

# **Junior Activities Patch Program**

American Legion Auxiliary Junior members and Sons of The American Legion youth members can be active participants of the organization with the Patch Program. Regardless of where one lives, and whether she/he belongs to an active Junior group or squadron, Junior Auxiliary members and SAL youth members can serve their communities and veterans, and learn about patriotism, health, fitness and leadership through this program.

Each sheet explains the criteria and what must be accomplished in order to earn a specific patch. When the activities are completed, an adult or Senior member must sign the form to verify that the Junior or SAL youth has met the patch criteria.

There are three levels of patch criteria:

- Red—Level 1: Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade
- Gold—Level 2: 4<sup>th</sup> grade through 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Blue—Level 3: 9<sup>th</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> grade (or 18 years old)

# Please send completed forms to your Department Junior Activities Chairman.

Additional Patch Sheets are available at: <u>www.ALAforVeterans.org</u>

For questions and comments, please contact the National Junior Activities Committee at junioractivities@ALAforVeterans.org or 317-569-4500



## CHILDREN OF WARRIORS NATIONAL PRESIDENTS' PATCH

The National Presidents' Scholarship provides scholarships to deserving children of our nation's veterans and servicemembers who have sacrificed greatly due to their parents' dedication to defending America and our values.

A special Junior patch has been created for our Junior members and SAL youth to be involved in raising money for the National Presidents' Scholarship Fund. Help get the word out to all our members! We hope every Junior and SAL youth will be involved in some activity to raise money for scholarships, which are funded by the Educating Children of Warriors Fund. Most Juniors and SAL youth will become eligible for this scholarship, so they may be personally impacted by their fundraising efforts.

Any Junior or SAL youth can earn this patch if they raise at least \$5 for each year old. For example, a 17-year-old would raise a minimum of  $\$85 (17 \times \$5 = \$85.)$ 

Donations can be raised a variety of ways. Juniors and SAL youth can solicit donations from family, friends, Legion Family members or contribute themselves. Fundraising activities can be coordinated, such as bake sales or other sales, etc. Funds can be raised individually or as a group, but each Junior or SAL youth receiving this patch needs to have raised the required minimum funds for their age. The goal is for the youth of our organization to be involved and aware of the scholarship project. Checks should be made out to *National Treasurer, American Legion Auxiliary* with *National Presidents' Scholarship* in the memo line.

# Get involved today!

To receive the patch, complete the following and send it with the donation to: American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters Attn: Development 8945 N. Meridian St. Indianapolis, IN 46204				
Name of Junior/SAL:			Age: _	
Address:			Unit/Squadron:	
City:	State:	ZIP:	Phone:	
Amount raised: \$	(\$5/year of age) Department of:			
Optional: Tell us about how you ra	ised the money (Y	'ou may use t	he back of the page if n	eeded):



### AMERICANISM PATCH RED LEVEL 1

#### (Grade K-3<sup>rd</sup>) Educate yourself about the rights and responsibilities of an American citizen

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
*1	Learn and lead the Pledge of Allegiance at a meeting or your school.		
2	Learn the Star Spangled Banner and two other patriotic songs and sing them to three (3) adults.		
3	Participate as an active member of a youth organization such as Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, or 4-H.		
4	Draw the American Flag and identify the proper number of stars and stripes.		
5	Enter the Americanism Essay Contest for your age group.		
6	March in a patriotic parade with your Junior or Senior unit or squadron, school, church or community.		
7	Read (or have someone read to you) about the history of the American flag, then tell the story to an adult.		
8	Study the history of Independence Day (July 4) and tell an adult what it means to you.		

Name of Junior/SAL Member:	
Grade:	Unit/Squadron #
Department	



### COMMUNITY & FAMILY SAFETY PATCH RED LEVEL 1

### (Grade K-3<sup>rd</sup>)

Educate yourself about Emergency Preparedness

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
*1	Ask an adult how to explain your emergency to 911.		
2	Discuss a Family Emergency Disaster Plan with your family for relevant natural disasters.		
3	Plan an escape route in case of fire in your home and share with your family.		
4	Have an adult discuss Internet safety with you.		
5	Have a secret code word between you and your parents in case a person wants you to come with them. Ask for the secret code word before going anywhere with them.		
6	Assemble a Kid's Activity Survival Kit in case of disaster – puzzles, books, favorite toys.		
7	With the help of an adult, prepare a list of emergency phone numbers and put it in a convenient place in your home.		
8	Discuss with your family what you should do if you are approached by a stranger on the playground or the street.		

Name of Junior/SAL Member:		
Grade:	Unit/Squadron #	
Department		



# COMMUNITY SERVICE PATCH RED LEVEL 1

(Grade K-3<sup>rd</sup>) Enhance the quality of life in your community through caring and sharing

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
1	With the help of an adult, get a library card and check out a minimum of three (3) patriotic or community service-oriented books. Write a short summary paragraph of each or tell an adult what the books were about.		
*2	<ul> <li>Answer the following questions:</li> <li>What does volunteering mean?</li> <li>Where can I volunteer?</li> </ul>		
3	Locate the nearest hospital and emergency facility and inform your family and friends where they are located.		
4	Talk to two public servants (firefighter, police officer, school crossing guard, etc.) and write down what they do to keep you safe.		
5	Beautify a small area by pulling weeds or planting flowers at your home, church, school or local American Legion Post home.		
6	Write a thank you note to someone who has done something to help you.		
7	With an adult, visit a local nursing home or senior center during the holidays and take a greeting card you have made yourself.		
8	Write a letter or make a greeting card to send to someone on active military duty.		

