

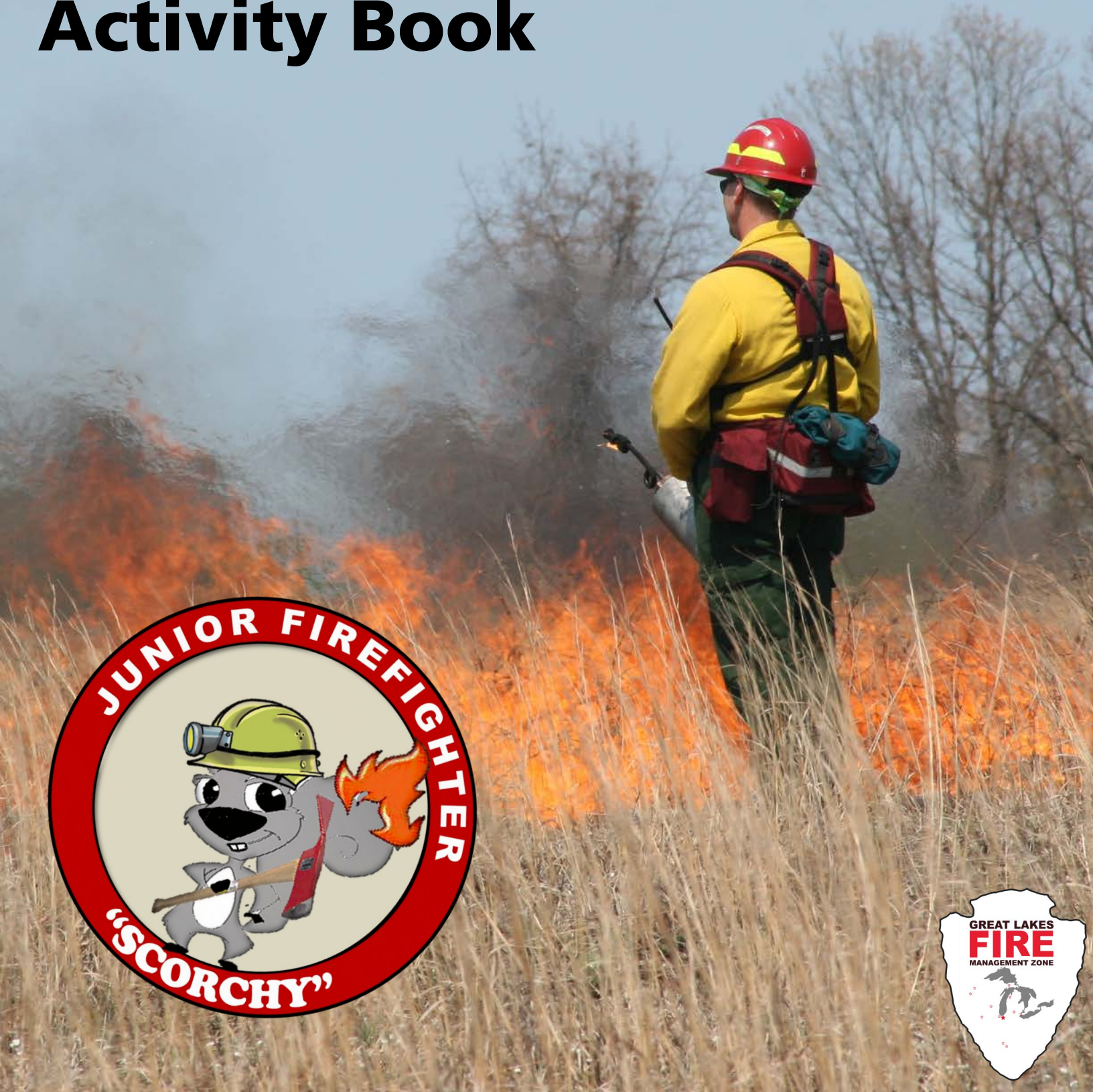
Indiana Dunes National Park

National Park Service

U.S. Department of the Interior



Junior Wildland Firefighter Activity Book



Dear Junior Firefighter,

You're invited to discover wildland fire's role in our National Parks and become a Junior Wildland Firefighter for the National Park Service. Learn how firefighters manage fire to protect property, lives, and ensure forest health.

To become a Junior Firefighter and earn a SCORCHY fire patch you must...

