

# NY State of Mind Junior Badge

Complete six activities to earn this Junior Badge, including activity numbers 1 and 6.

**1. Maps are fun.** On a globe or world map, find the United States. Look for New York. Be able to identify it on the map. Look to see what states surround New York and be able to name them.

Looking at the map of New York, try to find all of the following:

- The state capital
- The county, city or town where you live
- The Atlantic Ocean, the Hudson River, the Finger Lakes,
- St. Lawrence River, Lake Erie, Niagara Falls, Lake Champlain
- Long Island Sound, Erie Canal
- Adirondack Mountains
- Catskill Mountains
- New York City, Buffalo, Albany, Syracuse

Draw your own map of New York—you can copy the outline of the state. Draw in all of the places above.

**2. Find a book about New York** or go to your local Chamber of Commerce or Visitors Bureau for information about New York. Find out all of the following about our state:

- The State bird
- The State tree
- The State flower
- The State nickname
- The State motto
- The State flag
- The State song

Be able to tell what they are. Draw or cut out pictures of each. Are there special colors or symbols in your State flag? What do they represent? Share what you have learned with your troop.



**3. There are many historical places** in New York. Visit one of them with your troop or family or school. What is the historical significance of the place you have visited? Share what you learned with your troop or family.

**4. Who were the original settlers in New York?** When did they come and why did they come?

**5. Take a hike** in New York and make a list of things you feel make New York special.

**6. New York played an important role in the American Revolutionary war. Women played an important role in this war.** Read about one of the important battles that took place in New York. Research one of the important women who contributed to the war effort and describe her role to your troop or family. In what year was New York admitted into the Union?

**7. State governments vary.** Describe the government of New York State. Identify the State's governor, your State senator and State assemblyman. Does your city or town have a mayor? Who is he or she?

**8. Identify an issue that is important to your community.** Write a letter to your State official describing the issue and what you would like her to do to address it.

**9. Find out five interesting facts** about New York and share them with your troop or a younger troop.



**girl scouts**  
of nassau county

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