



Brownie Painting Badge

Pillar: STEAM

Purpose: When you've earned this badge, you'll have new ideas about what to paint—and how to paint it.



To earn this badge, you'll need paints, brushes, and something to paint on. You can choose any painting medium you like – watercolors, acrylics, ink, or house paint! Create your masterpieces on printer paper, watercolor paper, canvas, or wood! Use fat brushes, thin brushes, and for Step 4, no brush at all. If you can, experiment with different types of paint, brushes, and surfaces. Which combination creates the best result?

Whatever medium or surface you choose, make sure you protect your workspace with a layer of plastic or a drop cloth, and wear old clothes or cover up with a smock.

Take pictures of each of your completed paintings and share them with the world in our Virtual Art Show!

https://www.gsksmo.org/en/events/virtual_art_show.html

Brownies will follow these steps to earn their badge:

1. Get Inspired. (Discover)
 - a. Many cultures have their own unique style of traditional painting, but there are also similarities around the world. Compare and contrast some of the art forms below:
 - Native American Culture: <https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/the-indian-arts-and-crafts-board-part-2/UgKS35KTg3WnJO?hl=en>
 - Traditional paintings from Native Americans of the Northwest Coast: https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/native-american-art-of-the-northwest-coast/ogKCBqM_vlZOLg?hl=en
 - Aboriginal Australian Art: <https://artsandculture.google.com/usergallery/PAKSKCYMMYvhKO?hl=en>
 - Traditional Japanese Paintings: <https://artsandculture.google.com/usergallery/fALSZizy2g7HJg?hl=en>
 - Traditional Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy: <https://artsandculture.google.com/usergallery/tAKSJHlstVT5Kw?hl=en>
 - Traditional Indian Miniature Paintings: <https://artsandculture.google.com/story/eAURdUsdMraLeA?hl=en>
 - b. Alternately, visit art museums around the world and note what kinds of paintings they highlight.
 - <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner?hl=en>
 - c. What styles of painting are your favorites? Do you like paintings that are realistic, abstract, or somewhere in-between? Try to imitate some of the characteristics you like as you create your own paintings in the next steps.
2. Paint the real world. (Discover)
 - a. Landscapes and cityscapes are a way to capture the world around us. You can see some examples here: <https://artsandculture.google.com/usergallery/gwKiAKgis6Gekw?hl=en>



- b. Find a comfortable spot near a window at home and paint what you see outside. You might focus on the whole neighborhood or just a single tree.
 - c. Think about how your real-world view will change with the seasons.
3. Paint a mood. (Discover/Connect)
 - a. Do certain moods or emotions make you think of colors? Can you change brush strokes from long and flowing to short and jagged to help convey a feeling?
 - b. Create a painting that shows a mood. When you're done, share it with a friend or adult and talk about why you chose the colors or techniques that you used.
 4. Paint without brushes. (Discover)
 - a. There are so many ways to paint without a brush! Cotton balls, cotton swabs, bubble wrap, leaves, grass head, sticks, string, kitchen tools, toothbrushes, feathers, fingers, and many more items can substitute for a brush. Make sure whatever item you use that you have permission from an adult.
 - b. Find some inspiration here: https://youtu.be/H_YmPmX6tnU
 - c. Create a realistic or abstract painting using at least 3 different items instead of a brush. What can help you create a background? Texture? A fine line?
 5. Paint a mural. (Connect/Take Action)
 - a. A mural is a painting that covers a wall, ceiling, or other permanent structure. Oftentimes, a mural also tells a story, or commemorates a historical figure. They can be outdoor street art or interior decoration. Instead of painting a wall, paint a really big picture on butcher paper or many pieces of paper taped together.
 - b. Think of a story you want to tell – about your life, a favorite book, or a historical figure. Sketch out your ideas and then start to paint! Often murals are a community project, so explain your vision and recruit your family to help!
 - c. Is there a place you can display your mural? If so, hang it up! If not, take a picture and share it with your friends, family, troop, or classmates. Share with them the story your mural tells.

When you're finished: Congratulations, you have earned your Brownie Painting Badge! You can purchase online at <https://www.girlscoutshop.com/BROWNIE-PAINTING-BADGE>. We may also have it in stock at the GSKSMO Shop. Book your appointment now at www.gsksmo.org/shop.

You can also purchase your Girl Scout Virtual main patch and bars at <https://www.girlscoutshop.com/GSKSMO-Virtual-AllPatch> or just the main patch / bar individually at <https://www.girlscoutshop.com/NE-KANSAS-and-NW-MISSOURI-COUNCIL>.

Extend the fun!

Step 1 from our Yarn/String Art patch is to paint with Yarn or String. If you enjoyed Step 4 on this badge you might try that patch! <https://www.gsksmo.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gsksmo/OtherDocuments/at-home/Yarn-String-Art.pdf>

