

Junior Digital Photographer Badge

Complete the steps below to earn your Digital Photographer Badge. You will learn how to take creative photos, edit pictures, and share your work like a real photographer. Use a digital camera, tablet, or smartphone to complete these activities. Most importantly, have fun exploring the world through your camera lens!

1. Learn About Digital Cameras

Before you start taking pictures, spend some time learning how a digital camera works. Watch a kid-friendly photography video or ask an adult, teacher, or photographer to show you how to use a camera safely and correctly. Practice holding the camera steady, focusing on a subject, and using the zoom feature. Learn how lighting can change a photo and try taking pictures indoors and outdoors. Once you feel comfortable using your camera, you are ready to begin your photography adventure!

2. Take Many Photographs

Go outside or explore your home, neighborhood, or favorite park and take lots of pictures. Try photographing different subjects like flowers, pets, buildings, toys, or people with permission. Experiment with different angles by taking photos from high above, down low, very close, or far away. Pay attention to lighting, shadows, and colors to see how they affect your pictures. The more photos you take, the more you will discover your own photography style.

3. Edit Several Photos

Choose your favorite three to five pictures and use a photo editing app to improve them. You can crop your image, brighten colors, adjust lighting, or add fun filters and effects. Free apps like Adobe Photoshop Express, Snapseed, or Prisma Photo Editor are great tools for beginners. Compare your edited photos to the originals and notice how small changes can make a big difference. Remember to keep your edits creative while still making the photo look natural and clear.

5. Share Your Photos

Photographers love sharing their work with others, and now it is your turn. Pick a few of your best photos and explain why they are special to you. You can share them during a troop meeting, or by creating a small online gallery with adult permission. Sharing your work helps you grow as a photographer and inspires others to be creative too.

Bonus #1: Host a Mini Art Show

Turn your favorite photographs into your very own art show! Print your pictures or display them digitally on a computer, tablet, or TV screen for friends and family to enjoy. Create labels or short descriptions to explain what inspired each photo and how you captured it. With permission from a parent or troop leader, you may also share your photos on social media or in a family group chat. Practice giving compliments and positive feedback when looking at other people's photographs if you host an art show with other Girl Scouts.

Bonus Challenge: Capture a Forced Perspective Photo

Challenge yourself to take a forced perspective photograph, where objects appear bigger, smaller, closer, or farther away than they really are. You can make it look like someone is holding up the moon, standing on a toy car, or pinching a building between their fingers. Carefully line up your camera angle and subjects to create the illusion. Take several practice shots and adjust your position until the trick looks realistic. Have fun being creative and surprising people with your amazing photography skills!

