Flowers

**Badge Overview**

Through earning this badge, Juniors will learn all about the science of flowers and new ways to appreciate the flowers around us.

**Badge Components**

1. **Uncover the science of one flower**
   - Choose a flower you have seen around your home to research and get to know better.
   - Use a journal to record things you learn about your flower such as its scientific name, what family of flowers it is from, color variations, and what gardeners do to help it grow best. Then go on a picture scavenger hunt to find your chosen flower as well as five more varieties.
   - Use this [link](#) to learn about the parts of a flower.

2. **Look under the petals**
   - Flowers have interesting root systems and you can check it out with a quick experience at home using food dye.
   - Take plain white flowers, carnations are commonly used (if you’re in a pinch and cannot find carnations, the same experiment works with celery stalks.) Fill cups (you’ll need one for each color dye you have) with water and add some drops of food coloring. Cut the stems of the flowers (or celery) and place one bloom in each cup of water. Watch your blooms absorb the water and change to the color.
   - Use a journal to record your observations or take pictures of the changes.
   - This [site](#) provides instructions and printable activity sheets.

3. **Find out how flowers help people**
   - Consider how flowers might help people. Write down your thoughts in a journal.
   - Now head to this [site](#) to learn about 4 flowers that have medicinal uses.

4. **Have fun with flowers**
   - Let’s make a flower necklace like the Hawaiian leis people receive when traveling to the island.
   - Head outdoors and pick some flowers (make sure you ask permission if they are in a neighbor’s yard, and only pick what you will need for your necklace.) Use a medium sewing needle to string the flowers and tie it off with a square knot when you are done.
   - If you do not have flowers available or would prefer to not pick any flowers, draw your own paper flowers and string them instead!

5. **Send a message in flower code**
   - Flowers of different colors can have different meanings when you send or give them to someone. Yellow for happiness, red for love, or purple for success are some examples.
   - Use this [link](#) to learn more about the different colors and then create a bouquet or arrangement for someone you know.
   - You could even use the flowers you dyed for your gift, or dye more flowers yourself just for this.

**Materials**

- Something to write with
- Something to take notes on
- Access to internet
- Phone or camera
- White flowers or celery stalks
- Cups
- Water
- Food coloring
- Sewing needle
- String
- Paper
- Markers, crayons or colored pencils

**Florida Educational Standards**

The content of all Girl Scout national proficiency Badges and Journeys have been correlated by grade level to national and state learning objectives.

[Click here](#) for more information on how Girl Scout Badge-work supports Florida's educational standards.

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