

Topic: Civics

Badge: Democracy for Cadettes

Suggested supplies:

- Laptops, tablets or phones with internet access
- Notebook or journal
- Index cards
- Pens, pencils, or markers



Helpful Websites:

Oklahoma State House Tours: <https://www.okhouse.gov/information/capitol tours.aspx>

CIA World Factbook: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/resources/the-world-factbook/>

Steps: (choose one activity for each step)

Step 1:

- Visit Your Town Hall, City Hall, or Mayor's Office:** Take a field trip to your local town office, city hall, or mayor's office. (Start by giving your scout a little bit of background information and letting them know what they can expect on today's trip.)
- Talk to an Expert:** Talk to an expert about local government.
- Go to a City or Town Hall Meeting:** Attend or view a city or town hall meeting. Start by letting your scout know what they can expect. (Your conversation will vary depending on whether they'll be attending the meeting in person, watching a livestream, or watching a pre-recorded meeting.)

Step 2:

- Visit Your State Capitol Building:** Take a field trip to the state capitol building. (Start by giving your scout a little bit of background information and letting them know what they can expect on today's trip.)
- Compare Your State:** Research their state government and compare it to other nearby states. How are they alike? Can you find any differences?
- Explore an Election:** Research the most recent election in your state and talk about their findings. Who were the candidates? How close were the outcomes? Were new laws decided upon? How many people voted?

Step 3:

- Write a Letter:** Write a letter to a federal senator or representative from their state. Do they think there's something more that lawmakers can do to help? The letter should detail why the issue is important and what action they'd like to see from them.
- Research territories:** Research American territories and find out how they are represented in Congress.
- Research Representation:** Find out how many women are currently serving in the United States Senate and House of Representatives, compare the data to previous years, and come up with ideas to further increase the number of women serving in Congress.

Step 4:

- Look into the Cabinet:** Research the current cabinet members and find out some of the things they're responsible for.
- Create a Presidential Trivia Contest:** Come up with presidential trivia to use in a quiz game.
- Explore Vice Presidents:** Research the role of the vice president throughout history.

Step 5:

- Talk to a Lawyer or Judge:** talk to a lawyer or judge about the judicial branch of the government.
- Investigate a Case:** Research a well-known Supreme Court case from history.
- Go to Court:** Attend a session in court at a courthouse. (Start by giving your scout a little bit of background information and letting them know what they can expect on today's trip.)