

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

Be a Junior Ranger

Amazing Adventures in
Texas State Parks



BASTROP STATE PARK	BLANCO STATE PARK	BUESCHER STATE PARK	FANTHORP INN STATE HISTORIC SITE
GOVERNMENT CANYON STATE NATURAL AREA	GUADALUPE RIVER STATE PARK	HONEY CREEK STATE NATURAL AREA	HUNTSVILLE STATE PARK
INKS LAKE STATE PARK	LAKE SOMERVILLE STATE PARK, BIRCH CREEK	LAKE SOMERVILLE STATE PARK, NAILS CREEK	LOCKHART STATE PARK
LONGHORN CAVERN STATE PARK	McKINNEY FALLS STATE PARK	MONUMENT HILL AND KREISCHE BREWERY STATE HISTORIC SITES	MOTHER NEFF STATE PARK
PALMETTO STATE PARK	PEDERNALES FALLS STATE PARK	SEBASTOPOL HOUSE STATE HISTORIC SITE	STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE PARK AND SAN FELIPE STATE HISTORIC SITE
WASHINGTON-ON- THE-BRAZOS STATE HISTORIC SITE	WASHINGTON-ON- THE-BRAZOS SHS – BARRINGTON LIVING HISTORY FARM		

Be a

Junior Ranger

A program for children ages 6 to 12

It is the mission of Texas Parks and Wildlife to manage and conserve the natural and cultural resources of Texas and to provide hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

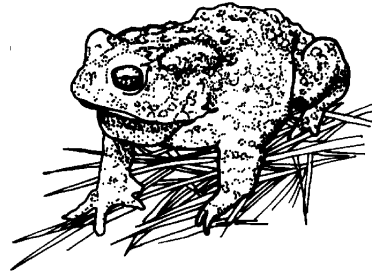
Welcome to BASTROP STATE PARK

Houston Toad Wordsearch




Read the following information about the Houston Toad. The words in capital letters are hidden in the wordsearch. Can you find them? Good luck.

The HOUSTON TOAD is an ENDANGERED AMPHIBIAN that lives in the POST OAK SAVANNAH region of Central TEXAS. Areas of deep sandy SOIL provide HABITAT for this toad. Houston Toads BURROW into loose sandy soil when the weather is cold and dry (HIBERNATION) or hot and dry (aestivation). Houston Toads need native plants for COVER and FORAGING (feeding) habitat. Plants include: YAUPON, and native Bunchgrasses such as Little Bluestem.




Today, BIOLOGISTS and LANDOWNERS are working together in seeking ways to help the Houston Toad. Conservation of native vegetation and natural breeding ponds, and management of the remaining habitat using planned GRAZING and controlled FIRE, is important. Since the largest population of Houston Toads occurs in BASTROP County, communities such as Bastrop are working hard to prevent urban development from harming the Houston Toad.

E	N	D	A	N	G	E	R	E	D	A	M	P	H	I	B	I	A	N	N
C	A	R	C	E	L	S	T	S	I	G	O	L	O	I	B	T	P	G	B
V	L	A	N	D	O	W	N	E	R	S	N	S	U	J	E	R	I	F	N
					N	W	C	F	N	K	A	O	T	S	O	P			
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									C	B	O	V	I	G	F	V	M	X	B



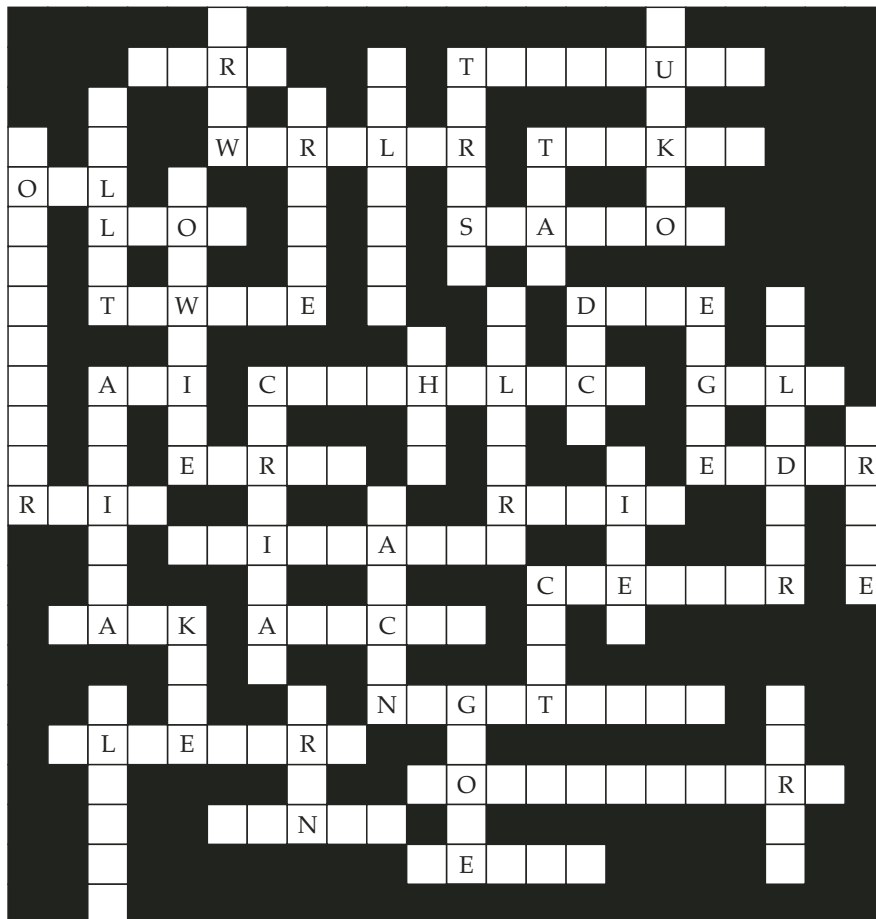
Yaupon



Little Bluestem

Welcome to
BLANCO STATE PARK

Bird Scrabble



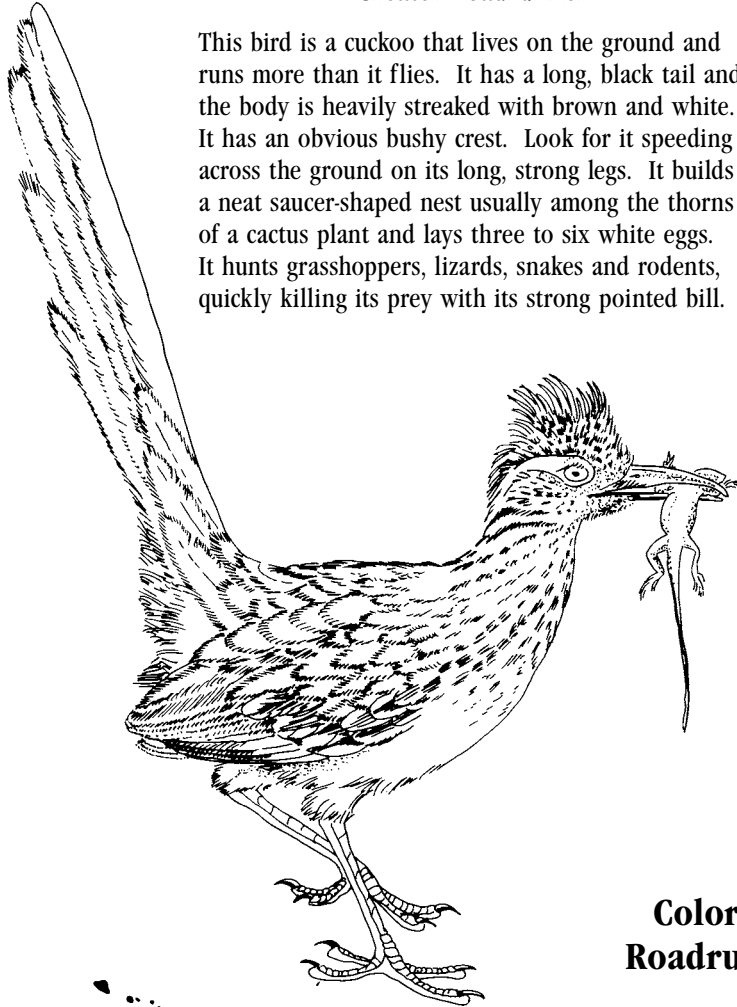
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|------------|---------|-------------|------------|----------|
| ANHINGA | CRANE | FINCH | ORIOLE | TERN |
| ANI | CREEPER | GOOSE | OWL | THRUSH |
| AVOCET | CROW | GULL | PELICAN | TITMOUSE |
| BLUEBIRD | CUCKOO | HERON | PEWEE | TOWHEE |
| BOBWHITE | DOVE | KILLDEER | PLOVER | TURKEY |
| CARDINAL | DUCK | KITE | RAIL | VIREO |
| CHACHALACA | EAGLE | LARK | ROADRUNNER | VULTURE |
| CHAT | EGRET | LOON | ROBIN | WARBLER |
| CHICKADEE | EIDER | MOCKINGBIRD | SPARROW | WILLET |
| COOT | FALCON | NIGHTHAWK | TEAL | WREN |

