



PUPPET PARADE!

Girl Scout Cadette Silver Award Project by Gloria Vittone

Puppets have been a part of many cultures for centuries. Puppets are actors and can be any object brought to life. Explore the art of puppetry through stories, crafts, and performances. Learn to be a skilled puppeteer.

Available for Brownie through Ambassador Girl Scouts, each program level completes:

- ◆ Girl Scout Daisies: 3 requirements, including any one-starred requirement
 - ◆ Girl Scout Brownies: 5 requirements, including any one-starred requirement.
 - ◆ Girl Scout Juniors: 8 requirements, including any two-starred requirements.
 - ◆ Girl Scout Cadettes, Senior and Ambassadors: 10 requirements, including all three-starred requirements.
1. *** Learn about the history of puppets. Select a country and find out how puppetry played a part in its culture. Share this information with your troop, group, school or local library by making a poster or booklet showing the type of puppets used.
 2. Create a puppet using only recyclable items. Consider using paper cups, egg cartons, small cereal boxes, cardboard paper tubes, or aluminum cans. Entertain your friends with it.
 3. A rod puppet has rods/sticks to move the body parts, such as the arms and legs. Create your own puppet character and personality, including its likes, dislikes, physical characteristics, and feelings. Make a rod puppet and use it in a skit.
 4. Make a finger puppet, sock puppet, or glove puppet. Create a script for this puppet. Be sure to include a beginning, middle, and ending. Perform for your friends.
 5. Marionette puppets are hung from strings that make them move. Make a marionette and have your puppet sing and dance to your favorite Girl Scout song.
 6. Shadow puppetry uses a light source behind a screen to create a shadow of the puppet. Make a shadow puppet and using a sheet and light put on a show.
 7. Make a miniature puppet stage with scenery using a shoebox stood on its side. Remove the bottom side to allow your hand, glove, or finger puppet to move about. Be creative with craft supplies to decorate your set.
 8. Using puppets you have made, prepare a skit that presents a challenge faced by girls your age, including a clever solution.

9. List all the puppets you have seen either on television, in movies, or other types of performances. Pick one and learn about its puppeteer, puppet maker, or style of puppetry.
10. Pick a Girl Scout theme (*the Brownie Girl Scout Story, Juliette Low, Girl Scout Promise, etc.*) and create a puppet skit using puppets you have made and present it to other Girl Scouts or at a Girl Scout rally or event.
11. Attend a puppet show and interview one of the puppeteers after the performance. Prepare your questions before the show and be sure to thank them for their time.
12. Make a puppet that a younger child would enjoy and donate it to a local children's center. Remember Girl Scouts of the USA's *Safety Wise* considerations in the materials you choose.
13. Make up a game using puppets you have made. Play it with your troop or group.
14. Experiment with different types of puppetry skills such as gestures, eye focus, sound effects, special effects, and vocal variety. Use your puppets to practice these skills.
15. With a buddy read a short children's picture book and act it out using either a puppet or stuffed toy substitute in front of younger children. Remember that many common household items can be used as substitute puppets and props during your reading. A simple story comes alive and becomes a performance.
16. Make a puppet from your favorite fairy tale and act out the story using your puppet.
17. *** Invite parents or friends to attend one of your Girl Scout meetings to view your prepared puppet shows or put on your own puppet event at a local library, church, school, day care, or other similar facility. Make it enjoyable and show off everything you have learned by creating a program, advertising your show, making tickets, using sets and stages, and serving refreshments. Have fun!