



Celebrate Gold

Addison Smith
Lee's Summit MO



The Importance of Social-Emotional Learning in Schools

Addison Smith has been a girl member for 13 years in Troop 51 in Service Unit 648. Addison currently attends the University of Central Missouri and recently completed her freshman year, studying Elementary Education. She plans to become a teacher after graduation.

Addison's project addresses the importance of social-emotional learning, especially in schools where children come from lower socio-economic households. Through research, she found that children in these communities have statically higher trauma rates and that social-emotional learning can provide them tools they need to help them communicate, regulate their emotions, and build successful relationships in school and as they venture into the world. To tackle this issue, she created lesson plans for local kindergarten students in these communities.

By implementing and making these lesson plans accessible to her community, she is ensuring these educational resources are available to all students who can benefit from them. Her hope is to provide critical development skills to at-risk communities.

“Because of Girl Scouts, I have been able to build my stamina of committing to long projects with multiple steps and grow my ability to be empathic towards others.”