**Welcome to
BUESCHER STATE PARK**

Greater Roadrunner



This bird is a cuckoo that lives on the ground and runs more than it flies. It has a long, black tail and the body is heavily streaked with brown and white. It has an obvious bushy crest. Look for it speeding across the ground on its long, strong legs. It builds a neat saucer-shaped nest usually among the thorns of a cactus plant and lays three to six white eggs. It hunts grasshoppers, lizards, snakes and rodents, quickly killing its prey with its strong pointed bill.

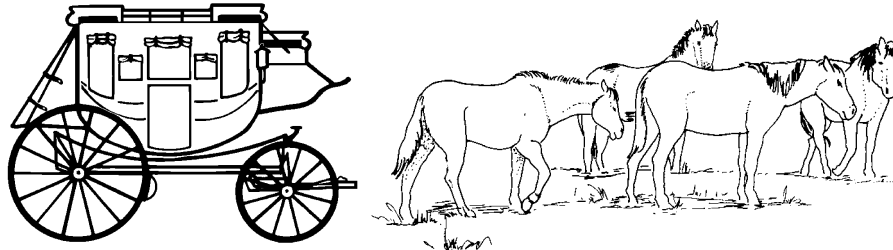


**Color the
Roadrunner!**



Full-sized track

**Welcome to
FANTHROP INN STATE HISTORIC SITE**



Early visitors to Texas were seldom complimentary in their views of transportation or accommodations in Texas. Travelers took their ease wherever they could in the very earliest days of the Republic, and most often found themselves in the cramped log houses of early settlers. By the eve of the Civil War, however, most towns in Texas had one or more inns that took paying guests on a regular basis, for the most part accommodations had improved. The Fanthorp Inn started out as one of those hospitable homes that were open to early travelers.



Fanthorp Inn Wordsearch

Find the words in the puzzle.
They may be backwards,
diagonal, across, up or down.

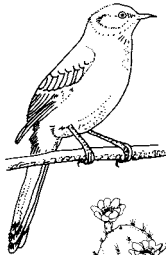
- FANTHROP**
- HENRY**
- RACHAEL**
- LOG HOUSE**
- KITCHEN**
- STAGECOACH**
- MOLASSES**
- DOMINOES**
- DOG TROT**
- AXE**
- CISTERN**
- PUNKAHS**
- CELLER**
- INN**

Y	L	O	G	H	O	U	S	E	A	S
S	R	N	E	H	C	T	I	K	T	B
D	E	N	C	D	E	F	E	A	G	H
O	R	O	E	I	J	X	G	K	L	M
G	E	N	H	A	E	O	P	Q	R	
T	L	I	S	I	C	T	U	V	W	Z
R	L	N	A	O	M	B	C	D	E	F
O	E	N	A	G	H	O	I	J	K	L
T	C	C	M	N	O	P	D	Q	R	S
T	H	M	O	L	L	A	S	S	E	S
P	R	O	H	T	N	A	F	U	V	W
R	A	C	H	A	E	L	Z	A	B	C
D	E	S	H	A	K	N	U	P	F	G

**Welcome to
GOVERNMENT CANYON STATE NATURAL AREA**

Open by special appointment only

Unscramble the words to find the state symbols of Texas. Draw a line to the image.



State Bird
bonkmirdcig



State Large Mammal
hrnloong



State Dinosaur
Pleurocoelus

State Small Mammal
dednab-enin ollidamra



State Flying Mammal
eerf-deliat tab canixem



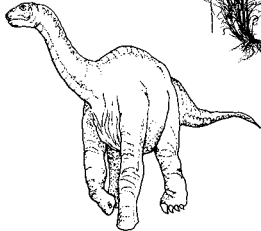
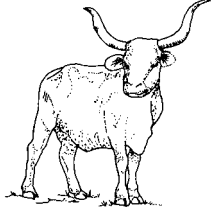
State Fish
sabs puagudle



State Flower
tuelnobebn



State Plant
ylkcirp raep



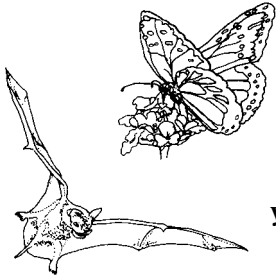
State Food
hicil

State Reptile
darzil denorh

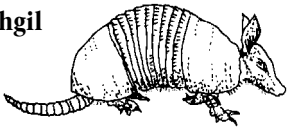


State Gemstone
zapot eulb saxet

State Seashell
klehw gninthgil



State Grass
desitasa marga



State Tree
cepan

State Insect
ylfrettub chmaron

State Wood
edifirtep doowmlap

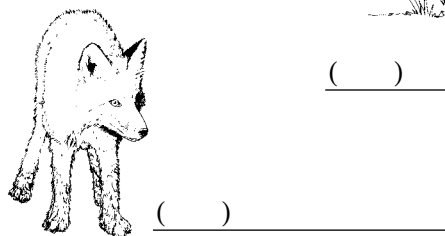
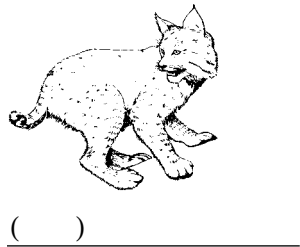
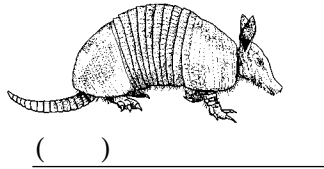
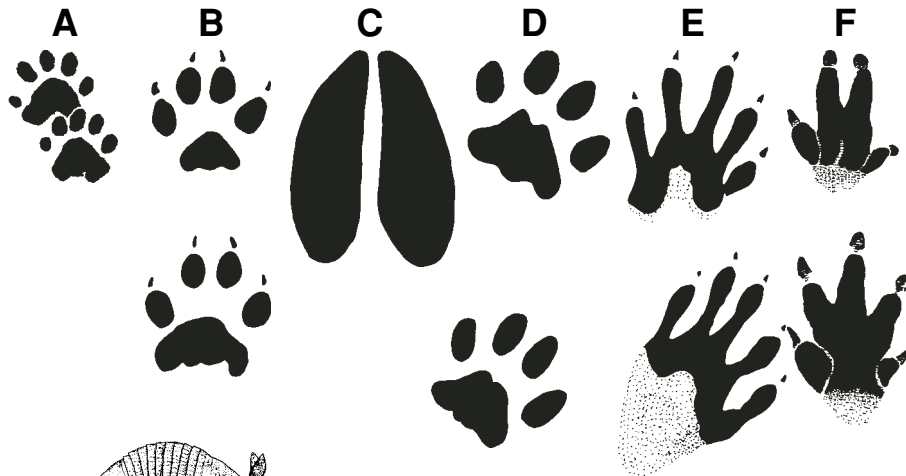


**Welcome to
GUADALUPE RIVER STATE PARK**

Animal Tracks

The Animals below are commonly seen at Guadalupe River State Park. Some can be seen only at night, while others only the tracks can be seen.

