

Girl Scouts of Erie Shores
GEOCACHING JUNIOR BADGE

To earn this badge, you must complete at least 6 of the following activities, including the starred ones.

Purpose: To increase one's knowledge and understanding of geocaching (high tech treasure hunting)! Please note, you will need a GPS receiver to complete this Interest Project. Many late model cell phones have GPS receivers in them.

1. *Learn what GPS stands for and the history of GPS. Who invented GPS? Why was it invented?
2. *Coordinates are the keys to utilizing GPS. What are coordinates? How do they help a GPS receiver work? Using a GPS receiver, practice identifying your location using coordinates.
3. Geocaching is only regulated by the people finding and placing caches, meaning everyone involved needs to follow rules and guidelines. Using www.geocaching.com, identify the three basic rules for geocaching. Make a poster with these rules, and add a few of your own that will help Girl Scouts to remain safe while geocaching.
4. *Identify a cache you would like to find and go on a high tech treasure hunt! Be sure to follow all local and Girl Scout safety standards.
5. Visit www.geocaching.com or www.navicache.com to learn more about geocaching. With an adult, create a screen name for your troop/group so you can explore different caches in your area. Find out how many caches are within a 25-mile radius of your troop's meeting spot.
6. Find out how GPS units work. What are the basic ways a GPS can tell you your location anywhere on the earth (hint: it involves 24 satellites)?
7. Geocaching is a relatively new "sport" that uses GPS receivers. Brainstorm other new "sports" that would use a GPS receiver. Make an advertising sign describing your new GPS sport.
8. Think about your future! What kind of job could you get where you could use a GPS unit? How would using a GPS unit make that job easier (or harder)? Write a want ad for a newspaper describing this job!