

Clowning Around

Brownie Badge



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

Discover:

1. Collect pictures of clowns or pictures of clothing that clowns would wear. Make a collage with these pictures.
2. Learn about the materials that clowns and mimes use for face makeup. Try to create your own clown or mime face.
3. Learn about the materials that clowns or mimes use for their costumes. Try to make your own costume.

Connect:

1. Create a simple skit that a clown or mime would do. Put on a performance for your troop or others.
2. Talk to a clown and find out what you would have to learn in order to become a clown or mime.
3. Demonstrate something that you have learned for another Girl Scout Brownie or Daisy troop. (Some examples can be juggling, face painting, or costume design).

Take Action:

1. As a clown, entertain the residents in a nursing home or at a hospital children's ward.
2. 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.
3. Or think of your own project! Use the skills and knowledge you developed in the Discover and Connect activities to guide you.

Clowning Around

Junior Badge



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

Discover:

1. Collect pictures of clowns or pictures of clothing that clowns would wear. Make a collage with these pictures.
2. 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.
3. Learn about the materials that clowns and mimes use for face makeup. Visit a hobby store, costume store, fabric store or thrift store. Or have a clown or mime visit your troop to talk about clown make-up and how to select the types of make-up you need to create the look you want. Try to create your own clown or mime face.
4. Learn about the materials that clowns or mimes use for their costumes. Try to make your own costume. Collect pictures of clowns from circus programs, internet searches, etc. Select the one you like the best and tell why. Visit a costume store or have someone from a costume store bring catalogs to your troop meeting and discuss how to pick a clown costume, or search costume stores on-line to select a look you like.

Connect:

1. Create a simple skit that a clown or mime would do. Put on a performance for your troop or others.
2. Research areas where clowns work professionally. What type of salary could you expect to earn? Look in the newspaper classified section to see if there are any job openings described for a clown. Check with a local college drama department or look on-line to try to find out what type of jobs might be available to a clown. (Hint: rodeo clowns, circus clowns, theater mimes or clowns).
3. Find out about what you would have to learn in order to become a clown or mime. Are there schools that teach clowning? Where do you learn what you need to know?
4. Find out if there is a clowning association near you and become a member.
5. Do "walk around" clowning at a community event.

Take Action:

1. Demonstrate something that you have learned to a Girl Scout Daisy or Brownie troop or other younger children. (Some examples can be juggling, face painting, costume design or performing a skit).
2. As a clown, entertain the residents in a nursing home or at a hospital children's ward.
3. Many clowns use clowning as a way to teach a message or lesson about something. Teach something to younger children through clowning.
4. 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.
5. Or think of your own project! Use the skills and knowledge you developed in the Discover and Connect activities to guide you.

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.