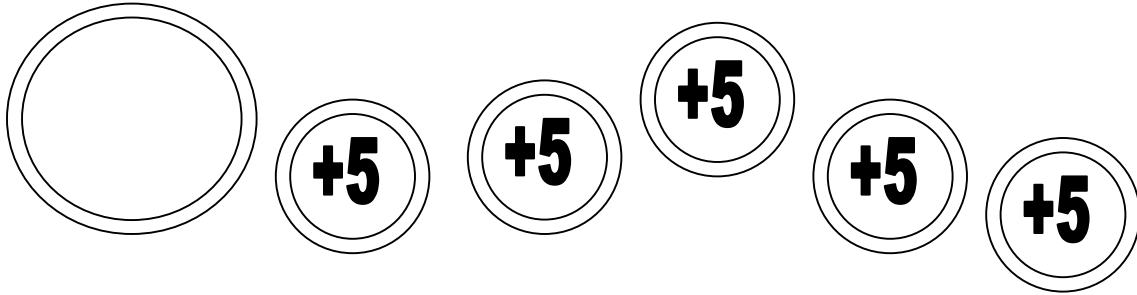


# Isadora Inchworm



**Service** to the community has always been a part of Girl Scouting. Service is given as a way to help others and is frequently done to help those who are in a temporary or permanent situation where it is difficult for them to help themselves. While service may be given as part of a requirement for a patch or other award, the service itself should be given unselfishly, without expectation of reward.

GSCNC is pleased to introduce **Isadora Inchworm** – a patch program designed to recognize and track service given by Girl Scouts. Isadora Inchworm initially made her way to GSCNC Association 70 in the mid 1980's, arriving in the luggage of a volunteer coming from the Girl Scout Council of Bergen County in New Jersey. Having proven herself popular for more than 20 years, GSCNC is delighted to make her available to girls throughout the council.

In order to maintain the **spirit of service**, leaders should help girls understand that they do not do service to *earn* Isadora Inchworm segments, but the patches can be used to show the service they have given. Girls can count hours for activities they do with their troop or as an individual following the criteria below. One fun way to use Isadora is to post paper plates to represent Isadora at troop meetings, service unit meetings or community events to show the service hours given by girls or troops.

Service should represent an extension of oneself, not just the completion of normal responsibilities. Thus, doing assigned household chores is not service, but going out of your way to rake leaves for an elderly neighbor (not for pay) might be considered service. There is often a fine line between service and something that is merely a fun activity for the participants. Holiday caroling around the neighborhood followed by a troop party of cookies and cocoa would not be considered service, but going to a hospital to carol for patients might be considered.

The following **cannot** be counted as Isadora hours:

- Anything done as a money earning activity or for which you receive money or other reward.
- Activities for which you will receive a patch, pin or other award
- Activities done to raise money for any organization (this is against GSUSA policy)

Isadora Inchworm patches consists of a head and body segments which may be worn on the back of a Girl Scout uniform. The head represents the first five hours of service. Body segments come in both five-hour and ten-hour denominations as indicated by the number on the segment. The heads and body segments can be purchased from the GSCNC shop. Leaders are encouraged to share their favorite service projects by contacting \_\_\_\_\_, but they are *not* required to submit this information to purchase the patches.