

Path To Eagle: A Philatelic Journey Through Required Merit Badges

Scope: This exhibit displays stamps that connect to each merit badge required to earn Scouting America's Eagle rank. From a "hotdog" stamp for the Cooking merit badge to stamps honoring nurses for the First Aid merit badge to bicycle stamps for the Cycling merit badge, the exhibit is a philatelic path to Eagle!

Purpose: The purpose of my exhibit is to educate people about and celebrate Eagle-required merit badges through stamps.

Importance: This exhibit can help people gain a better understanding of Scouting America. It might also help get Scouts interested in stamp collecting!



Exhibit Plan

Camping: stamps depicting camping, parks, and knots

Citizenship: democracy-themed stamps

Communication: stamps featuring various means of communicating through the ages

Cooking: stamps showing cookware and cooking

Family Life: home- and family-related stamps

First Aid: stamps honoring nurses and medical professionals

Environmental Science/Sustainability: conservation-themed stamps, including stamps portraying wildlife

Personal Fitness: stamps featuring varied sports

Personal Management: money-themed stamps

Emergency Preparedness/Lifesaving: stamps showing efforts to save lives and combat disease

Cycling: stamps with bicycles

Hiking: hikers and a tribute to the hiking boot

Swimming: swimmers and pools

Extras: Stamps Honoring Scouting,
Eagle Scout Award History



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Synopsis

This exhibit displays stamps that connect to each merit badge required to earn Scouting America's Eagle rank.

The exhibit features several American stamps that are the first of their kind. The first "semi-jumbo" self-adhesive U.S. stamp is included on the "Family Life" page. The "First Aid" page includes the first bicolored U.S. stamp produced on a rotary press. The first U.S. "semi-postal" stamp, which contributed a portion of the stamp price to charity, is featured on the "Emergency Preparedness/Lifesaving" page.

The Postal Service's first use of the term "PRESORTED STD" is showcased on the "Cycling" page. The first use of a computer to design a U.S. stamp is presented on the "Swimming" page.

First-of-their-kind stamps also include stamps that portray subjects for the first time. The first U.S. baseball stamp is included on the "Personal Fitness" page, and the "Cycling" page highlights the first U.S. stamp to feature a bicycle.

In addition to "first stamps," the exhibit contains many other stamps and first-day covers, both from the United States and abroad, that relate to the required merit badges: Camping, Citizenship, Communication, Cooking, Family Life, First Aid, Environmental Science/Sustainability, Personal Fitness, Personal Management, Emergency Preparedness/Lifesaving, Cycling, Hiking, and Swimming.

The exhibit concludes with stamps from around the world honoring Scouting and a brief history of the Eagle Scout Award requirements.