Overview
This slide deck walks you through activities to complete all or most steps of a badge. It includes a variety of interactive activities that you can do as a troop— including video, group conversations, hands-on activities, and more. Review the full deck and notes section prior to your meeting for tips and suggestions. In addition, these first slides will outline the general meeting plan.

Depending on the length of your virtual meetings, you may choose to complete this badge over the course of 1-2 meetings. Connect with families ahead of time to let them know what materials they should have ready prior to logging in. Badges can be purchased by the troop or family in the online shop.

Materials Needed
• Notebook or scratch paper
• Writing utensil (pen, pencil, etc.)
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Overview for the Troop Leader
Comic Artist Badge
Step 1: Delve into the world of comics
Step 2: Choose a story to tell
Step 3: Draw it out
Step 4: Frame it in four panels
Step 5: Add the words
Open your meeting with the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

**Girl Scout Promise**

On my honor, I will try:
To serve God* and my country,
To help people at all times,
And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

*Members may substitute the word God in accordance with their own spiritual beliefs.
Open your meeting with the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Girl Scout Law

I will do my best to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do, and to respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.
Ice Breaker!

What’s your favorite comic book or film/tv show adaptation?

Icebreaker question: Choose one person to start, then “popcorn” to the next person to keep it going.
How to earn the badge

1. Delve into the world of comics
2. Choose a story to tell
3. Draw it out
4. Frame it in four panels
5. Add the words

When we've earned this badge, we'll know how to create our own comics!

Steps to earn the badge
Step 1: Delve into the World of Comics
Additionally, Comics are usually divided into panels (comic strips typically have 1-5 panels). The spaces between the panels are called gutters. The white balloons above the character are called speech bubbles; this is the dialogue of the story.
Step 1: Delve into the World of Comics

This video by The Root discusses the first Black Comic Heroine, Torchy Brown created by Jackie Ormes! Jackie Ormes was the first African-American cartoonist whose work debuted during the 1930's-1950's.

Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bMVkmh4nXxc
Step 1: Delve into the World of Comics

The video highlights Josie Trinidad who is an artist with Disney!

Video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lomgUWKjUxA&feature=emb_title
Choose a story to tell!

Take 5 minutes & Brainstorm

Setting
Characters
Conflict
Theme
Tone

Step 2: Choose a Story to Tell

Using a notebook and pencil or pen, take some time to brainstorm your story! Starting with these five basics can be a great way to brainstorm your story:

1. **Setting**: Every story is set somewhere. Whether fictional or real, create a world for your story to thrive.
2. **Characters**: Who will carry the dialogue? Who will interact? Your story moves with it’s characters.
3. **Conflict**: Small or big, conflict is key in a story. This is the “why” of your comic!
4. **Theme**: What are the goals of the story? What are you hoping your readers will get out of this?
5. **Tone**: What’s the vibe of your comic? Comedy? Drama? Thriller?

These 5 key components of brainstorming will help you choose and create a story!
Share your story!

Step 2: Choose a Story to Tell

Have everyone describe their story in a few sentences! Stop sharing your screen so everyone can connect over video while they share.
Let’s practice one liners!

Step 2: Choose Your Story to Tell

This comic is from the New Yorker’s Cartoon Caption Contest. Let’s practice one liners before finding out which caption one.

Bill from California won the contest with the caption, “Decaf. They can’t be far away.”
Step 3: Draw it Out

Introducing Rebecca Sugar the creator of Stephen Universe discusses the creative process.

Video link: https://youtu.be/74BxKXHgk1A
Let’s Sketch!

Step 3: Draw it Out

Like what Rebecca Sugar discussed in the video, Take 5 to 10 minutes (depending on your troop!) to sketch your story. It doesn’t have to be perfect!

Fun fact: Comic creators agree that drawing skill has little to do with comic art success, many cartoonists use simple line drawings, even stick figures, to make their points. It’s about the comic as a whole!
Step 4: Frame it in Four Panels

Time to put your sketches into frames! The image details the structure of a comic and how the “flow” of frames works. Framing your cartoons helps put the ideas into one spot and you can visualize how your comic will pan out. Framing your comic today doesn’t have to be a final draft! Use the next couple of minutes to put your sketches into frames before we add the dialogue.

Framing the comic just requires a square or rectangle around each separate scene of the story. For this meeting, the framing of your comic doesn’t have to be in a final draft version, but an opportunity to see your comic in that structure.

Take 5 minutes to frame your comic!
Step 5: Add the Words

Add dialogue to your story! You can also add color, shading, shadows, and backgrounds. Dialogue is a helpful tool in portraying your story to the reader.
You now have your very own comic! Yay! Take a few minutes for everyone to share their story with the group.
More to Explore!

Comic Careers include:
• Comic book writer and/or artist
• Comic art colorist
• Muralist
• Graphic Artist
• Editor
• Freelance Cartoonist
• & much more!

Meet Kelly Sue DeConnick who is the first women to have an extended run on the DC series Aquaman!

Video Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=6&v=7400yOdoyDk&feature=emb_logo
Interested in reading more comics and graphic novels? Here are some great ones to dig into! Boom Studios has previews of all of their comics online. This includes the Lumber Janes, Goldie Vance, Sabrina the Teenage Witch, and many more!

http://www.boom-studios.com/ or your local bookstore!
There’s a world of comics waiting for your discovery!

There’s a ton of free apps and websites that can help you create comics! Canva, Pixton, Storyboard That, Make Beliefs Comix, and Comics Club are just a few to get started with.

Moving forward, what are ways you can use comics to support yourself, friends, and community?

Some examples include:
- Use comics as a way to journal your feelings
- Gift comics to friends and neighbors showing your support
- Draw comics to show Juniors what it’s like to be a cadette, and so much more!
Yay! Y’all have earned the Comic Artist badge!

The photo above is from the Boom Studios comic, “b.b. free” a comic focused on finding your strength and your truth when the whole world is against you. Check it out at http://www.boom-studios.com/

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