

MORE TO EXPLORE AS A JUNIOR RANGER!



Florida
State Parks

**JUNIOR
RANGER**



What's Next:

1. Take the Junior Ranger Pledge and receive your Member ID Card and Official Junior Ranger Badge.
2. Complete the 6 CORE Activities from the kit.
3. Turn in the 6 CORE Activities to the park staff to receive your Official Junior Ranger Patch!
4. Complete more activities to earn stamps in your PASSPORT.
5. Turn in your completed PASSPORT to receive your Official Junior Ranger Pin!
6. Remember, being a Junior Ranger is more fun with family and friends!



Badge



Patch



Pin

Images are not actual size



Questions? Ask a Park Ranger or visit
FloridaStateParks.org/Junior-Ranger

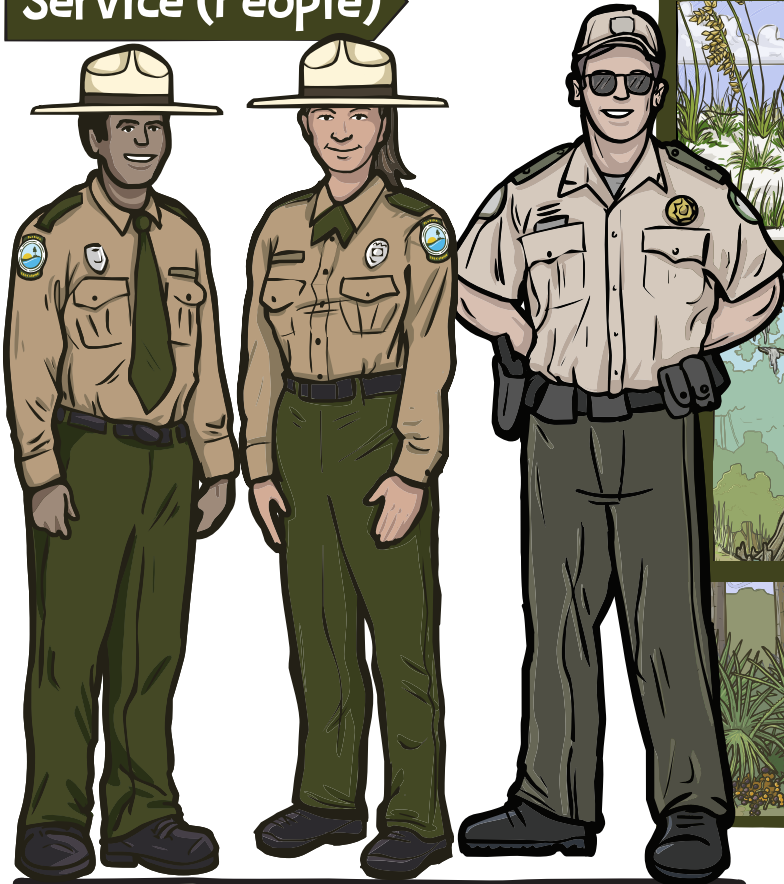
Florida State Parks
— 1 —
JUNIOR RANGER

WHO ARE WE?

Name _____

Date _____ Park _____

Service (People)



Parks (Places)



Florida Park Service

is a family of staff (rangers, biologists and managers), concessionaires, citizen support groups and volunteers like you!

Florida State Parks

are places where people who live in Florida and visitors from around the world can come and experience
...the Real Florida.SM

Part of the responsibility of the **Florida Park Service** is to study, preserve and protect the **parks**. This way, you and many others can enjoy the diverse natural and cultural resources the parks have to offer, for years to come.

Now that you know a little about us, it is time to
Explore ...the Real Florida.SM





CORE ACTIVITY #1

WHO ARE WE?

A logo is a symbol which represents an organization or a company.

Florida State Parks are part of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection which protects, conserves and manages the state's natural resources and enforces its laws.



The Florida State Parks Seal

The Florida State Parks Seal illustrates the connection between DEP and the Florida State Park Service. This logo can be found on uniformed park staff and volunteers, state vehicles and equipment, and official documents.

How many times did you spot the Florida State Parks Seal logo in the park you are visiting today? _____

The Florida State Parks Panther

The Florida Panther is a recognizable symbol of the state. This logo can be found on posters, event invitations, social media and panels that you may encounter in the park.