- Be 7 to 12 years of age.
- Attend the Junior Firefighter Program at the National Park. Program times and locations can be found at:

<https://www.nps.gov/indu/planyourvisit/calendar.htm>

OR

Bring your completed book to the Indiana Dunes National Park Dorothy Buell Visitor Center and receive your SCORCHY fire patch. Booklet May also be mailed to:

**NPS Fire Management Office
1100 N. Mineral Springs Rd.
Porter, IN 46304**



Help SCORCHY along the way. Whenever you see SCORCHY answer the question.

Friendly Fire

Wildland fire or forest fires are an essential, natural process. Fire has helped shape our ecosystems at Indiana Dunes for thousands of years. Fire helps recycle dead plants, releasing nutrients back into the soil. These nutrients help new plants grow which provides habitats for animals. Fire is a combination of heat, oxygen, fuel, and an ignition source. This is called the fire triangle. Lightning causes some forest fires, but people often cause them through carelessness.



Hmm, what job do wildland firefighters do?
Solve the word puzzle below to find out!

Answer: A B C D E
Code: + # % ! \$

Wil!l+n! fir\$fight\$rs h\$lp r\$stor\$ th\$ l+n!

to mor\$ n+tur+l con!itions, m+int+in +lr\$ + ! y

h\$ +lthy \$cosyst\$ms, +nd prot\$ct n\$igh#oring

%ommuniti\$s from wil!fir\$s.

What's the Difference?

Wildland firefighters fight forest fires. House fires are put out by structural firefighters. Although the job is different, a lot of the equipment that the firefighters use and wear is alike.



Can you find some similar equipment used by each kind of firefighter?

Look at the list of safety equipment in the middle of the two firefighters. Draw a line from the equipment listed to where it is located on both of the firefighters.

Structural/House Firefighter



Wildland/Forest Firefighter



Helmet

Back Pack

Eye Protection

Tool

Gloves

Leather Boots

Fire Resistant
Coat and Pants

Fire Engine Tool Scramble

Wildland firefighters use fire trucks to carry people, water, and tools to wildfires. The activity below lists some of the tools that firefighters carry on their fire trucks to control wildland fires.



If you want to be a firefighter you need to know your tools! What tools are these? Draw lines between them.



Chainsaw

Protects your legs when using a chainsaw

Used for lighting prescribed fires



Fire Hose

Cuts and scraps fire line

Used for cutting trees down



Helmet

Used to protect your head from falling trees



Chaps

Used for spraying water



Drip Torch



Pulaski

Firefighter Matchup



Can you find 6 differences between the two pictures?
Circle the Differences.



Did You Know...?

Did you know that lightning strikes the Earth about 100 times each second or that lightning temperatures can sometimes reach more than 50,000°F (28,000°C)? That's more than five times hotter than the sun's surface! Imagine what happens when lightning strikes a tree.

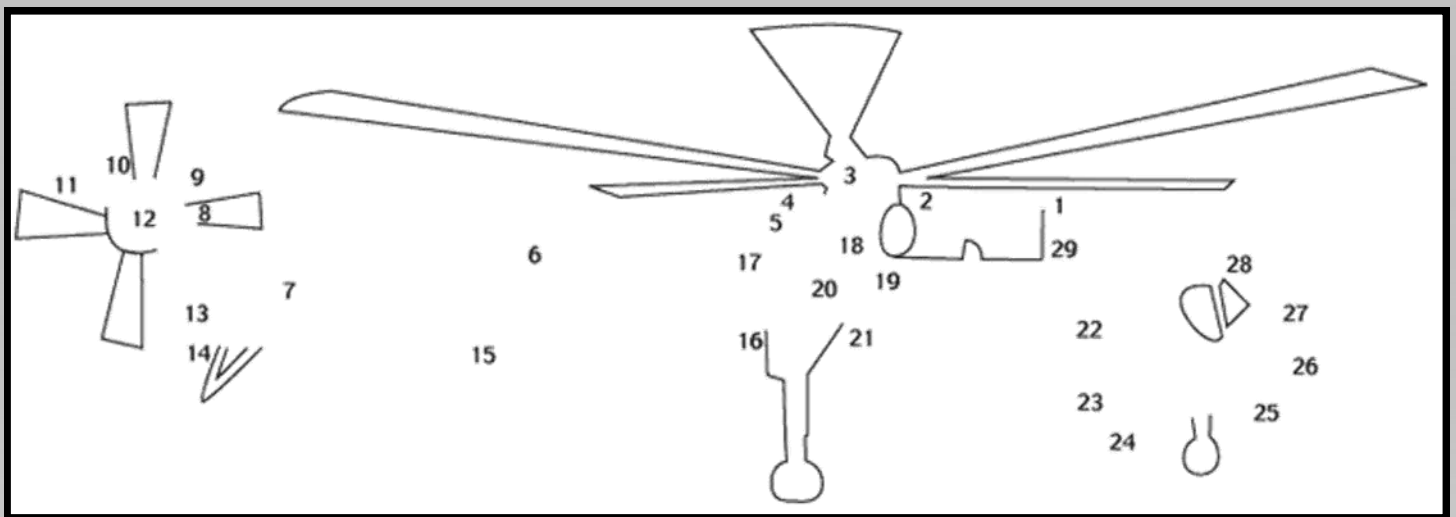


Can you draw a lightning bolt from the cloud to the tree?



Hot Spotting

"This fire is hot and getting bigger, we need some water quick!"



What could help the firefighter put water on the fire to cool it down? Connect the dots on this puzzle to find out.

Common Fire Terms



Solve the puzzle and find the common fire terms.

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

Don't give up
you're almost
there!

PATROL	FIREBREAK
SLOPOVER	FIREWHIRL
SNAG	FLAREUP
SPOTFIRE	HOTSPOT
TORCHING	MOPUP



Fire Investigator

Read the story:

During your visit to Indiana Dunes National Park you decide to explore one of the many unique trails of the Dunes. You're hiking along through the black oak forest. All of the sudden you come across a cluster of oak trees whose trunks are black near the ground. As you come around the bend in the trail, you see that some of the trunks are only black on one side of the trees. You think to yourself, "Isn't that strange?"

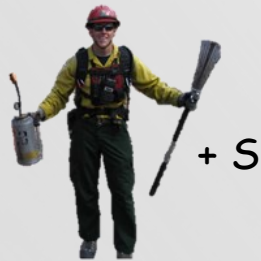
You keep walking. All along the trail you notice that the soil is black, but there are fresh green shoots of grass poking up. The trees here are also charred at the base of the trunks.

Ok, that's it! It's been at the back of your mind, but now you're positive. A fire burned through here! Was it a campfire out of control? Was it by accident or on purpose?



Solve the puzzle to find out who caused the fire. Write your answers on the lines below.

Use a combination of letters and pictures to make words. It may be helpful to "read" the puzzle out loud. Some of the pictures make a sound of the word, but are spelled differently. Be sure to look where the arrows are pointing in some of the pictures.



+ S



+ T



+ S



-

3-RE

SP+



-H

FA+



-BE

2



-y+ EP

3-RE

10-T+V+



+



-CE

H+



-S + THY.

Prescribed Fire

Prescribed fires are used instead of lightning caused fires to help manage the forest. Such fires are intentionally set by professional wildland firefighters to mimic the natural burn cycles of forests. The fire helps create diverse habitats for plants and animals.



Has anyone seen SCORCHY?
I need someone to work this drip torch over here!



Color SCORCHY'S helmet your favorite color.