Fill in the names and number the tracks that goes with each animal.

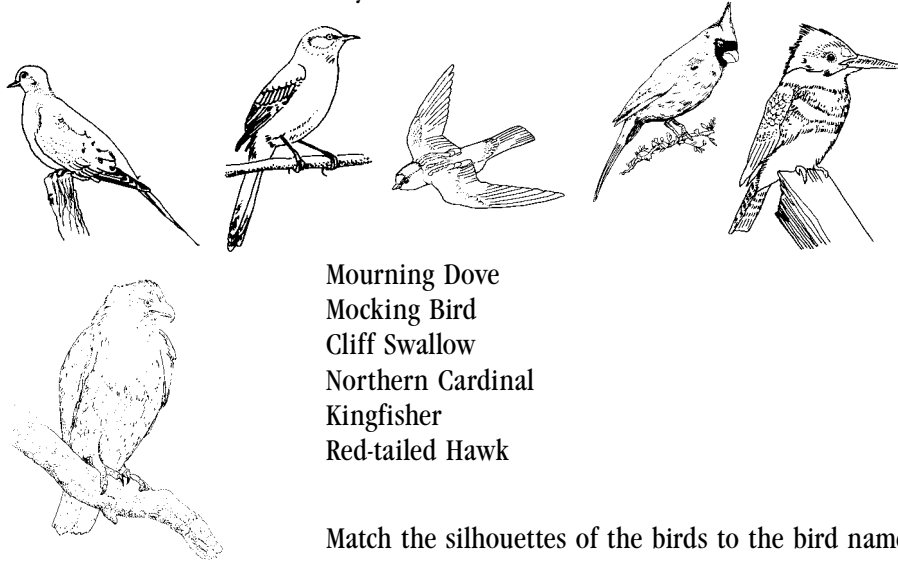


Welcome to HONEY CREEK STATE NATURAL AREA

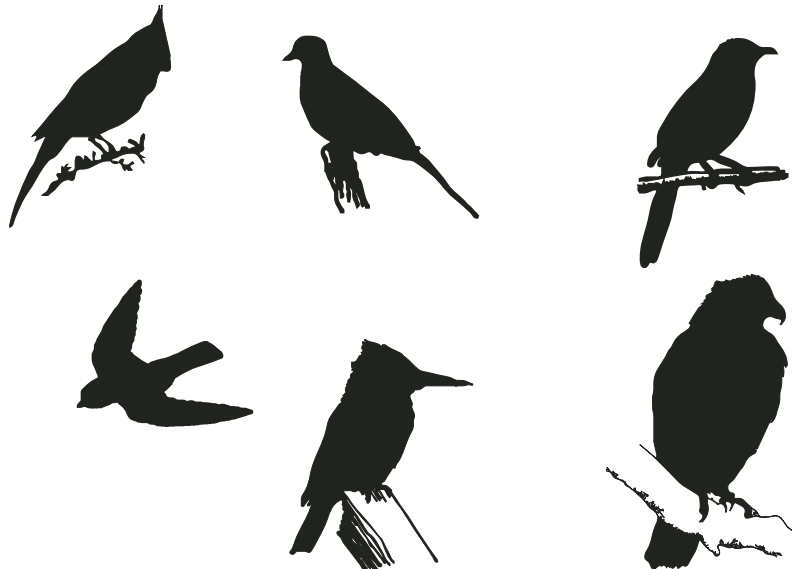
Honey Creek is a very fragile and unique ecosystem found in the Texas Hill Country. With many different wildlife species, birds are the most abundant wildlife you will see in Honey Creek State Natural Area.

Bird Silhouettes

A silhouette is a likeness cut from dark material and mounted on a light ground or one sketched in outline and solidly colored in.



Match the silhouettes of the birds to the bird name.

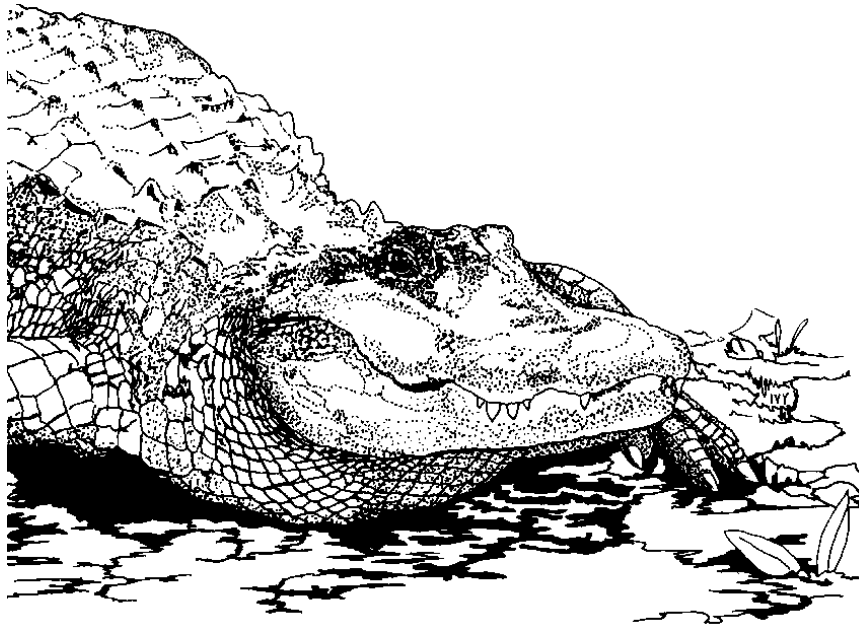


Welcome to HUNTSVILLE STATE PARK

Follow these Alligator Etiquette rules.



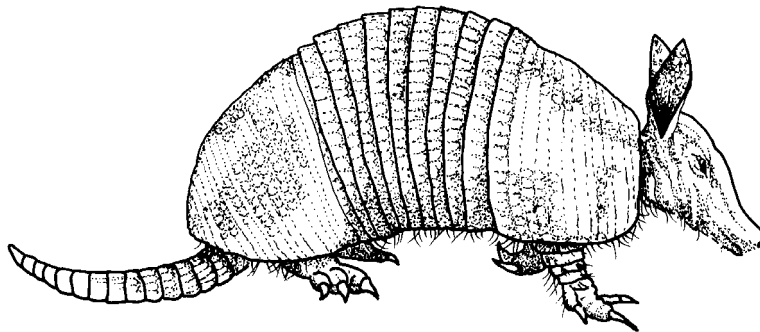
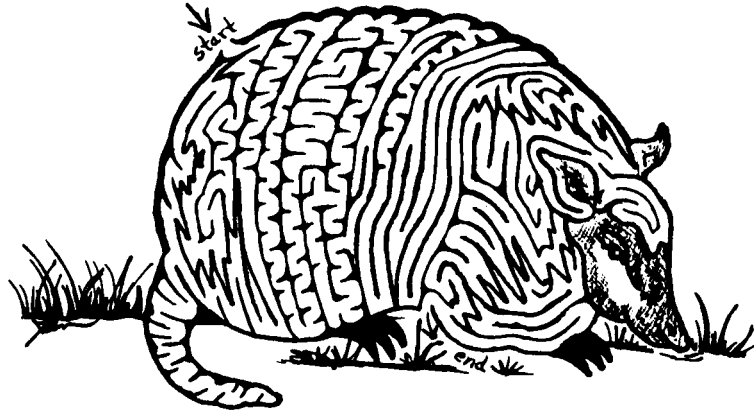
1. Absolutely do not feed or annoy alligators.
2. If you love your pet, keep it on a leash.
3. Do not assume alligators are slow-moving or sluggish.
4. Keep a safe distance at all times – at least 30 feet from any alligator.
5. If you hook a fish, an alligator may go after your catch.
6. When an alligator stands its ground, opens its mouth and hisses, you have come too close.