**FLORIDA
STATE PARKS**
...the Real FloridaSM

How many times did you spot the Florida State Parks Panther logo in the park you are visiting today? _____





An anagram is a word or phrase made from scrambled up letters of another word or phrase. Answer the questions below by unscrambling all the letters in the anagram. Make sure to put all the letters from the anagram above a blank space and cross out each letter from the word bank as you write it in your answer.

If you have a question about the park, what should you do?

anagram: **PRANK GEAR**

answer: **Ask a** _____ **r**

What is the official state tree of Florida?

anagram: **SPAM LAB**

answer: **The** _____ **L** _____ **a** _____



What is the place where an animal naturally lives?

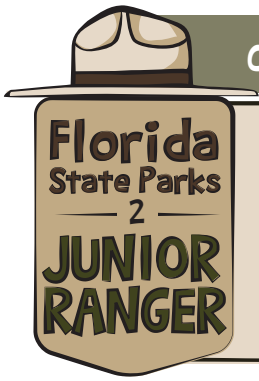
anagram: **BAIT HAT**

answer: **Its** _____

When you visit a Florida State Park, what do you experience?

anagram: **RAILROAD ELF**

answer: **The** _____



WHERE ARE WE?

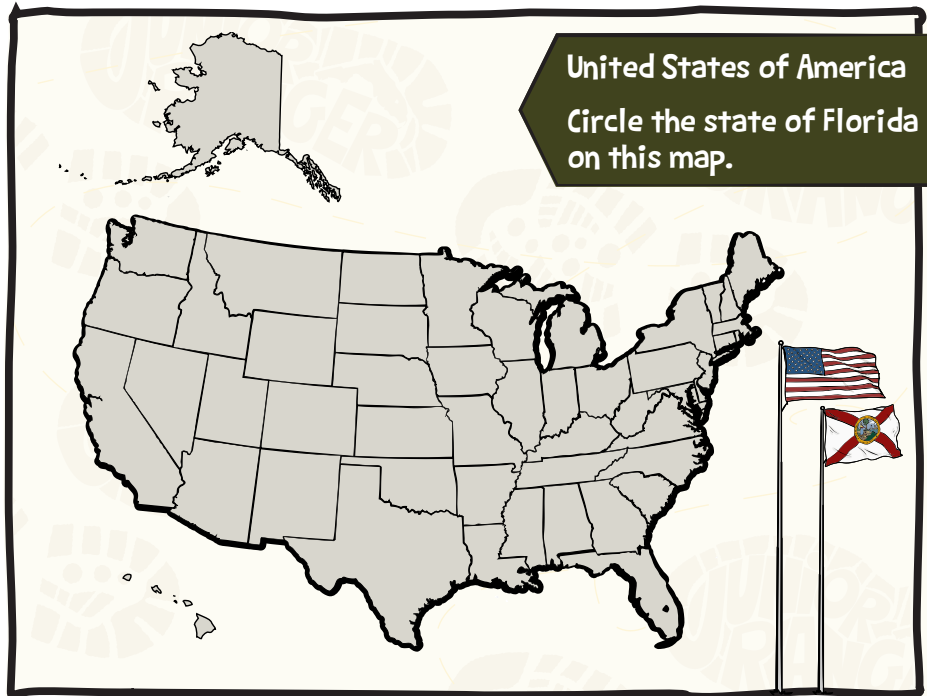
Name _____

Date _____ Park _____

The Florida Park Service supports more than **170 parks** with nearly **800,000 acres** and **100 miles** of white sandy beaches.

Examine the map of Florida on the next page. You will find the state of Florida separated into 8 regions: the **Northwest, North Central, Northeast, Central West, Central, Central East, Southwest and Southeast.**

Since state parks are scattered around the state, they represent the many different environments of Florida. If these parks were all grouped together, they would almost cover the entire state of Rhode Island!



