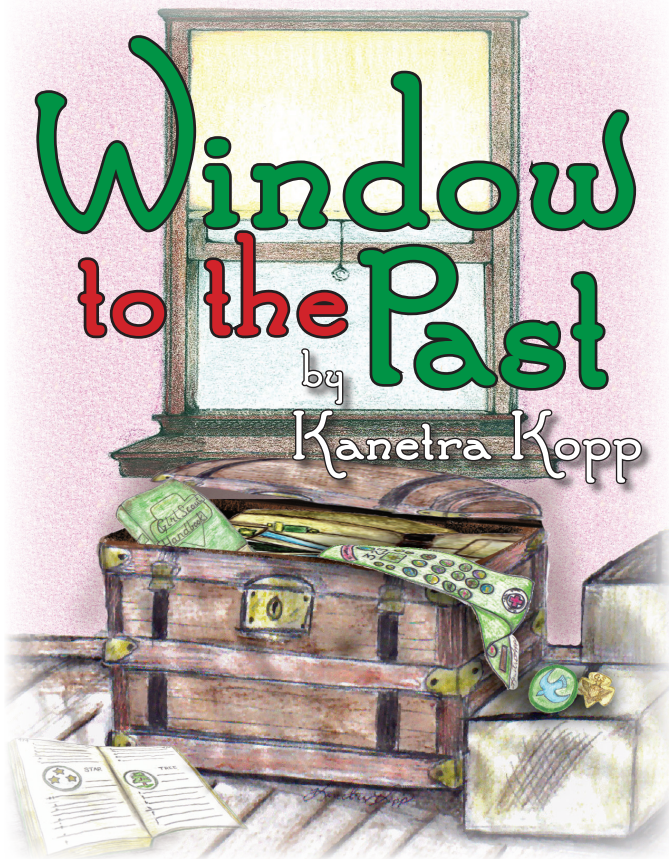


Window to the Past

by
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Chapter Three: Grandma's Girl Scout Handbook

Jenny and her grandmother looked through the trunk for the handbook. Jenny carefully laid the doll out on the floor. Next, she lifted up a bundle of old letters and underneath was a small green book. The front of it read, Girl Scout Handbook.

"Oh, you found it, Jenny!" Grandma exclaimed.

Jenny opened the cover and saw where the first page listed Grandma's name and it was

dated 1959. "This is really neat, Grandma. It has your name in it."

"Yes, it does. Let me see if I can find that badge you noticed." Grandma looked through the book. "Here's the Junior Citizenship badge." She pointed out the badge to Jenny.

Jenny read about the badge. "Grandma, you learned some of the same things I did, like how to fold the flag and perform a ceremony," Jenny said.

"Let's look for the bluebird badge, too. Is there an index, Grandma?"

"I believe so. See if you can find it, Jenny." Grandma handed Jenny the handbook. Jenny turned to the back of the book and found an index. She scanned the page and noted a badge called the Bird Finder badge. She turned to the correct page and saw a small sketch of the badge that Grandma had on her sash. "Look, Grandma, here it is."

Grandma said, "You're right, Jenny. That's the badge with the bluebird on it. What does it say you can do to earn the badge?"

Jenny read from the book. "It says to go bird watching and look for 25 different kinds of birds. That's a lot of birds!" Jenny asked, "Did you do that?"

"Yes, I think I did do that," Grandma answered.

Jenny turned the page and read some more. "Oh, here's where it says you can make two types of birdhouses."

"I know I did that step because my father showed me how to use a hammer and a handsaw," Grandma commented. "I only hit my thumb once with the hammer," she recalled, rubbing her thumb in memory. "Then, once I finally had the birdhouses built, we mounted them on two fence posts out in the yard.

I was very excited when the first bluebird made a nest in one of my houses. It was a lot of fun watching the baby birds learn to fly that spring."

Jenny suddenly had an idea. "Hey, Grandma, could we do some activities from your handbook? I think that would be lots of fun!"

"That's a wonderful idea, Jenny," Grandma said. "Go ahead and choose something in the book that you want to try," Grandma encouraged.

Jenny starting skimming through the handbook, but there were so many pages that she had a difficult time choosing something. Then she found a page with a fun-looking badge. She read some of the steps and decided this was the first thing she wanted to do. "Grandma, look at this. Can we do this first?" Jenny asked.

Jenny and her grandmother had completely forgotten about cleaning out the attic.



Things to Think About and Do

U.S. flag etiquette is an important part of citizenship. What are some other qualities of citizenship? Can you find examples in the newspaper of people being good citizens or of citizenship in action? Using the examples you find, write a short essay on what citizenship means today.

GLEs: W2A, W3A

Learn more about the Girl Scouts of the USA by visiting www.girlscouts.org

Next Week:
Chapter Four:
The Diary