

MANITOBA PARKS Junior Naturalist

Ages 6-9

Hi! Would you like to become a Junior Naturalist just like Howie Whooo the Owl? Complete the activities in this booklet to discover more about Manitoba's provincial parks and the great ways for you to explore the outdoors. Once you are done, fill in the back page and return the book to become an **official Junior Naturalist!**



My name is

I am visiting

Provincial Park

What are your three favourite things to do in a park?

1)

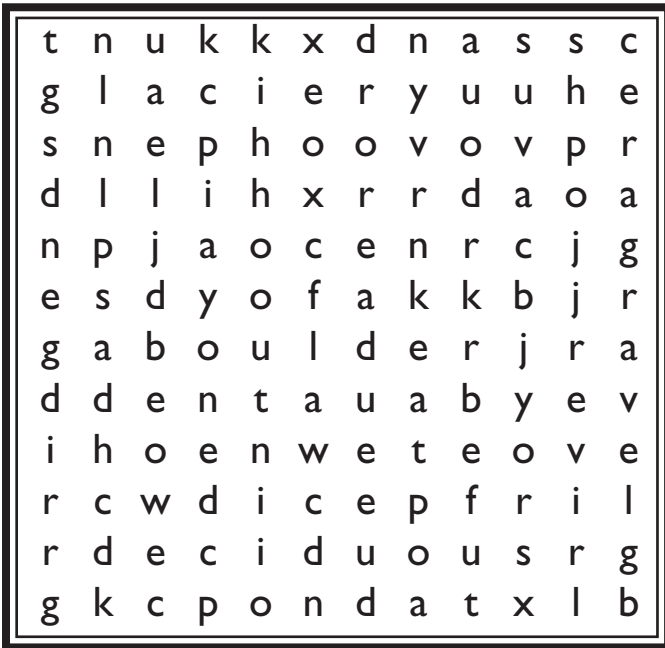
2)

3)

If you need further assistance in completing these activities, look for a park interpreter at park programs and interpretive centres for help.

Word Find

At one time, thousands of years ago, Manitoba was covered in ice and snow. These glaciers came from the north and then as they receded (melted) they left behind sand, gravel, boulders as well as different landforms such as beaches, ridges, hills and wetlands. 15,000 years ago, the Park you are at right now, was probably under 5 km of ice. Find the 12 hidden words. Remember they can be up and down, diagonal, backward and forward.



Words to Find

- | | |
|---------|--------|
| glacier | hill |
| ice | rock |
| wetland | gravel |
| beach | river |
| boulder | pond |
| ridge | sand |



Storytime: Who Lived Here

Words to use:

Fill in the blanks to complete the story of the history of Manitoba

- aboriginal
- bison
- canoe
- caribou
- ceremonies
- flat
- food
- hunted
- Manitoba
- snowshoe
- riders
- whales

By the early 17th century when the first Europeans arrived, five _____ groups inhabited what is now known as _____. Two groups lived in the far north. The Inuit who survived by hunting _____ in Hudson Bay and caribou in the boreal forest and the Chipewyan who also hunted _____ in the boreal forest. Just south of these groups, lived the Woodland Cree, who _____ and fished in Manitoba's forests and _____. The Ojibway lived in Central Manitoba and they traveled by _____ in the summer and _____ in the winter. The _____ prairie land of southern Manitoba was the home of the Assiniboine people who hunted _____. Bison were used for _____, clothing, shelter and spiritual _____. No part of the bison was wasted.

Saving Species

Endangered Species are those that are in danger of extinction (disappearing) anywhere they are usually found. Threatened Species are those that are likely to become endangered very soon.

Every type of animal and plant is different. If we lose one species we have lost something that can never be replaced. To find out why some species become extinct or endangered, replace the vowels in the sentences below.

A = ●

E = ■

I = ▲

O = ◆

U = ❖

1. L_ s s _ f H_ b_ t_ t

is main reason small species are in trouble.

2. P_ ll_ t_ _ n

kills plants and animals.

5. D_ s_ _ s_

kills native plants and animals.

