As a girl-led organization, the CEO Patch was designed to encourage girls to share their ideas and feedback with the Girl Scout council CEO. Girl Scouts typically earn the patch when meeting me at Girl Scout meetings and events.

**Leaders are Readers**

The patch is in the shape of a book with a bookmark that says “Leaders are Readers”. I’ve always loved to read and love to share books with others. Reading opened up so many worlds for me as a girl and still does. And reading is so important to developing yourself as a leader – you gain empathy, learn about other’s perspectives and learn about the world.

Some of my childhood favorites I would read and re-read until I ruined the book covers were: Anne of Green Gables, Little Women, Charlotte’s Web, and anything by Judy Blume. I related a lot to Anne of Green Gables because she had red hair, loved to read and talked a lot (like me)! One of my current favorite books I recommend to older girls is Hidden Figures (and there are now versions for younger readers, too).

I look forward to hearing about your favorite books!

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**Discover and Connect Activity**

Read any book and share a book review or picture with me and Girl Scouts of Western New York with your thoughts on the book. We’ll share some of the ones we receive to keep us all connected.

**Accessible activity** – girls can read or be read to, books can be in the form of hardcopy, digital, or audio. Reviews can be assisted by parent or guardian. Reviews can be written statements, you can submit a video describing it, or you can draw a picture.

Some questions to help you craft your responses:

- What did you like best or least about this book?
- Which characters in the book did you like best or least?
- If you were making a movie of this book, which celebrities or people you know would you cast in the parts?
- Share a favorite quote from the book. Why did this quote stand out?
- What feelings did this book make you feel?
- What songs does this book make you think of?
- If you got the chance to ask the author of this book one question, what would it be?
- Which character in the book would you most like to meet?
- Which places in the book would you most like to visit?

**Take Action Activity**

How can we connect other Girl Scouts, children, or adults with reading when they can’t go to a bookstore, school or a library? Find a solution that you can do safely while at home.

For example, read bedtime stories to your younger siblings, make a video reading stories for children (following online safety and with parent permission), donate books to a Little Free Library.

**Girl Scouts Living History**

- Right now we are living in a moment of history that we will look back on and share with our kids, grandkids, and other generations will discuss.
- Keep a journal, video log, draw or take pictures, etc. that girls in future generations can look back at to better understand what life was like for girls today.

Yours in Girl Scouting,

**Alison Wilcox**

CEO, Girl Scouts of Western New York

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Girls can now earn this patch by completing one or more activities below and submit to: [https://gswny.wufoo.com/forms/m1arzffj1rrwevd/](https://gswny.wufoo.com/forms/m1arzffj1rrwevd/)

Questions? Contact Customer Care at customercare@gswny.org or 1-888-837-6410.