



Etiquette and You

Cadette/Senior Interest Project Patch

Gold Award Project by Jamie Alexander

SKILL BUILDERS:

1. Years ago, young ladies were expected to learn how to dance. To earn a proficiency patch in the 1920's Girl Scouts had to demonstrate 3 folk dances and 3 social dances. Learn the proper way to do one folk dance and one social dance. Also find some rules of etiquette for social dances.

2. Correct posture has always been a part of the upbringing of fine young ladies. How was correct posture taught and enforced? Why is posture important? Practice using correct posture daily.

3. Different cultures around the world have different customs, including what is proper and what is not. Have fun researching what differences there are between two other cultures and the American culture. If possible, interview someone. A good resource would be exchange students at your local high school.

4. From the 1920's to today, etiquette has undergone very few changes. Choose two of the activities from below to do:

- * Demonstrate receiving, introducing, and bidding guests goodbye.
- * Write a note of invitation for lunch, dinner, party or just a visit.
- * Make a list of rules to be remembered when you are a guest at other peoples houses
- * When invited to a party or other event, how and when should you acknowledge the invitation?
- * What are your duties as the guest as concerning the time of arrival, length of stay, and leaving?

5. Table manners are important in daily life, from basic snacks to fine dining experiences. Make a list of at least 15 good table manners that should be observed. Also learn the proper way of serving a meal and helping yourself to food as a guest. Set up a meal for your friends to practice what you have learned.

6. There are other types of manners too. Take this quiz from the 1955 Intermediate Level Girl Scout book to see how good your manners are. Remember, manners are your ticket to popularity in some places.

- * Do you listen carefully to what other people are saying? Do you avoid interrupting a conversation?
- * Are you prompt when you have someplace to be? Do you answer mail quickly, too?
- * Are your phone calls short so that others may have their turn?
- * Do you share the radio and television at home?
- * Do you refrain from pushing and shoving even when you are in a hurry?
- * Do you show respect for older persons by small courtesies, such as seating them comfortably and opening doors for them to go through first?
- * Do you behave as nicely to your family as you do to your best friends?
- * Do you contradict people and pretend to know all the answers?
- * Do you expect people to wait on you? Do you expect your family to change their plans to fit your own?
- * How does the bathroom look after you use it?
- * Do you giggle and whisper at the movies?

Work on any of the above that you have answered negatively.

TECHNOLOGY:

1. Watch two or three TV shows or movies and compare their manners to proper manners. What is our society learning from these shows?
2. Go on line to <http://www.assumption.edu/HTML/Academic/history/hi113net/AAGPBL%20Charm%20school%20guide> and read through what was expected of young ladies in the public eye. Try a few of the suggested tips and type up a summary.
3. Search the Internet for websites about charm schools. Are there still some in our nations? If so, where are they and what do they offer?
4. Search the web for websites on manners. What all do they have to say about our society and the way we act?

SERVICE PROJECTS

1. Make up, or adapt, a game for younger girls to help teach them the importance of manners. It could be an action game or a board game. OR, you make up a skit and put it on for younger troops in your neighborhood or association.
2. Give a tea party for a younger troop. Instead of serving tea though, serve lemonade or punch from a teapot. Teach them the proper way to have tea.
3. Put on an event to introduce the Manners Try-It, the Junior Manners and You badge, or even the Cadette/Senior Interest Project. Invite any Girl Scout who wishes to attend.

CAREER EXPLORATION

1. Learn about opportunities to share history and women's part in it through interpreter jobs. A place to look would be the Juliette Low House, or a state park area that has interpreters.
2. Research the jobs of the First Lady and other women who are often in the public eye. What do they do? How do they appear when we see them on T.V. or at conventions? If possible, interview someone.
3. How have careers and manners mixed in the last 100 yrs? 50 yrs? Today? Find out about 3 careers that are related to manners and make a pamphlet on them.