



# GS Backpack

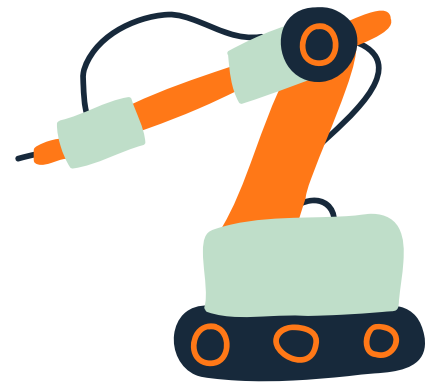
April 2022

## Take the lead in STEM!

Give girls the chance to explore STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields, and they will take off, discovering their talents. Girl Scouts encourages this growth, providing countless opportunities for Girl Scouts of all ages to nurture the natural scientist inside them. Today, Girl Scouts is, as it always has been, the organization best positioned to help girls develop important STEM competencies they need to become the next generation of female leaders—and to change the world in big and small ways!

One Girl Scout troop from Wolfeboro, NH, is leading the way, competing in FIRST LEGO League robotics as the Electric Llamas. Having qualified at a regional tournament, this all-Girl Scout robotics team will compete at the global tournament April 23 in Houston, Texas. In this level of competition, participants program a small robot to perform specific tasks on a table-size playing field, and also earn points for other special projects. The Electric Llamas, who have been competing for several years, came up with a concept for a GPS device called NAVii, which would aid truckers on the road, similar to Garmin and Waze. Team members are also working on Gold and Silver Award projects inspired by their FIRST LEGO League work.

Renew your membership today!



April 2022

What's inside:

- Take the lead in STEM!
- membership renewal
- benefits of STEM programs
- Biofab Patch Program
- upcoming programs
- troop spotlight
- retail store



The Electric Llamas, an all-Girl Scout robotics team, won first place at the FIRST LEGO League State Championship in Windham, NH, on January 17. From left are a judge, Coach Briar Rose Lambert, Adrianna Noel, Avalyn Lambert, Evelyn Hafner, and two more judges. Avalyn is holding a trophy made of LEGOs signifying their win. (Courtesy photo)

Girl Scouts of all ages get to explore coding, robotics, automotive engineering, cybersecurity, math in nature, space science, and more through badges and Journeys. We have also partnered with BioFab/USA to expose Girl Scouts to concepts in biofabrication – the science of biological solutions to health issues.

Continued on page 2.

girlscouts   
of the green and  
white mountains

When girls participate in Girl Scout STEM programs, they benefit in four important ways:

**STEM Interest**

Girls are excited about STEM subjects and want to learn more about them.

**STEM Confidence**

Girls have confidence in their STEM skills and abilities.

**STEM Competence**

Girls think scientifically to solve problems.

**STEM Value**

Girls learn the importance and relevance of STEM to people and society.

Women and girls are underrepresented across all levels of the STEM pipeline. From their initial interest in STEM as a child to majoring in a STEM subject in college to pursuing a STEM career as an adult, this gender disparity needs to change at every stage of girls' and women's STEM engagement. Studies show that:

Girls and boys do not differ in their math and science abilities but do differ in their interest and confidence in STEM subjects.

As early as second grade, youth agree that "math is for boys, not girls."

Women are less likely than men to earn a bachelor's degree in engineering, computer science, and physics.

Although women make up more than half the U.S. workforce, they comprise less than a quarter of STEM jobs, with the greatest disparities occurring in engineering and computer science.

Girl Scouts who participate in our STEM programs become more confident in their math and science abilities and more interested in STEM subjects and careers. For more than a century, Girl Scouts has been preparing members for a lifetime of leadership. Today and always, we are committed to ensuring that all girls develop to their full potential and have equal access to and support in STEM education.

Girl Scouts provides countless opportunities for young girls to jump into STEM and explore their interests and passions with fun, challenging activities like building robots, designing apps and video games, and collecting data to help scientists protect the environment. Because interest in STEM begins in early childhood (between the ages of five and ten), Girl Scouts' "fun with purpose" K-12 curriculum helps bridge the gender gap by ensuring that girls of every age have opportunities to participate in progressive, multiyear STEM experiences.

