



## National Park Foundation Youth Programs

*It is vital that our children have a connection to America through our national parks so that they can develop the sense of pride and ownership necessary to be the future stewards of these magnificent places*



### Junior Rangers

**Junior Rangers:** Supported by the National Park Foundation, Junior Rangers is the premiere program to introduce kids and families to the treasures of the national park system. The program has three goals:

- To engage children in learning about history and nature by participating in activities that enhance their national park experience
- To extend the program's reach to underserved audiences so that all parks can establish Junior Ranger programs
- To develop and promote respect of, and appreciation for, our national treasures

**WebRangers:** America's parks offer an incredible experience full of wonder, history and excitement. But when you can't be in a park, WebRangers ([www.nps.gov/webrangers](http://www.nps.gov/webrangers)), the online extension of the Junior Ranger Program, allows kids to have an interactive experience beyond the typical park visit. Re-launched in 2005, with support from the National Park Foundation, and Best Buy Children's Foundation, WebRangers lets kids enjoy all kinds of activities—including animal quizzes, story writing and science experiments. The program encourages self-paced exploration resulting in a deep understanding of a place and an appetite to learn more.

**Junior Ranger Ambassadors:** Sponsored by the National Park Foundation, the Junior Ranger Ambassadors program brings education and design students from colleges across the nation to help parks design, deliver and promote Junior Ranger programming. They focus on making the Junior Ranger activity booklets relevant and exciting, and on developing strategies to engage under-served audiences. This past summer, grants from the Foundation brought 30 Junior Ranger Ambassadors to parks across the country.

## Junior Rangers by the Numbers

- **1960** Year the Junior Ranger program is thought to have begun
- **2.5 million** Dollars contributed by the National Park Foundation to support the Junior Ranger program
- **385,639** Junior Rangers sworn in during 2006
- **22** Minutes the average WebRanger spends on the Website per visit
- **1 million** *Junior Ranger Gazettes* distributed in national parks during National Park Week
- **90** Parks that have created or enhanced Junior Ranger programs with support from the National Park Foundation
- **1** Badge required to become an official Junior Ranger

## Electronic Field Trip Program

The National Park Foundation is proud to work with the Electronic Field Trip Program ([www.bsu.edu/efit](http://www.bsu.edu/efit)) at Ball State University (BSU) to connect school children with their national parks. Using cutting-edge technology, the National Park Foundation, BSU and the National Park Service, with additional support from the Best Buy Children's Foundation, have delivered five EFTs with two new programs scheduled for October 16, 2007 and December 4, 2007: **Tales from the Tetons: Animals and Natural Communities** at Grand Teton National Park (October 16, 2007) and **The Nine Who Made a Difference** at Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site (December 4, 2007).

### Past EFTs

- **Into the Canyon** at Grand Canyon National Park (November 2004)
- **Exploring Nature's Plumbing System** at Carlsbad Caverns National Park (April 2006)
  - During 2006 National Park Week, 37 million kids in all 50 states participated in this largest ever simultaneous visit to Carlsbad Caverns with National Park Foundation Honorary Chair, Mrs. Laura Bush
- **Freedom in America: Some Assembly Required** at Independence National Historical Park (October 2006)
- **Eruption! An Island Rising from the Sea** at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park (December 2006)
- **Desert Diamonds Behind Barbed Wire** at Manzanar National Historic Site (February 2007)

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