

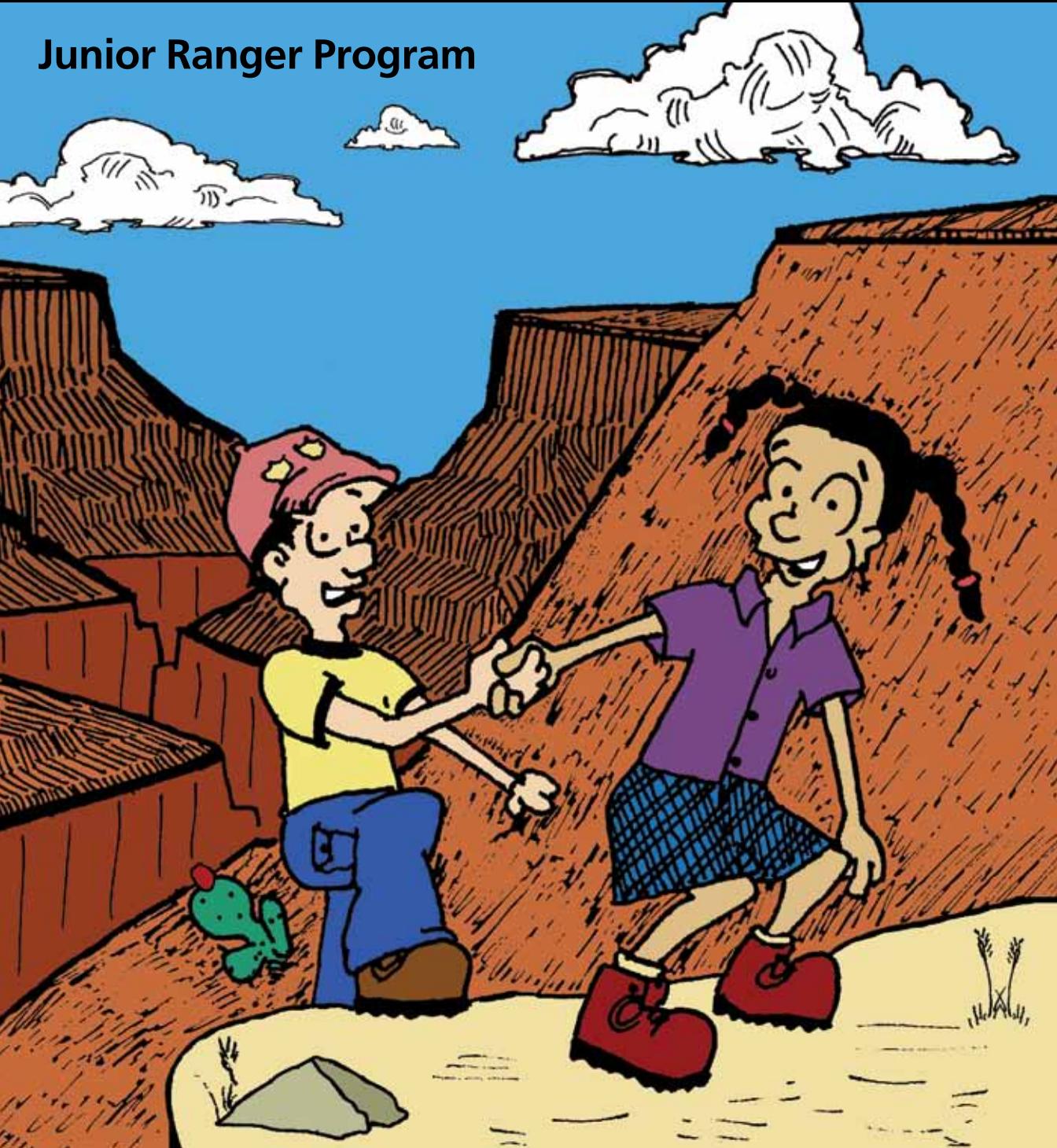
Canyonlands

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Canyonlands National Park



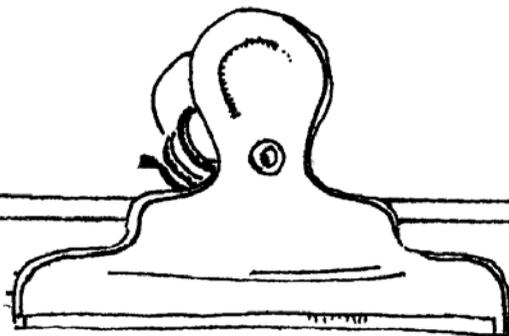
Junior Ranger Program



Welcome to the Canyonlands National Park Junior Ranger Program! My name is Jessica and this is my friend Justin. We are both official Junior Rangers of Canyonlands National Park. Come join us on a fun adventure exploring and learning about Canyonlands as you become a Junior Ranger!



