



**Hayley Nitz**

Olathe, KS



## Toys for Orphans

Hayley Nitz has been a Girl Scout for 13 years as a member of Troop 115 in Service Unit 678. She is currently a senior at Olathe South High School.

For her Gold Award project Hayley held a workshop to make toys for children residing in orphanages in Uganda. Through her research, Hayley learned that 19.5% of Uganda's population lives below the poverty level. To help break the poverty cycle, she developed a plan to make stimulating, educational toys for children living in these orphanages.

Hayley worked with Amani Baby Cottage orphanage in Uganda, addressing their needs and putting her plan together. At the workshop, Hayley told the stories of the children living in the orphanage and the participants made 642 toys. Over the winter, Hayley was able to travel to Uganda and personally deliver the toys. They are now being used in the preschool, providing new learning experiences. Hayley also worked with a local organization, KindCraft, and they will annually hold a toy making workshop and send the toys to African orphanages in need.