

A Guide to Selected Resources in the Metro Service Center

So. You're looking for information on specific facilities available for program for girls available to you in the Louisville metropolitan area? This resource might get you started.

Many of the organizations shown here offer programs for children at very reasonable rates, often between \$1.00 and \$5.00. Costs vary depending on the kind of program you would like to have for your troop. In some cases, group discounts are offered for tours or performances. Prices are always subject to change, so call for current information.

Most of the organizations can help you complete or work on Try-it, badge, or interest project requirements. Explain to them what you would like to do and they will be able to tell you in what ways they would be able to help your troop.

In addition, you will find some information on working with girls with special challenges and ideas for other kinds of affordable activities.

We hope this resource helps you, and we hope you will take a few minutes to fill out the attached evaluation form and send it in. Your comments will be our guide for the future.

Hints for Leaders

Best for: all ages

Ideas for program possibilities for your troop can be found in many locations.

This resource contains organizations your troop can experience in and around the Metro Service Center. This is just to get you started, as the best resource of all is the interests of your girls and the possibilities they dream of.

Many things are available to you. You can start with these:

- **Your age level handbook and leader's guide:**
They contain more program ideas than you could possibly do in three years.
- **Awards and recognition's for your age level:**
Whether it be the new Daisy award program, a Try-Its book for Brownies, the badge book for Juniors, or the Cadette and Senior interest project book, the program ideas are endless. Even if your girls don't appear interested in earning awards or recognition's, they can get infinite ideas for things to do just by looking at the requirements.
- **Kentuckiana's Website:**
www.kyanags.org can lead you to countless ideas for program for girls. There is information about the council and your service center, activities for girls, and information specifically for parents and leaders.
- **GSUSA's Website:**
www.gsusa.org has connections for girls which can lead you to ideas for them.
- **Your service center volunteer clearing house contact:**
Laura Owens, 893-8016, has volunteered to keep a database of information concerning possible program opportunities in the Metro Service Center area and beyond. As information comes to her, she enters it in her computer and can call up information at any time.

She has very small children, so please do not call her before 10am or after 3pm. She has an answering machine and will call you back if she is not available when you call.

You can also contact her electronically. Her e-mail address is : redhedinky@aol.com. She would be glad to receive information from you too, if you have heard of things going on Girl Scout troops might like to know about.

Adventure Program

Best for: Juniors, Cadettes, Seniors

“Adventure” is an exciting word for Girl Scouts. Our council’s adventure program offers several possibilities for your troop.

“Adventure—Kentuckiana Style,” Resource Sheet #600, contains a list of locations, outfitters, and guides. IT also defines “adventure program” and what is necessary and required for girls to participate in adventure activities.

Ask Jamie Baker, the council’s adventure program specialist, for a copy of Kentuckiana’s “Adventures in Girl Scouting” booklet. Through photos and bits of information, it briefly describes the kinds of adventure programs our Girl Scouts can do.

Types of Adventure Activities:

- Teams Course (for Juniors –Seniors)
- High Ropes (for Cadettes and Seniors)
- Caving (for Brownies—Seniors in a commercial cave; for Juniors—Seniors in a wild cave.
- Climbing and Rappelling (for Juniors—Seniors on an artificial climbing wall; for Cadettes and Seniors on a natural climbing surface)
- Whitewater Rafting (for Juniors—Seniors on Class 1 and 2 rivers; for Cadettes and Seniors on Class 3 rivers and above.

Contact Jamie Baker for approved sites and facilitators for adventure activities.

Safety-Wise Connections!

Look at the activity checkpoints in Safety-Wise for each of the adventure activities you plan on exploring.

Contact Person: Jamie Baker, Louisville office, 636-0900 or (888) 771-5170, extension 397.

Science Connections

Best for: all ages

“Science” seems to be a word that girls and women often shy away from, believing that science is all work and no fun.

The locations on this page are particularly good at helping you forget that you’re learning about science. To them, it’s *all* fun!

Louisville Science Center, Downtown Louisville, 502-561-6100, www.lsclouienet.org

Their hands-on, minds-on exhibits and demonstrations on science, mathematics, and technology are designed to attract all ages, interests and abilities. Younger girls will especially enjoy Kidzone.