4. _ n t r_ d_ c_ d sp_ c_ _ s

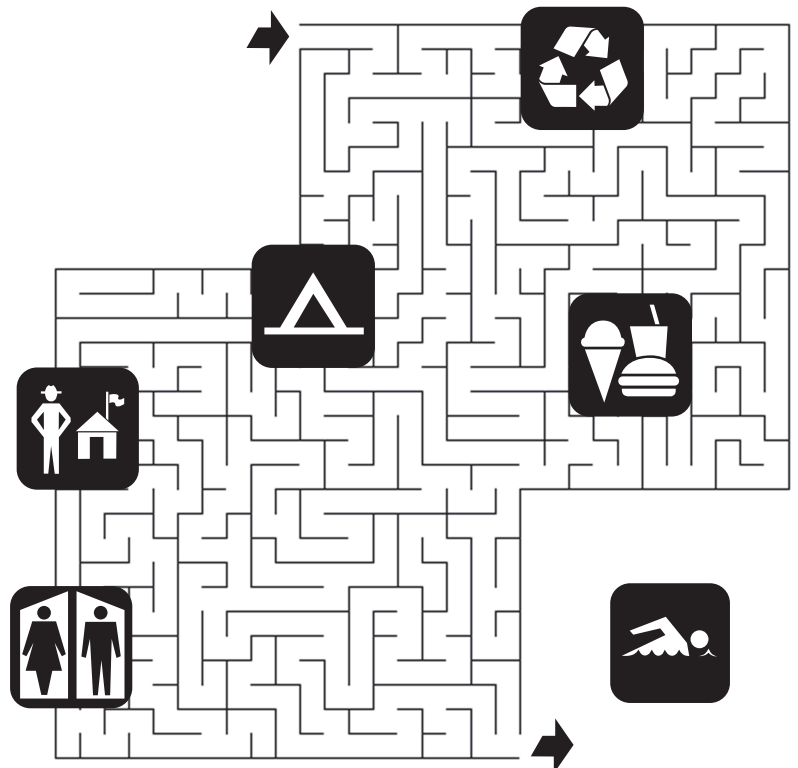
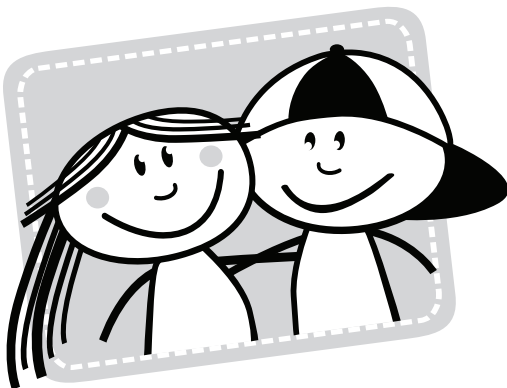
into a new area can cause a lot of harm because they may eat the same foods or they may become a predator to the native species.

3. _ d_ p t_ t_ _ n

(lack of) If something happens an animal's food source, they are in trouble.

Beach Maze

Going to the beach can be so much fun! You should always swim with a friend. Help Sue and Steve find their way to the beach.



Flower Find

Whether you are in the forest, the prairie, or in a wetland, you will find an amazing variety of flowers. Find a flower in the park that you like and answer the following questions.

My flower is _____ tall.

- a. as tall as my ankle or shorter
- b. between my ankle and my knee
- c. above my knee

If I were to name this flower I would call it:

The leaves on my flower have _____.

- a. smooth edges
- b. edges with tiny teeth

Draw a picture of your flower.