Alligator

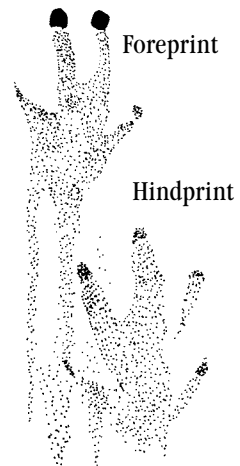
Alligators live in and around Lake Raven. Watch for two knobby eyes and two nostrils sticking out of the water. When you see those, that means the rest of the alligator is just below the surface. They may sometimes be seen swimming in the lake across from the Prairie Branch fishing pier.

Welcome to
INKS LAKE STATE PARK



Nine-banded Armadillo

The Spanish conquistadors named this strange North American mammal “littleman in armor.” The Nine-banded Armadillo is the unofficial mascot of Texas. It spends most waking hours digging for food—mostly beetles, ants, termites and earthworms—and grunting almost constantly. When the female gives birth, she always has four identical young. Of the 20 different kinds of armadillo, this is the only one found in the U.S. The others live in South America.



**Welcome to
LAKE SOMERVILLE STATE PARK, BIRCH CREEK**

Can you find the common names of these trees and shrubs at Birch Creek?

The list below contains the scientific names of native trees and shrubs found along the nature trail at Birch Creek State Park. Using the plant guide list obtained at park headquarters, identify and write down the common name next to its scientific name.

Ask a staff member to help you identify this plant.

This is an _____



example: *Bumelia lyciodes* – Gum Bumelia

Yes, but also called **Buckthorn Bumelia**

Quercus virginiana – _____

Vaccinium arboreum – _____

Ilex vomitoria – _____

Quercus marilandica – _____

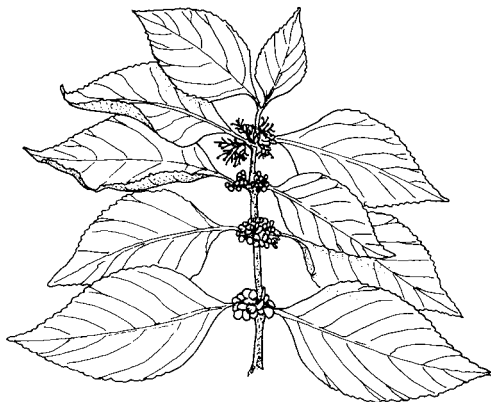
Quercus stellata – _____

Ulmus alata – _____

Carya texana – _____

Juniperus virginiana – _____

Callicarpa americana – _____



American Beauty-berry



Live Oak

Eastern Red-cedar

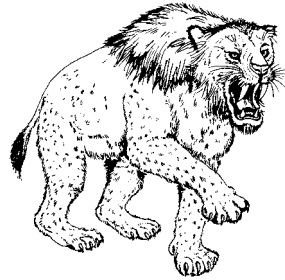
**Welcome to
LAKE SOMERVILLE STATE PARK, NAILS CREEK**

Endangered Wildlife of Texas

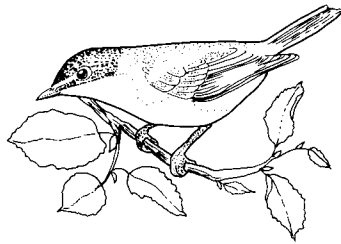
You will never see a saber-tooth tiger or a dodo bird. These animals are **extinct**.

The animals below are not extinct, but they are in danger of becoming extinct. They are **endangered**. There may not be enough of them to reproduce.

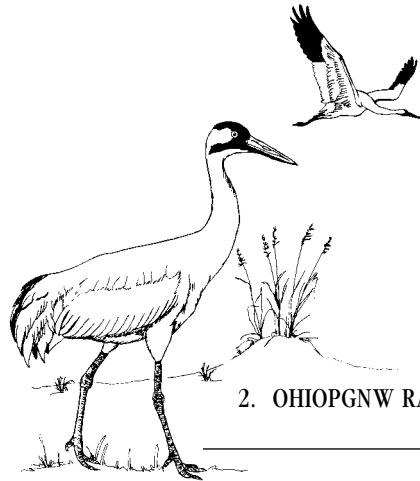
Unscramble the words to find the names of the endangered species.



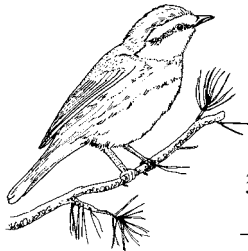
Saber-toothed tiger became extinct about 10,000 years ago.



1. KLABC-DAPPEC ORIEV



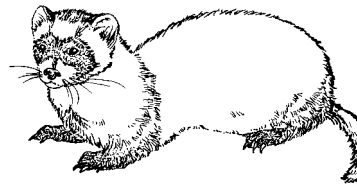
2. OHIOPGNW RACEN



3. DOELGN-DEEKHEC LAWBRER



4. UNOTSOH DTAO



5. LKABC-TOOFED TERFER

Welcome to LOCKHART STATE PARK



Help the golfball reach the 9th hole.

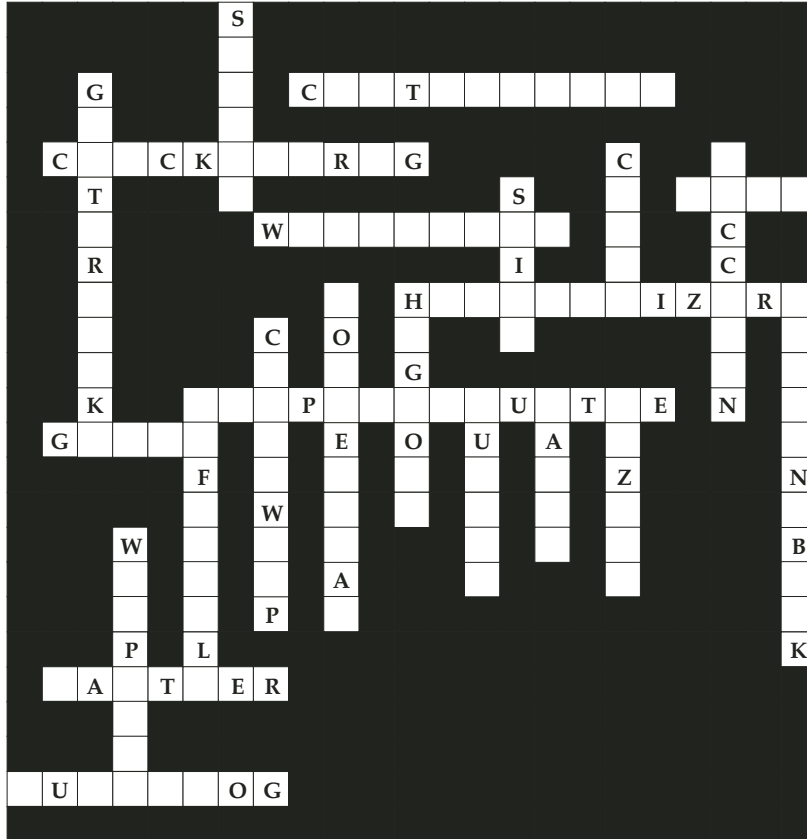
Follow the "9" line of the golfball. Solve the equations, if it equals "9" continue on that line until you reach the 9th hole.

$1+1=$
 $1+8=$
 $18-9=$
 $3+6=$
 $4-2=$
 $2+2=$
 $7+2=$
 $6+6=$
 $2+2+5=$
 $4-2=$
 $3 \times 3=$
 $4+4=$
 $1-6=$
 $2+6=$
 $11-2=$
 $2+2=$
 $15-7+1=$

The city of Lockhart and Caldwell County donated 264 acres to the state in 1933, and the Civilian Conservation Corps, Company 3803, developed the park between 1935 and 1939. A park residence was designed and built of stone and half-timbering, resembling European-immigrant architecture, in Central Texas. A wooden frame refectory overlooks the park from a cliff, reached by a winding road cut by CCC labor. The valley below, lush elm, oak, ash and pecan trees, was landscaped with picnic facilities, stone bridges, a swimming pool and a golf course.

