

Hearts Around Indiana Patch Curriculum

Preface

Continue Indiana's Bicentennial Celebration!
Enjoy your journey as you travel and learn more about the Hoosier state.

The patch is made of up six sections. Each of the sections of this patch represents activities and industries found in Indiana.

Purchase sections and hearts from The Shop located at the Founders Lodge in Indianapolis as you earn them, or wait until you complete all the activities and purchase all of them together.

In the spirit of Indiana's state motto, we encourage you to get out and explore the "Crossroads of America" in all its beauty.



Steps

1. The Cardinal
2. Basketball
3. Automobiles
4. Festivals
5. Abraham Lincoln
6. State Parks

Purpose

When I've earned these patches,
I will have learned about the state of
Indiana, its history, and its culture.

Step 1: The Cardinal



The cardinal, adopted as the state bird of Indiana by the 1933 General Assembly, is a vibrant and familiar presence in the state. The male is bright red, while the female is brown with a dull red crest, wings, and tail. These birds remain in Indiana year-round and typically nest in thickets of brambles or low saplings. Their eggs, numbering between 2 to 4, are bluish-white with brown markings.

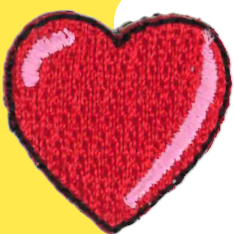
To deepen your appreciation for wildlife, consider planning a visit to a zoo or animal refuge outside your city. In Fort Wayne, you can experience an amazing children's zoo, while near Terre Haute, you can visit a cat refuge. Additionally, Wolf Park in Lafayette offers another fantastic opportunity to learn about and connect with animals.

Action: Complete the Following

Visit a zoo or animal refuge.

Complete these activities at the zoo or refuge location you select to earn your cardinal patch section:

- Learn about the place you are going before you visit.
- How was it founded? What animals are being served?
- What education and work experience do you need to work there?
- How are animals acquired?



Earn a heart for this section!

Ask what type of donation or help they need to maintain the facility and provide for the needs of the animals!

Step 2: Basketball



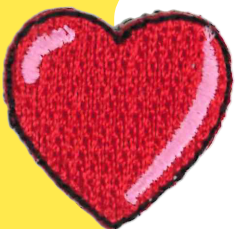
In Indiana, basketball is more than just a game—it's a deeply rooted tradition and a cultural passion. Though invented by Dr. James Naismith in Massachusetts in 1891, the sport found its true home in Indiana, where it quickly captured the hearts of many. Naismith himself acknowledged this after visiting the state's popular high school tournament in 1925, remarking that basketball's true origin lay in Indiana. The sport was introduced to the state by Reverend Nicholas McCay, who, inspired by Naismith's teachings, brought basketball to Crawfordsville, Ind., leading to widespread enthusiasm and the inception of Indiana's high school basketball tournament by 1911. The state has since produced legendary figures like Larry Bird, John Wooden, Oscar Robertson, Bob Knight, and Jumpin' Johnny Wilson. John E. Wilson, known for his remarkable high school career in Anderson, Ind., and later as a star at Anderson College, left an indelible mark. He played for the Harlem Globetrotters, coached, and was inducted into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame.

To experience this rich basketball heritage firsthand, attend a high school, college, or professional game, or visit the Basketball Hall of Fame in New Castle, Ind. If possible, travel to a game outside of your area to fully immerse yourself in Indiana's basketball culture.

Action: Complete the Following

Complete these activities at the location you choose to visit to earn the basketball patch section:

- Learn how basketball started including the history of how it became so popular in Indiana.
- Do a Google search on one of the famous basketball players listed above and find out more about the influence they had on the game of basketball.
- Learn the rules of basketball, so you can understand what is happening during the game.
- Play a game of basketball, or learn the rules of HORSE, and play that!



Earn a heart for this section!

Choose to either teach a younger Girl Scout troop how to play or volunteer to help teach a special group of children.