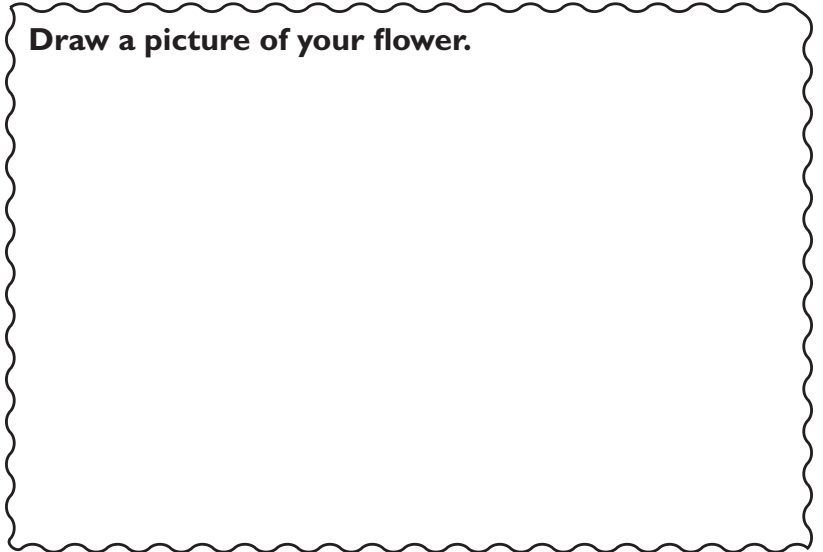
The leaves on my flower are _____.

- a. fuzzy or hairy
- b. smooth

The petals of my flower are _____.

- a. pointed or spiky
- b. rounded

The colour of my flower is _____.



Alphabet Hike

Let's go on an Alphabet Hike! Choose a trail in the park to go hiking on or take a walk through the visitor centre. Take along a parent or a friend to enjoy the hike with. While hiking, try to find things that begin with each letter of the alphabet. You can find more than one thing for each letter; however, they must be natural or antique. Your discoveries can be something you see, hear, touch or smell.

A _____

J _____

S _____

B _____

K _____

T _____

C _____

L _____

U _____

D _____

M _____

V _____

E _____

N _____

W _____

F _____

O _____

X _____

G _____

P _____

Y _____

H _____

Q _____

Z _____

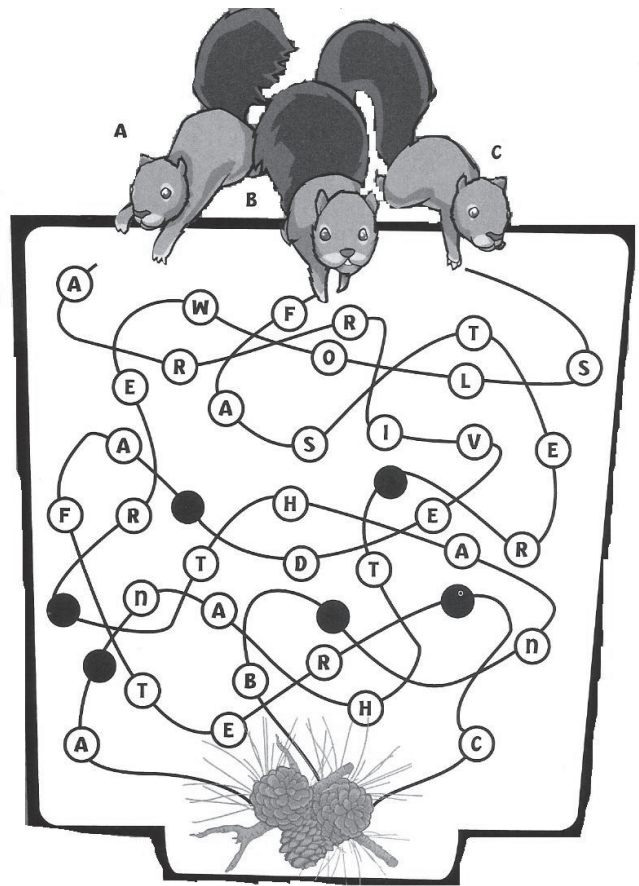
I _____

R _____

Squirrel Whirl

Red squirrels are found in parks in Manitoba and across Canada. These acrobats in the trees have an amazing sense of smell. They can locate cones and seeds buried up to 30 centimetres underground. You can hear their chatter as they defend their home turf. Remember although they may seem tame, they are wild animals and need to be left alone.

