



Sarah Emme

Manhattan, KS



The Benefit of Bats

Sarah has been a Girl Scout for 12 years as a member of Troop 1221 in Service Unit 704. She is currently a junior at Manhattan High School.

Sarah's Gold Award project addressed the misconceptions about bats and the importance of their conservation. To combat this issue, Sarah built bat houses and placed them around a state park. She also created an educational program for kids to help them learn about the importance of bats and to demystify this misunderstood animal. Utilizing these two efforts, Sarah was able to provide safe places for the bats to help increase their population, as well as educate future generations to protect them.

Sarah worked with Tuttle Creek State Park, OK Kids Day and volunteers to construct the bat houses, find homes for them, and to deliver the educational program she created. At OK Kids Day, she was able to present misconceptions about bats, correct them, and provide kids with fun activities about bats. She faced challenges with logistics (how/where to hang the houses) that she overcame through research and using problem-solving skills learned in Girl Scouts. Her project will continue beyond her involvement as the bat houses will last for many years to come and the educational materials can be distributed in the future. Sarah's work will improve her local ecosystem and helped to educate the future bat protectors.

Because of Girl Scouts... I have developed business, problem-solving, and social skills that have and will continue to benefit my life, as well as helped me make lifelong friends.