Canyonlands Checklist



- Complete the activities in this booklet according to your age or learning level.



Ages 5 to 7: Complete at least 4 activities with the **Leapin' Lizard** symbol.



Ages 8 to 10: Complete at least 5 activities with the **Rowdy Rabbit** symbol.



Ages 11 and up: Complete at least 6 activities with the **Bouncin' Bighorn** symbol.

- Choose one of the following:

1. **Attend a ranger led program.**

Program: _____

Park Ranger Signature: _____

Something I learned from the program: _____

2. **Pick up some litter in the park. (Please stay on trails!)**

Have a parent initial that you completed this: _____

3. **Watch the park video at the visitor center.**

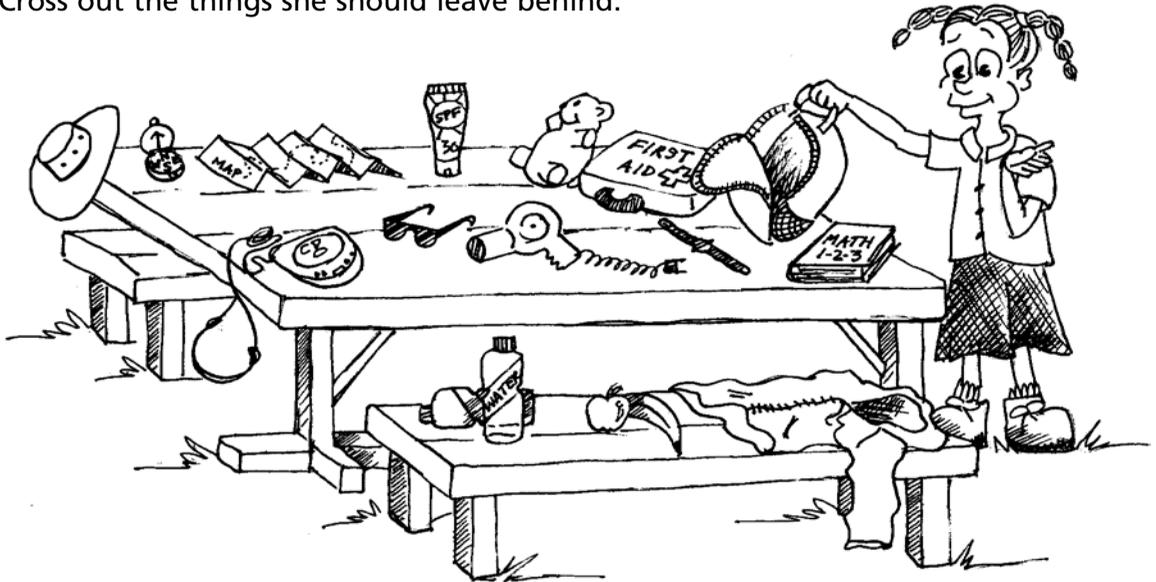
Something I learned from the video: _____

- Return to the visitor center so a park ranger can check your booklet and issue your Junior Ranger badge and certificate!

Ready, Set... Hike!



Help Junior Ranger Jessica decide what she needs to take with her on a hike in Canyonlands National Park. Circle the things she will need to be ready for her hike. Cross out the things she should leave behind.



What trails have **you** hiked in Canyonlands National Park? _____

What was your favorite part of the hike? Why? _____



Remember that Junior Rangers need to help care for the park by leaving no trace of their visit. When you go hiking, stay on the trail and leave the plants, animals and rocks as you find them. Be safe and respectful of other visitors so they can enjoy Canyonlands too!

