

Capulin Volcano National Monument





From coast to coast, national parks can be found all over the nation. Which means, plenty of opportunities to participate in the Junior Ranger Program!

You'll have the chance to explore each park individually by learning about plants, animals, history, plus much more. You'll even receive a special badge. The more parks you visit, the more badges you can collect!



Capulin Volcano National Monument JUNIOR RANGER GUIDE

Discovering

Capulin Volcano National Monument

Welcome to Capulin Volcano National Monument. A varied and unique landscape at the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, Capulin Volcano is located in the heart of the 8,000 sq. mile Raton-Clayton Volcanic Field.

Here you can peer at 60,000 year old rocks spewed from the center of a volcano. Search for deer, elk, lizards, and birds. Gaze at the 360° view of the surrounding area as you hike the rim. From top to bottom, opportunities to explore Capulin Volcano abound.

As a Junior Ranger, you'll learn more about Capulin Volcano, the National Park Service, and how you can protect this and other public lands. People of **all** ages can become Junior Rangers. To earn your Junior Ranger badge complete 4 activities in the book, including the Flat Hat Chat, if you are ages 6-11. Are you older? Do 6 activities in the book! Show your completed work to a park ranger, who will issue you an official Junior Ranger badge and certificate.

Tell us...

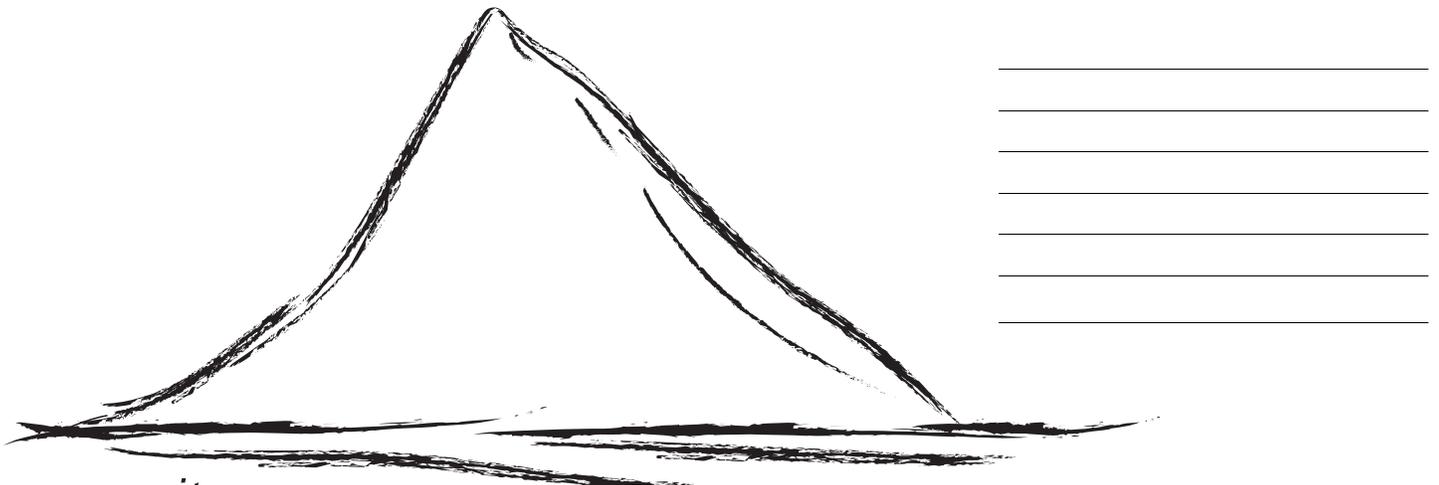
your name: _____

your age: _____

Building a Volcano

In 1891, Capulin Volcano was declared one of the “most perfect specimens of extinct volcanoes in North America.” Cinder cone volcanoes, like Capulin, are the simplest form of volcano. Two other classic volcano types are composite volcanoes (also known as stratovolcanoes) and shield volcanoes. Each type has a general shape, composition, and eruption style. Learn about these types of volcanoes by matching the images to the descriptive words in the word bank.

large
single vent
non-explosive
multiple vents
hundreds of feet tall
steep slopes
gentle slopes
explosive
crater
thousands of feet tall
small
medium-sized
semi-explosive



*composite
or stratovolcano*

*cinder cone
volcano*



shield volcano



RHYMING

SCRAMBLE

Capulin Volcano National Monument is part of an 8000 square mile volcanic field that covers parts of New Mexico, Colorado, and Oklahoma. This area is unique and has its own vocabulary. Use the rhymes to unscramble the words that park rangers use to describe this area. Then, find them in the Word Search on the next page.

