

GSCNC Nutcracker Patch Program

Girl Scouts of all ages will learn about ballet, dance, music, history, costumes, and scenery through this exciting winter tradition!



*Nutcracker patches are available in the Girl Scout Shop.

GIRL SCOUT DAISIES

Discover THE STORY

Watch a performance of the Nutcracker with your family, friends, or troop!



GIRL SCOUT BROWNIES

Girl Scout Brownies should complete three activities. This should include one Discover Activity, one Connect activity, and the Take Action activity.

Discover THE STORY

- * Read the Nutcracker story by yourself, with your family, or with your troop. What character did you like the best, and why? Write your own story about that character or draw a scene from the Nutcracker, **AND**
- * The Nutcracker story begins on Christmas Eve at a holiday party. What are your family's holiday traditions? What holidays are important to you? Share them with your troop.

Discover HISTORY

- * What is a real Nutcracker and what does it do? Why do you think it is in the shape of a soldier? Does your family have a nutcracker? What shape is it?
OR
- * Draw your very own version of a Nutcracker- be creative!

Connect with MUSIC

- * Listen to the *Nutcracker Suite*. How does it make you feel? Draw a picture of your feelings as you listen to one of the songs. Share your drawing with your troop or family and explain your feelings.
OR
- * Listen to the *Nutcracker Suite*. When listening to the music can you hear one instrument more than the others? What does it sound like—happy, sad, playful, etc.? While listening to a song, write what you think the music is trying to tell you.

Connect with DANCE

- * What are four ways dancers use their bodies to tell a story? How do they use their faces, their bodies, and their voices? Practice two ways in front of a mirror. Partner with a friend and mirror each other's movements for two minutes.
OR
- * Make up your own dance to music from The Nutcracker or come up with a troop dance. Perform it for your family, friends, or troop.

Connect with SCENERY/COSTUMES

- * Work with a friend to design a costume for a character in the Nutcracker.
OR
- * What is a prop? Choose one character from the story and pick three props that they might use. Why are the props important to the character? Use those props to come up with a short skit about something silly and perform it for your family, friends or troop.

Take Action at THE SHOW!

- * Watch a performance of The Nutcracker (note: this can be a live or televised performance), **AND**
- * A ballet performance usually takes place in front of a large group of people. What does everyone have in common? Why is going to the theater important?

GIRL SCOUT JUNIORS

Girl Scout Juniors should complete four activities. This should include one Discover activity, one Connect activity, the Take Action activity, and one of their own choosing. Activities may have more than one step.

Discover **THE STORY**

- * Read the Nutcracker story by yourself, with your family, or with your troop. What character did you like the best, and why? Write a dialogue of an imaginary conversation between you and the character during one of your favorite scenes. Share it with your troop, **AND**
- * The Nutcracker story begins on Christmas Eve at a holiday party. What are your family's holiday traditions? What holidays are important to you? Share them with your troop.

Discover **HISTORY**

- * When and where did the first Nutcracker ballet take place? What book is the Nutcracker story based on? Who is the author of the book and what year was it written?
OR
- * What is a real Nutcracker? What does it do? Why do you think it is in the shape of a soldier? Does your family have a nutcracker? Draw your very own version of a Nutcracker- be creative!



Connect with **MUSIC**

- * Listen to the *Nutcracker Suite*. When listening to the music can you hear one instrument more than the others? What does it sound like—happy, sad, playful, etc.? How does it make you feel? While listening to a song, write what you think the music is trying to tell you.
OR
- * Who composed the original *Nutcracker Suite*? Research his life and learn three things about him.

Connect with **DANCE**

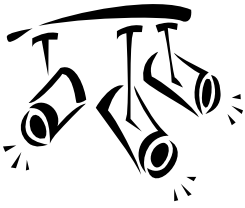
- * How do dancers use their faces, bodies, and voices to tell a story? Practice two ways in front of a mirror. Partner with a friend. Mirror each other's movements for two minutes.
OR
- * Find out where you can learn ballet or other dance styles in your community. Share your findings with your troop. If possible, arrange an introductory lesson for your troop.