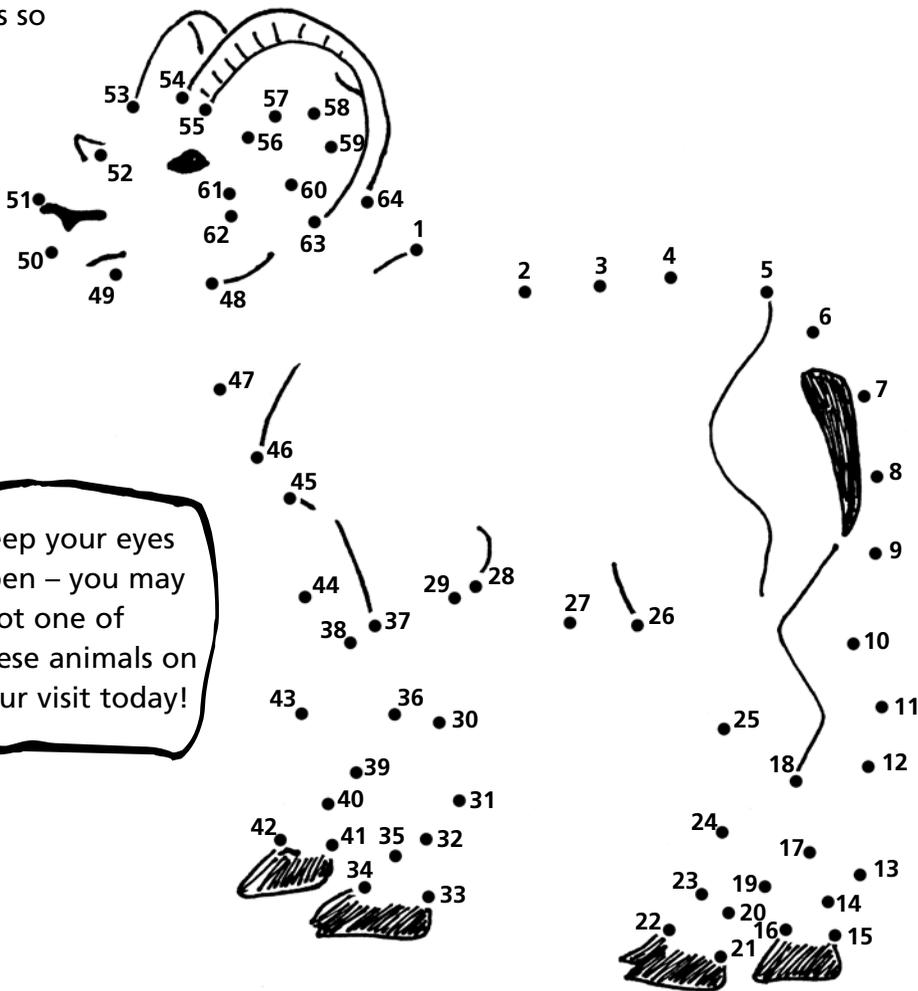
Connect the Dots



Connect the dots and discover a desert animal of Canyonlands.

Hint! I live on cliffs and ledges.

Another Hint! My hooved feet grip the rocks so I can travel in steep places.



Keep your eyes open – you may spot one of these animals on your visit today!

What is this animal?

Star Search



Did you know Canyonlands National Park has some of the darkest skies in the United States?

In many parts of this country and the world, night time lighting of city buildings and streets makes it hard to see the stars. This is known as light pollution. How many things that have to do with the night sky can you find in the word search below?

A T O T A U B V N S B O E T X B X Y	Astronomy
P S K O Z N V A H N I K C E V K J J	Big Dipper
T Z T Y R X P E I O G I B L K D R F	Constellations
A F W R R I P Q N I D K V E X Y O C	Galaxy
T G T U O P O O Y T I D I S Q W Y C	Little Dipper
R A H D K N R N L A P F C C V Q F J	Meteor
S R X Y C T O Q H L P Z R O H R S R	Milky Way
T W S O H U N M H L E G X P J A E U	Moon
A D D S K D R Z Y E R C Y E V P P I	North Star
R J T X V J N L D T F J B A P Q L F	Orion
S A F L X B B F I S X L H I U V A B	Planets
R K R R I K J M V N I F D T E U N P	Stars
P D R T C A S S I O P E I A Y M E W	Telescope
H S M E T E O R Q C L Q X X O G T C	
D A O P V P Z Y E T Z W A O I E S Q	
M I L K Y W A Y T E V L N A U W W W	
X A G N P C Y I X R A Q J C Z D M V	
S I F X X X L I R G P X G H U M N T	

Bonus: How can you help reduce light pollution at home? (check all that apply)

- Turn off lights not in use.
- Shield outdoor lights or point them downward.
- Turn off porch lights at bed time.
- Share "night saving" ideas with friends.

State of Erosion



Erosion is the wearing away of something. Over time, the sandstone landscape of Canyonlands has been eroded by water, ice and wind to create some amazing landforms. Some common kinds of landforms found in Canyonlands are **mesas**, **spires**, **canyons**, **buttes** and **arches**. Read the landform definitions below and then label each picture correctly.

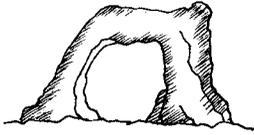
Mesa: A flat topped mountain that is usually wider than it is tall.