**Tech innovator and Girl Scouts partner to show girls futures in STEM**

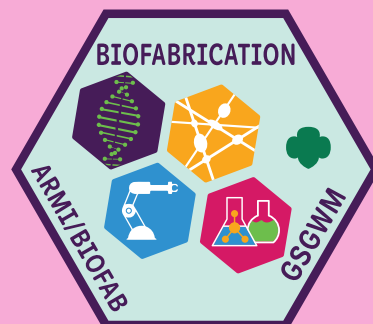
The creation of living tissues and organs may be far from the typical activity people envision Girl Scouts participating in, but that's just what some Girl Scouts are learning about through a partnership with ARMI | BioFabUSA in Manchester.

"The purpose of the patch is to introduce girls to what biofabrication is and learn about career opportunities in that field," said Ceara Hunt, director of Girl Experience for Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains.

The Biofab patch program is offered virtually at each level of Girl Scouting from Daisy (kindergarten and first grade) through Ambassador (grades 11 and 12) on a rotating basis. The curriculum is currently being offered through the council's website and via live virtual opportunities for girls to participate together online to earn the patch and will continue through the summer.

Through the patch program, girls learn how they can run their own experiments, how scientists are pushing boundaries to fabricate human organs in order to save lives, and are using automation to perfect the process and learn all about ARMI | BioFabUSA.

BioFabUSA is a program of the Advanced Regenerative Manufacturing Institute (ARMI), a nonprofit organization founded by local inventor and entrepreneur Dean Kamen, who is well known for the Segway human transporter and FIRST Robotics.



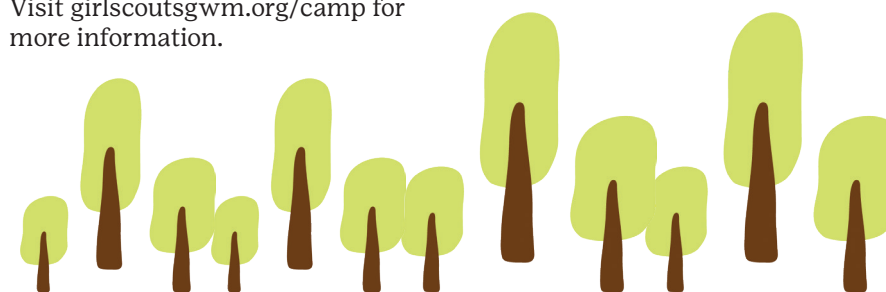
Girl Scouts can earn this biofabrication patch! Visit [girlscoutsgwm.org](http://girlscoutsgwm.org) to download the requirements to earn the patch.

**Go camping with your family or troop this summer!**

There are many opportunities to take your whole family to one of our camp properties for an outdoor adventure weekend! Enjoy the Fourth of July at Camp Farnsworth, an early Halloween theme at Fam-O-Ween at Camp Seawood, Winter Wonderland in July at Camp Kettleford or Camp Twin Hills, or celebrate Everybody's Birthday at Camp Farnsworth.

Learn more about the many opportunities to go camping with your family, enjoying an evening of tie dye and s'mores at Camp Twin Hills, or sleep in your own tent at Camp Kettleford and enjoy a movie when it gets dark. Troops can camp on our properties, too! For the true adventurers, check out our Travel Camp!

Visit [girlscoutsgwm.org/camp](http://girlscoutsgwm.org/camp) for more information.



