

July

Monthly Patch Program Girl Scouts of Central Illinois

Elizabeth Cady Stanton

"I would have girls regard themselves not as adjectives but as nouns."

Elizabeth Cady Stanton was an American writer, human rights activist, abolitionist, and one of the first leaders of the woman's rights movement. She worked closely with Susan B. Anthony for over 50 years to win the women's right to vote.



Complete 3-Daisy, 4-Brownie, 5-Junior, 6-Cadette, and 7-Senior/Ambassador steps to earn your patch.

All monthly patches are custom designed patches. Once we get the final number of patches after the 15th of each month, we place an order. Patches take about a month to create and then we mail them to you.

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Discover

- 1. Who is Elizabeth Cady Stanton? Look for books at your local library or research online to learn about her accomplishments.
- 2. She was born to an affluent family, and her father owned enslaved workers. Despite this, Elizabeth and her husband were abolitionists who attended the World Anti-Slavery Convention in London in 1840. Later, she recognized the important connection between abolition and women's rights in a speech she gave before the American Anti-Slavery Society. Research this speech. What connections can you make between abolition and women's rights?
- 3. After Elizabeth graduated from Johnstown Academy at age 16, women were not allowed to enroll in college. Research when women were allowed to attend college. Are there regions in the world where women today face challenges receiving education?
- 4. In 1848, Elizabeth and Lucretia Moss called for a women's rights convention to be held in Seneca Falls, New York. The Declaration of Sentiments drafted by Elizabeth enumerated eighteen legal grievances suffered by women, including right to their wages, their person, and their children. It also called attention to women's limited educational and economic opportunities. Research educational opportunities you have today that girls and women did not have in the late mid 1800s. What economic opportunities do you have that were not available during that time?

Connect

5. Elizabeth and her husband had seven children. During motherhood, she remained active in the fight for women's rights, which often limited her to behind-the-scenes activities. Talk to your parent/guardian or troop

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leader about juggling work and motherhood. Even if your guardian is a stay-at-home parent, there is still plenty of work to be done around the home. After your parent/guardian or troop leader explains all of their duties, do you appreciate everything they do? How can you help them out at home? What are some ways you can show appreciation for all your parent/guardian does for you?

6. The Declaration of Sentiments was a document modeled after the Declaration of Independence that laid out what the rights of American women should be. Elizabeth helped write the declaration. Some examples of how men oppressed women were listed, such as preventing women from voting, preventing women from going to college, giving men authority in divorce and child custody proceedings, preventing women from participating in church affairs, subjecting women to different moral code, and aiming to make women dependent to men.

Get together with your troop and discuss these aspects of the Declaration of Sentiments. Research the entire document. How do you think women felt during this time? Are you glad laws and regulations have changed for women today? Discuss the work that still needs to be done in America.

- 7. She met Susan B. Anthony in 1851, and the pair were very different from one another. With your troop, go around to each girl and find differences from you. This could be physical features, culture, religion, favorite food, favorite book, etc. Then go around and find similarities with each girl in your troop. This could be physical features, favorite ice cream, the town you were born, etc. We are more alike than different, and some similarities might surprise you!
- 8. During the Civil War, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony formed the Women's Loyal National League to encourage Congress to pass the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery. In 1866, they lobbied against the 14th and 15th Amendments giving Black men the right to vote, because

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the amendments excluded the women's right to vote. With your troop and help from your troop leader, research the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments. What did you already know about the amendments? What did you learn? Do you agree with the women lobbying against the 14th and 15th Amendments? Why or why not?

Take Action

- 9. Discuss what you can do to improve educational rights for girls in countries where their rights are limited. What countries, if any, don't allow girls to go to school? Are there countries that limit the number of girls who go to school? What are some reasons so few girls are in schools in these countries? Develop a plan with your troop to rally for these girls. This could be writing a letter to a particular government leader, creating posters, or researching different facts to share with family and friends. Do you appreciate your opportunity to go to school to learn after knowing some girls don't have the privilege of going to school?
- 10. Get together with your troop and hold a mock convention with your troop focused on girls' and women's rights. At first, pretend it is in the mid-1800s. What rights would you need to fight for? Then, fast forward to present day. What rights today do women fight for? Split your troop into groups and come up with a speech for both time periods. Present your speeches to everyone. Which groups had the best speeches? What did the speeches include?