



girl scouts  
of central texas

# Monthly Patch Program



## Asian Pacific American Heritage

May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. It is a celebration of Asians and Pacific Islanders who live in the United States. Asian-Pacific includes the Asian continent and all the Pacific Islands. Have a cultural experience by participating in the activities to earn this celebration patch!

### PROGRAM GRADE LEVEL REQUIREMENTS:

- **Daisies:** 2 Activities from each category
- **Brownies:** 2 Activities from each category
- **Juniors:** 3 Activities from each category
- **Cadettes, Seniors, & Ambassadors:** 4 Activities from each category

### DISCOVER

Girls identify subjects related to the topic and realize that they have the power to impact the topic of the patch.

- Research what it means to be Asian Pacific American. Look up how many Asian Pacific Americans live in your city, state, and the United States.

- Create a globe or map and mark the countries that are included in Asia and the Pacific Islands.
- Learn about important moments in Asian American & Pacific Islander history, such as the Chinese Exclusion Act and internment of Japanese Americans.
- Watch videos on [PBS](#) that explore the history, traditions, and culture of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the U.S.
- Find the names of one Asian American, past or present within the following fields: Art, Film, Civil Rights, Politics, Sports.
- Learn about the community organizer Ai-jen Poo and the labor organizing she has worked on since 2000 to elevate domestic worker rights in the U.S.
- Explore the [South Asian American Digital Archive](#) and find at least two archival materials from Texas to understand the South Asian American experience in Texas.
- Discover the names of three Asian American inventors and their inventions. Discuss their inventions with others. How you use them? What would it be like without their inventions?

## CONNECT

Girls will feel more connected to the topic and collaborate with other people, locally and globally to make a difference or learn more about the patch topic.

- Study Maya Lin, the Chinese American architect who designed the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Learn about how she overcame racism and defended her design from criticism. What would you do if you were Maya? Discuss with others and make your own design of the memorial.
- Plan for the next Lunar New Year! It is based on the traditional Chinese lunisolar calendar. (Occurs late January or early February) It is celebrated and called different names depending on which part of Asia you are focusing on. The festival is usually referred to as the Spring Festival in mainland China and is one of several Lunar New Years in Asia. Attend a local celebration or coordinate a small one of your own.
- Acquire a new skill. Did you know that there are over 2,000 languages spoken in Asia? Research the top 10 languages spoken and practice saying hello in three Asian

languages with your troop, family, and friends. Some languages to consider are Cantonese, Korean, Thai, or Chinese.

- Connect online with the [Asian American Resource Center](#) or other Asian centered centers in your area. Learn about its history, view, and the variety of online programs. If you do not have a local resource center, tour one online. Discuss with your troop why a space like this is important to have in Texas.

## TAKE ACTION!

These activities encourage the girls to take action and make the world a better place.

- Create a poster of Asian Pacific American women from past or present. Draw or cut out a photo and write about her accomplishments. Share your poster with your troop and or school.
- Celebrate APA Heritage Month with your troop! Plan a virtual party! Watch the movie, *Crazy Rich Asians*, enjoy savory Asian snacks, make chapati (Indian thin flatbread), share stories about accomplished Asian Pacific America, and more – while practicing social distancing!
- Read the Smithsonian's [I Want the Wide American Earth: An Asian Pacific American E-Comic](#) which explores how Asian Pacific Americans shaped U.S. history. Discuss with your troop how Asian Pacific Americans contributed to the diversity and growth of the U.S.
- Engage in an Asian Pacific Islander experience by participating in virtual programming organized by local community groups. Then virtually share what you have learned with your troop, family, and friends. The [Asia Society At Home](#) offers virtual experiences.

## Resources

Asian American Resource Center

<https://www.austintexas.org/listings/asian-american-resource-center/7426/>

<http://austintexas.gov/aarc>

Asian American Cultural Center

<http://www.asianamericancc.com/>

Austin Asian American Film Festival

<https://www.aaafilmfest.org/>

Texas Brazos Trail Region

<https://texasbrazostrail.com/node/28686>