These red squirrels (A, B, C) are having a race to the pinecones. Follow each squirrel's path to spell out clues as to which came first, second and third.



First _____

Second _____

Third _____

Parks Are FUN!

There are so many things to see and do at a park. Listed below are some of the things that are possible. Unscramble them to find out. Then underline the things you have done or seen here at this park and put a circle around those activities you still want to do or things you want to see.

keih

sifh

orut

pamc

coroanc

ikeb

tba0

yapl

reqsuirl

rbid

pfmaicer

loxeerp

miws

quanite

isng

sheollawrmm

rowelf

accierem

toiress













soehu

The Wonders of the Wetlands

Read each sentence.

If it is true, colour the lily pad green.

If it is not true, do not colour the lily pad.

<p>Wetland plants need sunlight to grow.</p> 	<p>There are pond plants so tiny they can not be seen without a magnifying glass.</p> 	<p>Wetlands are important for plants and animals but not for us humans.</p> 
<p>Birds don't really need wetlands.</p> 	<p>Some pond plants have pretty flowers.</p> 	<p>Some of the plants in a wetland can be food for you.</p> 
<p>Pond plants make good hiding places for critters.</p> 	<p>Plants help keep a wetland healthy.</p> 	<p>Some plants float.</p> 
<p>Many wetland critters lay their eggs on plants.</p> 	<p>All insects that start their life in a pond, stay there as adults too.</p> 	<p>It is important for us to protect wetland areas.</p> 

Marsh Match-a-Track

These animals can be found around a marsh where they leave tracks in the mud.

Can you match the animal to its footprint?