**Upcoming dates to remember**



**April**  
National Volunteer Month  
4/1: Membership Renewal Opens  
4/22: Girl Scout Leader's Day

**June**  
6/12: National Get Outdoors Day

**May**  
5/2: Program Credits emailed  
National Bridging Week  
5/19: Paint Your World Purple - Kristen Bell Event

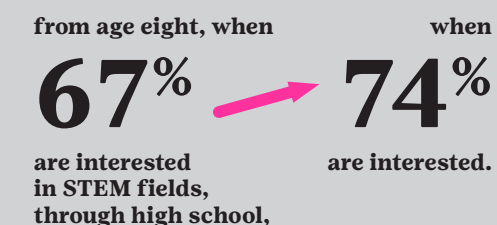
Check [girlscoutsgwm.org](http://girlscoutsgwm.org) for Summer Camp 2022 updates, as well as Membership Renewal.

**Interested in exploring robotics?**

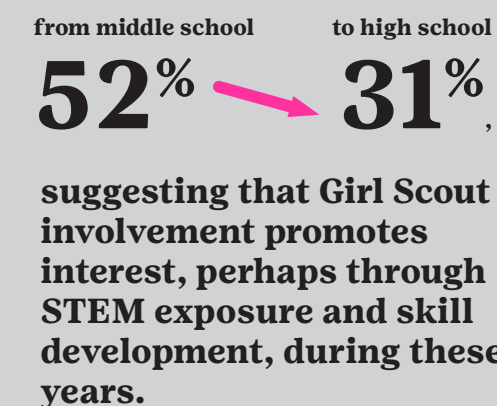
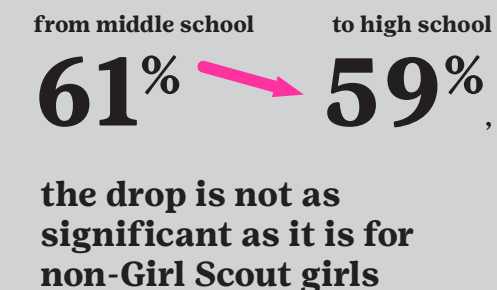
Sign up for our virtual info session on May 11.



**While most girls' interest in STEM decreases with age, Girl Scouts' interest in these fields actually increases**



**And while Girl Scouts do see a slight drop in tech career interest**



# Troop Spotlight - Cookie Edition



Troop 10247 of Raymond, NH - Hailey and Ella had a great time selling cookies at the Mall of New Hampshire, singing songs to bring customers in.



Troop 61845 of Essex Junction, VT - This Daisy troop dressed as Little Bakers and cookies and sold over 200 packages of cookies each day in three hours.



Troop 60244 of Rochester, NH - A Girl Scout Daisy is ready for customers at the mall.

## Have photos to share of the fun your troop is having?

Send photos with description to Customer Care at [customer care@girlscoutsgwm.org](mailto:customer care@girlscoutsgwm.org). Be sure to put Troop Spotlight in the subject line.



Troop 51595 of Nashua, NH - Multi-level Girl Scouts staffed cookie booths at the Pheasant Lane Mall in Nashua.



Troop 58756 of Wolfeboro, NH - This troop is known as the Electric Llamas, who will compete in the FIRST LEGO League Global Competition in April.



Troop 302228 of Waterbury, VT - These Girl Scouts set up a Valentine's Day themed cookie booth at a local bookstore. The Girl Scouts also created about 100 handmade Valentines with quotations about cookies, as well as, 70 Valentines for residents of the Senior Center and Meals on Wheels recipients in Waterbury.

## Visit our Mountain Top Shop

### Bedford Store

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday  
9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday  
9:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturdays, April 23 and May 14  
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

### Williston Store

Monday - Friday  
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 7  
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Both stores closed daily for lunch 1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.



Girl Scout troops and/or families at any level can stop by either store location, during regular business hours to participate in self-guided activities in order to earn the following:

**April: First Aid badges**

**May: Cybersecurity II badges**  
(bonus Asian American and Pacific Islander Month activity)

Stations will be set up with several fun activities, all provided free of charge. Once earned, the pins/badges can be purchased at the store.

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## Upcoming activities



## gsEvents

Visit our website for a complete calendar of events updated weekly. You can see all programs offered in our council by date on the Activities calendar or search for programs through the myGS tab, "Find an Event."

Questions? Please contact Customer Care at [customer care@girlscoutsgwm.org](mailto:customer care@girlscoutsgwm.org) or 888-474-9686.