Step 3: Automobiles



Indiana has a rich automotive heritage, standing as the third largest automobile-producing state in the U.S. after Michigan and Ohio. At one time, more than 40 cities in Indiana hosted plants that produced 36 car brands, including Cole, Duesenberg, Marmon, and Stutz. Elwood Haynes, an Indiana native, invented the first commercially successful gasoline-powered automobile in the U.S., known as “The Pioneer,” in Kokomo in 1894. The state is home to numerous museums, such as the National Auto and Truck Museum in DeKalb County and the Studebaker National Museum in South Bend, which showcase the evolution of automotive innovation. Indiana also has a profound connection to racing, being the home of the iconic Indianapolis Motor Speedway, which has hosted the world-renowned Indianapolis 500 since 1911.

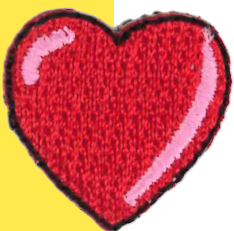
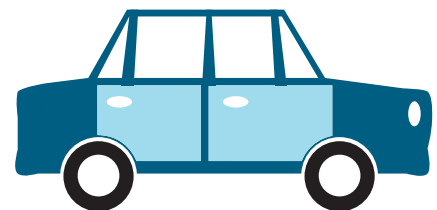
To delve deeper into Indiana’s automotive legacy, visit the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum. Here, you can explore exhibits on vintage cars and racing history, take the “Kiss the Bricks” tour, and experience the thrill of Indiana’s storied motorsport tradition firsthand. You can also visit Girl Scouts of Central Indiana’s STEM Experience Center to learn more about automotive engineering and experience the world of motorsport with our in-house simulators. Check out stemexperiencecenter.org to schedule your visit.

Action: Complete the Following

Start your engines!

To earn the automobile patch section, complete the following activities at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum:

- Why is Indiana such a big part of the automobile industry? How did it begin here?
- How are women moving into the automobile industry?
- What kind of jobs can you do within this industry?



Earn a heart for this section!

Make posters to promote safety for children to follow with automobiles. Ask if you can post them in an area in your community like an automobile dealership, library, or school.

Step 4: Festivals



Indiana is brimming with festivals throughout the year, celebrating everything from maple syrup in the winter to apple harvests in the fall. Whether it's a spring Earth Day celebration or a summer Fourth of July festivity, there's something for everyone. Indiana hosts nearly 600 festivals and events annually across its 92 counties, offering car shows, historic reenactments, carnivals, art fairs, music festivals, and county fairs—truly, the sky's the limit!

To get started, venture out of your local area and explore a part of the state you haven't visited before. Some of the well-known festivals include the Bean Blossom Bluegrass Festival, Indy Jazz Fest, the Covered Bridge Festival, the Indiana State Fair, Round the Fountain Art Fair, German Fest, Viking Fest, and the Feast of the Hunters Moon.

Action: Complete the Following

Attend a festival.

Pick a festival to attend and answer the following questions to earn the festival patch section.

- What is the history of the festival?
- Why was the festival started?
- How long has this festival been going on?
- Who runs the festival, and what do they do with the proceeds?



Create your own festival.

Use the following page to design and plan a festival you would like to host! What is the theme, when and where will it be held, what supplies would you need, and who can help you pull it off.

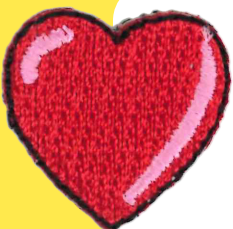
Festival Name:

Festival Theme:

Location and Time of Year:

People Who Can Help:

Supplies Needed:



Earn a heart for this section!

Look for an agency in the area you are visiting and donate needed goods.
Please donate to an agency in a new locality.

Step 5: Abraham Lincoln



President Abraham Lincoln grew up in Indiana, and his childhood home is now located in Lincoln State Park, which you can visit in Lincoln City, Ind. He is not the only politician from Indiana who made it to the White House; Vice Presidents Colfax, Hendricks, Fairbanks, Marshall, Quayle, and Pence all hailed from the Hoosier State. Much has been written about Lincoln's life, but the focus here is on his time as a Hoosier. Lincoln's family moved from Kentucky to Spencer County, Ind., in 1816, when he was seven years old, the same year Indiana became a state. The Lincolns settled on Pigeon Creek, where young Abraham experienced many formative events. His mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, tragically died in 1818, but his father remarried, bringing Sarah Bush Johnston into the family, who was a supportive stepmother.