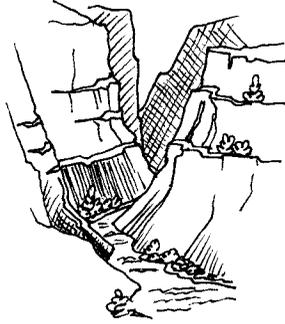
Spire: A tall skinny pillar of rock.

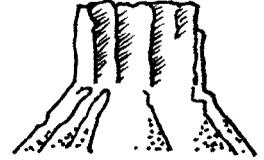
Canyon: A gorge cut into rock by running water; the sides are often steep cliffs

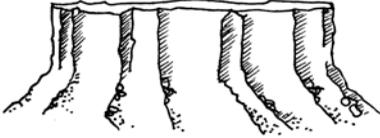
Butte: A flat topped hill, smaller than a mesa and usually taller than it is wide.

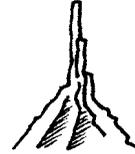
Arch: A "window" that has been eroded into rock.













Fill in the blanks with one of the landforms above.

1. **Island in the Sky** is a tall _____ that towers above the rest of Canyonlands.
2. **The Needles** are a group of tall finger-like _____.
3. **The Maze** is named for its many confusing gorges or _____s.

Most landforms are named after a person or something they look like (for example, *Wooden Shoe Arch*). Use your park map to find at least **two** examples of each of these landforms in Canyonlands and write them in the blanks.

