Scouting Bannack for Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts

Welcome to Bannack! As Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, you have the unique opportunity to earn the Scouting Bannack patch. The activities can be done individually or with a den, pack or troop. The record sheet can be obtained at the Visitor Center or Park Office. When you return the completed record sheet, you can purchase the special Scouting Bannack patch for $3.50. The Bannack Association sells the patch for a small profit, which goes towards supporting the park. Please contact the park at least 48 hours before your visit so plans can be made for the service project, arrange visit with a park employee about their career, etc.

Activity Choices: (Parents/Leader: Please look over the list carefully. Choose activities that are appropriate to the age and abilities of the scouts. Suggested Cub Scout or Boy Scout levels are listed in the abbreviations after each activity: T – Tigers, W – Wolves, B – Bears, WB – Webelos, BS – Boy Scouts

Be sure to consult Cub and Boy Scout safety requirements before participating in any activity. All participants must be registered Cub or Boy Scouts who are covered by Boy Scout insurance.

Complete one activity from these areas: Service, Career, and Technology. Complete at least three other activities of your choice from the other areas.

Service: The Park will arrange a service project that can be done by individuals or groups. It is important to contact the Park before your visit. Please allow at least 1 ½ to 2 hours time for the service project.

(You may need to bring equipment such as work gloves. Other equipment needed may be obtained from the Visitor Center, State House Office, or Maintenance)

1. Sweep boardwalk, porches, and steps (brooms) T, W, B
2. Pick up small branches, etc. (trash bags) T, W, B
3. Wash windows (paper towels or newspaper, window cleaner, garbage bags) W, B, WB, BS
4. Pick up trash in campgrounds, group use area, parking lots, and town site. (trash bags) W, B, WB, BS
5. Pick large rocks out of the pile of dirt used in the gold panning area. (work gloves) W, B, WB, BS
6. Clean out fire pits in campgrounds (shovels, trash bags) BS
7. Pick and dispose of noxious weeds (work gloves, trash bags) WB, BS
8. Bundle firewood for the campground (work gloves) BS
9. Check with maintenance in advance to learn about any large projects that could be done by older boys (Ex: building/repairing jackleg fence) BS
Career:  (Park employees/volunteers are willing to talk with the scouts when available.  Contact the Visitor Center or Park House.  This can be arranged before you visit.)

Find out about positions in the Park:  Manager, Assistant Manager, Maintenance, Interpretive Specialist, Tour Guide, Visitor Center Host, Campground Host.  T, W, B, WB, BS

1. Learn about:
   - Job requirements
   - Training requirements
   - Job opportunities
   - Special aspects of each position such as preservation, living history, research requirements, etc.

Technology:

1. Before coming, visit the Bannack website:  www.bannack.org  T, W, B, WB, BS
2. Watch “The Window in Time” and other DVD’s offered in the Visitor Center (Some of these can also be obtained before coming to Bannack)  T, W, B, WB, BS
3. Find out about the Fire System used in Bannack  W, B, WB, BS
4. Find out about the Security System used in Bannack  W, B, WB, BS
5. Find out about the Mini Superfund site for environmental cleanup at the Mill  W, B, WB, BS
6. Learn about the technology used in gold mining in the 1800’s to the present. (The Mill Tour is an excellent way to learn this.  It is offered at noon on weekends during the summer and also by special arrangement.)  WB, BS

Fine Arts:

1. Color pictures of Bannack (Coloring sheets of Bannack can be obtained at the park)  T, W
2. Sketch/paint pictures of the buildings  WB, BS
3. Make a free standing sculpture made from objects found in nature (do not use or remove any artifacts Ex: nails, leather, cans, etc.)

Photography

1. Photograph the building, plants and/or wildlife  T, W, B, WB, BS

Writing:  (Individually or as a group)

1. Write poetry about Bannack  T, W, B, WB, BS
2. Write riddles and share with another  T, W, B, WB, BS
3. Write a story about what a child’s day would be like in Bannack  T, W, B, WB, BS
4. Write a skit or play about Bannack and perform it somewhere in town.  Could be videotaped.  T, W, B, WB, BS
5. After a visit to the cemeteries, write an epitaph  WB, BS

Geology:

1. Find out about the geology of this area  W, B, WB, BS
   - Why was this a good place to find gold?

Wildlife:
1. Learn about the wildlife found in the area   T, W, B, WB, BS
   Ex: Birds, cottontail and pigmy rabbits, beavers, skunks, rattlesnakes, chipmunks, skunks, deer, elk, moose, pronghorn antelope
2. Look for track and make track castings (Bring own materials) T, W, B, WB, BS
3. Look for evidence of nests and other homes   T, W, B
4. Check out and use the Birds of Bannack backpack from the Visitor Center (it has binoculars, bird identification books, and list of birds often seen in Bannack) Identify at least 3 different species of birds.   W, B, WB, BS

Native Plants:
1. Identify at least 3 trees and/or bushes   T, W, B, WB, BS
2. Identify at least 3 flowering plants   T, W, B, WB, BS
3. Identify at least 3 noxious weeds   T, W, B, WB, BS

Hiking:
1. Hike through the townsite   T, W, B, WB, BS
2. Hike through the townsite from the Visitor Center parking lot to the east end parking lot; then hike on the road that takes you back to the campgrounds   W, B, WB, BS
3. Hike Hangman’s Gulch and the old stagecoach road to Road Agent Rock (approx. 3 miles one way) or any section of this route. See Road Agent Rock Trail Brochure. WB, BS

Cycling:
1. Take a bike hike on Road Agent Trail, See brochure with map.
   (Note: Bicycles are not permitted in the Bannack Townsite)

Horseback Riding:
1. Take a horseback ride on Road Agent Trail. See brochure with map. (Information about how to arrange trail rides with local outfitters can be obtained from the park.)

Astronomy:  Take advantage of being away from city light pollution to study the night sky. You must provide your own telescopes.  Check the Saturday Program series to see if this is being offered.
1. With the aid of telescopes, study the night sky to:
   - identify at least 5 different constellations
   - locate other objects such as planets and galaxies
   - Identify the current phase of the moon

Ice Skating:  Weather permitting, the park maintains a skating pond on the east end of the townsite beginning December 26th through February. The Maintenance Building is open as a warming house and several sized of skates are available for use at no charge.  Call the Park before coming to see if skating is being offered.
1. Skate on the pond   T, W, B, WB, BS
2. Learn about skating being a popular past time in Bannack from the Bannack video or from park personnel.   T, W, B, WB, BS