Use the map provided on the next page to answer these questions:

1. Find and circle the park you are visiting.
2. According to the map, which region of the state are you visiting today?

3. Find and draw a triangle around the city closest to where you live or where you are staying while in Florida.

4. What are the names of three parks closest to where you live or are staying?



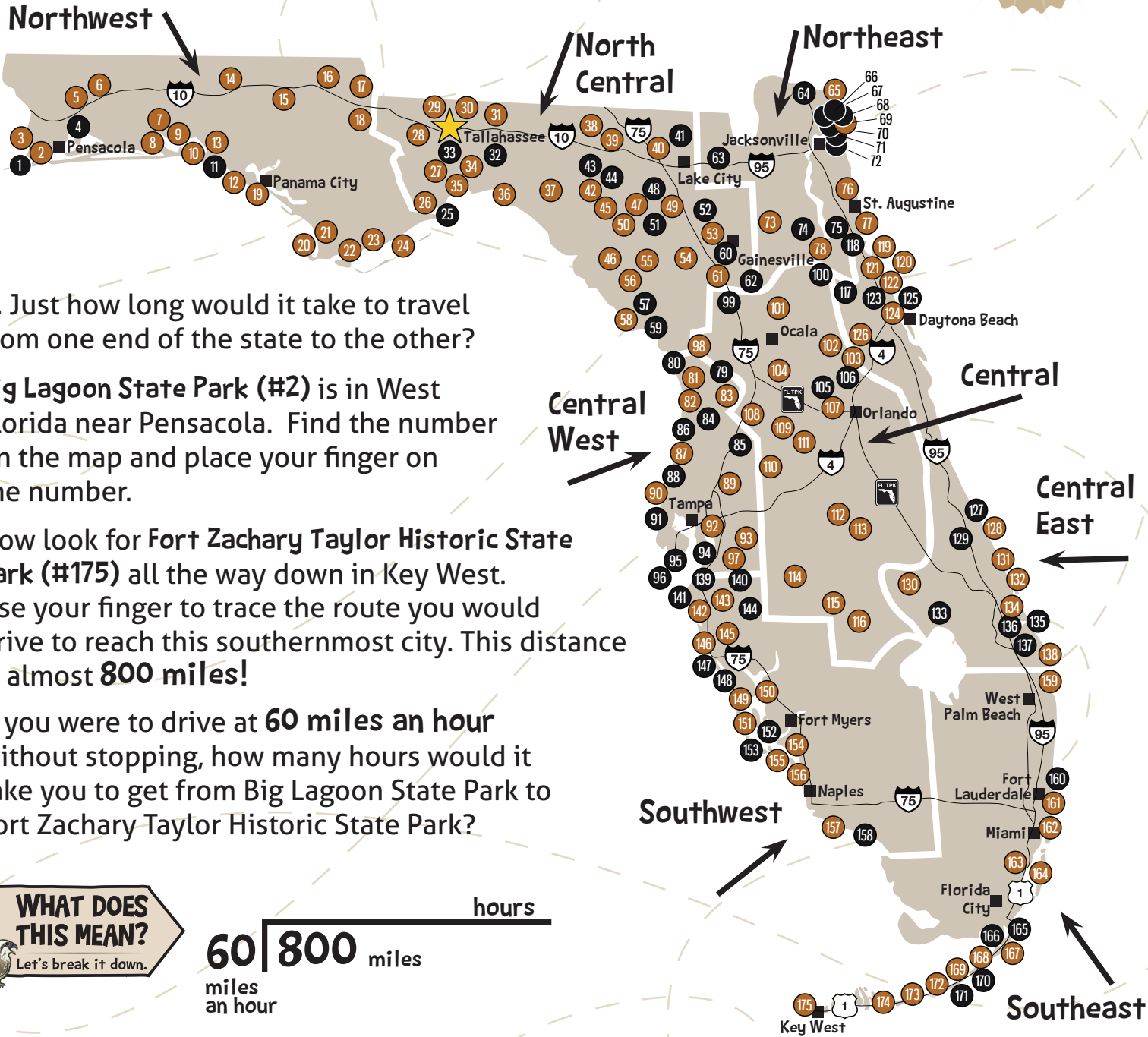
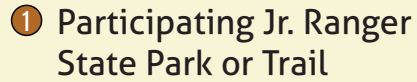
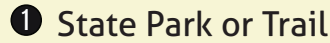
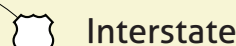
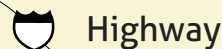
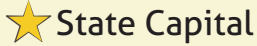


CORE ACTIVITY #2

WHERE ARE WE?

Use the map of Florida to answer the questions for this activity!

MAP LEGEND



5. Just how long would it take to travel from one end of the state to the other?

Big Lagoon State Park (#2) is in West Florida near Pensacola. Find the number on the map and place your finger on the number.