### Robotics Team Info Night

Brownie-Senior | Online  
May 11, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Girl Scouts interested in Robotics teams and competitions – this is the place to find out how to organize a team and be ready to begin the new robotics year in August. Hear from the Electric Llamas robotics teams, who won the NH Robotics competition and will compete in the FIRST Nationals in Houston, TX in April.

Price: Free, Register by: May 9

### Spring Spectacular

Daisy-Cadette | Keene, NH  
May 15, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Spring offers new activities as New England thaws from the cold winter months! Flowers bloom, the gardens begin to grow, the wetlands fill with a new generation of creatures and cows re-enter the pastures! Join us for a day of gardening, cooking, visiting our animals (including new baby chicks), and exploring the wetlands!

Price: \$21 per girl, \$16 per adult  
Register by: April 28

### Ready, Set, Go Camping!

Brownie-Cadette | Thetford, VT  
May 20-22, 5:00 p.m.-10:00 a.m.

Camp for the weekend with other Girl Scouts and practice all the fundamentals of camping—fire-building, orienteering, whittling, geocaching, and cooking your own delicious meals in dutch ovens, on sticks, and more! Adults can complete their Basic Outdoor Living Skills during the weekend.

Price: \$85 per person, Register by: May 5

### Discover the Bear Facts!

Girl Scout Families | Lincoln, NH  
June 4, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. or  
June 12, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Join Girl Scouts of all ages and their families for a day of discovery and fun at Clark's Bears! Included are presentations for Girl Scout age groups as well as all the rides and shows that Clark's is known for.

Price: \$33 per person  
Register by: May 22 or May 29

### Open Camp Days

Daisy-Ambassador

June 4, 12:30-3:30 p.m.  
Camp Kettleford, Bedford, NH  
Camp Twin Hills, Richmond, VT

June 5, 12:30-3:30 p.m.  
Camp Seawood, Portsmouth, NH

June 11, 12:30-3:30 p.m.  
Camp Farnsworth, Thetford, VT

Take a look around camp and get familiar with the layout. Make a craft, sing a campfire song and try gaga ball as you ask questions you may have about summer at camp.

Price: \$5 per girl,  
Register by: May 22 or May 29

### Top of the Rock Overnight

Junior-Ambassador | Essex, VT  
June 4-5, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 a.m.

Join other local troops for a night filled with adventure! Climb 18,000 sqft of climbing and check out the Indoor High Adventure Course with over 21 different obstacles. Stay up late climbing, slacklining, playing some awesome games, watching movies, or more! Each troop must have a registered adult attend a belayer training class. There are 6 spots for a free belayer training the night of (retail cost \$50) for the first 6 that request it.

Price: \$60 per girl, \$55 per adult  
Register by: May 19

### Play Ball! Girl Scout Night with the Vermont Lake Monsters

Girl Scout Families | Burlington, VT  
June 11, 6:05 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Girl Scouts and their families enjoy an evening of fun as you cheer on the Vermont Lake Monsters as they take on the Nashua Silver Knights.

Price: \$20 per person, Register by: May 26

### Play Ball! Girl Scout Night with the New Hampshire Fisher Cats

Girl Scout Families | Manchester, NH  
June 18, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Girl Scouts and their families enjoy an evening of fun as you cheer on the Fisher Cats against the Somerset Patriots (New York Yankees Affiliate).

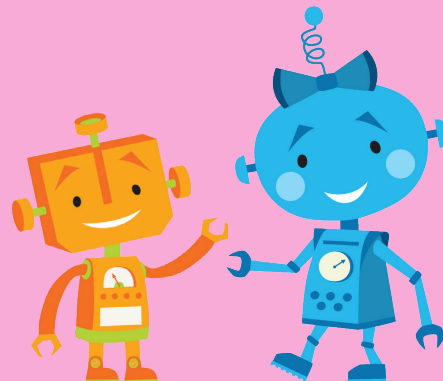
Price: \$16 per person, Register by: June 2

### Play Ball! Girl Scout Night with the Nashua Silver Knights

Girl Scout Families | Nashua, NH  
June 24, 4:30-8:00 p.m.