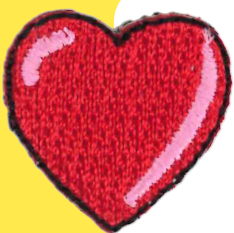
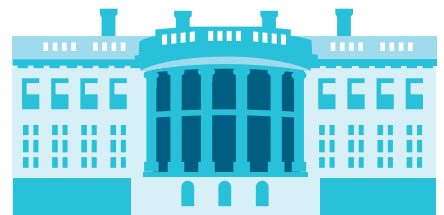
Lincoln attended school sporadically but learned to read and write. He also witnessed the harsh realities of slavery during a trip to New Orleans. The Lincoln family left Indiana for Illinois in 1830, but Lincoln returned to the state in 1844 as a prominent orator. Lincoln's Indiana years were crucial in shaping the man who would become one of America's most revered presidents.

Action: Complete the Following

Historical figures in Indiana.

To complete this section and earn the Abraham Lincoln section, complete the following activities:

- Visit a museum or birthplace of a Hoosier politician and learn about their life.
- What did they do to help Indiana?
- What type of job did they have?
- Did they stay in Indiana or go on to Washington, D.C.?
- Attend a festival or celebration in honor of this person.
- Learn about our state's political system.



Earn a heart for this section!

Find out if your politician has a certain charity they like(d) to support. If possible, donate to that charity.

Step 6: State Parks



Indiana's state park system is very diverse and offers many opportunities to learn about our great state! From lush forests and serene lakes to historical sites and recreational facilities, Indiana's parks provide a wide range of experiences for everyone. Established in 1916 and spearheaded by Richard Lieber, the system includes 24 parks maintained by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR). These parks emphasize preserving natural beauty and historical significance, with many facilities built during the Great Depression by agencies like the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration.

Among the parks located within the Girl Scouts of Central Indiana council are Brown County, Chain O' Lakes, Charlestown, Clifty Falls, Falls of the Ohio, Fort Harrison, Harmonie, Indiana Dunes, Lincoln, McCormick's Creek, Mounds, O'Bannon Woods, Ouabache, Pokagon, Potato Creek, Prophetstown, Shades, Shakamak, Spring Mill, Summit Lake, Turkey Run, Versailles, and Whitewater Memorial.

Choose a park to visit for a day or camp for the weekend. National Girl Scouts Love State Parks weekend, on the second weekend of September, features programming specifically for Girl Scouts. Enjoy trails, history, and natural beauty in Indiana's state parks!

Action: Complete the Following

Visit a state park.

Choose a park and complete the activities to earn the state park section.

- Learn how the park was started and when it became a state park.
- What can you do/see at the park you are at that is different than what you can do/see at others?
- Hike a trail, float down a river, and go on a nature hike with a park ranger. Do a fun activity in the park.



Earn a heart for this section!

Visit and do an activity in more than one state park.

Conclusion

Now that I have completed this program, I learned:



Now that I have completed this program, I am inspired to:



Resources

<https://indianafestivals.org/>

<https://www.historymuseumsb.org/indiana-a-state-of-change/>

<https://www.travelindiana.com/experience-indianas-automotive-history/>

<https://hoopshall.com/about-us/>

<https://aegoals.com/why-is-indiana-so-passionate-about-basketball/>

<https://www.in.gov/history/about-indiana-history-and-trivia/emblems-and-symbols/indiana-state-bird/>

<https://www.in.gov/gov/info-for-kids/state-symbols/what-is-the-indiana-state-bird/>

<https://www.in.gov/idoa/statehouse/notable-hoosiers-in-sculpture/abraham-lincoln/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Indiana_state_parks

Congrats on completing the Hearts Around Indiana patch curriculum!

Patches are available at the Girl Scout Shop.