Now look for Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park (#175) all the way down in Key West. Use your finger to trace the route you would drive to reach this southernmost city. This distance is almost **800 miles!**

If you were to drive at **60 miles an hour** without stopping, how many hours would it take you to get from Big Lagoon State Park to Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park?



How much class time would this be?

- A. 1/2 a School Day
- B. 1 School Day
- C. 2 or More School Days

This is a long time to sit in the car without taking a break! Luckily there are plenty of other state parks where you can stop along the way.





CORE ACTIVITY #2

WHERE ARE WE?

Here is a list of all 175 Florida State Parks!

① State Park ① Participating Jr. Ranger * Limited Access State Park

Northwest

- ① Perdido Key State Park
- ② Big Lagoon State Park
- ③ Tarkiln Bayou Preserve State Park
- ④ Yellow River Marsh Preserve State Park
- ⑤ Blackwater Heritage State Trail*
- ⑥ Blackwater River State Park
- ⑦ Fred Gannon Rocky Bayou State Park
- ⑧ Henderson Beach State Park
- ⑨ Topsail Hill Preserve State Park
- ⑩ Grayton Beach State Park
- ⑪ Deer Lake State Park
- ⑫ Camp Helen State Park
- ⑬ Eden Gardens State Park
- ⑭ Ponce de Leon Springs State Park
- ⑮ Falling Waters State Park
- ⑯ Florida Caverns State Park
- ⑰ Three Rivers State Park
- ⑱ Torrey State Park
- ⑲ St. Andrews State Park
- ⑳ T.H. Stone Memorial St. Joseph Peninsula State Park
- ㉑ Constitution Convention Museum State Park
- ㉒ Orman House Historic State Park
- ㉓ John Gorrie Museum State Park
- ㉔ Dr. Julian G. Bruce St. George Island State Park
- ㉕ Bald Point State Park

North Central

- ②⑥ Ochlockonee River State Park
- ②⑦ Edward Ball Wakulla Springs State Park
- ②⑧ Lake Talquin State Park
- ②⑨ Lake Jackson Mounds Archaeological State Park
- ③① Alfred B. Maclay Gardens State Park
- ③② Letchworth-Love Mounds Archaeological State Park
- ③③ St. Marks River Preserve State Park
- ③④ Tallahassee-St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail
- ③⑤ Natural Bridge Battlefield Historic State Park
- ③⑥ San Marcos de Apalache Historic State Park
- ③⑦ Econfina River State Park
- ③⑧ Forest Capital Museum State Park
- ③⑨ Madison Blue Spring State Park
- ④① Suwannee River State Park
- ④② Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park
- ④③ Big Shoals State Park
- ④④ Lafayette Blue Springs State Park
- ④⑤ Suwannee River Wilderness State Trail
- ④⑥ Wes Skiles Peacock Springs State Park
- ④⑦ Troy Spring State Park

- ④⑧ Nature Coast State Trail
- ④⑨ Ichetucknee Springs State Park
- ④⑩ Ichetucknee Trace*
- ④⑪ O'Leno State Park
- ④⑫ Ruth B. Kirby Gilchrist Blue Springs State Park
- ④⑬ River Rise Preserve State Park
- ④⑭ San Felasco Hammock Preserve State Park
- ④⑮ Devil's Millhopper Geological State Park
- ④⑯ Dudley Farm Historic State Park
- ④⑰ Fanning Springs State Park
- ④⑱ Manatee Springs State Park
- ④⑲ Cedar Key Scrub State Reserve
- ④⑳ Cedar Key Museum State Park
- ④㉑ Waccasassa Bay Preserve State Park
- ④㉒ Gainesville-to-Hawthorne State Trail
- ④㉓ Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park
- ④㉔ Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Historic State Park

Northeast

- ⑥③ Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park
- ⑥④ Fernandina Plaza Historic State Park
- ⑥⑤ Fort Clinch State Park
- ⑥⑥ Amelia Island State Park
- ⑥⑦ George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier State Park
- ⑥⑧ Big Talbot Island State Park
- ⑥⑨ Little Talbot Island State Park
- ⑦① Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park
- ⑦② Fort George Island Cultural State Park
- ⑦③ Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park
- ⑦④ Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park
- ⑦⑤ Palatka-to-Lake Butler State Trail
- ⑦⑥ Palatka-to-St. Augustine State Trail
- ⑦⑦ Fort Mose Historic State Park
- ⑦⑧ Anastasia State Park
- ⑦⑨ Ravine Gardens State Park