- When I erupt, I spew rock and ash like a fountain.
It rains down all around to form a cone-shaped mountain. NERIDC ECON _ _ _ _ _
- Underground I bide my time,
In an eruption I break through to cover the countryside. MGAAM & VAAL _ _ _ _ _ & _ _ _ _ _
- My name means "to spin,"
I resemble a ball that some call a pigskin. USIFFRMO _ _ _ _ _
- The Spanish word meaning "mouth,"
This is where lava came out. COBA _ _ _ _ _
- The volcano scattered these wide and far.
Some are as small as your fist; others the size of a car. OSMBB _ _ _ _ _
- I rose out of flowing lava towards the sky.
I am otherwise known as tumuli. EEZEQSU PU _ _ _ _ _
- This is where the eruption begins,
creating volcanoes where nothing had been. NTEV _ _ _ _ _
- One volcano alone cannot make this,
Instead there must be many over a distance. IFEDL _ _ _ _ _
- I am the largest feature in the volcanic field.
My shape reminds some of an upside-down shield. REISAR RNADEG _ _ _ _ _
- Runny lava helps me grow quite tall,
And my sides aren't steep at all. HSLEDI _ _ _ _ _
- I have a perfect cone shape,
To become a national monument was my fate. APCLUNI _ _ _ _ _
- Clouds of this form during an eruption,
Causing many a disruption. HAS _ _ _ _ _
- When the volcano decided to blow,
It threw out lava full of holes. ORCASI _ _ _ _ _
- A mixture of boiling rocky mush,
From beneath the ground did gush. EPURTOIN _ _ _ _ _
- Volcanoes erupt from a gaping hole.
The depression left behind is shaped like a bowl. RCERAT _ _ _ _ _
- This lava rock is extremely tough and hard to fray.
It takes a long time to wear away. ASLTBA _ _ _ _ _
- From the planet's crust did seep,
Ash, gas, and lava to form a mountainous heap. OLVANCO _ _ _ _ _

WORD SEARCH

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | C | E | S | S | D | E | F | D | A | N | V |
| B | A | B | I | S | L | A | L | O | T | M | I |
| M | P | U | E | Z | E | E | U | Q | S | O | S |
| O | U | E | R | A | I | R | O | C | S | N | E |
| B | L | L | R | F | H | E | S | F | O | A | T |
| A | I | S | A | U | S | S | I | U | A | C | L |
| E | N | C | G | V | P | B | A | S | A | L | T |
| A | O | R | R | V | A | T | R | I | P | O | Z |
| B | C | R | A | T | E | R | I | F | S | V | F |
| U | C | I | N | D | E | R | C | O | N | E | I |
| A | I | E | D | D | M | R | A | R | N | U | R |
| U | V | C | E | A | M | G | A | M | O | T | Z |

Let's Get Moving

People have visited Capulin Volcano for more than a hundred years. In the early 1900s, visitors would hike up the side of the volcano to the top. Today, we drive the road and trails are used to explore the rim. Complete the activity below as you walk the volcano rim trail to learn about exercise and the human body.

1. Before you begin your hike check your pulse rate. Use the diagrams on the right to locate your pulse points. Count how many pulses you feel in approximately 10 seconds. Record your results.



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2. Now begin your hike. Once you get to the top of the rim, stop and check your pulse again for approximately 10 seconds. Did your pulse rate change? If so, how?

-
3. Exercise causes your heart to beat faster. We know this because our pulse rate increases. List a reason your heart might beat faster during exercise.

-
4. Exercise, such as hiking the rim trail, helps keep your heart and body healthy. Kids should try to perform 60 minutes of active play per day. What activities would you be willing to do each day to help make you strong and healthy?

Bonus: Walk the crater vent trail. How many steps does it take you to get to the bottom?

What is your pulse rate?
Your pulse is the blood surging through your blood vessels with each beat of your heart. Therefore, pulse rate lets you know how fast your heart is beating.

Why is it important for your heart to beat?
The heart acts as the pump of your circulatory system. The circulatory system moves blood through the body so each cell can have food and oxygen for energy allowing your body to move.

I SPY

High elevation refers to the landscape and its distance above sea level. People have always been attracted to the beautiful views available from points of high elevation, like Capulin Volcano. Visit the top of the volcano to discover what you can see.

