

Virginia Old Dominion

All Grade Level



Complete the following requirements listed.

Daisy/Brownie - The two starred requirements plus one Discover, one Connect and one Take Action requirements.

Juniors - The two starred requirements plus two Discover, two Connect and one Take Action requirements.

Cadettes/Seniors/Ambassadors - The two starred requirements plus four Discover, two Connect and one Take Action requirements.

Discover: Explore the state of Virginia and learn about its physical features, history, people, and culture.

- *1. Make a large map of Virginia. Include: Routes 13, 95, 29, 81, 64; county boundaries; neighboring states and bodies of water, state and national parks; monuments and seashores; the Chesapeake Bay-Bridge Tunnel; and the cities of Richmond, Roanoke, Virginia Beach and Alexandria. Add to your map any places you visit while working on this patch.
- *2. Virginia was one of the original 13 colonies. Learn about the state's history, such as whom the state was named after, the date the state entered the union and who first colonized the state.
3. Identify the state capital, flag, bird, tree, flower, colors, song and what their significance is.
4. Learn about some of the famous people from Virginia. For example: Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, Thomas Jefferson, Booker T. Washington and George Washington. Why are they important?
5. The United States first European settlement occurred in Virginia. Research where and when it took place and by whom? Why was this event important to United States history?
6. Virginia is known for many things. List two important products for each of the following categories: agriculture, seafood, mining and manufacturing.
7. Chincoteague Island is a unique part of Virginia. Learn about the wildlife native to the island. How are they protected?
8. Virginia is composed of mountains, piedmont and seaboard. What kinds of plants, landforms, people, and animals might you see in each area? Take an imaginary trip from the western boundary to the sea. What do you see on your journey? Make your journey come alive - tell it to someone else, act it out as a skit, write a journal style story or create a collage.
9. Virginia's first settlers were the Native Americans. Look at a map of Virginia and record the different Native American names. Research the meaning of the names, as well as where and how they lived. What type of housing did they live in? What type of clothing did they wear? Do one of the following: Make a model of a Native American home or color/draw a picture of their home life, perform an expressive dance, play a Native American game or make paper dolls dressed in native clothing.

Connect: Expand upon your knowledge of Virginia by making personal connections with the citizens, government leaders and the community.

1. Take a tour of one of the following historic sites: Alexandria, Williamsburg, Jamestown or another historic town or site. Live the experience! If you can, interact with a historical interpreter or re-enactor who plays the role of a person who lived during the exciting history of that town.
2. Arrange to meet one of Virginia's elected officials: Governor, Senator, Representative, Mayor, Councilman. Talk with them about their jobs and what they do to improve the state.

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3. Many people who live in Virginia were not born here. Talk with someone who was not born here and find out why they now live here. What attracted them to this state? What do they like about it?
4. Talk with someone who has lived in Virginia their entire life. Record their memories in a journal. What was it like growing up in Virginia? What has changed? What is the same? Do they think the changes are good or not good for the people and environment?
5. Virginia has many state parks as well as National Parks, National Monuments and National Seashores. Visit one park, either state or national. Meet with a Park Ranger and find out what makes that park unique.
6. Learn a traditional craft from Virginia: beading, jewelry making, ceramics, sewing and quilting. Take a class or learn from a professional or skilled hobbyist. Find out why they enjoy that craft form and why it was important to the people of Virginia.
7. Connect with other Girl Scouts in Virginia – ask an adult to help you locate other Girl Scouts and become pen pals or Facebook friends. Before using the Internet take the Online Safety Pledge at: www.girlscouts.org/internet_safety_pledge.asp

Take Action: Identify a need, make a plan and do something to help make the state of Virginia a better place for its citizens and/or environment. Write letters to local, state and federal officials; help with a community project; or create a public display or presentation to inform others. Here are some ideas, but don't be limited by them:

1. The Chesapeake Bay is a very important body of water. Learn about its significance to shipping, Virginia's economy and the U.S. Government. Why is it in trouble? Make a plan for something you can do to help the Chesapeake Bay and then do it. (Examples: plant native plants or bay/shore grasses; start a recycling program at your school; stencil storm drains.)
2. Many parts of Virginia are very rural. Transportation, medical care, and lack of jobs are major concerns for people in rural parts of the state. Make a plan for something you can do to help and then do it. (Examples: write letters to officials urging them to provide better public transportation; organize a food drive or create a food bank where there is none.)
3. Virginia has several endangered species of wildlife and plants. What are they and why have they become endangered? Make a plan for something you can do to help and then do it. (Examples: create an informational display or PowerPoint about Virginia's endangered species and present it to your school class; march in a parade with a float you design about endangered species; help with an oyster repopulation project.)
4. Take Action on another issue you discover that will help the state of Virginia! Use your knowledge and information from Discover and Connect activities to help guide you.