Central West

- ⑦⑩ Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway
- ⑧① Crystal River Preserve State Park
- ⑧② Crystal River Archaeological State Park
- ⑧③ Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park
- ⑧④ Fort Cooper State Park
- ⑧⑤ Yulee Sugar Mill Ruins Historic State Park
- ⑧⑥ Withlacoochee State Trail
- ⑧⑦ Weeki Wachee Springs State Park
- ⑧⑧ Werner-Boyce Salt Springs State Park
- ⑧⑨ Anclote Key Preserve State Park
- ⑧⑩ Hillsborough River State Park
- ⑨① Honeymoon Island State Park





CORE ACTIVITY #2

WHERE ARE WE?

- 91 Caladesi Island State Park
- 92 Ybor City Museum State Park
- 93 Alafia River State Park
- 94 Cockroach Bay Preserve State Park
- 95 Skyway Fishing Pier State Park
- 96 Egmont Key
- 97 Little Manatee River State Park

Central

- 98 Rainbow Springs State Park
- 99 Price's Scrub
- 100 Dunns Creek State Park
- 101 Silver Springs State Park
- 102 Hontoon Island State Park
- 103 Blue Spring State Park
- 104 Lake Griffin State Park
- 105 Rock Springs Run State Reserve
- 106 Lower Wekiva River Preserve State Park
- 107 Wekiwa Springs State Park
- 108 Dade Battlefield Historic State Park
- 109 General James A. Van Fleet State Trail
- 110 Colt Creek State Park
- 111 Lake Louisa State Park
- 112 Allen David Broussard Catfish Creek Preserve State Park*
- 113 Lake Kissimmee State Park
- 114 Paynes Creek Historic State Park
- 115 Highlands Hammock State Park
- 116 Lake June-in-Winter Scrub State Park

Central East

- 117 Haw Creek Preserve State Park*
- 118 Faver-Dykes State Park
- 119 Washington Oaks Gardens State Park
- 120 Gamble Rogers Memorial State Recreation Area at Flagler Beach
- 121 Bulow Plantation Ruins Historic State Park
- 122 North Peninsula State Park
- 123 Bulow Creek State Park
- 124 Tomoka State Park
- 125 Addison Blockhouse Historic State Park*
- 126 De Leon Springs State Park
- 127 Indian River Lagoon Preserve State Park*
- 128 Sebastian Inlet State Park
- 129 St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park
- 130 Kissimmee Prairie Preserve State Park
- 131 Avalon State Park
- 132 Fort Pierce Inlet State Park
- 133 Okeechobee Battlefield Historic State Park*

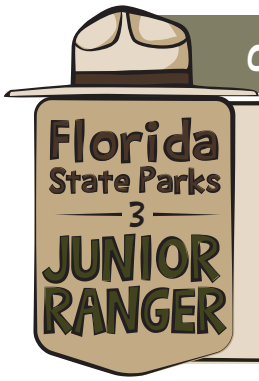
- 134 Savannas Preserve State Park
- 135 St. Lucie Inlet Preserve State Park
- 136 Seabranck Preserve State Park
- 137 Atlantic Ridge Preserve State Park*
- 138 Jonathan Dickinson State Park

Southwest

- 139 Terra Ceia Preserve State Park
- 140 South Fork State Park
- 141 Madira Bickel Mound State Archaeological Site
- 142 Judah P. Benjamin Confederate Memorial at Gamble Plantation Historic State Park
- 143 Lake Manatee State Park
- 144 Wingate Creek State Park
- 145 Myakka River State Park
- 146 Oscar Scherer State Park
- 147 Stump Pass Beach State Park
- 148 Don Pedro Island State Park
- 149 Gasparilla Island State Park
- 150 Charlotte Harbor Preserve State Park
- 151 Cayo Costa State Park
- 152 Estero Bay Preserve State Park
- 153 Mound Key Archaeological State Park*
- 154 Koreshan State Park
- 155 Lovers Key State Park
- 156 Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
- 157 Collier-Seminole State Park
- 158 Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park

Southeast

- 159 John D. MacArthur Beach State Park
- 160 Hugh Taylor Birch State Park
- 161 Dr. Von D. Mizell-Eula Johnson State Park
- 162 Oleta River State Park
- 163 The Barnacle Historic State Park
- 164 Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park
- 165 Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail
- 166 Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock Botanical State Park
- 167 John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park
- 168 Windley Key Fossil Reef Geological State Park
- 169 Lignumvitae Key Botanical State Park
- 170 Indian Key Historic State Park
- 171 San Pedro Underwater Archaeological Preserve State Park
- 172 Long Key State Park
- 173 Curry Hammock State Park
- 174 Bahia Honda State Park
- 175 Fort Zachary Taylor Historic State Park



WHAT DO WE DO?

