



SPCA Serving Erie County
Girl Scout Patch Program

Leader's Guide

Brownie Level Requirement



SPCA Serving Erie County
205 Ensminger Road
Tonawanda, NY 14150
(716) 799-8651
andreas@spcaec.com
YourSPCA.org



Girl Scout Patch Program Description

The Girl Scout Patch Program consists of three levels: Daisy, Brownie, and Junior. At each level, girls do a variety of age-appropriate activities that teach them about being responsible animal advocates. All activities are done during troop meetings or at home. The last activity the troop will do is visit the SPCA for a tour.

To schedule a tour, call 716-799-8651. Tours are offered Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6pm. Cost per girl is \$8.00, troop leaders are free and family members are \$2.00 each. There is a minimum of six and maximum of twenty Brownies needed for a tour. Cash or checks (made payable to SPCA Serving Erie County) are accepted. Please call at least one month in advance to schedule tours. The program includes a special tour of our facility, including the dog kennels, the cat room, the small animals, and the Educational Farm. Tours last approximately 45 minutes. Special SPCA patches will be issued after all activities and the tour is completed.



In order for the girls to earn the SPCA patches, the following must occur:



The girls must complete three out of the six activities before coming for the tour.

- Activity 1: Pet Responsibility
- Activity 2: Wish List
- Activity 3: Muck a Stall
- Activity 4: Stuffed Animal Drive
- Activity 5: Make a Toy for a Shelter Pet
- Activity 6: Humane Poster and Creative Writing Competition



The troop leader should completely fill out the *Patch Program Evaluation Form* and turn it by the end of the tour.

Leaders: Please review the following with your troop before introducing the activities:

What is the SPCA Serving Erie County?

The mission of the SPCA is to create a caring and kind community that encourages the fair and humane treatment of all creatures. Our knowledgeable, caring, and open-minded team of staff and volunteers achieves that mission through proactive efforts to address the current status of animals in our community, education of adults and children, rescue and sheltering of animals in need, and placement of animals into appropriate homes.

The SPCA does not receive any funding from the county, city, state, or federal governments. We do not receive tax dollars of any kind. We are only able to assist the people and pets in need thanks to donations. The SPCA cares for approximately 14,000 animals each year through programs that include adoptions, admissions, animal rescues, animal emergency transports, stray lost and found services, animal cruelty investigations and seizures, care for wildlife, reptiles, exotics, and farm animals, and much more.



Activity 1 Pet Responsibility

Pets are a great addition to a family. Although sometimes, not everyone has the time, space or money for a pet like a dog or cat. Do some research and find out what is needed for different kinds of pets. What pet would be a good fit for your family?

Choose a pet from each column:

Large	Small	Exotic
Dog	Hamster	Gold Fish
Cat	Rat	Bearded Dragon
Rabbit	Guinea Pig	Parakeet

Go to the SPCA's Petique, your local pet store, or "shop" online to see what is needed for each pet to have a happy and healthy home.

The pet I choose is a _____

What items does your pet need?

Item	Cost
Crate, cage, or tank	
Food	
Collar: Yes/No	
Leash: Yes/No	
Food bowls	
Litter and litter box: Yes/No	
Brush: Yes/ No	
Heat rock: Yes/ No	
Vet visit	
Flea medication: Yes/No	
Toys: Yes/No	
Scratching post: Yes/ No	
Exercise wheel: Yes/No	
Bedding: Yes/ No	
Treats	
Other	
Total:	

How much space does this pet need?

What kind of human contact does he/she need?



The pet I choose is a _____

What items does your pet need?

Item	Cost
Crate, cage, or tank	
Food	
Collar: Yes/No	
Leash: Yes/No	
Food bowls	
Litter and litter box: Yes/No	
Brush: Yes/ No	
Heat rock: Yes/ No	
Vet visit	
Flea medication: Yes/No	
Toys: Yes/No	
Scratching post: Yes/ No	
Exercise wheel: Yes/No	
Bedding: Yes/ No	
Treats	
Other	
	Total:

How much space does this pet need?