Regular Admission: Adult: \$6.50 Child: \$5.50

Imax: Adult: \$6.50 Child: \$5.50

Both: Adult: \$9.00 Child: \$7.00

Louisville Zoo, Middle Louisville, 502-459-2181, www.louisvillezoo.org

Besides providing animals to observe in various environments, the zoo’s mission is to better the bond between people and the planet. The Discovery Center and other exhibits are hands-on.

Regular Admission: Adult: \$8.00 Child: \$5.00

Thomas Edison House, Downtown Louisville, 502-585-5247

The house is historic, as Thomas Edison lived there for 18 months in the mid 1800’s; and its mission is to educate people on the significance of Thomas Edison’s achievements in science and technology. He is credited with all kinds of inventions that impact life today, including the electric lightbulb.

Adult: \$4.00 Child: \$2.00

Rauch Planetarium, Old Louisville, 502-852-6664

As a part of the new Gheens Science Center on the University of Louisville campus, the planetarium offers tours, demonstrations, and hands-on learning experiences in astronomy and the study of the stars and planets. Ask about their “raving astronomer” program.

(*New Facility—Open in early 2001)

Contact Person: For information on other activities or special exhibits that may be available, contact our clearing house volunteer, Laura Owens, 893-8016, between 10am and 3pm.

Performing Arts

Best for: As designated

Performing arts such as drama and dance are fascinating and fun for children of all ages. The following locations can provide experiences in varying aspects of performing arts. Prices vary with each program.

Story Station, Southwest Louisville, 502-937-3900

Story Station's mission is to give children hands-on learning using drama mixed with storytelling. Their programs are designed for Daisy, Brownie and Junior age levels.

Stage One, Downtown Louisville, 502-589-5946, www.stageone.org

Stage One's goal is to develop the whole child through high quality, entertaining, professional theater. Call for their schedule of performances. This is best for Brownies and Juniors.

Actors Theatre of Louisville, Downtown Louisville, 502-584-1265, www.actorstheatre.org

Educationally, Actor's Theatre intends to make theatre a living art form for middle and high school age levels. Call Judy Osborne in group sales for information on how your troop can participate and for a schedule of performances. This is best for Cadettes and Seniors.

Kentucky Youth Dance Ensemble, East Louisville, 502-425-1828

Their hope is to give every child the same opportunity to experience storytelling through the medium of dance. Productions are designed to capture the interest of the young child while giving a life lesson. Call for a performance schedule and other available programs. Best for Daisy through Cadette age levels.

Additional Possibilities:

Louisville Ballet 502-583-3150

Louisville Orchestra 502-587-8681

Broadway Series 502-584-7469, ext.501

Kentucky Shakespeare Festival 502-583-8738

Kentucky Opera 502-561-7942 or 1-800-690-9236

Visual Arts

Best for: All ages (or as designated)

For the most part, children love to create things with their hands. These locations either offer hands-on participation, or your young girls can gain experience in visual art forms through exhibits and activities. Prices vary with each program.

Speed Art Museum, Old Louisville (U of L campus), 502-634-2700, www.speedmuseum.org

Besides exposing children to art as represented in paintings, sculpture, and decorative art, the museum also provides the opportunity to look at and think about art in different ways. The hands-on discovery area is particularly exciting for children.

Museum Admission: Adult: \$7.00 Child: \$3.00

Carnegie Center for Art and History, New Albany, IN, 812-945-7336

This museum is located in an historic Carnegie library, and it houses exhibits in both art and history. In addition, they offer an extensive schedule of art classes for children.

Louisville Visual Art Association, Louisville (Zorn and River Rd.), 502-896-2146

LVAA offers a variety of visual art learning opportunities in several art forms. Their facility at the Water Tower also houses a gallery for regional contemporary art. Call for more information.

Artopia, Louisville (Shelbyville Rd.), 502-895-3700

Operated by the Louisville Visual Art Association, Artopia provides life-long learning opportunities in a wide range of art forms. Call for information and a schedule of classes.