Girl Scouts and their families enjoy an evening of fun as you cheer on the Nashua Silver Knights as they take on the Vermont Lake Monsters.

Price: \$22 per person, Register by: June 6

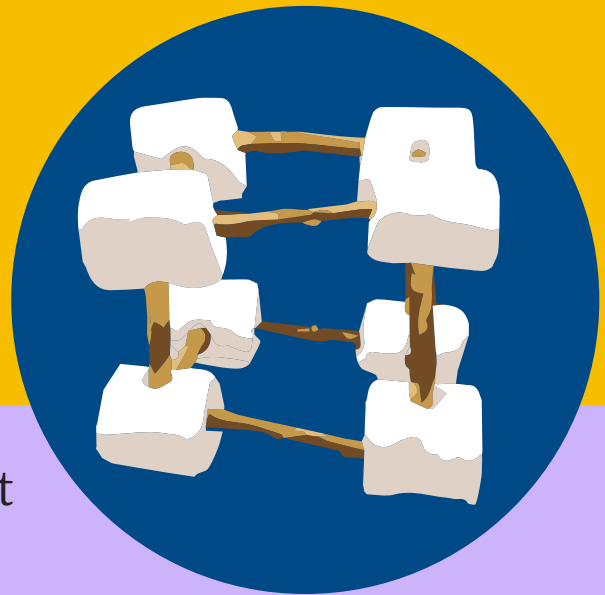


# Pretzel & Marshmallow Structures

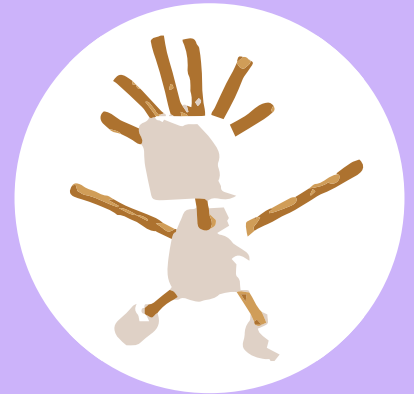
This hands-on (and tasty!) challenge is a motivating engineering activity for little builders.

All you need is:

- a bag of marshmallows (big or jumbo sized recommended)
- a bag of pretzel sticks



Encourage your builder to start with flat shapes and then see if they might be able to tackle 3-dimensional structures such as triangular prisms, cubes, etc.



**There are endless combinations!**

Ready for an additional challenge?

- Try making a structure strong enough to balance a ball or a plastic bowl on top of it.
- Build a structure large enough for your favorite action figure or small toy to fit inside of.

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May 11, 5:30-7:00 p.m. or  
June 9, 5:30- 7:00 p.m.

Girl Scouts will learn about the higher awards' process and split into their grade levels for more information about the specific awards.

Price: Free, Register by: May 5, or June 2

### Forest Ecology

Cadette | Hollis, NH  
May 14, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Get ready to be awed by all the wonders of trees! We'll take a hike on the Big Tree Trail at Beaver Brook to look at specimens of typical New England trees. We will learn about all the benefits humans derive from trees and how they can make us feel better. You will also learn how to tell how old a tree is and the function of all the parts of trees.

Price: \$17 per person, Register by: May 1

### Spring Spectacular

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Spring offers new activities as New England thaws from the cold winter months! Flowers bloom, the gardens begin to grow, the wetlands fill with a new generation of creatures and cows re-enter the pastures! Join us for a day of gardening, cooking, visiting our animals (including new baby chicks), and exploring the wetlands!

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Price: \$85 per person, Register by: May 5

### Tide Pooling with Discovery Aides

Cadette-Ambassador | Rye, NH  
May 21, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Join the Discovery Aides to take part in a unique opportunity to go tide pooling while learning how you can join the Coastal Rompers maritime troop who enjoy field trips and other sea-related programs and learn about becoming a Discover Aide for Discovery Weekend.