Welcome to LONGHORN CAVERN STATE PARK

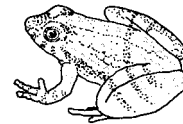
Reptiles and Amphibians Puzzle



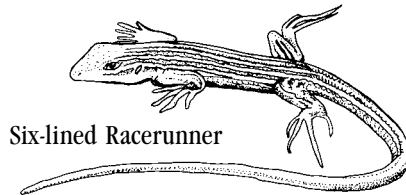
Texas Horned Lizard

- BULLFROG
- COACHWHIP
- COPPERHEAD
- CORAL
- COTTONMOUTH
- CRICKETFROG
- DIAMONDBACK
- GARTERSNAKE
- GECKO
- HOGNOSE
- HORNEDLIZARD
- LIZARD
- MOCCASIN
- RACER
- RATTLER

- SKINK
- SLIDER
- SNAPPINGTURTLE
- SOFTSHELL
- TOAD
- TURTLE
- WHIPSNAKE
- WHIPTAIL



Blanchard's
Cricket Frog



Six-lined Racerunner

**Welcome to
McKINNEY FALLS STATE PARK**



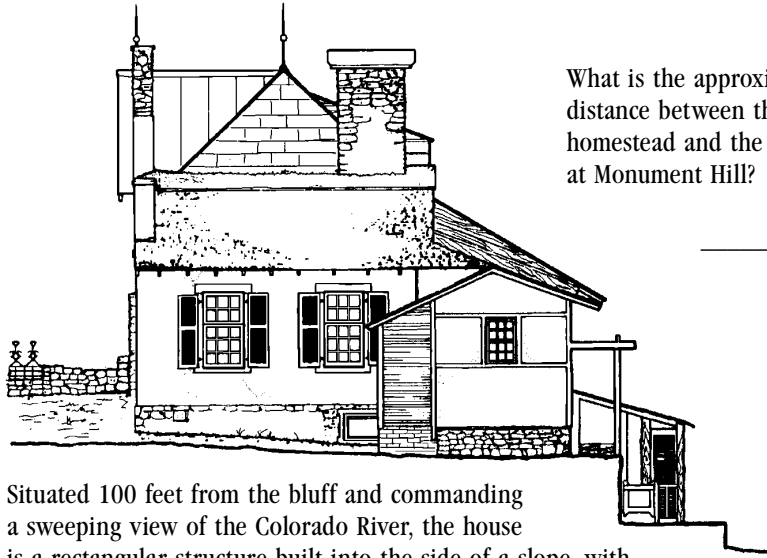
**Thomas F. McKinney
1801 - 1873**

The Smith Rockshelter is located on one of the trails in McKinney Falls State Park. The rockshelter was formed through the wearing down of a limestone ledge during the periodic flooding of Onion Creek. The stone at the top is more durable than the rock further down, so the softer material below the roof eroded to form the shelter. The rockshelter was a temporary home for generations of Tonkawa Indians who moved through the area from the 1500s through the 1700s. These Indians once lived along the banks of Onion Creek in the rockshelter located on the Nature Trail. They spent much of their time gathering the roots, nuts and berries that were plentiful along the banks of the creek. They supplemented this plant diet with the meat of deer, buffalo, fish and freshwater mussels. Now the rockshelter is home to many insects, lizards, frogs and various snakes that live in the park.

On which trail is the Smith Rockshelter located? _____

The rockshelter was a temporary home for generations of Indians who moved through the area from the 1500s through the 1700s. Name a tribe of Indians that lived along the banks of Onion Creek.

**Welcome to
MONUMENT HILL AND KREISCHE BREWERY
STATE HISTORIC SITES**



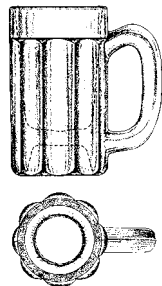
What is the approximate distance between the Kreische homestead and the Monument at Monument Hill?

Situated 100 feet from the bluff and commanding a sweeping view of the Colorado River, the house is a rectangular structure built into the side of a slope, with two stories and a large attic. Constructed mainly of coursed rubble sandstone quarried at the site, the Kreische house also has fachwerk and board-and-batten components. The large stone house was the residence of the Kreische family until 1952 when Julia Kreische, the last survivor of the Heinrich Kreische family, passed away.

Family tradition holds that at least part of the house was built about 1855 and that no major alterations were made after Kreische's death in 1882. The house as it now stands is believed to be essentially the same in form and style as it was when Kreische died.

- BARN**
- BARREL**
- BLUFF**
- BUILD**
- CEDAR**
- FAMILY**
- GERMANY**
- IMMIGRANT**
- KREISCHE**
- MUG**
- OAK**
- PINE**
- SMOKEHOUSE**
- WOOD**

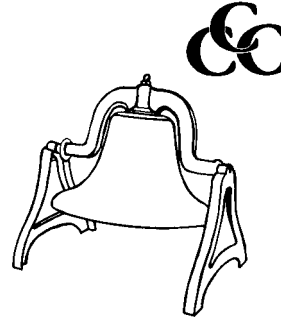
Wordsearch



S	N	O	B	L	U	F	F	P	G
A	M	R	A	B	C	D	I	I	E
E	D	O	A	K	F	N	M	C	R
L	L	G	K	B	E	M	H	E	M
E	I	I	J	E	I	K	L	D	A
R	U	M	M	G	H	W	N	A	N
R	B	U	R	O	P	O	O	R	Y
A	G	A	Q	R	S	T	U	O	U
B	N	F	A	M	I	L	Y	S	D
T	K	R	E	I	S	C	H	E	E

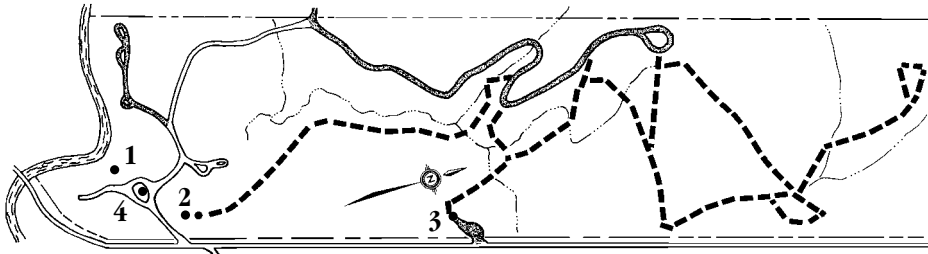
**Welcome to
MOTHER NEFF STATE PARK**

Mother Neff, first state park of Texas, has been a popular place of enjoyment since the late 1800s. Mrs. Noah Neff left the original six acres to the public in 1916. After her death, her son, Governor Pat M. Neff, gave additional acreage in 1934. That same year the Civilian Conservation Corps, Company 817, began developing the park with roadways, nature trails, four main structures were built: the Tabernacle, an open air native stone structure, the Caretaker's House, Clubhouse (Park headquarters building) and a Stone Water Tank and Lookout Tower.

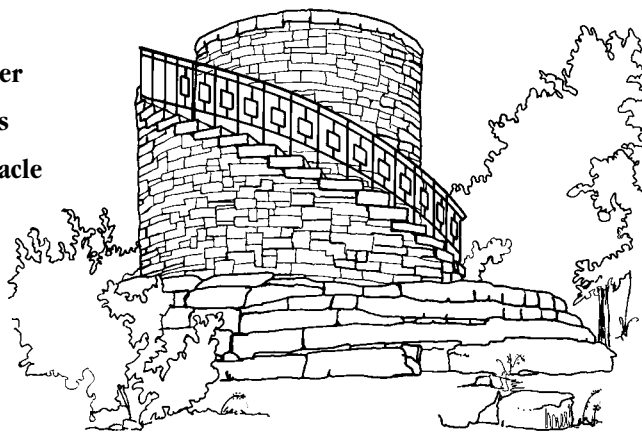


1. What was Mother Neff's full name?
2. How many steps lead to the top of the lookout tower?
3. What is the significance of the bell?
4. Can you name the Indian Culture that inhabited this area in the early 1800s?

Label the Map of Mother Neff State Park



- Bell
- Lookout Tower
- Headquarters
- Rock Tabernacle



Welcome to
PALMETTO STATE PARK



Palmetto Refectory Building

During the 1930s, when many people could not find jobs, the government started a work program called the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The young men who worked in this program built many of the nation's parks, including 30 in Texas. One of these was Palmetto State Park, developed by three CCC companies between 1934 and 1937.