Textile Education Group, Louisville (mobile), 502-451-2751

This group shares the knowledge of textile art through authentic experiences such as weaving, spinning, creating stitched designs, and dyeing fibers, and relating them to art, science, mathematics, history and culture. Best for Brownies through Seniors.

Little Loomhouse, Louisville (adjacent to Iroquois Park), 502-367-4792

The Little Loomhouse is devoted to keeping the ancient art of hand weaving and its history alive. They offer demonstrations, classes, and special programs on spinning and weaving.

Contact Person: For information on other activities or special exhibits that may be available, contact our clearing house volunteer, Laura Owens, 893-8016, between 10am and 3pm.

Historic Sites

Best for: Brownies through Seniors

In a community rich in historic resources, you and your girls will be able to find a range of learning opportunities. As well as tours of their facility, all of these historic sites have some sort of educational program for children.

Falls of the Ohio State Park, Clarksville, IN, 812-280-9970

Fossil beds, interpretive center, natural and cultural history.

Adult: \$2 Child: \$1

Thomas Edison House, Downtown Louisville, 502-585-5247

Housed in a Historic home, contains exhibits of Thomas Edison's inventions and related artifacts.

Adult: \$4 Child: \$2

Howard Steamboat Museum, Jeffersonville, IN, 812-283-3728

Victorian-era mansion, exhibits on steamboats and river history.

Adult: \$4 Child: \$2

Cathedral of the Assumption, Cathedral Heritage Foundation, Downtown Louisville
502-583-3100

A tour of the third oldest cathedral in continuous use in the U.S. Free

Riverside, the Farnsley—Moremen Landing, Southwest Louisville, 502-935-6809

Mid-1830's farmhouse, steamboat and river history.

Adult: \$4 Child: \$2

Conrad/Caldwell House Museum, Old Louisville (St. James Court), 502-636-5029

Victorian-era house, community and neighborhood history.

Adult: \$4 Child: \$2

Portland Museum, Northwest Louisville, 502-776-7678

Historic home (inside the museum); Portland community, river and steamboat history.

Adult: \$4 Child: \$3

Historic Sites (cont.)

Best for: Brownies through Seniors

Steamboat *Belle of Louisville*, Downtown Louisville, 502-574-2992

Oldest operating river steamboat in the world; steamboat history experienced through a cruise of the Ohio River. Public cruises June-August.

Adult: \$10 Child: \$6

Locust Grove Historic Home, East Louisville, 502-897-9845

Late 18th century house, George Rogers Clark history, Lewis & Clark expedition.

Adult: \$4 Child: \$2

Brennan Historic House and Medical Office Museum, Downtown Louisville, 502-540-5145

Victorian-era house, early 20th century medical office, family and community history.

Adult: \$4 Child: \$2

Main Street Association, Downtown Louisville, 502-568-2220

History of the 19th century buildings, architecture, and culture in three blocks of historic Main Street, including history of original permanent settlement that was the beginning of the city.

Adult: \$1 Child: \$1

Culbertson Mansion State Historic Site, New Albany, IN, 812-944-9600

Victorian-era house, community and family history. Free (suggested donation; A: \$2 C: \$1)

Whitehall, East Louisville (St. Matthews), 502-897-2944

Pre-Civil War house, family history, gardens.

Adult: \$4 Child: \$2

Nunnlea, Southeast Louisville (Hurstbourne), 502-491-7343

Mid-1800's home, family history, Civil War connections. Free

Farmington Historic Home, Middle Louisville (Bardstown Rd. & I-264), 502-452-9920

Early 19th century home, family (Speed) history, history of the 19th century lifestyle.

Adult: \$4 Child: \$2

Contact person: For more information, call Kadie Engstrom at the council office, 636-0900 or 888-771-5170.

More Places to Visit

Best for: All Ages

In addition to the locations already shown in this resource, here is a miscellaneous listing of some additional possibilities for program activities for your troop.

The Filson Club, Old Louisville, 502-635-5083

You can follow a self-guided tour of the historic home they're housed in, and the facility also includes a Kentucky History Museum.