Price: \$5.00 per person, Register by: May 7

### Child and Babysitting Safety Course

Cadette | Online  
May 22, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Join Coastal CPR and First Aid in The Child and Babysitting Safety course which covers child safety and basic care techniques for children. Class teaches basic safety, fun activities to entertain children of various age groups, diapering procedures, providing emergency care, basic first aid and much more!

Price: \$37 per girl, Register by: May 12

### Playing the Past - 110 Years to Celebrate

Junior | Portsmouth, NH  
June 4, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Earn the Playing the Past badge as you learn the history of the Moffatt-Ladd House. Tour the museum and learn what it was like to be a woman in the past as you learn about 3 women who lived there. You'll also celebrate the 110th birthdays of both Girl Scouts and the Moffatt-Ladd museum - with a tea party, birthday cake, and play some historical games.

Price: \$20 per girl, Register by: May 19

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All Ages

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### Outdoor Adventure Weekend

Cadette-Ambassador | Thetford, VT  
September 16-18, 7:00 p.m.-11:00 a.m.

Take part in this weekend of outdoor activities, leadership and sisterhood as they meet other Girl Scouts and create their own Girl Scout adventure.

Price: \$85 per girl, Register by: September 2

### Bright Lights, Big City Adventure

Cadette-Ambassador | New York City, NY  
October 7-10

The bright lights of the Big Apple (NYC) await you and your favorite adult! Girl Scouts currently in grades 4-11 with their favorite adult are invited to take the Bright Lights Big City Adventure October 7-10, 2022. Enjoy a 6-hour guided sight-seeing tour which combines a bus tour with short walks and a boat ride by the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island and Governors Island. Take in a Broadway Show, visit the Museum of Modern Art, pop in at Girl Scouts of the USA headquarters, and do some shopping in Times Square.

\$2,626 for girl/adult in a room,  
\$2,112 for girl/adult sharing a 4-person room  
Register by: May 31

## Exploding Stars

### You will need:

- 4 craft sticks (jumbo or regular size)

1. Start off by holding one of the craft sticks in your left hand.
2. Place a second craft stick at a 45-55 degree angle.
3. Line up the third stick with the opposite edge of the first craft stick (it should land to the halfway point of the second stick.)
4. Use your last craft stick and place it underneath the first craft stick halfway between the two ends, then tuck it underneath the second stick to make a star shape.
5. Create some targets to hit! When you throw the star it holds its shape until it meets the target and “explodes”.



How accurately can you throw the star?

What items cause the star to explode the best?

Does the size of the star make a difference?

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# Crystal Egg Geodes

This stem activity combines the simplicity of crystal growing with the complexity and delicacy of eggs. Eggs are very fragile and you will have to use extreme patience in order to get every scrap of the membrane off of the eggshells.



## You will need:

- Eggs (just need the egg shell)
- Borax
- Water
- Pot
- Stirring spoon
- Stove
- Mason or clear jar
- Cardboard or paper plate
- Glue
- Paintbrush (for spreading glue)
- drill bit or needle (if you are going to blow your egg out)
- Food coloring (optional)

### Step 1

Get egg ready – blow out or crack open egg.

### Step 2

Get all of the egg membrane out of inside of egg/shell – once it is all gone the inside should feel like the outside.

### Step 3

Paint a thin layer of glue on the inside of the egg shell and sprinkle in Borax powder to give your crystals a starting growing location.

### Step 4

Put egg in glass jar and add enough water to cover egg (this is the water that you will boil, so add some extra to keep in mind evaporation.)

### Step 5

Put water in your pot and bring to a boil.

Once it is boiling add half a cup of borax and stir until clear.

Keep adding  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of borax at a time until you water no longer becomes clear or takes a long time to do so.

### Step 6 - optional

If you want to add color, now is the time to add to the solution

### Step 7

Pour solution back into jar until egg is complete covered

### Step 8

Cover jar with cardboard or paper plate

### Step 9

Check every hour and pull out when your crystals are the size you want (2-4 hours), Pull out shells and let dry completely.