Find out about desktop publishing on the Internet and the World Wide Web. Visit several Web site publishers and compare their work. Find out about online files of clip art, pictures, and fonts, and how to download them for your use. (Be sure that the files are marked for the public domain and are not copyrighted material.)

Learn how to use a scanner to transfer photos into your computer program and onto the page.

Find out about changes in desktop publishing that have happened in the last 10 years because of innovations in technology. Are there differences in production time, quality, and costs between the earlier and present methods?

Investigate two careers that relate to desktop publishing, such as a freelance desktop publisher, desktop publisher in a large organization, printing shop owner, graphic artist, fabric designer, logo designer, editor, production manager, publisher, or computer programmer. Find out the daily responsibilities involved in these careers, and what kinds of training are needed. What volunteer or apprenticeship experiences are available for on-the-job training?

Explore courses at a community college or university that would lead to careers in desktop publishing or computer-generated design.

Keep a portfolio of your best work. If you plan to go into this field, you will need to show others what you can do. Speak with an art or business teacher to get some ideas for presentation.

Start your own business in desktop publishing. Decide what you want to specialize in, develop a portfolio of your work, and make business cards with your own logo. Develop a flyer or advertise in a community newspaper. Keep track of your expenses and earnings.

Spend time with a printer or a designer. Make note of the hardware, software, and techniques that she is using in her job.

WORK ON YOUR COUNCIL'S CADETTES AND GIFT SELLER'S NEWSLETTER FOR YOUR GIRL SCOUT COMMUNITY SERVICE BAR, OR CREATE ANOTHER ORGANIZATION'S NEWSLETTER FOR YOUR COMMUNITY SERVICE BAR. Desktop publishing comes in handy in school, service, and career pursuits. Enhance your skills with these related interest projects:

- Exploring the Net
- Graphic Communications
- Public Relations
- Writing for Print
- Visual Arts
- Your Own Business