Free

The Kentucky Derby Museum, Louisville (Churchill Downs), 502-637-1111, www.derbymuseum.org

Through many hands-on and participatory exhibits, you can learn about (and experience) the equine industry and the history of horse racing in Kentucky.

Adult: \$7 Child: \$3

The Jefferson County Court House, Downtown Louisville

It's an historic building (completed in 1860), and you can view the rotunda and the other building architecture.

Free

Crane House, Old Louisville, 502-635-2240

This organization provides resources, workshops and expertise on a range of Asian cultures. The facility contains a reference library. **Prices vary with each program.**

Jefferson County Animal Control, Southwest Louisville, 502-361-1318

This agency provides programs for children on pet care, including health and safety and healthy living environments. On-site tours are available.

Free

Louisville Slugger Museum, Downtown Louisville, 502-588-7325, www.slugger.com

This is a museum and manufacturing facility. It uses hands-on and stationary exhibits to give the history of baseball and the Louisville Slugger bat, and you can walk through the manufacturing plant to see how bats are made from start to finish.

Adult: \$5 Child: \$3

Public Radio Partnership, Downtown Louisville, 502-814-6500

It's located in a newly renovated historic building on 4th street, and you can call about the possibility of a tour of the building and information on how public radio operates.

Contact Person: For information on other activities or special exhibits that may be available, contact our clearing house volunteer, Laura Owens, 893-8016, between 10am and 3pm.

Environmental Connections

Best for: All Ages

Getting your girls to think broadly about the world they live in can happen through visits to locations concentrating on the natural environment.

Bernheim Arboretum & Research Forest, Clermont, Ky (in Bullitt County), 502-955-8512

This 14,000-acre nature preserve offers programs and activities around local wildlife (plants and animals). The Visitors Center has exhibits on art and nature. Programs are scheduled seasonally.

Free (M-F) \$5per car (Sat & Sun)

Jefferson County Memorial Forest, Fairdale, Ky (southwest county), 502-366-5432

An historic school is a welcome center for the forest focusing on early 20th century life and times of the forest. The forest offers a range of educational programs for youth.

Free

Louisville Nature Center, Louisville, 502-458-1328

It is the entrance to the BearGrass Creek State Nature Preserve, and its purpose is to promote the protection and enhancement of Kentucky's natural resources. Through hands-on programs, children gain a greater understanding of plant and animal life and interrelationships.

Falls of the Ohio State Park, Clarksville, IN, 812-280-9970, www.fallsoftheohio.org

Wildlife at the falls, Ohio River environment, the 400,000,000 year old fossil beds, and the natural and cultural history of the falls area are experienced through a visit to the fossil beds and the interpretive center.

Adult: \$2 Child: \$1

Salato Wildlife Education Center, Frankfort, Ky, 502-564-7863 or 800-858-1549

The center focuses on interpreting the native animals, plants and habitats of Kentucky. There are indoor and outdoor exhibits on a variety of subjects, a wetlands exhibit, a native plant garden, and live animals. Girls can learn about and try their hand at fishing too!

Free

More Ideas

Best for: All Ages

As mentioned on the cover of this resource, many of the organizations mentioned offer very reasonable rates for program events for children. In some cases, there is no admission charge, though they may be a charge for specific programs.

In addition to the locations for potential program activities for your troop shown in this resource, here are some additional ideas for affordable activities for your troop.

Visit National, State and city parks, many of which do not have a park admission fee or the fee is very reasonable for a car load. The parks within an easy drive of the Metro Service Center have hiking trails, picnic areas, recreational activities and , in some instances, interpretive centers with no additional charge. This is a selection of some national and state parks you could visit in a day:

Otter Creek Park (near Brandenburg, KY)

Mammoth Cave National Park (Cave City, Ky)

Clifty Falls State Park (Madison, IN)

General Butler State Park (Carrollton, KY)

Spring Mill State Park (Mitchell, IN)

Brown County State Park (Nashville, IN)

Rough River State Park (Leitchfield, KY)

Public libraries of all kinds (many have program activities for children happening all the time; the Louisville Free Public Library in downtown Louisville has a lot of resources and programs).