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Department				



# EDUCATION PATCH RED LEVEL 1

#### (Grade K-3<sup>rd</sup>) Educate yourself about the rights and responsibilities of an American citizen

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
*1	Read a minimum of ten books with an adult or alone. Provide a written log of the books you have read with this form.		
2	Select one of The American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary's comic or coloring books to read and color.		
3	Collect ten items (crayons, erasers, pens, pencils, for example) and donate them to your school.		
4	Draw a picture of a special person in your school and tell an adult why this person is special. Display the picture at your home.		
5	Do an activity to raise \$5 for the National Presidents' Scholarship.		
6	Read a book or story about an historical event in United States history with an adult.		

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Department	



## LEADERSHIP PATCH RED LEVEL 1

(Grade K-3<sup>rd</sup>)

Learning to be a leader...you are the future of our organization

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
*1	Lead The Pledge of Allegiance at a Junior or squadron meeting, or at school, a community group or church.		
2	With help from an adult leader, learn how to properly make a motion at a meeting.		
3	Attend a Senior unit or squadron meeting.		
4	Enter a poppy coloring, poster or display contest.		
5	Serve as an honorary Junior officer of your Junior group or squadron.		
6	Learn how to properly introduce someone at a meeting.		
7	Participate in games that emphasize following a leader, such as a scavenger hunt, Simon Says or relay races.		
8	Attend a Junior leadership workshop, department Junior meeting or department squadron meeting.		
9	Discuss with your teacher or parent what makes a good leader.		

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# **MEMBERSHIP PATCH**



#### LEVEL 1 (Grade K-3<sup>rd</sup>)

Your eligibility for membership is a gift from a veteran

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
1	Wear your American Legion Auxiliary pin or Sons of The American Legion hat to five (5) meetings or to church.		
2	Invite two (2) friends to join the American Legion Auxiliary or the Sons of The American Legion.		
3	Discover through whom you have eligibility membership and write them a thank you letter.		
4	Ask a Senior member to tell you about their life, and what they have done for the ALA or SAL. Send them a thank you note.		
5	Research the heritage of your unit, post or squadron and share it with two (2) adults.		
*6	Start a diary or scrapbook of your Legion Family memories.		
7	Ask an adult to share the eligibility guidelines for ALA or SAL membership.		
8	Make a list of three (3) people you know who are eligible but do not belong to the ALA or SAL. Invite them to join and tell them why you think it is important.		

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Department	



## PHYSICAL FITNESS PATCH RED LEVEL 1

#### (Grade K-3<sup>rd</sup>) Taking care of our bodies and minds

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
1	Keep a food journal for two (2) weeks and record everything you eat. Evaluate your diet and decide how you can make healthier choices.		
2	Take a walk with your friends or family after dinner for one (1) week.		
3	Join the President's Challenge for Fitness at www.presidentschallenge.org.		
4	Help with household chores twice a week for month.		
*5	Participate in a physical activity (swimming, softball, dance, etc.) and improve your skills. Log your improvements over time (ask a coach or adult how to measure your improvements.)		
6	Participate in a summer camp or church camp.		

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## POPPY PATCH RED LEVEL 1

#### (Grade K-3<sup>rd</sup>) The symbol of sacrifices our veterans have made

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
*1	Have a Senior member tell you the Poppy Story.		
2	Ask an adult ALA member, SAL or Legionnaire to tell you what the poppy means to them.		
3	Participate in the Poppy Poster Contest.		
4	With help from an adult leader, ask for permission and plant poppies at your home, your post or other community business.		
5	With a family member or Junior advisor, make poppy tray favors and distribute them to a VA Hospital, VA Home, nursing home or senior center.		
6	With a family member or advisor, distribute poppies and explain what they symbolize.		

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#### TECHNOLOGY PATCH RED LEVEL 1

(Grade K-3<sup>rd</sup>)

Empowering our youth as they guide others with technology

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
1	With the help of an adult, make and send a card to a servicemember stationed overseas.		
2	Research ALA or SAL membership eligibility online. Print out membership application & recruit one new member.		
*3	With the help of an adult, discuss internet safety and write an internet safety pledge. Give a copy to your parents/guardians.		
4	Create your own email account with adult supervision. ALWAYS practice internet safety!		
5	Help your parents set the clock on electronic items at home such as microwave, television, DVD player, etc. Give them step-by-step instructions on how it is done.		
6	Gather information online on the Pocket Flag Project. Bring to a meeting & talk to your members about participating.		
7	Go to http://www.sesamestreet.org/ready & watch all 4 videos on "Let's Get Ready! Planning Together for Emergencies" to help your whole family prepare for emergencies.		
8	Shop online at <u>http://emblem.legion.org/</u> for ALA or SAL items. Create a wish list & share it with your parents.		

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## VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION PATCH RED LEVEL 1

#### (Grade K-3<sup>rd</sup>) We assist and enhance the lives of those who have served our country

Number:	Activity:	Date:	Adult Signature:
*1	Discover through whom you are eligible for membership in the ALA or SAL and write them a thank you note.		
2	With the help of an adult, order the Presidential Memorial Certificate for a deceased veteran from <u>http://www.cem.va.gov/pmc.asp</u> . This certificate expresses the nation's recognition of their service		
3	Ask a Senior member to tell you about the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation program and find two things you can do to serve local veterans through this program.		
4	Write a thank you letter to a veteran, visit them and talk about their military service.		
5	Make tray favors and send greeting cards to three (3) veterans in a VA Hospital, VA Home, local nursing home or senior center.		
6	Write a letter to the ALA National President or the SAL National Commander and tell them why you appreciate our veterans.		

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