



SPCA Serving Erie County  
Girl Scout Patch Program

# Leader's Guide

Junior Level Requirement



SPCA Serving Erie County  
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West Seneca, NY 14224  
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[YourSPCA.org](http://YourSPCA.org)



## Girl Scout Patch Program Description

The Girl Scout Patch Program consists of three levels: Daisy, Brownie, and Junior. At each level, girls do a variety of age-appropriate activities that teach them about being responsible animal advocates. All activities are done during troop meetings or at home. The last activity the troop will do is visit the SPCA for a tour.

In order for the girls to earn the SPCA Patches, the following must occur:

 The girls must complete three out of the six activities before coming for the tour.

- Activity 1: Learn About Local Wildlife
- Activity 2: Clean Up a Habitat
- Activity 3: Animal Tracks
- Activity 4: Wish List
- Activity 5: Helping Wildlife
- Activity 6: Humane Poster and Creative Writing Contest

 The troop leader should completely fill out the Patch Program Evaluation Form and turn it in by the end of the tour.

## Tour Information and Scheduling

The program includes a special tour of our facility, including the dog kennels, the cat room, the small animals, and the Educational Farm.

Tours are offered Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6pm and last approximately 45 minutes.

There is a minimum of 6 and maximum of 20 Brownies needed for a tour.

Cost per girl is \$8.00, troop leaders are free and extra adults and family members are \$5.00 each. Cash, credit card, or checks (made payable to SPCA Serving Erie County) are accepted.

To schedule a tour, e-mail [KatherineG@yoursPCA.org](mailto:KatherineG@yoursPCA.org) or call 716-875-7360 ext. 234. Please call at least one month in advance to schedule tours.

### **Leaders: Please review the following with your troop before introducing the activities:**

#### What is the SPCA Serving Erie County?

At the SPCA Serving Erie County, our mission is to create a more humane community through education; rescuing, protecting, and enhancing the lives of animals; and nurturing the bond between animals and people.

The SPCA does not receive any funding from the county, city, state, or federal governments. We do not receive tax dollars of any kind. We are only able to assist the people and pets in need thanks to donations. The SPCA cares for approximately 12,000 animals each year through programs that include adoptions, admissions, animal rescues, animal emergency transports, stray lost and found services, animal cruelty investigations and seizures, care for wildlife, reptiles, exotics, and farm animals, and much more.

## Activity 1

### Learn About Local Wildlife

Just like pets, wildlife has basic needs in order to survive. Wild animals require food, water, shelter, and a safe place to raise their young. For this activity, survey a park area, neighborhood, wooded area, stream, etc. Make a list of all the animals that you see. Choose three animals that you saw and learn more about them.

- a. Where is their habitat?
- b. What do they eat?
- c. Where do they nest? What do they use for their nests?
- d. Why are they important to the wildlife community?
- e. Do they need help from humans? Why or why not?

Use the internet or books to research questions that you are not able to observe.

### Animals of New York

 <b>Beaver</b>	 <b>Great Blue Heron</b>	 <b>Chipmunk</b>
 <b>Coyote</b>	 <b>Squirrel</b>	 <b>Red Tailed Hawk</b>
 <b>Opossum</b>	 <b>Great Horned Owl</b>	 <b>Skunk</b>
 <b>Deer</b>	 <b>Rabbit</b>	 <b>Raccoon</b>



**Animal:** \_\_\_\_\_

Where is the animal's habitat (forest, stream, lake, etc.)?

\_\_\_\_\_

What does the animal eat?

\_\_\_\_\_

Where does the animal nest or have a home? What do they use to make one?

\_\_\_\_\_

Why is the animal important to the wildlife community?

\_\_\_\_\_

Does the animal need help from humans? Why or why not?

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Animal:** \_\_\_\_\_

Where is the animal's habitat (forest, stream, lake, etc.)?

\_\_\_\_\_

What does the animal eat?

\_\_\_\_\_

Where does the animal nest or have a home? What does he/she use to make them?

\_\_\_\_\_

Why is the animal important to the wildlife community?

\_\_\_\_\_

Does the animal need help from humans? Why or why not?

\_\_\_\_\_



## ANIMALS OF WNY TRACKS ACTIVITY

### Answer Key

Beaver  
Great Blue Heron  
Red Tail Hawk

Chipmunk  
Great Horned Owl  
Opossum

Coyote  
Rabbit  
Skunk

Deer  
Raccoon  
Squirrel



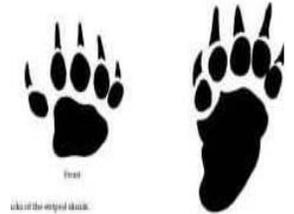
1. Beaver



2. Opossum



3. Raccoon



4. Skunk



5. Deer



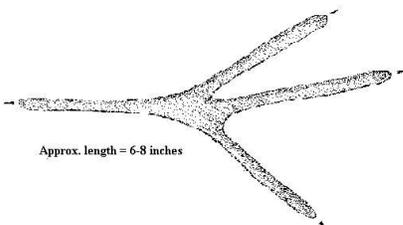
6. Coyote



7. Squirrel



8. Red Tail Hawk



Approx. length = 6-8 inches

9. Great Blue Heron



10. Rabbit



11. Great Horned Owl



12. Chipmunk

## ANIMALS OF WNY TRACK ACTIVITY

Directions: Match the name of the animal to the correct animal track below.