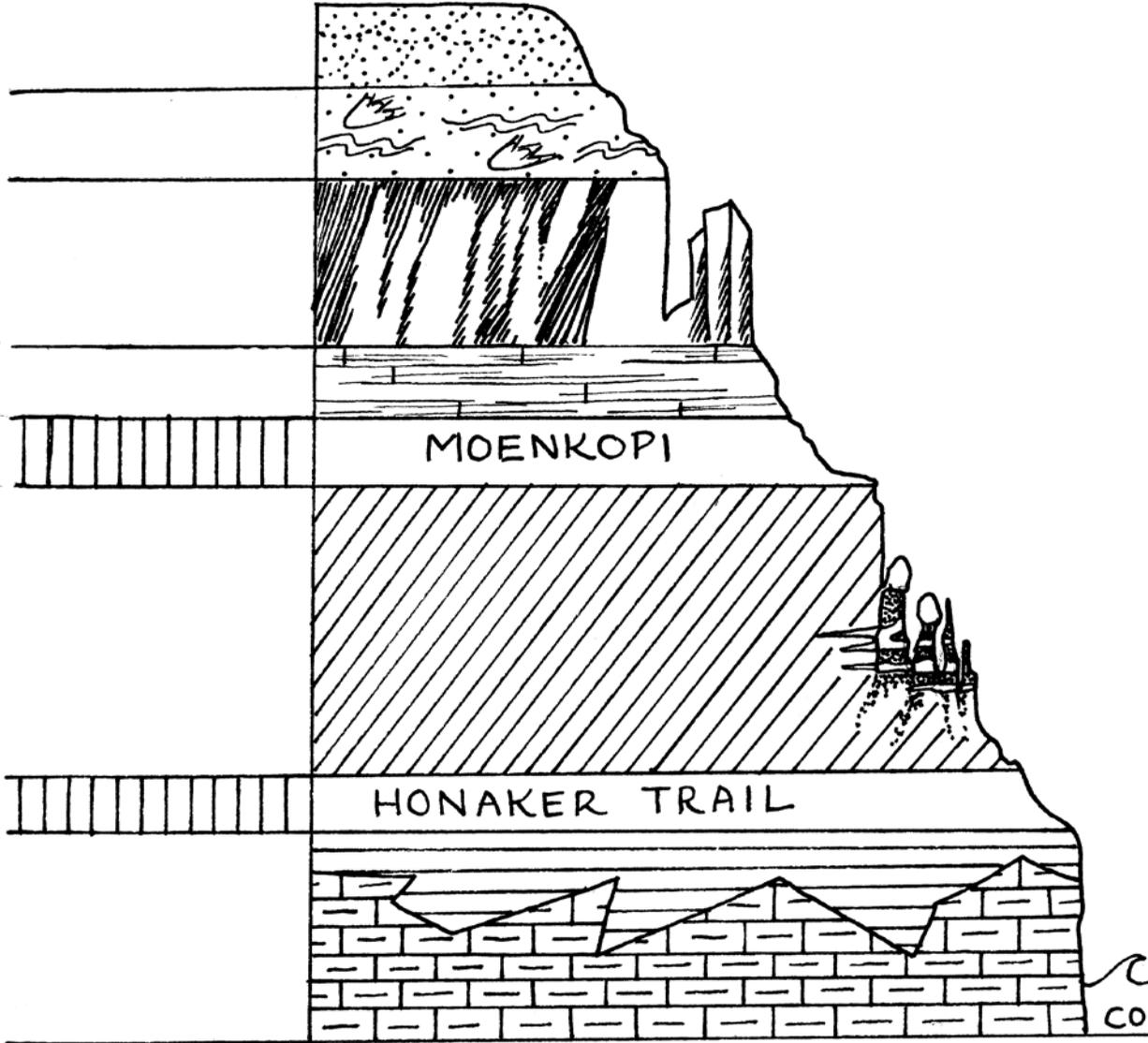
Mesa: _____ **Canyon:** _____

Butte: _____ **Arch:** _____

Layering Logic



Most of the rock in Canyonlands is sedimentary rock. Sediments include sand, mud and pebbles. Over the centuries, sediments were carried to this area and deposited by ancient rivers, lakes, seas and winds. After a long time they hardened into rocks. Try out your logic skills by reading about each layer of rock and then correctly labeling the geology diagram.



HINT! Rock layers are stacked on top of each other like a giant layer cake. The **oldest** layers are on the **bottom** and the **youngest** are on the **top**.

Paradox: The Colorado River currently cuts through this formation, which is the oldest visible layer in the park. It is made of shale and salts that were deposited in an ancient ocean.

Navajo: This sandstone was deposited by huge wind blown sand dunes and is the youngest layer in the park.

Chinle: Petrified wood and uranium are often found in this layer which was laid down just after the Moenkopi Formation. During this time, tropical streams, lakes and swamps covered the area.

Wingate: This sandstone forms towering cliffs that were deposited on top of the Chinle Formation. Desert varnish, the dark gray and black streaks that cover many exposed rock faces, is found on this layer.

Kayenta: Fresh water stream deposits formed this layer, leaving behind petrified ripples and dinosaur tracks. It is older than the Navajo, but younger than the Wingate.

Cutler Group Formation: This layer was formed from the sand of ancient oceans and river deposits. It was laid down between the Moenkopi and the Honaker Trail. The Cutler Group includes a layer called the Cedar Mesa Sandstone. The Needles formed in this colorful, striped layer.


COLORADO RIVER

*Sand, pressure, cement and time:
that's the sandstone recipe rhyme!*

Protecting Our Park



Circle the park visitors that are helping to protect and preserve Canyonlands National Park. Draw an "X" through the visitors that need to learn the rules.

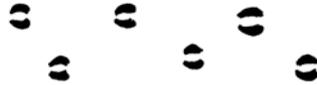


Who Am I?



Wildlife can be hard to spot in Canyonlands. Some animals come out at night to keep out of the hot sun. Other animals are **camouflaged** to hide themselves from **predators**.

Draw a line to connect the animal to its tracks. Then see if you can solve the riddles on the opposite page and write the name of the animal in the blank.



- Native American people tell stories about my cleverness.
- I hunt small animals for food.
- At night, you can often hear me howl.
- I am a member of the canine (dog) family.

I AM THE _____.

- I am considered very smart.
- I eat just about anything I can find on the ground.
- I am a glossy, black color.
- I am related to the North American crow.

I AM THE _____.

- I live on cliffs and ledges.
- I eat plants.
- My hooved feet grip the rocks and keep me stable in steep places.
- When full grown, I have large, heavy, curled horns.

I AM THE _____.

- There are over 3,000 species of my kind.
- I eat very small insects, hundreds of them every day.
- I have a long, sticky tongue.
- I store my body fat in my long tail.

I AM THE _____.

- I am rarely seen because most of my activities are nocturnal (at night).
- I eat deer, but sometimes I eat hares and rodents.
- I am a member of the feline (cat) family.
- My home is a den in a very hidden spot.

I AM THE _____.

predator: an animal that kills and feeds on another animal
camouflaged: to blend in with the surroundings

The Ancient Ones

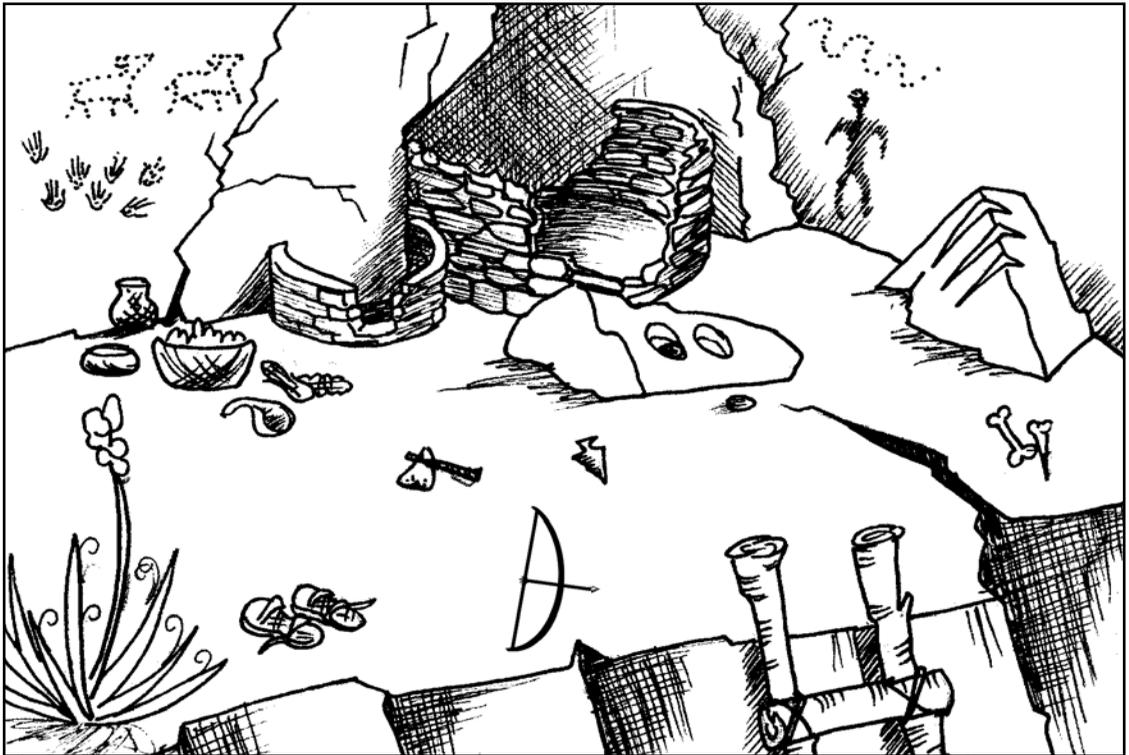


The **ancestral Puebloans** were one group of people who lived in this area about 1000 years ago and left behind many of their buildings and art, or **artifacts**. Try out your **archeology** skills by looking at the picture below and answering the questions.

1. Name two things that they painted or pecked onto the rock walls: _____

2. Name one thing they used to build their homes: _____

3. Name two tools that they left behind: _____



ancestral Puebloans: the ancestors of the Native American Hopi, Zuni & Pueblo people

archeology: the study of past human lifestyles and settlements

artifacts: objects from the past, made or used by humans

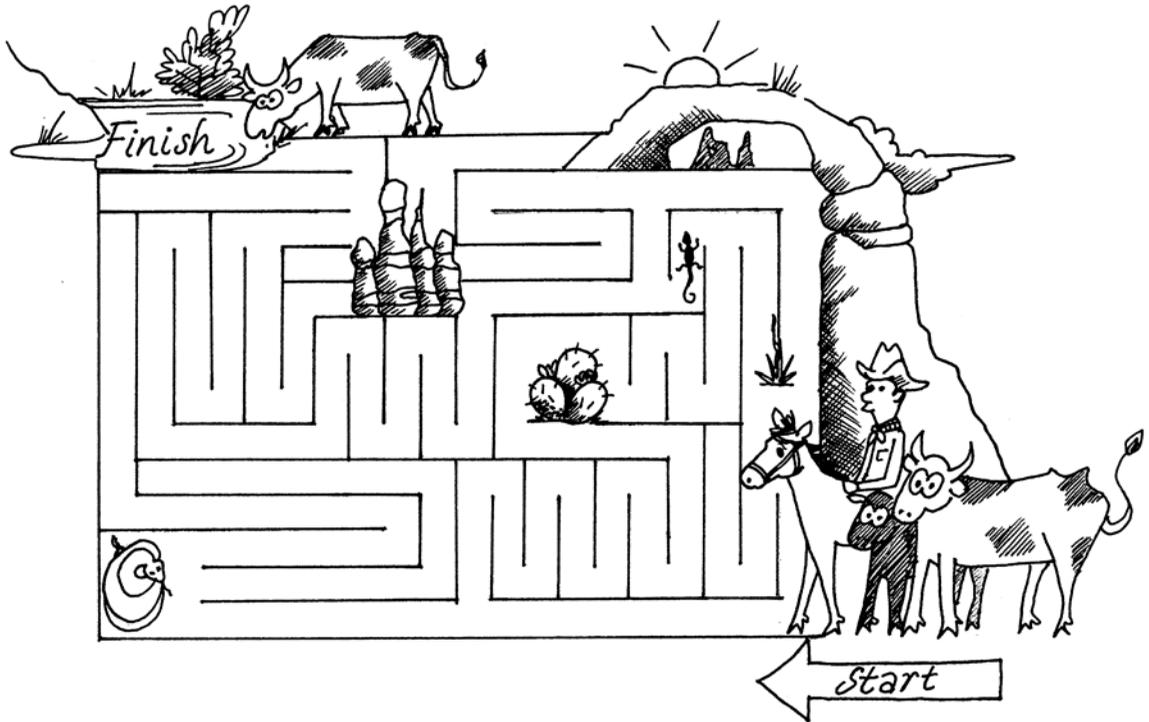
Never touch rock art, remove artifacts or enter buildings!