Name _____

Date _____ Park _____

Based on our mission, our job is to give people the best chance to access and enjoy natural Florida while protecting these unique places and educating people about what makes them so special.



Mission:

Provide resource-based recreation while preserving, interpreting and restoring natural and cultural resources.



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Let's break it down.

Some important words in the mission are highlighted below. Keep reading to find out what each word means.

Recreation

includes leisure time activities or things you do when not working or at school.

Natural Resources

are features of the environment such as plant communities, geological elements, habitats and the animals living there.

Cultural Resources

are parts of the park influenced or shaped by people. These are places where people lived and practiced traditions over time, where they fought a battle or where they built an archaeological mound or historic building.

Resource-based Recreation

is when leisure time activities depend on the resources of the park. For example, walking on a trail instead of a track, sidewalk or treadmill.

There is more this way!



CORE ACTIVITY #3

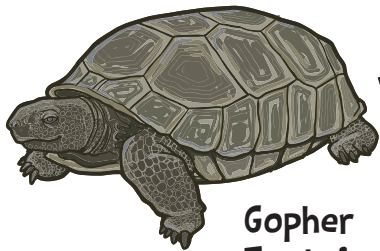
WHAT DO WE DO?

Match a natural community to the animal you are most likely to see while in the habitat. Pick the recreation you would most likely do while visiting the various natural communities. Draw lines to connect each grouping. One example has been done for you.

