

Medieval Maidens Try-It

For Girl Scout Brownies

Purpose: Learn about medieval times beyond the tales of adventure and make-believe. Find out about the real lives of girls and women during this time period.

To earn this Try-It, complete two activities from the Discover section, one activity from Connect and one Take Action project.



Discover:

Medieval Maidens: The Medieval times are also referred to as the Middle Ages. Find out how girls and women lived during this time. What kind of work did they do? Did girls go to school? What did they do for fun?

Clothing: Find out about the types of clothing women and girls wore during the Middle Ages. If available, try on some different medieval costumes; or try making your own piece of clothing such as a conical hennin (tall pointed hat with veil) or modify a piece of clothing to look more medieval such as turning an old t-shirt into a tunic.

Food: What types of food people ate during medieval times? Did rich people eat differently than poor? Prepare a food or drink from the time (feel free to use modern adaptations of the recipes). Some ideas: mulled cider, gingerbread, rye bread, waffles.

Art: Look at some pictures of art produced in the Middle Ages and try to make something of your own in the same style as the sculptures, paintings, mosaics, or stained glass that were produced at the time.

Play Time: Make a toy or learn to play a game/sport that medieval children played.

Connect:

Museum Visit: Tour a medieval museum such as Higgins Armory in Worcester or Hammond Castle in Gloucester to learn more about the Middle Ages.

SCA: The Society for Creative Anachronism is an international organization dedicated to researching and recreating the arts and skills of pre-17th-century Europe. Invite a member to your meeting to learn more about medieval times. You can find your local Massachusetts chapter here: <http://www.eastkingdom.org/branches.html>

Take Action: Complete the following project or design your own Take Action project based on the things you learned while earning this Try-It.

Medieval Faire: People worked very hard during the Middle Ages, so social activities and celebrations were very important to them. Find out what activities people participated in when they attended fairs and celebrations. Visit a Medieval Faire or Festival, or hold your own medieval party with your troop complete with food, entertainment and games!

The Middle Ages was the era of knights, fair ladies, princesses and castles.

Resources

Books

Women and Girls in the Middle Ages, by Kay Eastwood (2003)

Medieval Women, by Eileen Power (2007)

How Would you Survive in the Middle Ages, by Fiona MacDonald and David Salariya (1997)

Knights & Castles: 50 Hands-on Activities to Experience the Middle Ages, by Avery Hart & Paul Mantell (1998)

Medieval Life, (DK Eyewitness books 2004)

Websites

***Warning:** An adult should double check each of the following websites before giving the web addresses to the girls. Sites often change their content with no notice, and we wouldn't want them to come upon any surprises!*

Local Museums and Resources:

<http://www.higgins.org>

<http://www.hammondcastle.org>

<http://sca.org>

<http://www.eastkingdom.org>

Local Faires:

<http://www.renfaire.com/Sites/>

<http://www.kingrichardsfaire.net/>

<http://www.ctfaire.com>

General Info:

<http://www.historyforkids.org/learn/medieval/>

<http://www.kathimitchell.com/middleages.htm>

<http://www.medieval-life.net>

<http://www.medievalmaidens.net/>

<http://www.palos118.org/South/curriculum/team6c/midages/>

<http://mw.mcmaster.ca/intro.html>

Toys and Games:

<http://www.modaruniversity.org/Games.htm>

<http://www.sca.org.au/stow/toys.pdf>

Recipes:

<http://www.godecookery.com>

<http://www.medievalcookery.com>

Art:

<http://www.storyboardtoys.com/gallery/childrens-medieval-style-art.htm>

http://www.metmuseum.org/Works_of_Art/department.asp?dep=17

http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/best/hd_best.htm

http://historylink101.com/lessons/art_history_lessons/ma/

Clothing/Fashion:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1300-1400_in_fashion

<http://www.virtue.to/articles/>

http://www.carillion.eastkingdom.org/basic_garb.html

<http://www.lothene.org/crafts6.html>

<http://www.virtue.to/articles/girdlebook.html>

Education:

<http://historymedren.about.com/library/weekly/aa033001b.htm>

<http://www.medieval-life.net/education.htm>