Connect with **SCENERY/COSTUMES**

- * Choose one character from the story and pick three props that they might use. Why are the props important to the character? With a partner, use those three props to come up with a short skit about something silly. Perform it for your family, friends or troop.
OR
- * Picture a scene from the ballet. Using a shoebox, create a diorama of the stage— be creative!

Take Action at **THE SHOW!**

- * Watch a performance of the Nutcracker (note: this can be a live or televised performance). After the performance, discuss how you can use theater to help make a difference in the world? With your troop, brainstorm some important issues. For example: family relationships, the environment, problems at school, etc. Think of ways you can use theater to teach people about these problems.
OR
- * The holidays are a time to think about the less fortunate. With your troop, provide service in your community.



GIRL SCOUT TEENS

Girl Scout Teens should complete an activity from each category and one additional activity of their own choosing.

Discover **THE STORY**

- * The Nutcracker story begins on Christmas Eve at a holiday party. What are your family's holiday traditions? What holidays are important to you? Share them with your troop, **AND**
- * With a partner, pick a minor character from the story. Write and act out a dialogue for that character about how he/she thinks or feels about the story.

Discover **HISTORY**

- * When and where did the world premiere of the Nutcracker ballet take place? What book is the Nutcracker story based on? Who is the author of the book and what year was it written?
OR
- * List the similarities and differences in how the ballet may have been performed, when it was first written and now.

Connect with **MUSIC**

- * Listen to the *Nutcracker Suite*. When listening to the music can you hear one instrument more than the others? What does it sound like? Does the instrument sound happy, sad, playful, etc.? Discuss your feelings with your friend, family, or your troop—did they agree? Pick a song. Write three or four lines of lyrics on a topic of your choosing.
OR
- * Who composed the original *Nutcracker Suite*? In what year was it composed? Research the composer and learn three interesting things about his life to share with friends, family, or your troop.

Connect with **DANCE**

- * What are four ways dancers express different aspects of the story? How do they use their faces, bodies, and voices? Partner with a friend. Mirror each other's movements for two minutes. Is this easy or difficult? Why is this be a good practice technique for dancers?
OR
- * What are three of the five celebration dances performed in the Land of the Sweets? With a partner (or your troop), create a new dance step for two of the celebration dances.
OR
- * Find out where you can learn ballet or other dance styles in your community. Share your findings with your troop. If possible, arrange an introductory lesson.

Connect with **SCENERY/COSTUMES**

- * With a friend, design a costume for a character in the Nutcracker. Compare how your design is similar/different from other groups. What decisions did you make to create your costume?
OR
- * The Washington Ballet's production of The Nutcracker places the story in Washington DC. What setting (location and time) would you pick and why? With a partner, design a makeup and/or hair scheme for a character in your setting. Put on a make-up fashion show!

Take Action at **THE SHOW!**

- * Watch a performance of The Nutcracker (note: this can be a live or televised performance). How can you use the performing arts to help make a difference in the world? Brainstorm issues that are important to your troop. For example: relationships, the environment, school, etc. How can you use performing arts to teach an audience about these issues?
OR
- * Watch a performance of The Nutcracker (note: this can be a live or televised performance). Then, create and host an event to help younger Girl Scouts earn the Nutcracker Patch.

Nutcracker Patch Order Form

Submit this form to:
GSCNC, Attn: GSCNC Shop
4301 Connecticut Ave, NW
Washington, DC, 20008
OR Fax: 202-274-2161

PLEASE INCLUDE PAYMENT WITH ORDER

Name _____

Troop # _____

Date _____

Ship to _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Quantity of patches: _____ x \$1.50 (unit price) = _____ (amount enclosed)

**IF YOU WISH TO PAY BY CHECK PLEASE MAKE THE CHECK
PAYABLE TO GSCNC AND SEND IT WITH THIS FORM**

TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW

Date _____

Troop # (must include for processing): _____

Name as it appears on your credit card: _____

Credit Card Number _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Expiration Date MM _____ DD _____ YR _____

Charge Amount Total \$ _____

Signature _____

For office use only

Approval code:

Ref #: