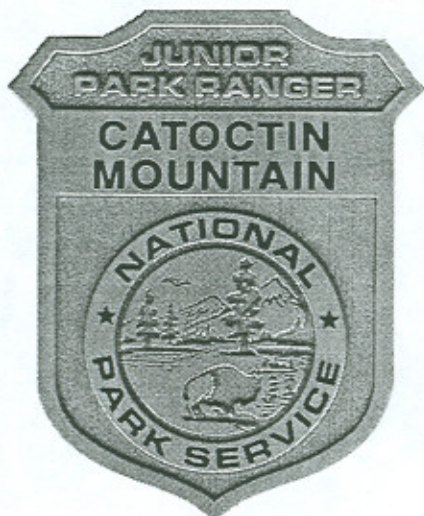




Junior Ranger Program:

Ages 6-8



To join the family of people who know and care about Catoctin Mountain Park, complete this activity booklet and become a Junior Ranger!

Name: _____ Age: _____

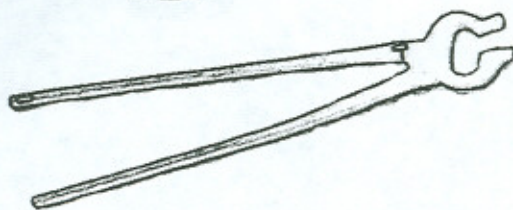
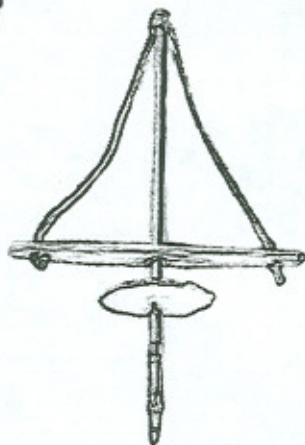
City & State: _____

Date: _____ Weather: _____

Native American Indians

The Native American Indians came to Catoctin Mountain and used the mountain's natural resources to survive. They fished, hunted deer, and gathered nuts, fruits, and berries for food.

They also gathered a special kind of rock that we call "rhyolite." Rhyolite is made of hot, melted rock that cooled very quickly. This rock tells us that Catoctin Mountain was once a volcano! If you drop a piece of rhyolite it sounds like metal. It can be chipped into shapes with sharp points, like many of the metal tools that we use today. Circle the objects that Native American Indians could have made from rhyolite:



Early Settlers

Early settlers also used the natural resources of the mountain to make their homes and to earn a living. In the museum, you can see samples of a rock that early settlers used to make their tools. _____ was melted in the Catoctin Iron Furnace to make iron. Look back at the Native American Indian page and put a square around the iron tool early settlers used in the blacksmith shop.

Trees were cut down and sawed into lumber and boards to make houses and furniture. How many different saws can you find in the exhibit room? _____

Draw a line between the job of an early settler and the natural resource found on the mountain that they used.

Sawyer
Blacksmith
Farmer
Collier (Charcoal maker)
Iron Furnace worker
Distiller

Iron Ore
Corn
Trees
Soil
Trees
Iron

Now take a moment to look at the display of animals found in this forest. Read the clues below and list the animal from the display that matches (some answers have more than one match):

1. This animal lives in a tree: _____
2. This animal lives under a rock: _____
3. This animal hunts insects at night: _____
4. This animal sleeps under bushes: _____
5. This animal eats insects: _____

Hungry for Habitat

The animals that live in the forest are considered natural resources just like the trees, water, soil, and rocks. The place where an animal can find food, water, and shelter close together is called a habitat. To live, each animal makes a home (or shelter) where it can find all of these things. Sometimes when animals live in the same habitat they eat the same food.

Play the game below to see how food affects deer and squirrels. Flip a coin and draw a line from the animal to the acorn. (Heads = squirrel gets 1 acorn, Tails = deer gets 2 acorns.)

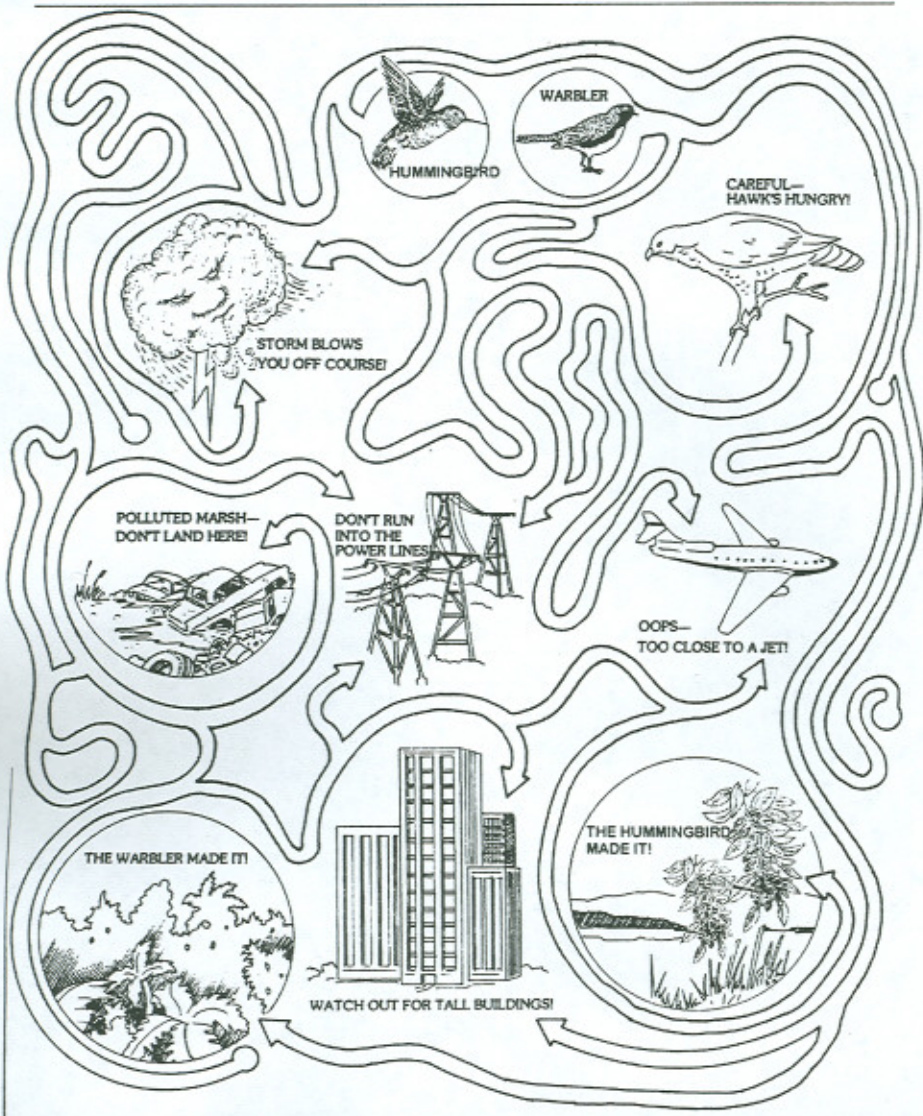


Was anyone left hungry? _____

If so, who? _____

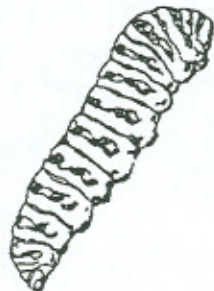
Migration Maze

Some animals migrate or move to find different habitats since one place may not have everything they need to live all year. Bird migration occurs in the spring and fall each year at Catoctin Mountain Park. As the seasons change, many different birds travel to another habitat (some as far as South America) to find food and a place to raise their young. Help the migrating birds below find a safe path to their winter habitat:



Is it an Insect?

Can you identify the insects in the group of critters below? Adult insects usually have the following characteristics: six legs, three main body parts, two antennae, and wings. Circle the adult insects and put a square around the baby butterfly.



Insects help us by:

- Pollinating plants, especially fruits.
- Providing honey, wax, and silk.
- Providing food for animals, especially birds and fish.
- Telling us if water quality is good.

Circle if you **LIKE** or **DISLIKE** insects.

Why? _____

Insects hurt us by:

- Eating important crops.
- Spreading plant diseases.
- Transmitting diseases to people and other animals.
- Biting or stinging.

What am I?

Do you know the difference between an amphibian and a reptile? Here's a riddle for you to solve to answer the question "what am I?":

- I have no hair or feathers
- I usually have slimy skin
- I am cold-blooded (body temperature is maintained by outside temperature)
- I lay eggs
- I am the first to be hurt by pollution
- I breathe through my skin...

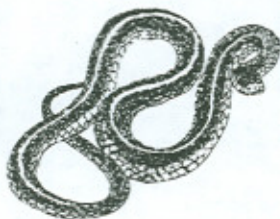
What am I?

(circle any animal that answers the riddle)

AMPHIBIAN



REPTILE



True or False?

- _____ Reptiles and amphibians are "icky".
- _____ Lizards and snakes are slimy.
- _____ If you handle a toad, you'll get warts.
- _____ Farmers should get rid of all snakes in their barns.

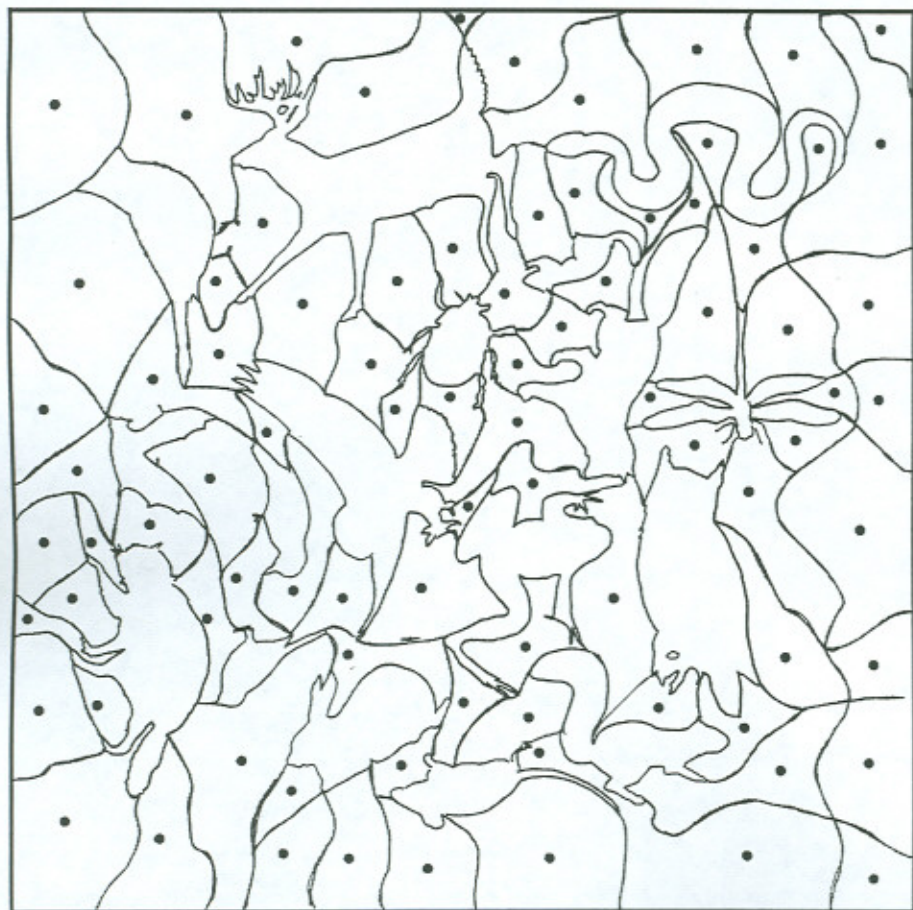
Masters of Camouflage

Animals are the masters of camouflage. As you walk along the trails, you may pass several animals and never even see them! Listed below are some of the animals found in the park. Try your best to find the animals hidden in the puzzle by shading in the areas that have a dot. Good luck!