What is the meaning of the word refectory?

What material was used in the original construction of the roof?

Name the other standing CCC structure located at Palmetto State Park.

Natural springs used to provide water to the palmetto swamp. Now, an **artesian** well supplies water to the **ephemeral** swamp. What do the words **artesian** and **ephemeral** mean?

**Welcome to
PEDERNALES FALLS STATE PARK**

If you were a bird, what would you look like?

Would you be big or small?

What kind of legs would you have?

- long and skinny
- short and webbed feet

Would you be a songbird, a bird of prey or still another kind?

What color would you be?

Plain or brightly colored?

Would you have a long tail or a short tail?

What kinds of beak would you have?

- a sharp beak
- a round beak
- a rip-and-tear beak
- a long, skinny, probing beak

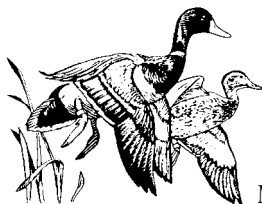
When you've made your choice, can you think of a real bird you resemble?



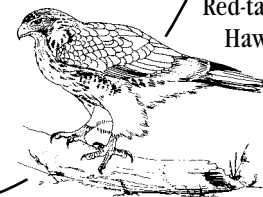
Northern Cardinal



Great Blue Heron



Mallard Duck



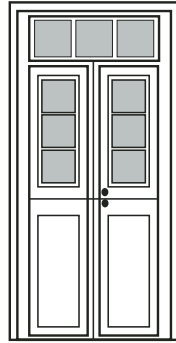
Red-tailed Hawk

Welcome to SEBASTOPOL HOUSE STATE HISTORIC SITE

Scavenger Hunt: Architecture Details

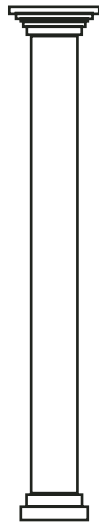
How many doors at Sebastopol match this drawing?

What is unusual about this door?



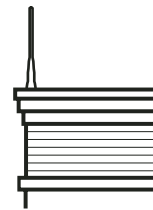
Was this a good design for Central Texas? Why?

Is there anything missing in this drawing of the back of Sebastopol? If yes, draw it.



Where is this?
How many did you find?
What is its purpose?

What is this?
How many did you find?
Is it old or new?
Why do you think so?



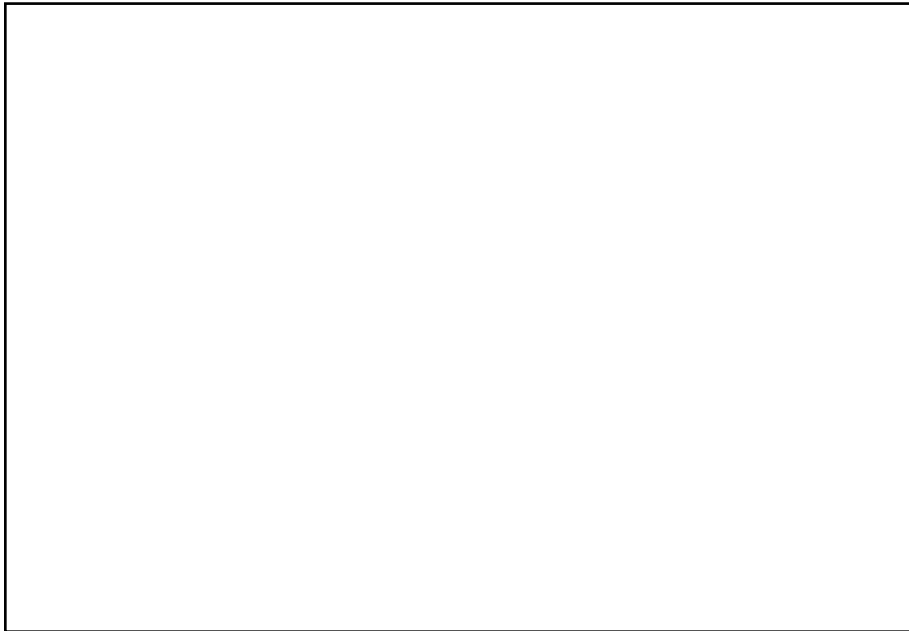
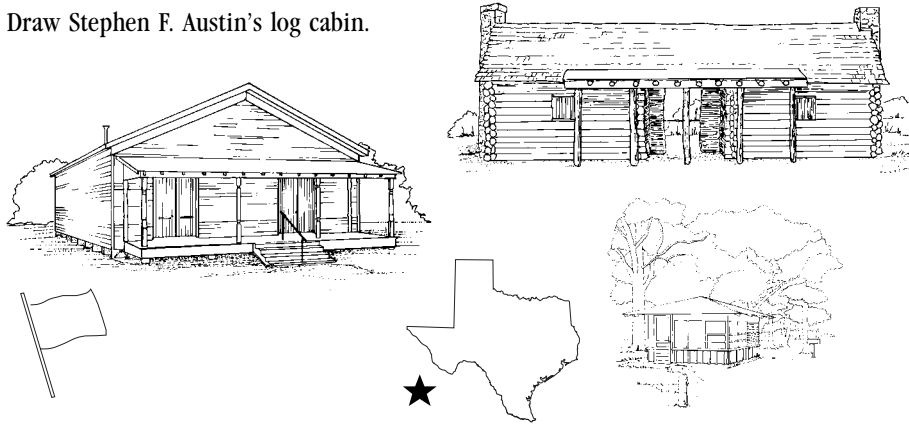
**Welcome to
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE PARK
AND SAN FELIPE STATE HISTORIC SITE**

History is important for us to learn. Visit our Historical site and learn the history of San Felipe de Austin. Also learn what a log cabin and the state of Texas looks like. You will be able to draw a log cabin and be able to answer questions about Stephen F. Austin.

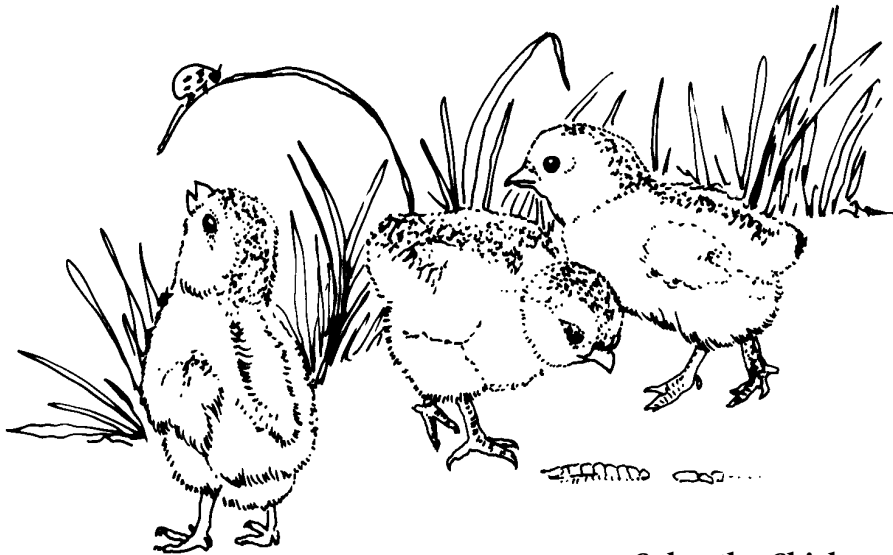
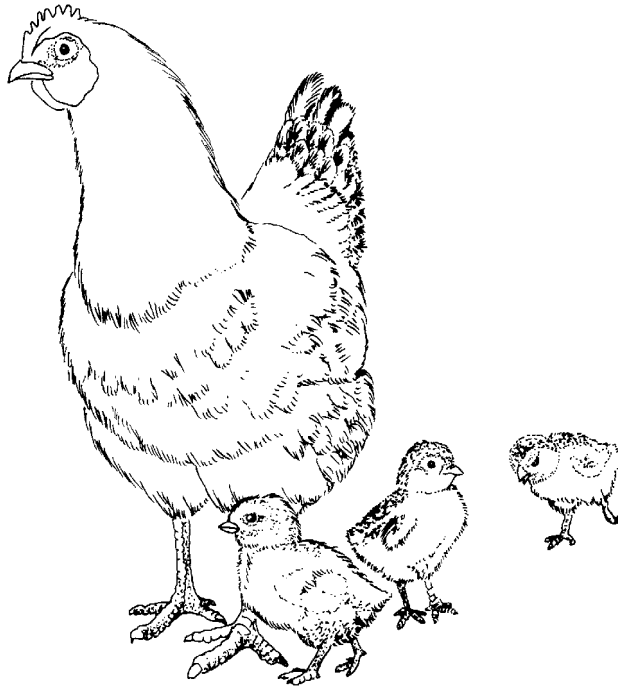
Draw the state of Texas and locate, with a star, the capital city of Austin.

