

Clowning Around

Cadette/Senior/Ambassador Badge



Complete a total of seven activities including two Discover, two Connect, one Take Action and two other activities chosen from any category.

Discover:

1. Learn the difference between White Face, Auguste and Tramp Clowns. Find several pictures of each type of clown. List what you like about each clown's make-up.
2. Learn about clown costumes. Assemble a clown costume for yourself that suits your personality. Explain why you chose the costume you did.
3. Clowns wear lots of make-up so their faces can be seen clearly. Learn about clowning make-up. Apply clown make-up to your face that best expresses your own personality and feelings.
4. Juggling is a skill used by many clowns. Balls, scarves, rings and clubs can be used for juggling. Learn to juggle at least one of these items that you have not juggled before.
5. Search the Internet for information about the history of clowning, clown make-up, clown skits, clown training, and clown supplies.
6. Learn to do three magic tricks that you can use in your clown act.
7. Read a biography/autobiography of a famous clown, i.e. Emmett Kelley, Red Skelton or Charlie Chaplin.

Connect:

1. Find out about Clown Camps, Clown Conventions, Clown College and other places that offer clown training. Create a presentation on one that you might like to attend.
2. Talk to a professional clown about training, business opportunities, etc.
3. Many clowns incorporate technology into their performances. Observe a clown performance and list all of the technology used in it.
4. Mime, or the art of expressing yourself with your face and body rather than words, is important for every clown. Watch a video of Charlie Chaplin, Laurel & Hardy, Etienne Decroux, Marcel Marceau or other mimes in action. Prepare a skit in mime and share with your troop or group of other students. Incorporate some of their motions into your skit.
5. Find out if there is a clowning association near you and become a member.
6. Teach younger Girl Scouts clowning techniques.

Take Action:

1. As a clown, entertain the residents in a nursing home or at a hospital children's ward.
2. Many clowns use clowning as a way to teach a message or lesson about something. Teach something to younger children through clowning.
3. Plan something you can do to help your community such as a food drive, coat collection or pet food drive for the animal shelter. Dress up as a clown and use your clown skills to publicize the project or event.
4. Or think of your own! Use the skills and knowledge you developed in the Discover and Connect activities to guide you.