgrTY>

Watercolor painting, if you don’t know where to start: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sIxCQ7Y\\_CAU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sIxCQ7Y_CAU)



## STEP 3 - Get to know—and create—sounds of nature

The sounds you hear outdoors are a powerful connection to nature. Think about how you feel when you hear rolling thunder, water flowing in a stream, or a bird chirping. Take your cues outdoors as you absorb the natural sounds of wind, water, weather, and trees, and make music!



**Create a nature playlist.** Create a playlist out of at least five songs to listen to when you’re doing something fun outdoors.

Choose your theme: Slow music for relaxing outdoors? Uplifting, steady rhythms for a hike? Or fast, upbeat tunes for a run? Then enjoy the playlist, a “sit,” hike or run.



**OR** Create a playlist of songs that have lyrics about nature in them. Share it with your troop or another Girl Scout.

## STEP 4 – Be a nature photographer

Nature photographers take pictures because their subjects are beautiful, to remind people to appreciate and respect the environment, and open new ways of thinking about life. Explore nature and create your art through the lens of a camera.



**Photograph patterns and textures in nature.** Find ones that appeal to you, such as the swirls on a butterfly wing, the shape of a petal, the veins on a leaf, or the spines of a cactus.

Take at least ten photos and organize them in a digital album or slide show. Share them with a family member, maybe posting the photos and calling to talk about them.



**OR** Get confident about sketching, with nature artist Christine Elder, at <https://christineelder.com/>. Gather some pieces of white paper, a sharpened pencil and eraser. Watch the videos on **one** of these pages, and make a sketch!

- Drawing birds, at <https://christineelder.com/drawing-bluebirds/>
- Drawing woodpeckers, <https://christineelder.com/how-to-draw-a-woodpecker/>
- All about bats, <https://christineelder.com/spooky-nature-facts-about-bats/>
- Let's sketch zebras, <https://christineelder.com/zebra/>

## STEP 5 – Design with nature

**Explore how nature inspires design.** Bees create honeycomb—one of nature's most modern-looking and functional designs—by depositing wax into hexagon shapes to help store their honey. Nature's shapes and patterns have inspired architects for centuries, like the ancient Greeks and Romans who built columns fashioned after trees.

Explore the fascinating field of mimicry. Watch this 4-minute video, Using Nature's Design Principles, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6WjBvFwQpYU> .



**Make something that interacts with weather.** Create something that works with the weather, then put it outside to watch it in action.

This could be a **suncatcher** that catches the sun's light or a **sundial** to tell the sun's position or a **pinwheel** that spins in the wind **or** a **windsock** to hang outside to show wind direction. Make one of these:

- View several variations of Suncatchers, <https://youtu.be/FwaQuab9eBk>,
- Learn to make a fun foam pinwheel [https://youtu.be/ShI\\_3qzmXJg](https://youtu.be/ShI_3qzmXJg)
- Make a sundial <https://youtu.be/oSMsX7cwzjk>
- Make a windsock from paper <https://youtu.be/0IAT8GT36xs>
- Get a pattern for a fabric windsock <http://www.lovetosew.com/makewindsock.htm>



## STEP 6 – Take Action

**Prepare to lead an art themed hike** with a Brownie or Junior troop, when troops begin meeting again. Or give the cards to a leader or encampment director, to use for an art themed hike. (Take Action requirements for this “online” badge are completed when you get the paint cards or art element cards ready.)



**Nature Color Hike:** At a paint store, choose 30-40 paint cards. It's okay to have duplicates. Look for colors that are common in nature: greens, tans, pastels, ivory, browns and grays.



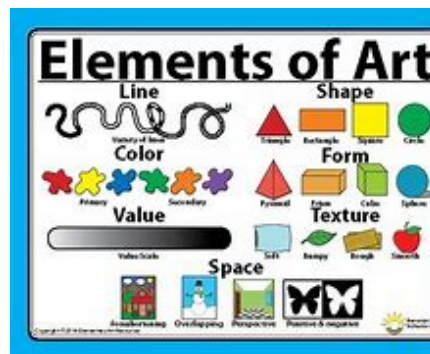
When troops begin meeting again, invite a Brownie or Junior troop on a hike. Or give the paint cards to a leader or encampment director, to use for a color themed hike.

On the hike, give four to five paint color sample cards to each girl. Girls walk along the trail or in an open area looking for natural materials that match the colors on the card as closely as possible. Call “stop” occasionally and ask girls to show a match. Notice that one leaf, plant or rock may have several colors. Notice how many different greens there are, how many different browns. Ask how the colors may help hide from an animal.



**OR Art Element Hike:** View the seven elements in this 4-minute video, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-pcF0XP4VhM&t=3s> .

Outdoor Art Element Scavenger Hunt: Make a set of index cards with art terms that girls could look for in nature: texture (bumpy, wet, sticky) or types of lines (curved, angled, dashed), patterns (coils, spheres, spirals, etc.) or shapes (round, oval, square, etc). On each card, write each word and draw an image of it. Make 30-40 cards for a troop.



On the hike, give four to five index cards to each girl. Girls walk along the trail or in an open area looking for items that match the descriptions on the card as closely as possible. Call “stop” occasionally and ask girls to show a match. Notice that one leaf, plant or rock may have several elements. Notice there are many different textures, lines, and shapes.

Optional: view videos about each of the elements: Element Art Videos by KQED [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLiOIlqP-cMURN\\_8baOr3QWfySmljqKlj](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLiOIlqP-cMURN_8baOr3QWfySmljqKlj)

**When badge is completed:** Send an email to your troop leader with a list of the activities you completed. Give a short evaluation of the badge at <https://forms.gle/csifFbuTVosS1Vzs8>.

Badge adapted by **Alyssa Navapanich**, an art educator with more than twenty years of teaching experience. She is a third generation California native. She became a Girl Scout here in San Diego at age eight and stayed through seniors. Her favorite activities as a girl were camping and canoeing. She has participated in Girl Scouts at all levels from Troop leader to Service Unit Manager to Council Outdoor Trainer. She has four children: two daughters who both earned their Girl Scout Gold Award and two Eagle Scouts.

7/21/20