What kind of human contact does he/she need?



The pet I choose is a _____

What items does your pet need?

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Collar: Yes/No	
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Litter and litter box: Yes/No	
Brush: Yes/ No	
Heat rock: Yes/ No	
Vet visit	
Flea medication: Yes/No	
Toys: Yes/No	
Scratching post: Yes/ No	
Exercise wheel: Yes/No	
Bedding: Yes/ No	
Treats	
Other	
	Total:

How much space does this pet need?

What kind of human contact does it need?



Activity 2

Collect Donation Items from Our Wish List

Ask your parents, friends, and neighbors to donate one or more items from our list, something that helps us care for the animals and then bring the items you collected with you when you come for your tour.

Wish List

Always Needed Items

- Cat Food
- Fancy Feast Appetizers
- Purely Fancy Feast Natural White Meat Chicken Entree in a Delicate Broth (used for critical care cats and dogs)
- Friskies canned cat food (any flavor with gravy and sauce preferred)
- Pooper-Scoopers...long-handled, please!
- Paper towels
- Washcloths
- Newspaper
- Light blankets (no comforters, electric blankets, knitted or crocheted pieces, sheets, or rugs, please)
- Hand and bath towels
- Pillowcases
- Small fleece cat beds
- Dog biscuits (small or medium size)
- Plastic pet carriers (medium size)
- Stuffed animals (6" or larger)
- Baby receiving blankets
- Feliway Spray
- Dog collars of any size

Kennels

- Gift cards to Home Depot

Volunteer Department

- Colored and photo paper
- Fleece
- Markers
- Colored pencils
- Crayons
- Rubber stamps & ink pads
- Stickers
- Pens (blue or black ink)

- \$5 & \$10 gift cards to be used for volunteer appreciation gifts

Cruelty Investigations Department

- Assorted rechargeable batteries for flashlights

Educational Farm

- 4' X 6' Rubber stall mats
- Plain (4 lb.) salt bricks
- Bagged shavings
- Loads of hay/straw
- Reams of colored copy paper or card stock

Animal Rescue Department

- Three hard hats with lamp
- "Snake" cam
- Mountable double lock safe
- Rubbermaid equipment holders
- Crowbars

Maintenance

- Gift cards to Home Depot

Information Technology

- Optical Mice
- SD type memory cards
- Flat panel monitors over 17"
- USB drives 4 GB or larger

Veterinary

- Cat toys
- Blue and black pens
- Yellow and pink highlighters
- Red and black fine point Sharpies
- Sticky note pads
- Expo thin dry erase markers



- 1 1/2 inch binders
- Avery Removable Color coding round labels 3/4" blue, green, yellow, orange, white and black
- Pressure IV bag holder

Cat Enrichment

- Laser pointers
- Washable interactive cat toys (wands, feathers)
- Yards or scraps of fleece material (at least 2" x 4", cut or uncut)
- **StretchAndScratch.com** - You can help the cats at the SPCA by purchasing scratching posts to go on their cage and then it can be given to their new owners to go home with the cats! You can have your order directly shipped to our shelter in care of the Cat Enrichment team and we will make sure the cats have them.
- Feliway Spray
- Puzzle toys
- Plastic spring toys
- Stage feeders
- Plastic rings from milk containers

Humane Education Department

- New training/treat bags
- Batteries (assorted sizes)
- Small, shoebox-size plastic totes
- 2-drawer filing cabinet with locks
- Laminating machine
- Good condition pre-school story books
- Large Post-It pads (used for presentations)
- Large butcher roll paper in any color
- Colored Sharpies
- Construction paper
- Contact paper
- Large storage containers
- Plastic file totes/organizers
- Certificate holders
- Puffy Paint
- Colored bandanas
- Top-loading name badges

- Animal puppets
- Animal stickers
- Google eyes
- Puff balls
- White card stock
- JoAnn Fabric gift cards
- Party City gift cards
- Wegman's gift cards
- BJ's gift cards
- New notebooks
- Magic modeling clay
- Glue sticks
- Ziploc baggies
- Clickers for dog training
- 32g memory card
- Fabric markers
- Camera bag