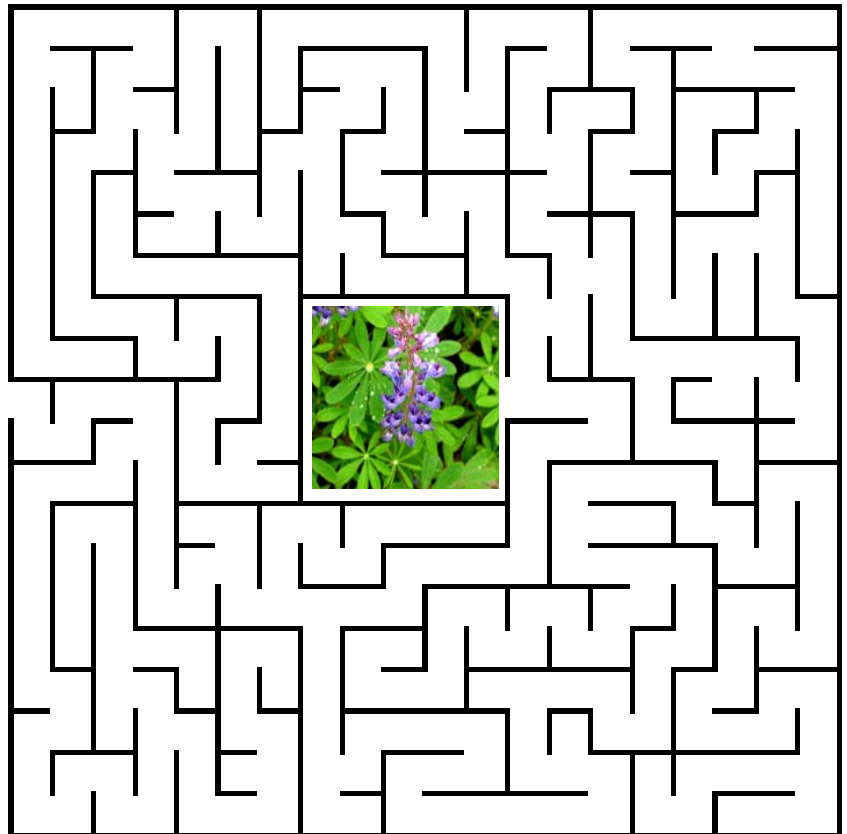
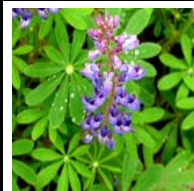
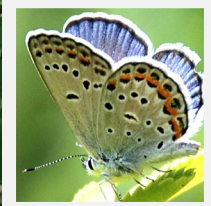


Fire Ecology

Prescribed fire or planned ignitions by firefighters help to control overgrowth of forest and prairies. These fires help native plants like wild lupine grow naturally. The Karner Blue Butterfly is a federally endangered species. It is totally dependent on wild lupine. The butterfly feeds only on the lupine plants. Without Wild Lupine there is no Karner Blue Butterfly.



Help the Karner Blue Butterfly Find the Wild Lupine.



Tree Identification Hunt

JR. Wildland Firefighters need to know their tree species if they want to help protect the forest!



Go for a hike in the Park and find at least two of the tree species below. Put a check mark in the box once you find one.



Black Oak



Sugar Maple



Ash



Sassafras

Training Quiz



Answer the questions below from the presentation or this booklet.

1) List the big three that make up the fire triangle.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

2) What tree species is this?

A. Black Oak

B. Ash

C. Sugar Maple



3) What plant does the Karner Blue Butterfly feed on?

4.) What is this Tool?

A. Chainsaw

B. Chaps

C. Drip Torch



Firefighter Physical Training

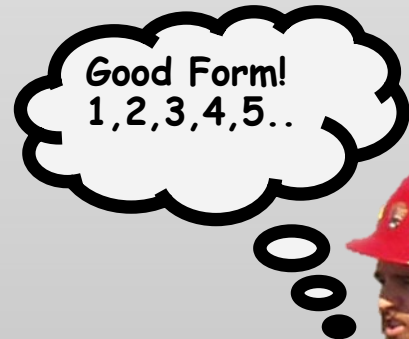
In order to become a wildland firefighter you have to pass a physical fitness test. Firefighters have to carry a 45 pound backpack for 3 miles under 45 minutes. Forest fires take many hours and sometimes days to put out. That is a lot of hiking around and working! As a junior firefighter you need to stay fit and eat healthy. Now it is time to test your fitness!



Can you pass the Junior Firefighter PT test?

Put a check mark next to all of the physical tests you complete. When you pass the PT test read the pledge out loud.

1. Do 5 push ups _____
2. Do 10 jumping jacks _____
3. Do 5 sit ups _____



Junior Wildland Firefighter Pledge

As a Junior Wildland Firefighter, I _____, promise to protect and preserve the plants, animals, and history of the Indiana Dunes National Park. I will share what I have learned about wildland fire in National Parks, and will continue to explore our national treasures.

Good Job!

Turn it at the Indiana Dunes National Park Dorothy Buell Visitor Center in or mail it the Fire Management Office to receive your patch!

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You Did it!
Good work!



Quiz Answer Key

- 1) Fuel, Heat, Oxygen
- 2) Black oak
- 3) Wild Lupine
- 4) Drip Torch

