

# NIGHT WATCHERS IPP



## Skill Builder #1

Learn how to use your flashlight, when you should and should not use it, and what kinds of batteries it uses. Pick out a flashlight suitable for your need. For fun try to build your own flashlight using everyday materials, such as batteries, light bulbs, paperclips, and wire. Test your flashlight and the real one to see which one works better. Alternatively, try to modify a flashlight for someone with a disability. (Such as a prosthetic hand, paralysis, or poor motor skills)

## Skill Builder #2

Take a nighttime and dawn hike with an adult who can identify night sights and sounds. Make sure you only bring one or two flashlights. Try to listen for as many animals as you can and try to spot animals. Observe how the environment is different during the day and night. Chart or list the differences in what you see, hear, smell, and discover.

## Skill Builder #3

Play games that can only be played at night, such as manhunt, flashlight tag, or create your own game. Follow Safety-Wise guidelines, make sure everyone knows the rules and has a basic knowledge about the area.

## Skill Builder #4

Plan and carry out a nighttime scout's own during a camping trip, camporee or special nighttime event. If you have a campfire try using different chemicals to make colored flames. Or cook a midnight snack; try s'mores, banana boats, or kick-the-can ice cream. Try making a snack without a fire.

### Skill Builder #5

Go see a fireworks display or light show. If you can, try to meet the people working there. Create your own night show; make tickets, plan seating, and invite family, friends, and/or other girl scouts.

### Skill Builder #6

You can learn many things from nocturnal animals without seeing them. One example is owl pellets; they are the indigestible remains of an owl's dinner. Dissect a couple and observe what you find. Use field guides to figure out the owl had to eat previously.

### Technology #1

Use a telescope to observe the night sky, try to find planets, stars, or the maria of the moon. Compare the differences between looking through the telescope and observing the night sky with the naked eye. Discuss how further technology has helped scientists explore space.

### Technology #2

Go online and learn about night animals. (Owls, bats, raccoons) Learn how they see, communicate, and live differently than diurnal animals. If you can, visit a wildlife rehabilitator and "meet" some nocturnal animals.

### Technology #3

Go online and search for events that only occur at night, for example late night shows, fireworks, or midnight movies. If you are able visit, what you discovered online. Alternatively, create you own late-night show. Plan skits, jokes, fake news, and/or acts. Practice, and present your show to an audience. Or record it live, just like the pros, that means no "re-dos."

### Technology #4

Learn about current NASA projects, such as the Hubble telescope or the International Space Station (ISS). If possible, watch a shuttle launch live or telecast.

### Service Project #1

Create glow-in-the-dark constellations and planets. Donate them to younger children to act as nightlights or put them on a bed sheet and create a planetarium. Give shows to younger girls using your new constellation.

### Service Project #2

Take night pictures using a camera and flash attachment. Bind the pictures into a book; Or write your own short bedtime stories, bind them together and make you own bedtime book. Donate the book to a school, camp, or nature center.

### Service Project #3

Volunteer at a camp or camporee by running your own night hike or dawn hike with younger girls. Set up glow-in-the-dark cardboard eyes or animal silhouettes. Learn what type of animals live in your area and develop a "script" for your hike to teach the younger girls what you have learned.

### Service Project #4

Run "night" games with a group of younger girls. Try to start early at night, or at a camporee. Make sure the games are simple, safe, and short, little girls get tired out easily.

### Career Exploration #1

Learn about three jobs that can only be done at night. Discuss the challenges of working at night instead of "9-5." Try to have someone who works nights come in. Learn what they do, how they got started working nights, and how it affects other members of their family.

### Career Exploration #2

Meet someone who works with bats, owls, or other nocturnal animals. Learn how they got started with that particular career, why they like it, what education is needed, and what they do.

### Career Exploration #3

Meet an astronomer, NASA employee, or someone who works in a space program. Interview, shadow, or sit in for a lecture done by that person.

*This IPP was developed by Sarah P. of Somerset. The IPP can be purchased at our Girl Scout Shop. Call 732-821-9090 ext. 150 for cost and shipping costs.*