Great Blue heron

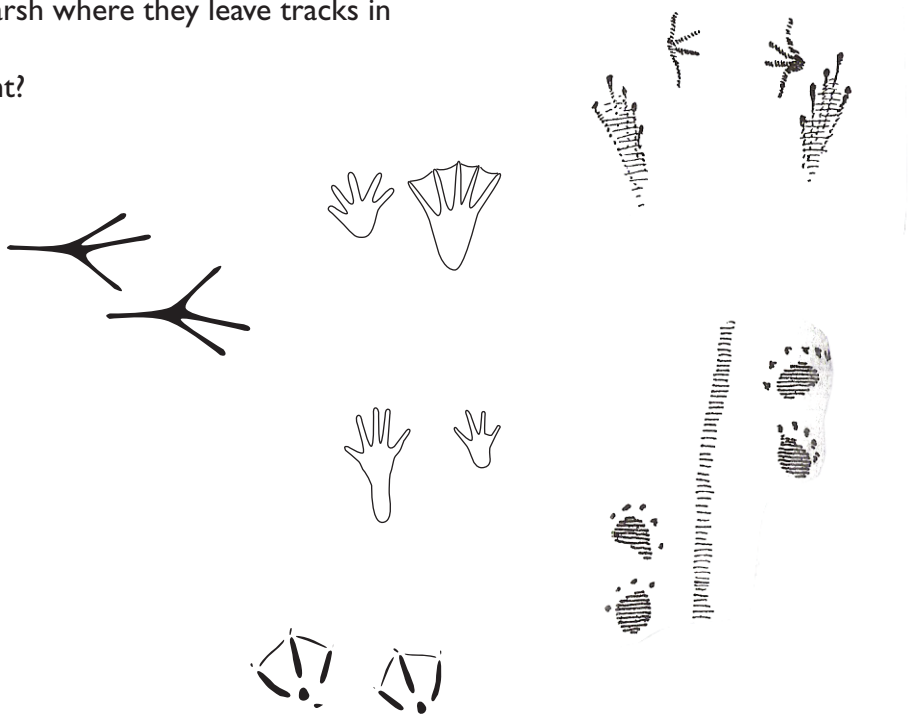
Muskrat

Frog

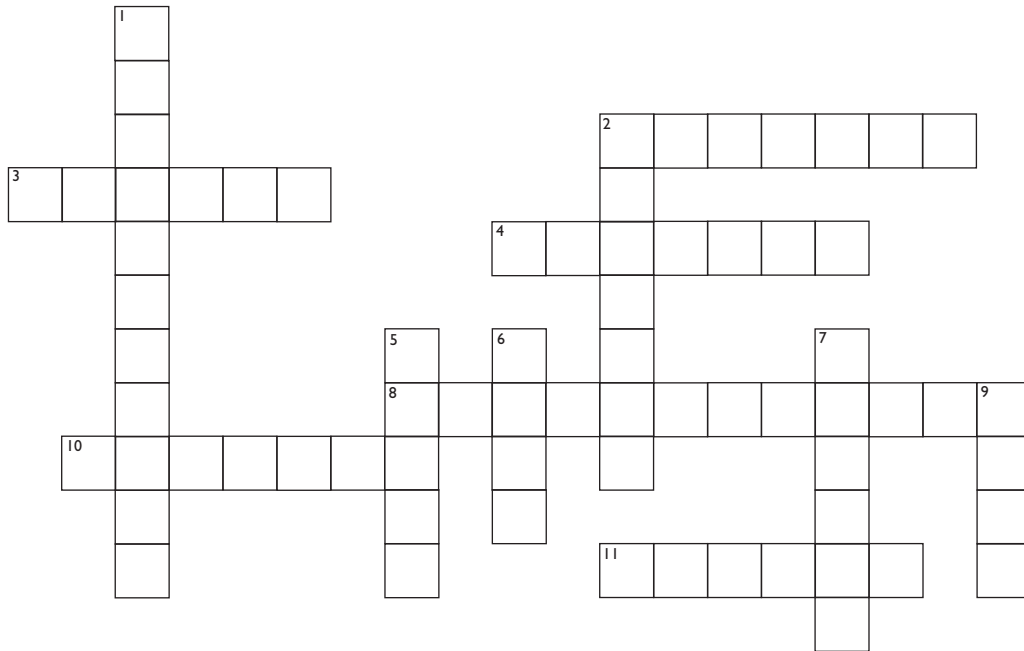
Beaver

Canada Goose

Snapping Turtle



Junior Naturalist Crossword



Across

2. Loss of _____ is one of the main reasons that animals become extinct.
3. You should always swim with a _____.
4. Made up of snow and ice, this once covered all of Manitoba.
8. You sometimes roast these over a campfire when you go camping.
10. This often kills native plants and animals.
11. An animal that lives in a marsh, builds a lodge, and was important for the fur traders.

Down

1. Bison were an important part of life for these people.
Hint: There is also a river in Manitoba by the same name.
2. Plants keep a wetland _____.
5. Red squirrels have a good sense of _____.
6. This little green animal lives in a wetland.
7. This will bloom in the spring or the summer in the prairie, the forest or a wetland.
9. We usually do this around a campfire.

Need a Hint! All the answers are hidden in your booklet.

Ask an Interpreter!

Do you have a question for a park interpreter about an animal that you saw during your visit? Send us your questions and we will answer them and send it back with your completed booklets.

My question is:



Junior Naturalist Checklist of Activities:

- My Three Favourite Things...
- Word Find
- Storytime: Who Lived Here?
- Saving Species
- Beach Maze
- Flower Find
- Alphabet Hike
- Squirrel Whirl
- Parks are Fun!
- The Wonders of the Wetlands
- Marsh Match-a-Track
- Crossword
- Ask an Interpreter



Junior Naturalist: _____

Adult: _____

Check off the boxes of each activity you have completed. Return the completed booklet to receive your official pin and certificate. (Your book will also be returned to you.)

Did you enjoy doing this activity book? If so, you can do other Junior Naturalist / Park Explorer books at the following locations:

Whiteshell
Spruce Woods
Birds Hill
Hecla
Grand Beach

Completed booklets can be returned to campground offices, park interpreters or mailed to the address below:

Junior Naturalist Program
Head of Interpretation
Parks and Natural Areas
200 Saulteaux Crescent
Winnipeg, MB, R3J 3W3

YOU ARE ALMOST AN OFFICIAL JUNIOR NATURALIST!

Child's Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Province _____

Postal Code _____