

Lighthouse Interest Project Award

The purpose of this Lighthouse Interest Project is to educate Girl Scouts about lighthouse history and the restoration and preservation efforts needed to maintain them.

Lighthouse Interest Project Awards are earned by completing seven of the thirteen activities listed below. Activities in *italics* may be completed at the Lighthouse.

Skill Builders (do 2 of the following):

1. *Discover What a Lighthouses Is and Where Most Lighthouses are Located*
 - *Why are they located there?*
2. *Learn About Life at a Remote Lighthouse*
 - *How/where did they get their food?*
 - *Where did the children go to school?*
 - *What was daily life like for lighthouse wives & mothers?*
 - *What everyday duties did the lighthouse keepers perform?*
3. *Visit a Lighthouse in Florida.*
4. *Learn About (at least) One Female Lighthouse Keeper.*
5. *Learn About the History of Lighthouses and Lightships.*
6. *Read About Haunted Lighthouses and Lighthouse Lore.*

Technology (do 1 of the following):

1. *Locate all of Florida's Lighthouses on a Map.*
Identify what type of lighthouse each is and determine why each was built where it was.
2. *Learn About Lighthouse Flash Characteristics and Day-Marks*
Write down the "flash characteristics" AND "day-marks" of 3 lighthouses near you in Florida. Why are the flash characteristics and day-marks different?
3. *Research the History of Fresnel Lenses and How They Work*

Service Projects (do 1 of the following):

1. *Learn about the Florida Lighthouse Association*
Prepare a presentation about what they do, and how they work toward preserving Florida's remaining historic lighthouses.
2. *Share What You Have Learned About Lighthouses with a Daisy, Brownie or Junior Troop*
3. *Learn About Shore Erosion and What You Can Help Reduce It*
Shore erosion is one of the major threats to lighthouses today. Contact your nearby National Seashore or local environmental protection group to find out how you can help. Participate in a community service project to help reduce shore erosion.

Career Exploration (do 1 of the following):

1. *Investigate Career Opportunities in the U.S. Coast Guard*
Since the U.S. Coast Guard absorbed the United States Lighthouse Service back in 1939, the Coast Guard has been in charge of most U.S. Lighthouses. Investigate career opportunities in the Coast Guard.
2. *Learn About Career Opportunities with the National Park Service*
Many lighthouses are owned and operating by the National Park Service. Investigate career opportunities in the National Park Service.

PLUS! Complete any Two Additional Activities Listed Above

References:

There are a number of excellent books related to lighthouse history and their keepers in your local library. Books may also be purchased from the Ponce Inlet Lighthouse Gift Shop. These include:

- *Lighthouses & Keepers: The U.S. Lighthouse Service and Its Legacy*, by Dennis L. Noble
- *Guardians of the Light: Stories of U.S. Lighthouse Keepers*, by Elinore DeWire
- *Lighthouse Families*, by Cheryl Shelton-Roberts and Bruce Roberts **(Gift Shop)**
- *A Lighthouse Family*, by Harold B. Jennings
- *Up the Shore: The Lighthouse Years*, edited by Bonnie Rourke **(Gift Shop)**
- *Lighthouses of North America* by Laura Trumbauer
- *Lighthouses for Kids* by Katherine L. House **(Gift Shop)**

And YES, there were women lighthouse keepers. Read about them in:

- *Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie*, by Peter and Connie Roop
- *The Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter*, by Arielle North Olson
- *Mind the Light, Katie (The History of Thirty-Three Female Lighthouse Keepers)*, (for readers age 12 and up), by Mary Louise Clifford and J. Candice Clifford **(Gift Shop)**
- *Women Who Kept the Lights*, by Mary Louise Clifford and J. Candice Clifford

If you want to read about Florida Lighthouses, you may look for the following:

- *Florida Lighthouse Trail*, edited by Thomas W. Taylor **(Gift Shop)**
- *Guide to Florida Lighthouses*, by Elinore DeWire **(Gift Shop)**
- *Florida Lighthouses*, by Kevin McCarthy
- *Images of America: Florida Lighthouses*, by John Hairr
- *Lighthouses of Florida*, by Bob & Sandra Shanklin **(Gift Shop)**
- *Florida's Territorial Lighthouses 1824-1845*, by Thomas W. Taylor
- *Florida's Fabulous Lighthouses* **(Gift Shop)**

General lighthouse books:

- *Great American Lighthouses*, by F. Ross Holland Jr.
- *Lighthouses, Lightships and the Gulf of Mexico*, by David L. Cipra **(Gift Shop)**
- *The Lighthouse Encyclopedia*, by Ray Jones
- *Southern Lighthouses*, by Bruce Roberts **(Gift Shop)**

Lighthouse Posters:

- *Lighthouses of Florida* **(Gift Shop)**
- *Florida's 30 Lighthouses* **(Gift Shop)**

Want to find out more about lighthouses on the web?

- Florida Lighthouse Association – visit <http://www.floridalighthouses.org/>.
 - Go to the LINKS section for websites dedicated to Florida lighthouses.
- University of North Carolina – visit <http://www.unc.edu/~rowlett/lighthouse/>
 - Click on FL and read about all of the Florida lighthouses, including flash characteristics
- United States Lighthouse Society – visit <http://www.USLHS.org>
- Great Lakes Lighthouse Keeper's Association – visit <http://www.gllka.org>