Cowboy Maze



Between 1880 and 1975 cowboys used the land that is now Canyonlands National Park as grazing land for cattle and sheep. Cowboys would live in camps and move their livestock to places where they could find food and water.

Complete the maze below to help this cowboy find grazing land and water for his cattle.



To get an idea of what a cowboy camp really looked like, check out the Cave Spring Trail in the Needles District!

Park Poetry



I like to use poetry to express what I have experienced while I've been exploring outdoors.

Cinquain poems consist of five lines that do not need to rhyme. Follow the steps below to write your own poem about something you have seen at Canyonlands.

- Line 1: One word, the **subject** of your poem (what the poem is about)
- Line 2: Two words that **describe** the subject
- Line 3: Three **action** words that the subject does
- Line 4: A **phrase** (4 to 5 words) that further describes the subject
- Line 5: One final word that renames the poem's subject (a **synonym**)

Here is an example:

Sunset
Brief Colorful
Dancing, swirling, fading
Peaceful end of the day
Nightfall



Now it's your turn:

Discovery Walk Bingo

While you are out exploring the park, look for, but do not collect, as many items on the Bingo card as you can. Write down or draw a picture of what you have discovered inside the squares and see how much of the Bingo board you can fill.



Something soft	Something prickly	Something beautiful	Something you smell
Something you hear	Something that moves	Something you can climb	Something older than you
Something younger than you	Something an animal lives in	Something that makes you happy	Something that is food for an animal
Something that is smooth	Something the color of your eyes	Something that grows	Something you have never seen before

