

SCOUTING AT MOUNT VERNON **Brownie and Girl Scout Badge Activities**



BROWNIE: SENSES BADGE

1. Look Around

Explore the following areas of George Washington's Mount Vernon:

- The Historic Area
 - Gardens
 - Outbuildings
 - Mansion
- The Pioneer Farm
- The Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center



BROWNIE: COMPUTER EXPERT BADGE

1. Find Some Cool Facts

Visit mountvernon.org to learn some interesting facts about George Washington, Mount Vernon, and life in the 18th century.

- Look for the "George Washington" tab on the Mount Vernon homepage. Explore the options in the drop down menu to learn more.
 - Biography of George Washington
 - Key Facts
 - The Man & Myth
 - Martha Washington
 - The French & Indian War
 - The Revolutionary War
 - The First President
 - Slavery
 - Farming
 - Washington's World Map

2. Take a Trip Online

Visit mountvernon.org/virtualtour to access the Virtual Tour of the Mount Vernon Estate.

- Digitally explore the following areas of the estate:
 - The Mansion
 - The Outbuildings
 - The Gardens and Landscapes
 - The Distillery and Gristmill



BROWNIE: MAKING GAMES BADGE

1. Try a Scavenger Hunt

When visiting Mount Vernon, scouts are invited to complete the Mount Vernon Historical Trail Scavenger Hunt.

- Tour the historic area of the estate
- Search for answers to complete the scavenger hunt
- Earn a special badge, which can be purchased in The Shops at Mount Vernon



BROWNIE: PAINTING BADGE

1. Get Inspired

The landscape of Mount Vernon has inspired many artists over the years, and has been depicted in all types of artwork.

- Explore the Mount Vernon estate
- Find something that inspires you

2. Paint the real world

Once you find some inspiration, you can start your painting!

- Create a painting that depicts something you saw at Mount Vernon



BROWNIE: CELEBRATING COMMUNITY BADGE

1. Be a Landmark Detective

George Washington's Mount Vernon is designated as a National Historic Landmark.

- Visit the National Park Service website at www.nps.gov/nhl/learn/intro.htm to learn about how a site becomes eligible to be a National Historic Landmark
- Explore Mount Vernon to see firsthand why it was designated as a landmark

2. Join a ceremony or celebration

Throughout the year, Mount Vernon hosts a number of ceremonies and celebrations. Choose one of the following events to join! For more information about upcoming events, visit www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit

- Participate in a wreath laying ceremony at George Washington's tomb
- Celebrate George Washington's Birthday for President's Day
- Celebrate the Fourth of July with an American Celebration



JUNIOR: GARDENER BADGE

1. Visit a Garden

Explore the following gardens at Mount Vernon:

- The Botanical Garden
- The Lower Garden
- The Upper Garden
- The Fruit Garden and Nursery

2. Explore Garden Design

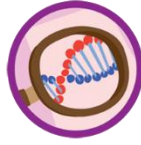
George Washington completely redesigned Mount Vernon's landscape beginning in the 1780s.

- Take the Gardens & Groves Tour, a specialty tour exploring Washington's landscape and garden design. Available daily April through October with an additional fee.

3. Experiment with Seeds

George Washington enjoyed experimenting with seeds and watching them grow. You can do the same in your garden at home.

- Purchase seeds from plants grown at Mount Vernon in the Shops at Mount Vernon
- Plant them in your garden at home and watch them grow



JUNIOR: DETECTIVE BADGE

1. Communicate in Code

George Washington was America's first spymaster, and one of his spy rings communicated in a secret code called the Culper Code. Learn more about it on Mount Vernon's website and on the estate.

- Visit <http://www.mountvernon.org/george-washington/the-revolutionary-war/spying-and-espionage/> to learn about spying and espionage during the Revolutionary War and to find the Culper Code Book
- Use the Culper Code Book to code and decode your own messages

2. Follow the clues to solve a new mystery

Become one of General Washington's spies and solve ciphers, decode messages, and tackle challenges in a special Mount Vernon spy adventure.

- Download *Agent 711: Revolutionary Spy Adventure* App on your smartphone
- Explore Mount Vernon while completing your spy adventure
- Collect your prize!



JUNIOR: DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHER BADGE

1. Take Tons of Photographs!

- Visit the Mount Vernon estate
- Take photographs of interesting or beautiful things that you see!



JUNIOR: PLAYING THE PAST BADGE

1. Experience Daily Life

The historic area of the Mount Vernon estate appears almost exactly as it did in 1799. Scouts can learn about life in the 18th century any day of the year at Mount Vernon, but the estate also offers special events throughout the year.

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S
MOUNT ★ VERNON

- Visit Mount Vernon during the Colonial Market to learn about daily life in the 18th century (visit mountvernon.org for dates and times)
- Visit Mount Vernon during A Call to Arms to learn about daily life in the military during the Revolutionary War (visit mountvernon.org for dates and times)
- Visit the Pioneer Farm to learn about daily life on one of Washington's outlying farms (open and fully staffed April through October)
- Visit the Historic Area to learn about daily life at Mount Vernon in the 18th century

2. Have Some Old-Fashioned Fun

Visitors to Mount Vernon can participate in a wide variety of fun, old-fashioned activities throughout the year. Visit www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit to find descriptions of special activities throughout the year. Some ideas include:

- Participate in 18th century games and activities at the Colonial Market
- Attend Mount Vernon by Candlelight during the holiday season to participate in a variety of 18th-century holiday fun



CADETTE: NEW CUISINES BADGE

1. Whip Up a Dish from Another Time Period

The Washingtons were known for their hospitality, and they welcomed many guests to their dinner table. Some of their recipes survive, and can be made at home!

- Visit www.mountvernon.org/recipes to see a number of recipes served at the Washingtons' table
- Visit Mount Vernon during the holiday season and learn about the special food that was prepared and served
- Choose one of those recipes to make yourself



AMBASSADOR: PHOTOGRAPHER BADGE

1. Focus on Composition

Mount Vernon is a great setting in which to take photographs.

Shoot five landscapes. Ideas include:

- The Potomac River
- The Gardens
- The Bowling Green
- The Forest Trail
- The Mansion
- The Pioneer Farm

2. Tell a Story with Photography

- Using the photographs you took at Mount Vernon, create a photo story
- Participate in a Photo Safari at Mount Vernon (for dates and times, visit mountvernon.org)