Draw one of the six flags that have flown over Texas.

Draw Stephen F. Austin's log cabin.



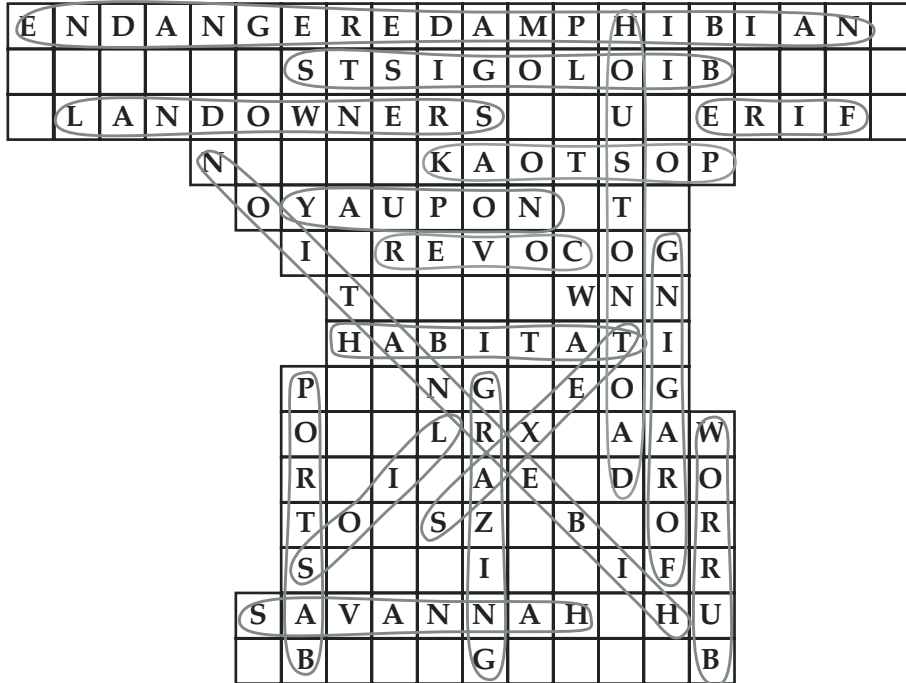
Welcome to
**WASHINGTON-ON-THE-BRAZOS SHS –
BARRINGTON LIVING HISTORY FARM**



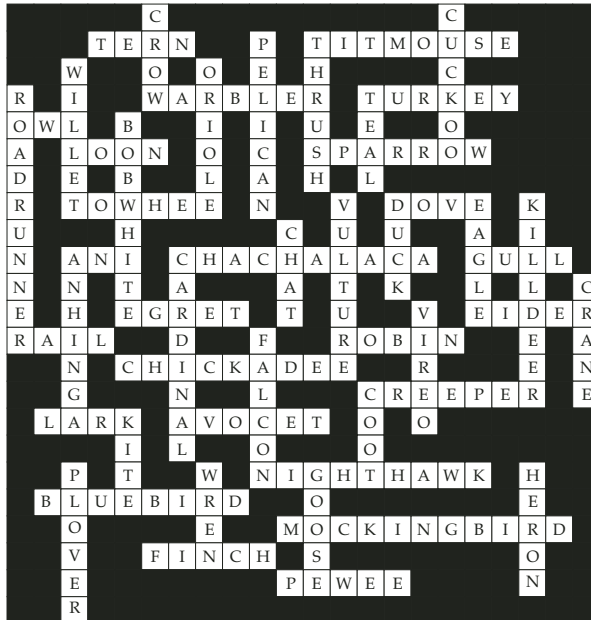
Color the Chickens

ANSWERS

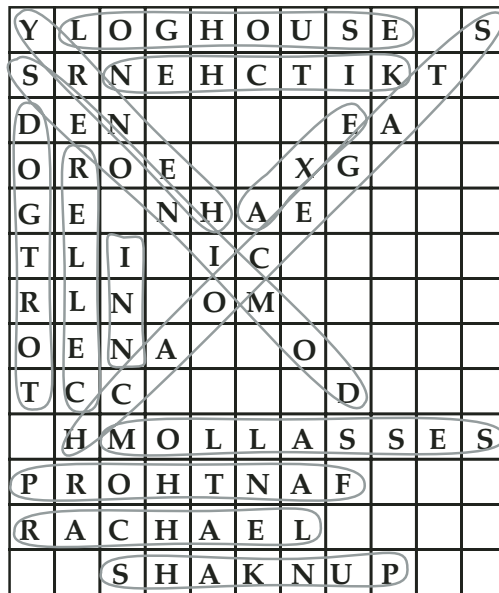
Bastrop State Park



Blanco State Park



Fanthorp Inn State Historic Site



Government Canyon State Natural Area

State Bird: **Northern Mockingbird**
(Officially recognized by the Legislature in 1927)

State Dinosaur: **Pleurocoelus**
(A 60-foot-long sauropod from 105-million-year-old deposits in Central Texas. Named by the Legislature in 1997)

State Fish: **Guadalupe Bass**
(Named by the Legislature in 1980)

State Food: **Chili**
(A fiery stew brewed with Texas pride, adopted by the Legislature in 1977)

State Flower: **Bluebonnet**
(Several varieties of this lupine blanket the Texas countryside each spring. Officially adopted in 1901)

State Gemstone: **Texas Blue Topaz**
(Adopted by the Legislature in 1969)

State Grass: **Sideoats Grama**
(A nutritious native species favored by wildlife as well as livestock. Officially adopted in 1971)

State Insect: **Monarch Butterfly**
(Named by the Legislature in 1995)

State Flying Mammal: **Mexican Free-tailed Bat**
(Named by the Legislature in 1995)

State Large Mammal: **Longhorn**
(Named by the Legislature in 1995)

State Small Mammal: **Nine-banded Armadillo**
(Named by the Legislature in 1995)

State Motto: **Friendship**
(“Tejas” is a Caddo Indian word meaning “friend”)

State Pepper: **Jalapeño**
(Adopted by the Legislature in 1995)

State Plant: **Prickly Pear**
(Adopted by the Legislature in 1995)

State Reptile: **Horned Lizard**
(Named by the Legislature in 1993)

State Seashell: **Lightning Whelk**
(Adopted by the Legislature in 1987)

State Song: **“Texas, our Texas”**
(Music by Wm. J. Marsh; words by Marsh and Gladys Yoakum Wright; officially adopted by the Legislature in 1929)

State Stone: **Petrified Palmwood**
(Abundant and of great variety. Officially adopted in 1969)

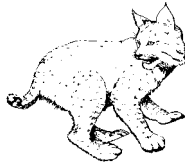
State Tree: **Pecan**
(Officially adopted in 1919)

Texas State Seal
(Office of the Secretary of State)