Wildlife Department

- Heating pads without automatic shut-off feature
- Ceramic food dishes
- 1-quart and 1-gallon Ziploc bags
- Digital weight scales
- Large guinea pig cages
- Coffee mug warmers
- Cabin kennels with wire tops
- Red, black, green and blue dry-erase markers
- Dry erase board cleaner
- 9" x 6" clip boards
- Small-sized legal pads
- Pens
- Black Sharpie markers
- Fleece blankets
- Baby receiving blankets

Training/Behavior Department

- Stuffed animals (without beans as stuffing)
- Kongs
- 6' non-retractable leashes
- Buckle style collars
- Martingale collars
- Kong Wobblers



- Bil-Jac small training treats
- Sensation harnesses
- D.A.P. calming dog spray
- Super Galileo Nylabones
- Clickers for training
- Bait/treat bags
- Kibble Nibble dog food dispensers (original size)
- Busy Buddy Bouncy Dog Bone (large sizes; no bristles)
- Replacement gnawhide treats which go onto Busy Buddy Bouncy Dog Bones (medium and large sizes)
- Small, soft dog treats

Admissions Department

- Universal animal microchip scanner
- Ink pads for paw prints
- Feli-way spray
- Computer wrist supports
- Tomahawk large wire cat carriers
- Color paper (light green, light purple, orange, pink)

Adoptions Department

- Fine-pointed dry erase markers
- Pens
- Sharpie markers
- Sheet protectors
- Scissors
- Staplers
- Feliway

Off-Site Adoptions Department

- Washable cat toys (ex. plastic balls, small stuffed toys, etc.)
- Fleece for cat beds
- Laser pointers
- Nail clippers
- Digital photo
- 4GB jump drives

Foster Care Department

- Medium size litter pans
- KMR Kitten formula
- Snuggle Buddies heating discs
- Ethical thin colorful springs cat toy
- Mylar crinkle balls cat toy

Petique

- New pet toys for resale
- New or gently used pet-theme gift items, jewelry, etc.
- Unchewed rawhides and unexpired biscuits
- Unopened, unexpired cat treats for resale
- Large paper shopping bags with handles

Development Department

- Boxes of mailing seals (small, clear dots)
- Postage stamps

Eastern Hills Adoption Site

- Cat wand toys
- Sentry: Calming Collars
- Feliway Spray
- Assorted color printing paper
- Small bags of Miracle Grow potting mix

New Leash on Life

- Small and medium sized dog collars 6' leashes
- Soft training treats
- Durable dog toys

Rabbit Enrichment

- Adult Rabbit Food with just Timothy Pellets (ex. Oxbow)
- Young Rabbit Food with just Timothy Pellets (ex. Oxbow)
- Rabbit Toys
- Rabbit Houses
- Oxbow Rabbit Treats



Activity 3 Muck a Stall!

The Educational Farm of the SPCA Serving Erie County opened to the public in 1977 to provide proper housing for large animals, primarily livestock. Many animals find shelter under our barn's roof, both temporary and permanent, including horses, goats, chickens, pheasants and even pigs!

Barn animals require a lot of care. Schedule a Saturday morning with the SPCA's Educational Farm to help care for the animals that live there. You will learn how to muck a stall as well as provide water and food for the animals that live at the farm. Call the SPCA Humane Education Department to schedule a date.

A maximum of ten girls will be allowed during a Saturday morning session. Sessions start at 9:30 in the morning and will take about an hour.



We will accommodate as many troops as possible, based on availability.



Activity 4

Paws and Pennies

The SPCA Serving Erie County does not receive any funding from the county, city, state, or federal governments. The SPCA is a local humane society, not financially supported by, or a part of, any other local or national animal welfare group. The SPCA Serving Erie County depends on donations and the generosity of our community to care for the animals that come to us.