Beaver  
Great Blue Heron  
Red Tail Hawk

Chipmunk  
Great Horned Owl  
Opossum

Coyote  
Rabbit  
Skunk

Deer  
Raccoon  
Squirrel



1. \_\_\_\_\_



2. \_\_\_\_\_



3. \_\_\_\_\_



4. \_\_\_\_\_



5. \_\_\_\_\_



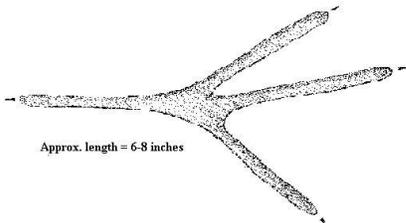
6. \_\_\_\_\_



7. \_\_\_\_\_



8. \_\_\_\_\_



Approx. length = 6-8 inches

9. \_\_\_\_\_



10. \_\_\_\_\_



11. \_\_\_\_\_



12. \_\_\_\_\_



## Activity 4

### Collect Donation Items from Our Wish List

<http://yourspca.org/donate/our-wish-list/>

Ask your parents, friends, and neighbors to donate one or more items from our list, something that helps us care for the animals and then bring the items you collected with you when you come for your tour.

## Activity 5

### Helping Wildlife

There are a number of service projects that you may do as a troop to help wildlife in the area. Pick one or all of the activities. It's fun to do nice things for animals.

#### Pinecone Bird Feeder

What do you need?

- Pine cones
- Butter knife
- Smooth peanut butter or Crisco
- Birdseed
- Ribbon or yarn
- Scissors

Steps:

1. Cut a long length of yarn or ribbon to hang the bird feeder. Tie the ribbon around the pine cone about 3 inches from the top and then tie a knot at the end.
2. Use the knife to spread peanut butter inside the pine cone and around the edges.
3. Sprinkle the birdseed over the pine cone or roll the pine cone in birdseed.
4. Hang the bird feeder in a tree.



#### Simple Bird House

What do you need?

- Safety glasses
- Jig saw or circular saw
- Hammer
- Drill and drill bit
- 1" thick wooden board
- Finishing nails/screws
- Wood glue
- Paint

Assistance and supervision from a parent or adult is the only way to complete this project. For complete instructions on how to build this bird house visit:

<http://www.howtospecialist.com/outdoor/simple-birdhouse-plans/>

When finished, hang the bird house in a tree!



## Activity 6



# Humane Poster & Creative Writing Contest

**What:** Each year, students throughout Erie County are invited to illustrate a poster or make a creative writing piece portraying part of the SPCA Serving Erie County's mission.

**Who:** Contest is open to students in first grade and above who are residents of Erie County are invited to enter the 2020 Humane Poster & Creative Writing Contest.

**How:** Choose either a poster or a creative writing piece. One submission per student. Entry must be the student's original idea. The contest opens in January 2020.

**Poster & Creative Writing Contest Prizes:** Winners in each division will receive a personalized medal, cash prize, and an invitation to the awards celebration. The Stevens/Barrett Award for Creative Writing and the Anderson/ Lowe Award for Artistic Ability are presented to two students who exhibit exceptional creativity and originality.

### Nomination Awards

**Judy Silver Educator of the Year:** This is an award that is given to an adult who exhibits empathy, kindness, citizenship, respect, or other humane qualities to others in our community. Any adult educator, administrator, school/after-school program employee, counselor, youth group or scout troop leader is eligible for nomination. The winner of this award will receive a \$250 check and a personalized plaque.

**The Ambassador of Kindness Award:** The Ambassador of Kindness Award celebrates a young individual who exhibits exceptional attitudes of kindness through his/her actions and behaviors. The winner of this award will receive a \$25 cash award and a medal.



For more information, please visit the Humane Education Department online at [YourSPCA.org](http://YourSPCA.org) or contact Danielle Talbot by sending her an email to [daniellet@yoursPCA.org](mailto:daniellet@yoursPCA.org) or by calling her at 716-875-7360 ext. 245.



## Evaluation Form Junior Level

Troop Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Troop Leader's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Which 3 activities did your troop complete?

- a.
- b.
- c.

2. What was their favorite activity and why?

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3. Would you be interested in attending an all-inclusive patch workshop for several hours on a weekend where girls would complete all requirements at the SPCA?

Yes      No      (circle one)

Why or Why not?

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4. Do you have any suggestions for improving our patch program at the SPCA Serving Erie County?

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5. Would you be interested in a Cadette Patch Program when your girls are old enough?

Yes      No      (circle one)

Why or Why not?

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6. How did you hear about our Patch Program? (circle one)

Website    Word of Mouth    Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please turn in your evaluation form and payment to receive your patches.