

## Adopt a Grandparent Patch Program



Age Levels:  
J C S

The project concept of adopting a senior citizen as a grandparent is not new, but it gives Girl Scouts the opportunity to visit and meet older people in the community. This program can be used as a learning tool for girls to better understand their elders. It offers unlimited opportunities for girls and provides opportunities to serve, build friendships, communicate with adults, share talents and skills and develop a sense of responsibility.

The adoptive grandparents benefit also from this program. They will get to share many of their past experiences with the girls as well as possible friendships. Girls can certainly learn from older people, discover their heritage, and learn about the values of earlier generations.

Here are a few facts concerning nursing home patients:

- There are over 28,000 patients in Tennessee nursing homes – more than ever before.
- 50% of the patients have no immediate family.
- Over 70% are female, and more than 55% are 80 years older.
- On the average a person stays in a nursing home about one year.

Please be aware that patches may be purchased at Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee Shop in Nashville.

### **ADOPTIVE GRANDPARENT ENRICHMENT PATCH REQUIREMENTS:**

To earn the patch, girls must complete all of the following activities:

1. As a troop or individually decide who will the girl(s) adopt as a Grandparent. Try: nursing homes, church, senior citizen groups, etc.
2. Visit your adoptive grandparent at least three times during the school year. Plan something special for your adoptive grandparent on two of your visits. This could include a birthday treat, a Christmas surprise, or possible a visit to a local park or other favorite place.
3. On the lines provided below, list the dates you visited your grandparent. Place a star beside your two special visits.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

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