Organize a Penny Drive in your school, neighborhood, church, etc. Although it may not seem like a lot, all of that change really adds up! The money you collect will help to purchase food, medicine, and other supplies to support the animals and to make sure they are happy, healthy, and safe during their stay at the SPCA!



Activity 5

Make a Toy for a Shelter Pet

There are a number of service projects that you may do as a troop to help both the animals in the shelter. Pick a toy from the following or pick all the toys. It's fun to make and it's fun for the animals to play with! ***No catnip in the toys please***

Fleece Braided Tug Toy

What do you need?

- Fleece
- Scissors

Steps:

1. Cut 3 strips of fleece 3" x 3' or 4'
2. Line up the fleece strips and tie a tight knot about 3" from one end.
3. Have someone hold the knotted end and tightly braid the fleece strips together.
4. Tie a tight knot at the end of the braid.



Sock and Water Bottle Toy

Dogs love the crinkle noise that the water bottle makes!

What do you need?

- Long socks
- Empty water bottles
- Scissors

Steps:

1. Remove caps and plastic rings from water bottles.
2. Insert water bottle into sock.
3. Center water bottle in sock and cut off toe.
4. Tie knots in the ends of the sock close to the water bottle.



Octopus Dog Toy

What do you need?

- Ball (tennis ball or squeaky ball)
- ½ yard of fabric (an old shirt works too!)
- Ribbon
- Scissors

Steps:

1. Cut your fabric into two strips about 6" x 14"
2. Fold fabric strips in half and wrap around the ball. Tie the ribbon tight and close to the ball after wrapping it around the fabric several times.
3. Cut the tail of the fabric into strips about 2" wide then take three strands at a time and make a tight braid.
4. Tie knots at the end of the braids.



Timothy Hay Filled Toilet Paper Roll

What do you need?

- Empty toilet paper rolls
- Timothy hay

Steps:

1. Purchase timothy hay from an area pet store.
2. Get toilet paper rolls.
3. Stuff timothy hay in toilet paper rolls.



Wool Feather Teaser for Cats

What you need

- Scissors
- Wool felt
- Jingle bells
- Satin cord

Steps:

1. Cut the felt to look like feathers. Make a mix of large and small feathers.
2. Take jingle bell and a long strand of satin cord. Slip the jingle bell on the cord.
3. Tie the feathers and bells to the cord tightly.





Activity 6

Humane Poster and Creative Writing Competition

Contest Overview

Since 1892, students throughout Erie County have spoken up for animals, people, and our community by participating in this contest. Lucy Lord, founder of the SPCA's Humane Education Department, oversaw this contest for many years. Today, ancestors of Lucy Lord still participate in, and support, this contest. A family tradition for generations and a historic piece of the SPCA, we are honored to conduct this contest annually.



Community Partners

All first-through eighth-grade students in Erie County are encouraged to participate. With a chance to win prizes, students will demonstrate how they are compassionate, empathetic citizens while promoting the humane treatment of others and creatively solving real-life issues.

The Contest

Students can enter either a humane poster or creative writing piece by division and grade. With three chances to win in each division, students challenge themselves by exploring real-life issues.

Teachers can also honor each other and their kind students through our Ambassador of Kindness and Judy Silver Humane Educator of the Year Contests.

The contest also includes:

- The Ambassador of Kindness
- The Judy Silver Humane Educator of the Year Award
- The Anderson/Lowe Award for Artistic Ability
- The Stevens/Barrett Award for Creative Writing

An awards ceremony will take place celebrating all of the humane accomplishments of the honored students and educator.

To Learn More

Contest brochures are mailed to all schools and after-schools programs. Also available online, anyone can download a brochure by visiting the Humane Education Department at YourSPCA.org or speak with Danielle Talbot at (716) 629-3538.



Evaluation Form

Brownie Level

Troop Number: _____ Troop Leader's Name: _____

1. Which 3 activities did you / your troop complete?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

2. What was your favorite activity and why?

3. What is something you would make better about our Girl Scout Program at the SPCA Serving Erie County?

4. How did you hear about our Patch Program?

Please turn in one evaluation form and your check made payable to:
SPCA Serving Erie County