

Jane Austen

“It isn’t what we say or think that defines us, but what we do.”

Jane Austen is an English novelist. She wrote many famous books about romance and realism. Some of her best known novels include *Pride and Prejudice* and *Sense and Sensibility*. Learn more about Jane Austen in this monthly patch!

Complete 3-Daisy, 4-Brownie, 5-Junior, 6-Cadette, and 7-Senior/Ambassador steps to earn your patch.

All monthly patches are custom designed patches. Once we get the final number of patches after the 15th of each month, we place an order. Patches take about a month to create and then we mail them to you. You will get a confirmation email once the patches are headed your way.

Order patch on-line by **January 15, 2020** at www.getyourgirlpower.org

Discover

1. Jane’s most famous book is titled *Pride and Prejudice*. This book has had a major impact on society and continues to be a book widely talked about and adapted into movies today. If you are in high school I challenge you to read the book and discuss with your troop. If you are a younger troop look up the summary of the book and discuss with your troop why you think it is such a famous book. You can also discuss what makes a good story. Compare each other’s favorite books and see what encourages you to keep reading; is it because it’s funny or mysterious, etc..? What makes a story a good story?

2. One of Jane's older brothers was thought to be deaf and mute so she would communicate with him through sign language. What do you know about sign language? Learn some basic sign language with your troop. Practice signing words and phrases too each other.
3. Jane was extremely shy and she preferred to spend time with her family, over making new friends. What kinds of things do you and your family like to do together? Discuss with your troop your family traditions and some of your family's favorite activities. Maybe you will hear a new idea from a friend that you can try out with your family!
4. Jane received some money for her work while she was alive but it wasn't until after her death that her brother, Henry, made public that she was an author. Jane's transformation from little-known to internationally known author began in the 1920s, when scholars began to recognize her works as masterpieces. Can you think of anyone else that became famous after their death? Talk about Jane's legacy!

Connect

5. Jane and her siblings were encouraged by their father to read from his extensive library. This sparked Jane's love of books. Discover a new book at your local library. If you have a certain genre that you usually read take this opportunity to step out of your comfort zone and try something new! Discuss with your troop, parents or a friend what your book is about and what you learned from it!
6. Jane also had a love for poems! Write your own poem. Jane's work throughout her life poked fun at English societal standards. You could write a poem regarding funny things in your life or about something you love to do. Research other poems you like to get some ideas!

7. Jane's family encouraged her writing and creative thinking. Has anyone ever encouraged you to try something new? Think of someone that has supported you; maybe a teacher or a parent, and write a short thank you note to them. Let them know what their supporting you meant to you and how much you appreciated their encouragement!
8. Jane and her sister loved to make up plays and act them out for their family. Write a short play with your friends and get creative; it can be fiction or non-fiction. Then spend some time acting out your play at your next troop meeting. You can even perform it for your family just like Jane did!

Take Action

9. By now you have learned about Jane's love of books and how she became a famous author. What can you do to help show your love of books and reading? You could make bookmarks for your school library, help with an event at your local library or volunteer to read to someone that might need help!
10. A little known fact about Jane is that she served in the British military. There are so many great ways to honor and do something nice for the US military during the holidays. Come up with a way to pay tribute to our troops this holiday season. Check out this great article about all the ways you can support our military. <https://www.thebalancecareers.com/support-our-soldiers-during-christmas-3343836>