Dragonfly
Barred Owl
Cardinal
Beetle
Woodpecker
Fox

Deer
Raccoon
Warbler
Squirrel
Chipmunk
Great Horned Owl

Rabbit
Snake
Mouse
Frog
Bat



Always
remember...

Outdoor Safety!

Using the clues below, fill in the blanks to find out how to be safe in the park.

As Tanya began to prepare for her hike, she put on

her _____, _____, and _____.



_____ repellent, _____, and a whistle. She was



careful at her camp to put out the _____ and secure

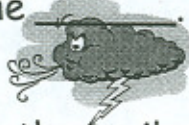


the food from _____.



Tanya and her hiking buddy picked up a trail map at the visitor center and

asked the Park Ranger about the _____.



The Park Ranger reminded her to stay on the trails to avoid

_____ and the occasional _____.



Remember, staying safe is the best way to have fun!

Know Your Signs

Signs with symbols help us to safely use and enjoy the Park today. These symbols help visitors who cannot read or who do not know the English language. Draw a line from the symbol to the word or words that tell its message. Then put a check next to each symbol you find on the big park map near the information desk (Hint: not all symbols below are on the park map).



Hiking or Trail

Camping

Telephone

Horse Trail

Information

Picnic Area

First Aid

Bathrooms

Ranger Station

Parking

Scenic View



Think of an item you have seen in the park that is not in the list above. Now create your own symbol to indicate that item (example: slippery rocks, snake crossing):

Name of item



Draw symbol here

Forest Detective

After a long time, people used up the natural resources of this forest. Many trees were cut down to make charcoal, lumber for houses and furniture, and tree bark was used to tan leather. With the help of several groups, the forest you see today is much like it was before the settlers arrived in 1732, more than 270 years ago.

The last step in completing your Junior Ranger application is to take a short hike on one of the trails below:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TRAILHEAD</u>	<u>LENGTH</u>
Whiskey Still Trail	Visitor Center	1/2 mile
Charcoal Trail	Thurmont Vista Parking	1/2 mile
Spicebush Nature Trail	Chestnut Picnic Area	1/4 mile
Brown's Farm Trail	Owens Creek Picnic Area	1/2 mile
Hog Rock Nature Trail	Hog Rock Parking	1/2 mile
Deerfield Nature Trail	Owens Creek Campground	1.5 miles

Use your detective skills to find clues or evidence of the people who used to live here and the animals that live here now. Circle the items you find along the way:

chewed leaf or acorn	insect sounds	bird nest
snake skin	stone fence	chimney
whiskey still	charcoal hearth	well
woodpecker holes	birds singing	cellar pit
house foundation	footbridge	wood sled

Junior Ranger Pledge

I, _____
(your name)

have completed all the requirements to become an official Catoctin Mountain Park Junior Ranger.

I promise to protect all natural and historical objects found in parks and to help the environment by doing the following ten things whenever I can:

1. Recycle at home and talk to your teacher about recycling in your classroom.
2. Always put trash in its place and pick up one piece of litter every day.
3. Save water (for example: turn off water when brushing your teeth, this can save several gallons of water and take shorter showers).
4. Use reusable containers in your lunchbox and at home.
5. Turn off lights, televisions, and radios when not in use.
6. Plant a tree or native plant in your garden.
7. Give outgrown toys and clothes to someone who can use them.
8. Ride a bike or walk when you can.
9. Cut six-pack soda plastic rings.
10. Volunteer with a group to clean up your school, parks, and natural areas.

