STAMP COLLECTING MERIT BADGE REQUIREMENTS

Additional checkoff sheets and helps are available from ScouterMom.com.

1. Do the following:										
1a. Discuss how you can better understand people, places, institutions, history, and geography as a result of collecting stamps.										
1b. Briefly describe some aspects of the history, growth, and development of the United States postal system. Tell how it is different from postal systems in other countries										
2. Define topical stamp collecting. Name and describe three other types of stamp collections.										
3. Show at least ONE example of each of the following:										
3a. Perforated and imperforate stamps										
3b. Mint and used stamps										
3c. Sheet, booklet, and coil stamps										
3d. Numbers on plate block, booklet, or coil, or marginal marking										
3e. Overprint and surcharge										
3f. Metered mail										
3g. Definitive, commemorative, semipostal, and airmail stamps										
3h. Cancellation and postmark										
3i. First day cover										
3j. Postal stationery (aerogramme, stamped envelope, and postal card)										
4. Do the following:										
4a. Demonstrate the use of ONE standard catalog for several different stamp issues. Explain why catalog va										
4b. Explain the meaning of the term condition as used to describe a stamp. Show examples that illustrate the different factors that affect a stamp’s value.										
5. Demonstrate the use of at least THREE of the following stamp collector’s tools:										
5a. Stamp tongs										
4b. Water and tray										
4c. Magnifiers										
4d. Hinges and stamp mounts										
4e. Perforation gauge										
4f. Glassine envelopes and cover sleeves										
4g. Watermark fluid										
6. Do the following:										

a. Show a stamp album and how to mount stamps with or without hinges. Show at least ONE page that displays several stamps										
b. Discuss at least THREE ways you can help to preserve stamps, covers, and albums in first-class condition										
7. Do at least TWO of the following:										
7a. Design a stamp, cancellation, or cachet										
7b. Visit a post office, stamp club, or stamp show with an experienced collector. Explain what you saw and learned.										
7c. Write a review of an interesting article from a stamp newspaper, magazine, book, or website (with your parent’s permission).										
7d. Research and report on a famous stamp-related personality or the history behind a particular stamp										
7e. Describe the steps taken to produce a stamp. Include the methods of printing, types of paper, perforation styles, and how they are gummed.										
7f. Prepare a two- to three-page display involving stamps. Using ingenuity, as well as clippings, drawings, etc., tell a story about the stamps and how they relate to history, geography, or a favorite topic of yours.										
8. Mount and show, in a purchased or homemade album, ONE of the following:										
8a. A collection of 250 or more different stamps from at least 15 countries										
8b. A collection of a stamp from each of 50 different countries, mounted on maps to show the location of each										
8c. A collection of 100 or more different stamps from either one country or a group of closely related countries										
8d. A collection of 75 or more different stamps on a single topic. (Some interesting topics are Scouting, birds, insects, the Olympics, sports, flowers, animals, ships, holidays, trains, famous people, space, and medicine.) Stamps may be from different countries										
8e. A collection of postal items discovered in your mail by monitoring it over a period of 30 days. Include at least five different types listed in requirement 3.										
Completed										
Presented										