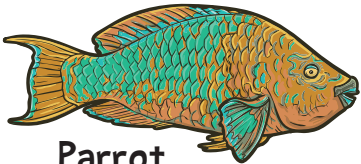
Wildlife



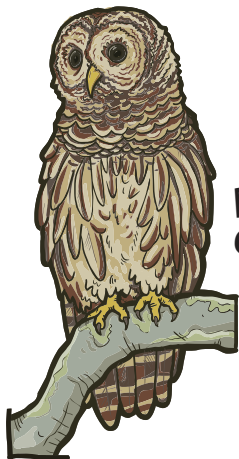
Florida Scrub Jay



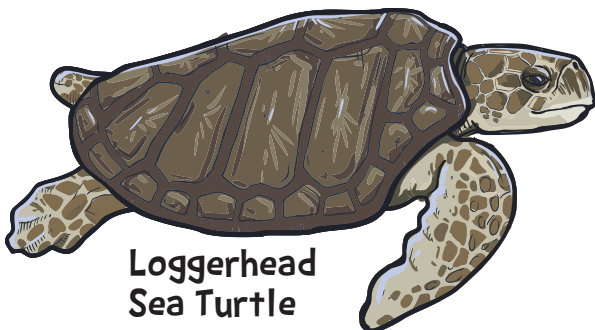
Gopher Tortoise



Parrot Fish



Barred Owl



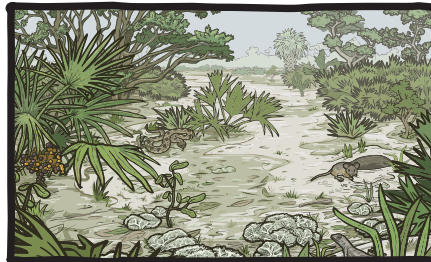
Loggerhead Sea Turtle



Hydric Hammock



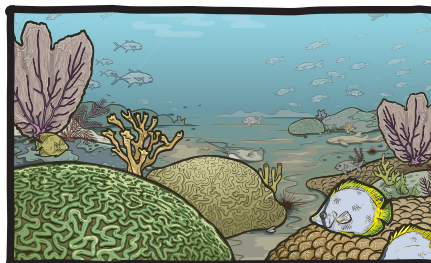
Beach



Scrub



Sandhill

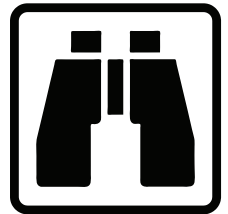


Coral Reef

Activity



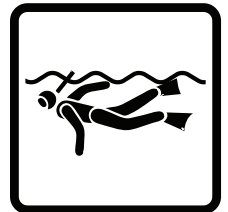
Shelling



Wildlife Viewing



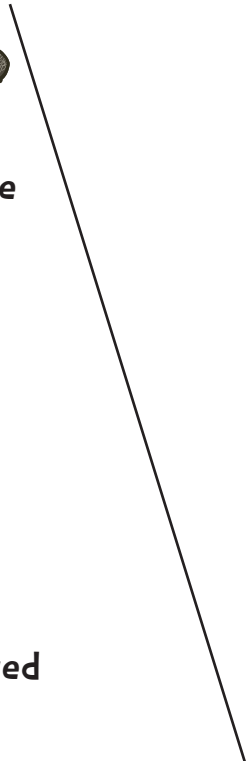
Biking



Snorkeling



Hiking



Florida State Parks
4
JUNIOR RANGER

WHAT IS A PARK RANGER?

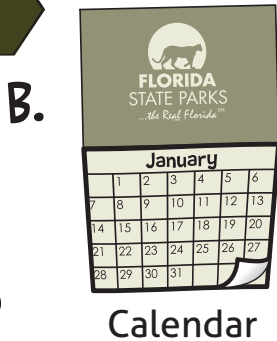
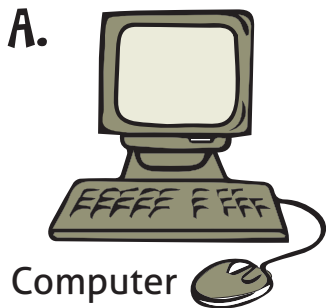
Name _____

Date _____ Park _____

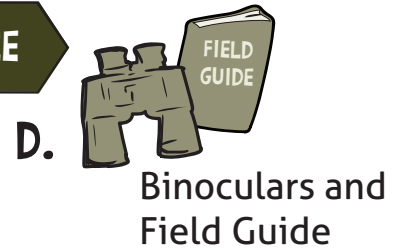
People who are excited to learn about and protect our parks often make it their job by becoming Park Rangers.

As part of the Florida Park Service family, these people are passionate about caring for the parks and use a **variety of tools** in order to help manage and protect these special places.

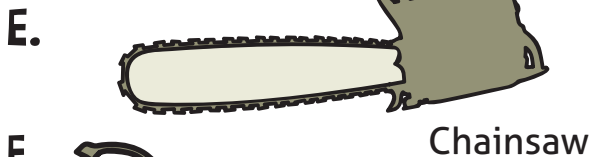
ADMINISTRATION



VISITOR SERVICE



MAINTENANCE



PROTECTION



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT





CORE ACTIVITY #4

WHAT IS A PARK RANGER?

Write the letter of the tool from the previous page next to each task described below.

- _____ I use these items when taking a group of people on a guided beach walk to help identify animals without getting too close to the wildlife.
- _____ I use this tool to help maintain a clear path down the nature trail, making it easier for visitors to follow and view nature.
- _____ I use this piece of equipment during a prescribed fire to ignite the leaf litter in a habitat where fire is needed to help maintain a balanced ecosystem.
- _____ I use this tool to collect litter visitors accidentally leave behind in the picnic area.
- _____ I use software with this tool to know which campsites are rented each night.
- _____ I use this device to confirm the location of the park boundary, in order to improve safety and protection for the park and visitors.
- _____ I use this piece of equipment to capture images, in order to interpret and protect an archaeological resource which may change over time.
- _____ I use this set of items to take visitors out on the lake and interpret how to safely enjoy a new skill.
- _____ I use this device to communicate with other park staff and volunteers to help ensure visitor safety.
- _____ I use this item to schedule when volunteers can perform service projects such as exotic plant removal in the park.

Park Rangers do all of this and so much more! Think of at least three more tools a Park Ranger uses at this park. Write the name of the tool and describe the job on the lines below.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



WHAT IS A JUNIOR RANGER?

Name _____

Date _____ Park _____

A Junior Ranger is someone who is...