Guadalupe River State Park

F) Armadillo



D) Bobcat



B) Gray Fox



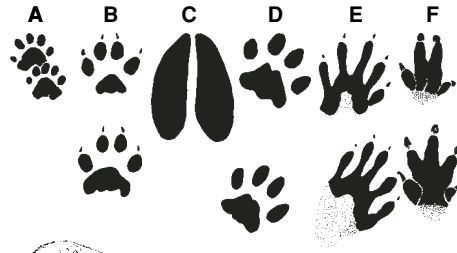
C) White-tailed Deer



E) Raccoon

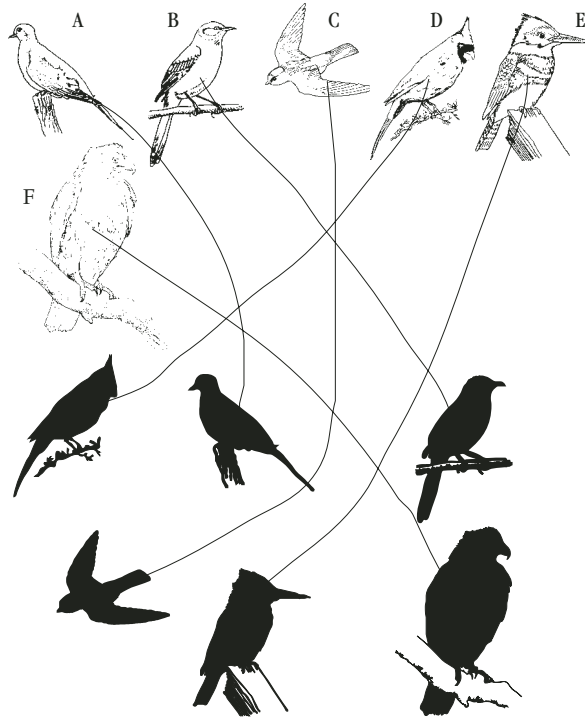


A) Ringtail



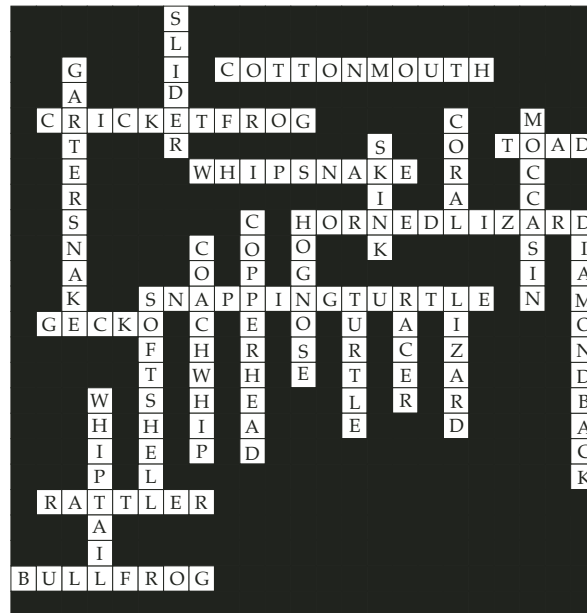
- A) Ringtail
- B) Gray Fox
- C) White-tailed Deer
- D) Bobcat
- E) Raccoon
- F) Armadillo

Honey Creek State Natural Area



- A) Mourning Dove
- B) Mocking Bird
- C) Cliff Swallow
- D) Northern Cardinal
- E) Kingfisher
- F) Red-tailed Hawk

Longhorn Cavern State Park



Lake Somerville State Park, Birch Creek

Quercus virginiana – Bay Live Oak

Vaccinium arboreum – Farkleberry

Ilex vomitoria – Yaupon Holly

Quercus marilandica – Blackjack Oak

Quercus stellata – Post Oak

Ulmus alata – Winged Elm

Carya texana – Black Hickory

Juniperus virginiana – Eastern Red Cedar

Callicarpa americana – American Beauty-berry

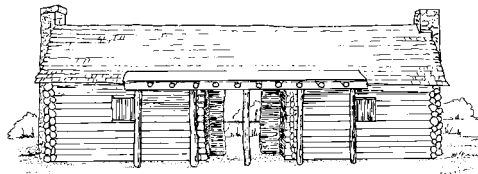
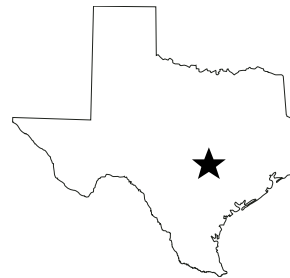
Lake Somerville State Park, Nails Creek

1. Black-capped Vireo
2. Whooping Crane
3. Golden-cheeked Warbler
4. Houston Toad
5. Black-footed Ferret

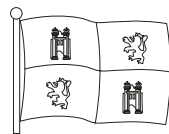
**Monument Hill and
Kreische Brewery
State Historic Sites**



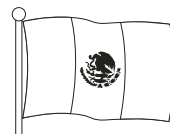
**Stephen F. Austin State Park and
San Felipe State Historic Site**



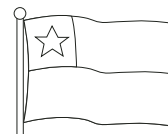
Log Cabin - A replica of Stephen F. Austin's home. Other illustrations on that page are J.J. Josey General Store Museum and camp site at Stephen F. Austin State Park.



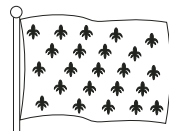
Texas under Spain
1510 - 1821



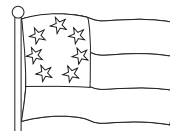
Texas under Mexico
1821 - 1836



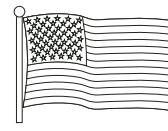
Texas as a Republic
1836 - 1845



Texas under France
1685 - 1690



Texas in the Confederacy
1861 - 1865



Texas in the United States
1845 - 1861; 1865 - Present

Identify the park map symbols.

































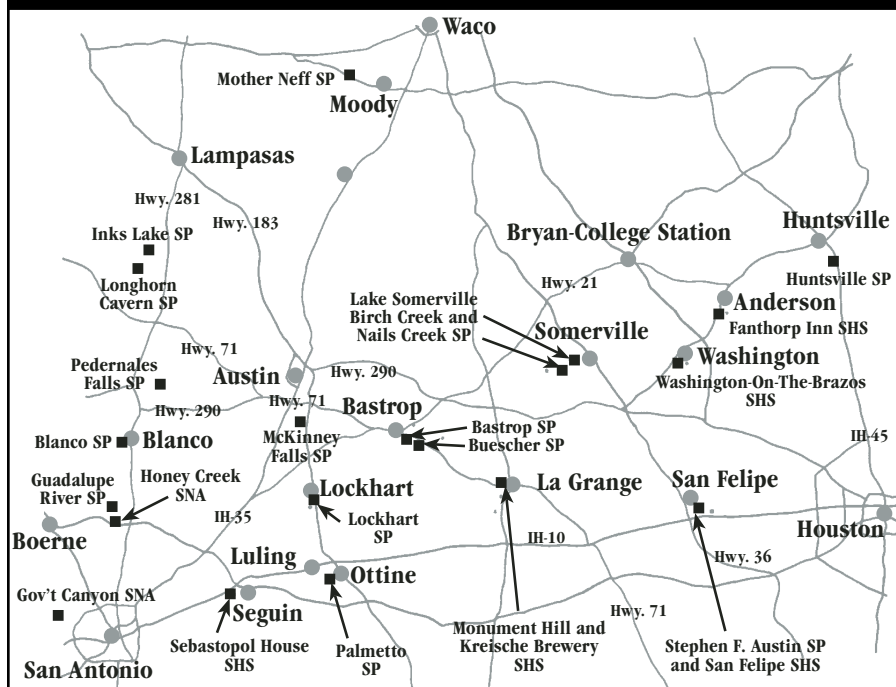








AREA STATE PARKS



**Thank you for participating in the
Texas Parks and Wildlife Junior Ranger Program!**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bastrop State Park Blanco State Park Buescher State Park Fanthorp Inn State Historic Site Government Canyon State Natural Area Guadalupe River State Park Honey Creek State Natural Area Huntsville State Park Inks Lake State Park Lake Somerville State Park, Birch Creek Lake Somerville State Park, Nails Creek Lockhart State Park | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Longhorn Cavern State Park McKinney Falls State Park Monument Hill and Kreische Brewery State Historic Sites Mother Neff State Park Palmetto State Park Pedernales Falls State Park Sebastopol House State Historic Site Stephen F. Austin State Park and San Felipe State Historic Site Washington-On-The-Brazos State Historic Site |
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