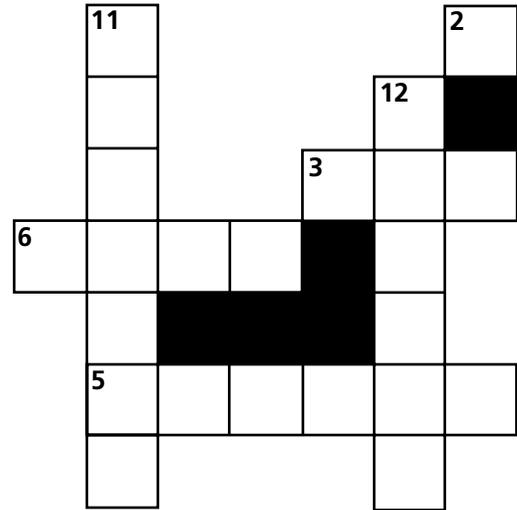


Puzzling Plants Crossword



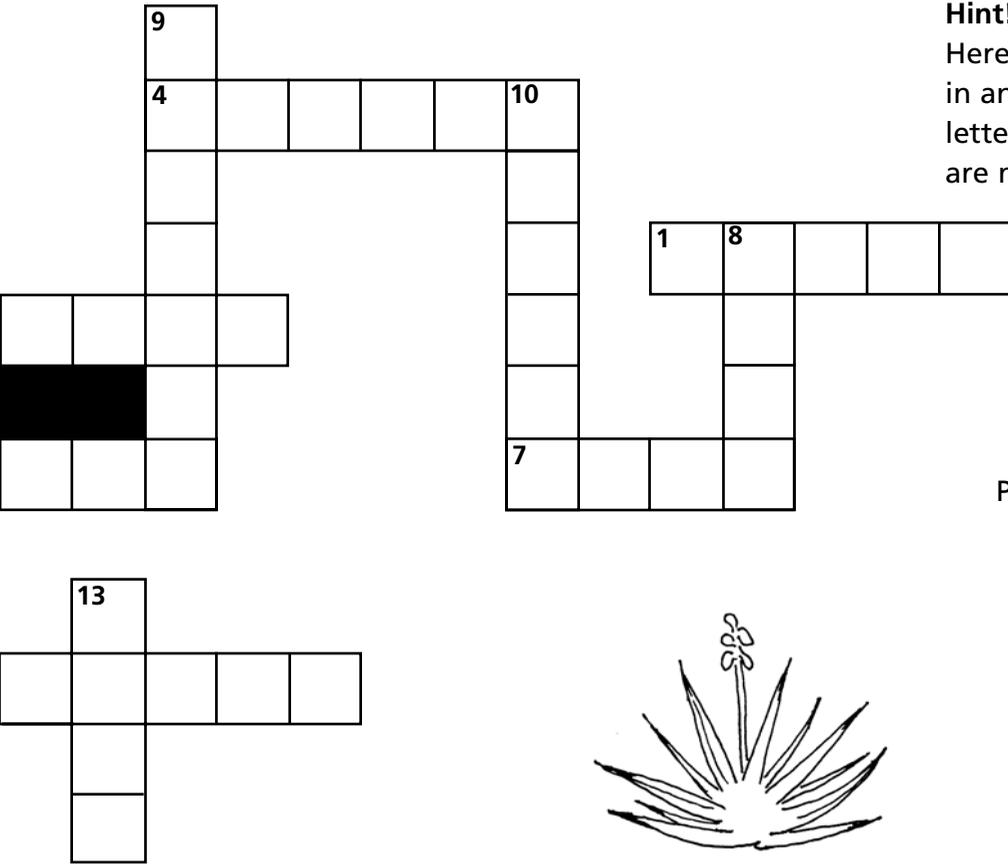
I don't have cool adaptations like these desert plants. That's why I carry water in my backpack when I visit Canyonlands.

Complete the crossword puzzle. For help, check out the displays and plant walks at the Island in the Sky and the Needles visitor centers.



Across

1. Mormon Tea has almost no leaves, but instead produces food in its bright _____ stems.
2. Many native plants are crowded out by the invasive Tamarisk or Salt-Cedar tree. It grows quickly and can use up to 300 gallons of _____ each day.
3. Cottonwood trees need more water than most desert plants and are often found along the Colorado and Green _____ .
4. Rabbitbrush has abundant yellow flowers and light colored _____ to help reflect sunlight and keep it cool.
5. Sagebrush is one of many plants with fuzzy hairs on its leaves to reduce _____ .
6. _____ grass produces small white grains that were an important food source to ancient cultures of the southwest.
7. The Four-winged Saltbush survives in very salty soil by secreting excess _____ onto its leaves.



Hint!

Here are the answers in anagram form (the letters in each word are mixed up).

- TORO
- EINSPS
- WOLFRES
- THAU
- PONYIN
- NIRPUJE
- PRATOVAEION
- IRCE
- VIRRSE
- RATEW
- TALS
- ERNGE
- VLAEES



Down

8. The Yucca plant has a very long _____ that reaches deep into the ground for water.
9. The Evening Primrose and Datura open their _____ at night to be pollinated by nocturnal moths.
10. The pads of the Prickly Pear Cactus are covered in protective _____ .
11. The leaves of the _____ tree have a waxy coating to help them keep water. This tree also produces blue "berries" or seed cones.
12. The _____ Pine tree produces edible nuts that contain over 3,000 calories per pound.
13. The Sego Lily is the state flower of _____ . (Hint: Canyonlands is in this state.)

Our National Parks



Have you ever wondered why we have National Parks and Monuments?

The arrowhead is the symbol of the National Park Service. It stands for the way that parks protect plants, animals, scenery and human history all across the United States.

The job of national park rangers – and Junior Rangers – is to protect our parks and help visitors enjoy them and take care of them, too. With everyone’s help, the parks will be beautiful places that people can enjoy forever.

When park rangers start their jobs they promise to take care of the parks so that many years from now, children can enjoy the same things you found here today.

Use the blank arrowhead provided here to write your own Junior Ranger pledge.

A large outline of an arrowhead shape. Inside the arrowhead, there are seven horizontal lines spaced evenly down its length, intended for writing a pledge.



Certificate of Completion

*has successfully completed the
Junior Ranger Program at
Canyonlands National Park
and is now a
JUNIOR RANGER
of the National Park Service.*

Park Ranger

Date

Canyonlands

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Canyonlands National Park



Canyonlands Junior Ranger Program

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