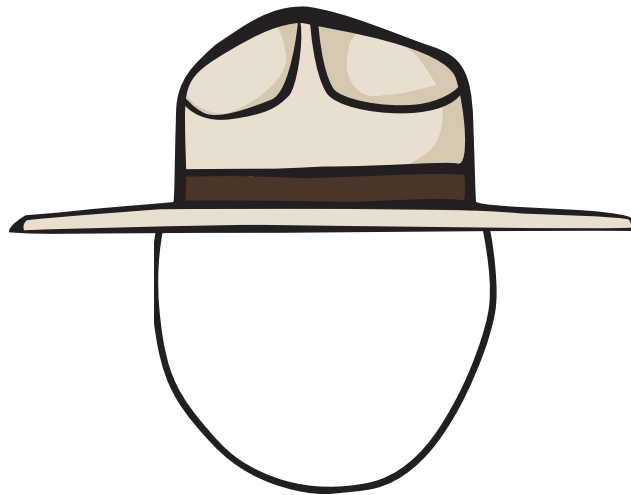
- Very Important
- Excited About Parks
- Interested in Learning
- Willing to Help
- Always Prepared and Safe



This sounds like you!

As a Junior Ranger, you will be joining together with other young people and the rest of the Florida Park Service family. As a team we will learn, share and serve the park visitors and the parks' natural and cultural resources!

Draw yourself as a Florida State Parks Junior Ranger!





CORE ACTIVITY #5

WHAT IS A JUNIOR RANGER?

You know about us, what about you? Share a little bit about you and your interests so we can get to know you as a new member of the Florida Park Service family.

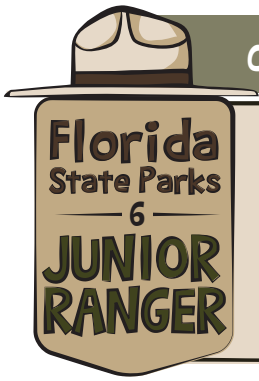
1. Why do you want to be a Junior Ranger?

2. What is the first thing you want to learn more about?

3. How do you plan to Explore...*the Real Florida*SM in this park?

4. How do you plan to help this park during your visit?

5. What can you do to spread the word about Florida State Parks?



HOW CAN WE STAY SAFE?

Name _____

Date _____ Park _____

Just as Park Rangers plan their work days, Junior Rangers need to plan their visits. To help you be prepared and stay safe, write or draw answers for today's visit in the boxes below.

WHERE? Where are you going?

WHO? Who are you going with?

WHEN? When are you going?

WHAT? What activities do you plan to do?

HOW? How will you prepare to be safe?





CORE ACTIVITY #6

HOW CAN WE STAY SAFE?

Now that you have planned your visit, review these safety tips. **Check the boxes next to the safety tips which helped you prepare for today.** Be sure to review these safety tips before each park visit.



Weather Safety - Protect yourself from the weather elements.

- Check the weather forecast for today.
- Bring lots of water to drink in order to prevent dehydration.
- Block the sun by wearing a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen even if it is cloudy.
- Bring a raincoat if the weather is calling for rain.



Insect Safety - Protect yourself from ticks and other biting insects.

- Use insect repellent on clothing.
- Tuck pant legs into socks or shoes and wear long sleeves.
- Check yourself for ticks after spending time outside.



Animal Safety - Use caution near wildlife.

- Keep a safe distance while watching wildlife.
- Avoid feeding animals in the park.
- Remember to put food away when you are not eating.



Plant Safety - Use caution around poisonous plants.

- Walk on marked trails and boardwalks.
- Steer clear of leaves and vines.
- Do not eat leaves or berries.



PARTICIPANT CARD

Please fill out this card and give it back to Park Staff so we can update you about new Junior Ranger events and activities in our parks!

JUNIOR RANGER SURVEY

1. Who brought you to the park today? Circle One:

- A. Parent or Guardian B. Family Member or a Friend C. Teacher D. Group Leader E. Other

2. What is your favorite subject in school? Circle One:

- A. Language Arts B. History C. Math D. Science E. Art

3. How many minutes do you play outside each day? Circle One:

- A. 0 to 30 minutes B. 30 to 60 minutes C. 60 to 120 minutes D. 120 minutes or more

JUNIOR RANGER INFORMATION

 Name Member Number

 Birth Month and Year - Let us help you celebrate your birthday!

GUARDIAN INFORMATION

 Parent or Guardian Name(s)

 Address City, State Zip Country

 Email Address Check this box to receive periodic updates about the Junior Ranger Program including news and activities! We promise never to share your e-mail address with anyone outside the Florida Park Service without your permission.