



GSWNY 19th Amendment Centennial Patch Program:

November 2017 marked the 100-year anniversary of women gaining the right to vote in New York State —three years later, in 1920, the 19th Amendment was ratified granting women, nationwide, the right to vote. It represented the dedication and hard work of dozens of women, in New York State and across the country, over many years. Suffragists, also called Suffragettes, met in homes and at large open-air meetings to plan strategies. They marched in parades, held rallies, staffed tents at fairs, and distributed pamphlets. They even sold candy and suffrage items at baseball games to spread the word of how important it was for women to be granted the right to vote.

In 2020 the Centennial of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote will be celebrated across the nation. The US Suffrage Movement began in New York State and by completing this patch program you will become more aware of that movement and the women who have shaped history throughout time.

The Women's Rights Movement started in the 1840's here in New York State, long before the formation of the Girl Scouts organization & Girl Scouting. Once Girl Scouts had been formed, many of the suffragists became members of Girl Scouting. One suffragist even served as the National President of GSUSA. Many other famous women and Girl Scouts have impacted the Women's Rights Movement and are recognized at the Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls, NY.

Steps: Virtually or in person, complete these activities:

Daisies – Complete 3 steps

Brownies – Complete 4 steps

Juniors – Complete 5 steps

Cadettes/Seniors/Ambassadors – Complete 6 steps

1. Discover who the first women to lead the suffrage movement were. Where did they come from? What was the first event they led for Women's Suffrage?

2. Learn the definition of civil disobedience; discover if there were any instances of civil disobedience during the Women's Rights Movement. Decide if civil disobedience has been used in our time in supporting any current women's rights issues.

3. Either virtually or in person, visit the National Women's Hall of Fame located in Seneca Falls, NY to learn about women who have been inducted to the hall of fame. There are many women that have been inducted that were, or are still, Girl Scouts. Name at least 1 woman related to Girl Scouting and 2 others that you feel have made an impact in either the Suffrage Movement or other Women's Rights issues. Who do you feel you have a connection with?



4. There was a Suffrage tent at the 1913 Suffolk County Fair set up as a place for child care. Suffragists could campaign for women's rights knowing that their children were well cared for. The types of games girls/children could have played there during this time included Marbles, Pick Up Sticks, Graces, Jacks, and Hopscotch. Find out about one of these games and play it with your GS Troop or family. Many of the items needed to play can be purchased inexpensively.



5. Seneca Falls, NY is of key importance to the Women's Suffrage/Women's Rights movement. What is the significance of this location in NY? When was the first Women's Rights Convention, approximately how many people attended, and what was its outcome?

6. Discover how democracy works and why voting is important for women. What is the League of Women Voters? Find out what qualifications are needed to run for office in your community, our state or our nation.

7. Learn about the process of amending the Constitution of the United States. How is an amendment proposed and how many of the States must ratify it?

8. Research 3 locations in NYS that were key to the Women's Suffrage movement, and, if possible, visit one of these sites to learn more about the history they illustrate.

9. Create your own Suffrage poster/banner or one based on a current Women's Rights issue. Share it by hanging it in your meeting place or another public place.

10. It was a long and difficult effort to win the right for women to vote in the United States. Plan a victory celebration looking forward to the 100th anniversary that is coming in 2020. It can be a party, a visit to the voting booths, a trip to a museum, or paying respects at the graves of the Suffragettes buried in your local cemetery,



On-line resources:

Women's Rights Movement www.history.com (search for the 19th Amendment).

Women's Suffrage Timeline visit: <https://www.thoughtco.com/womens-suffrage-timeline-3530518>

NYS Women's Rights and Suffrage Trail <http://www.nywomenshistory.com/trailmap.php>

NYS League of Women Voters <https://www.lwv.org/about-us/history>

NYS Women's Suffrage Commission <https://www.ny.gov/programs/new-york-state-womens-suffrage-commission>

National Women's History Museum <https://www.nwhm.org/>

Library of Congress <https://www.loc.gov/collections/national-american-woman-suffrage-association/about-this-collection/>

National Archives <https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/woman-suffrage> <https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/constitution>

19th Amendment https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nineteenth_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution

Museums:

Women's Rights Hall of Fame www.womenofthehall.org

Women's Rights National Historic Site www.nps.gov/wori/index.htm

Buffalo Historical Society, Buffalo, NY www.buffalohistory.org

Fenton History Center, Jamestown, NY www.fentonhistorycenter.org

Susan B Anthony House, Rochester, NY www.susanbanthonyhouse.org

Patches are available for purchase in the GSWNY shops www.gswny.org 1.888.837.6410

Questions: Please email the GSWNY Girl Experience Team at girl.experience@gswny.org