Cadette Badge- Night Owl

There are so many amazing skills to learn and lots of badges to help inspire you. The Girls Guide to Girl Scouting has a variety of badges that will allow you to start new hobbies and find out incredible things. You can do the activity on your own or with your friends and all the badges will allow you to build a skill that will help you with your Girl Scout Leadership Experience. Badges have five steps. You need to complete all five steps to earn the badge. You don’t have to do all the activities perfectly. After all, you’re learning something new. Do the best you can and you’ll soon find that you can do things you never thought you could do! The Girls Guide to Girl Scouting and badges can be purchased at either the Monmouth or Ocean Council Shops or online. If you have further questions about how to earn a Cadette badge please contact BJ Wood at (732) 938-5454, ext. 132 or bjwood@girlscoutsjs.org.

Night has captured human imagination since the dawn of time. Bit with modern day electricity, it’s easy to overlook the mysteries and beauty of the world after the sun goes down. So grow your imagination and expand what you know. Turn out the lights, tune in your senses, and step out into the night!

Steps:
1. Take a field trip to explore the night
2. Tour your world after dark
3. Meet people who work night hours
4. Explore nature at night
5. Host an Extreme Nighttime Party

Step 1: Find information about life after dark.

A. Share night art. At an art museum or library find three paintings of famous nighttime scenes, or three bedtime books or poems about the night. Tell your friends about the stories behind the pictures or read the poems and stories together.

B. Get into nightlife. Visit a zoo or aquarium and gather three fun facts about one creature’s nocturnal habits

C. Go solar at a planetarium find five fun facts about the stars, planets and night sky.
Step 2: Tour your world after dark

A. Tour your neighborhood at night. Map out your route and follow it during the day. Then travel the same path after dark. Note what’s different, from shapes to sounds to creatures and your feelings about your surroundings.

B. Visit a park, trail, lake or stream or other natural environment. Use all 5 senses to notice what is different after dark.

C. Visit a place that’s open 24 hours. Perhaps it’s a grocery store, restaurant, hotel, or airport. How is the place different after dark? Do you feel any different being there?

Step 3: Meet people who work night hours

A. Be an investigative reporter. Interview someone who works the night shift and record audio to share, or write your interview and share it.

B. Take part in the night shift. Visit the person at their workplace and imagine yourself in that job. What is a typical shift like? How does having a nighttime job affect other parts of your life?

C. Create a photo essay of a night workers job or find nighttime work pictures in magazines or online. Put together a photo essay or photo collage that captures your feelings about what it’s like to work at night.

Step 4: Explore nature at night

A. Examine the night sky. Make a drawing of the constellations that you see in the sky. Look through a telescope at a star cluster, a galaxy, or a moon.

B. Create a nocturnal animal. How do cats see in the dark? How do bats navigate? Design your own super night sense animal combing aspects of real animals and your own ideas. Share it with someone as a sketch, sculpture, or collage.

C. Sketch a landscape plan for your own midnight garden. These gardens are full of night blooming flowers that shimmer in the moonlight.

Step 5: Host and Extreme Nighttime Party

A. Find a nighttime craft activity that you can teach to younger kids. Share with them all the nighttime fun that you have had with the previous steps.

B. Pretend you live before electricity. Spend at least three hours with your family using no electricity. Figure out how to light and heat the house, cook food, and entertain yourselves.

C. A nighttime legend. For centuries, storytellers invented legends about the night, like how constellations came to live in the sky. Find one of these stories to tell friends and family.