Oldham County Historical Society, LaGrange, KY 502-222-0826

Old Louisville Information Center (Located in Central Park in Louisville) 502-635-5244

Also:

If you're looking for a lifeguard because you want to go swimming at a facility that doesn't provide one, contact Carrie Shaw at the council office, 636-0900 or 888-771-5170. She may be able to help you.

For ideas on service in Girl Scouting:

- Use Resource Sheet #7, "Service in Girl Scouting"
- Watch for service opportunities in the Metro Media.
- Contact people-centered organizations, such as Dare to Care, The Center for Women and families, nursing homes, hospitals, Goodwill, and libraries to ask how your troop can help.

Girl Scouts cannot collect or solicit money for other organizations, but you can do many things to help other people and your community. If you ask, "What can we do to make the community look better, to make people more comfortable or to lend a helping hand?" You will find the pathway to service in Girl Scouting an easy one and full of good experiences.

Girls with Special Challenges

Best for: All Ages

Working with girls with special challenges also provides a challenge for a Girl Scout Leader. These resources may help.

First off:

It is not expected that Girl Scout Leaders will be highly-trained caregivers in the areas of physical or mental impairments. Therefore, parents must be involved with their child throughout their daughter's membership in Girl Scouting.

Parents must not abdicate their responsibility to their child or the adults working with her by looking at Girl Scouting as the place to drop their child off for a short programming session.

In order to maintain the safest environment possible for a girl adapting to special challenges, parents, as the most knowledgeable resources concerning the care of their child, must work closely with the troop members, both girls and adults, and participate all levels of troop operation.

In addition:

GSUSA's publication, *Focus on Ability: Serving Girls with Special Needs*, is an up-to-date leader's guide for mainstreaming girls with disabilities into Girl Scout activities. It includes how-to's for preparing yourself and your girls, and it has an informational chapter on major disabilities from learning disabilities to vision impairments. It also gives ideas for adapting activities and some ideas for program possibilities.

The book is on-loan from the Girl Scout Service center library and on sale in the council shop located at the council office in Louisville.

If you're interested in taking your troop camping and would benefit from some additional guidance, ask for a copy of Resource Sheet #606—"Camping With Girls With Disabilities". Actually, a lot of the information can apply to all activities, not just outdoor activities. It includes a list of possible resource organizations.

Also, Resource Sheet #56—"Hints for Handling Common Behavioral Problems"—can provide you with some overall guidance on working with girls who are exhibiting destructive or disruptive behavior, and it can relate to the actions of girls with special challenges as well.

People can help:

Debbie Kuczvara, a Girl Scout for many years, will be glad to serve as a resource for you. Her main area of expertise is visual impairment (she is legally blind), but she has a great deal of experience in adapting the Girl Scout Program to meet special needs. She has contacts throughout the community who may be able to assist you with information or guidance on other types of impairments. You can call Debbie between 7 and 9:30pm at 896-4203.

Mary Lou Vaughn, who led a troop of mentally impaired girls for many years, will also serve as a resource for you on adapting programs for girls with mental challenges. You can reach her at 454-0004.

Look for agencies that work daily with children with the type of disability for which you need information or guidance. Talk with the parents of the specially-challenged girl(s) in your troop for agencies they call on. Remember to keep your parents involved.

Watch your Metro Adult Education Calendar for workshops on adapting programs for girls with special needs; and talk with Deb Giles, Metro Adult Education Specialist, if you have a particular interest in an adult education event.

Evaluation Form

Since this is a new resource for us, we'd like your comments on its usefulness for you.

Could you please take a few minutes to answer the following questions and send this page to Kadie Engstrom, Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana, PO Box 32335, Louisville, KY 40232-2335.

Thank you very much!!

1. This resource has been
 - Extremely useful
 - Very Useful
 - Useful
 - Not very Useful
 - Of no use at all

What would make it more useful?

2. I was able to find what I was looking for
 - Very easily
 - Somewhat easily
 - Not very easily
 - With great difficulty

What would have made it easier for you?

3. In the future, I hope this resource includes...
4. Some contacts I know about that I think would be a good addition to his kind of resource in the future are ...
5. Here are additional comments I have that I think will help you with a resource like this in the future...