



Pan-American Exposition

For Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors
Girl Scouts of Western New York

Purpose: To increase public and Girl Scout awareness of the 1901 Pan-American Exposition and its role in shaping Buffalo history.

Junior Girl Scouts: Complete 7 requirements including 1 - 3

Cadette/Senior/Ambassador Girl Scouts: Complete 9 requirements including 1 – 3

1. Learn about the Pan-American Exposition:

- When was the Pan-American Exposition (the Pan-Am) held?
- What was the purpose of the Pan-Am?
- Was it a success?
- Why was the Pan-Am called “The Rainbow City?”
- How were the Exposition grounds illuminated at night?
- What happened to the Exposition grounds after the Pan-Am ended?

2. Learn about the architecture of the Pan-American Exposition:

- Pick any one of the buildings of the Pan-Am and tell who designed it (You may also choose one of the Midway attractions.)
- What was the building used for?
- What were most of the Pan-Am buildings made of?
- What happened to the building after the Pan-Am?

3. Learn about the role of women at the Pan-Am:

- What roles did women fill at the Pan-Am?
- How did this differ from previous World Fairs?
- Share what you learn with your troop.

4. Take a virtual guided tour of the [Pan-American Exposition](http://www.panam1901.org/):

5. Read stories of [Children at the Pan-American Exposition](http://www.panam1901.org/documents/children.html).

6. Create a model or draw a picture the building you studied OR write a brief biography of the building’s architect.

7. Visit the [Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site](https://www.trsite.org/) in Buffalo, in person or virtually.

8. In 1901, advertising was done through print (posters and postcards). Imagine a new Pan-Am is being held in Buffalo. Design a print, radio, or television advertisement for the new Pan-Am.

9. What new inventions and products were highlighted at the Pan-Am? Which of those inventions and products are still in use today?

10. The Pan-Am had its own flag. What symbols decorated the flag? Design your own flag for an event.

11. Imagine you are on the planning committee for a new Pan-American Exposition. What would you choose as your theme? What sort of exhibits would you include?

12. How were different ethnicities/nationalities exhibited at the Pan-Am? Why would the exhibits be different today? How would modern exhibits differ? Were any of the ethnological exhibits truly representative of the population they highlighted?

13. Choose a famous person who visited the Pan-Am and read a biography of that individual's life.

14. Write a short story that takes place at the Pan-Am.

15. Who are John Milburn, William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, Leon Czolgosz and James Benjamin Parker? How are they each connected to the Pan-Am?

16. Older Cadettes/Seniors: Read Lauren Belfer's "City of Light". How does Belfer's portrayal of the Pan-Am match reality? How does it differ?

Resources:

Library of Congress films: <https://www.loc.gov/collections/mckinley-and-the-pan-american-expo-films-1901/?q=pan+american+exposition>

History of Buffalo, Pan-American Exposition Links:
<https://www.buffaloah.com/h/panam/links.html>

New York Heritage Digital Collections – Pan-American Exposition:
<https://cdm16694.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/search/searchterm/pan%20american%20exposition/field/all/mode/all/conn/and/cosuppress/>

Telsa at Niagara – Pan American Exposition: <https://www.teslaniagara.org/resources/pan-american-exposition/>

The Pan-Am's Who's Who: <https://buffaloah.com/h/panam/panwho/panwho.html>