## Big Splash Challenge 2023

Join Coral the dolphin as she swims, jumps, and plays her way in the "Big Splash Challenge".

Coral and her pod of dolphins are highly intelligent marine mammals that live in water and breathe through a blowhole on the top of their head. They live in the world's seas, oceans, and in some rivers too! Coral uses her powerful tail to thrust her through water at amazing speeds. She pops up to the surface to breathe a few times a minute, even the fastest swimmers need oxygen!

Coral loves hanging out with her fellow dolphin friends and live in groups called "pods". Their pods can be as large as having a thousand of them together in a superpod!

Dolphins communicate in many ways using body language and sounds including using a variety of clicks and whistles. Clicks are used to sense their surroundings through echolocation, which is sending out sound waves and then detecting and interpreting the echoes that bounce back off other creatures and objects in the water around them. This helps them get a picture of their surroundings even in murky water that is hard to see in so they can still find food!

Coral and her friends are super playful and spend most of their time playing! They sometimes swim through self-made bubble rings, play with balls, and humans! In this challenge you can learn more about water, the ocean, ways to keep water clean, and of course have fun like Coral and her pod!

If we all take little steps to care about our water and environment, we can make a Big Splash in caring for our marine friends from right here in our community!

Based on your Girl Scout level, take part in the activities listed on the following page to earn your Big Splash patch available to purchase in the GSGI shops.

## Complete the following number of activities:



## Here are some ideas to get you started! You can create your own too!

- ∧ Make homemade bubbles
- Recycle a bottle and make an ocean in it
- ∧ Make "ocean zones" in a bottle or jar
- ∧ Visit an aquarium
- ∧ Do a saltwater density experiment
- Keep our water clean with adult help by making sure your automobile isn't leaking fluids
- Clean up trash in areas where water drains (storm grates, curb, ditches, etc.)
- Play Marco Polo (think echolocation using sound to find a target)
- Play a game of charades; include clicks and whistles with body language in your game

- ∧ Try kayaking or paddleboarding
- ∧ Play a game of seaweed tag
- ∽ Use a reusable water bottle to drink from
- Have a movie party and watch an ocean or dolphin themed film
- $\sim$  Go swimming
- Decorate a reusable bag for your shopping outings
- ∧ Build a mini boat that floats and sails
- ∽ Learn what it takes to care for a pet fish
- Share ways to keep water clean and ways to reduce use with others

Once you've completed the appropriate amount of activities for your Girl Scout level, you've earned your Big Splash patch! Stop by one of our GSGI Retail Shops to purchase your patch.