Start with these:

- Sangre de Cristo Mountains
- Sierra Grande
- Town of Capulin
- Red Mountain
- Town of Folsom
- Boca
- Lava Flow
- Oklahoma
- Texas
- Colorado

Now try these:

- Johnson Mesa
- Tumuli
- Visitor Center
- Baby Capulin
- Rabbit Ears Volcano
- Town of Des Moines
- Mesa Larga
- Mud Hill
- Toll Gate Canyon
- José Butte

Can you list 6 more things that you saw?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

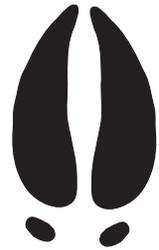
Neat Feet

Animals, like humans, have very specialized feet. Animals that inhabit Capulin Volcano National Monument must have extremely tough feet that can endure the sharp lava rock. These feet must also help them survive in some way. Match the animal to the description and tracks to learn about these neat feet!



Mountain Lion

I have long toes with claws to help me roost in trees away from predators.



Porcupine

I have padded feet with claws that allow me to move on vertical and inverted surfaces. I can literally climb walls.



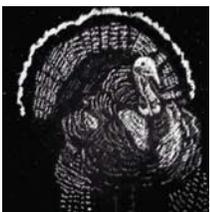
Collared Lizard

I have cloven hooves that allow me to roam over rocky terrain and defend myself against predators.



Mule Deer

My padded feet have long curved claws that help me to dig burrows and climb trees so I can hide during the day.



Turkey

I am a hunter on the prowl. My padded feet take me over rock and up trees quietly in search of creatures to eat.



Painting Pinyons

Pinyon pine can be found throughout the park, from the slopes of the volcano to the base and surrounding area. High elevation and low rainfall create a well-suited habitat for pinyon pine. However, pinyon grow in such an extreme environment that they take on a bushy, sprawled shape. Take time to examine a pinyon on the trail or at the base, and see just how artistic you can be.



Draw a slender trunk growing out of rocky ground.

Extend the trunk outward, showing it twisting and looking gnarled (from the wind and the weather).

Add lots of gnarled branches. Make these twisty, too.

Keep the whole tree short and stocky.

Draw smaller branches extending from the larger branches.

Add short needles coming out all over the smaller branches.

Add small pine cones to some of the branches.

How does your drawing compare to the real thing?





History's Mysteries

Capulin Volcano erupted approximately 56,000 to 62,000 years ago and has since been a silent witness to the passage of time. Answer the fill-in-the-blank questions below to learn about a few of the historical events that took place around Capulin Volcano. Put your answers in the boxes on the opposite page to spell out the name of the first park ranger stationed at Capulin.

1. In 1866, Charles _____ and Oliver Loving partnered together to establish a cattle trail from Belknap, Texas, to Cheyenne, Wyoming, in search of a market for their longhorn cattle. The _____-Loving Trail passed through the Raton-Clayton Volcanic Field, along the eastern side of Capulin Volcano, and north toward Colorado. As many as 700,000 head of cattle are said to have passed along the trail in one year.
2. Eastern settlers who moved westward to the frontier had much to learn in order to survive. The newcomers learned and adopted Spanish practices of horsemanship, roping, herding, and ranching, giving rise to an American icon—the _____.
3. President Woodrow Wilson established Capulin Mountain National _____ on August 25, 1916 to preserve “a striking example of a recent extinct volcano.” In 1987, the name of the park was changed to Capulin Volcano National _____.
4. September 1821, just one month after the fall of the Spanish Empire, William Becknell of Missouri blazed the _____ Trail which would be followed by countless others in search of profit. The Cimarron Route of the _____ Trail passed within view of Capulin Volcano.
5. A mix between wild Mexican cattle and eastern cows, the Texas _____ was known for its long horns and gentle nature. Many ranches in Capulin area raised _____ at the turn of the century because of its hardiness.
6. Ancient bison bones and Paleoindian spear points were found 9 miles from Capulin Volcano at the _____ Man Archeological Site.
7. Capulin Volcano and the surrounding area were once part of the vast _____ Empire. The _____ Conquistadors traveled through this area searching for gold and riches.
8. A branch of the Santa Fe Trail, known as the Granada-_____ Trail passed along the south side of Capulin Volcano. It was used to move military supplies across the high plains of New Mexico.
9. Plains Indians historically lived and hunted in the High Plains of New Mexico. Big game species such as bison, antelope, and mule deer were plentiful, drawing groups such as the Comanche, Ute, and _____ Apache.

Flat Hat Chat

Every day, park rangers all over the nation work hard to protect national parks and help visitors. They do things such as: study plants and animals, answer questions, give tours, collect fees at entrance stations, care for buildings and roads, patrols the trails, or work at park headquarters. Each of these jobs help to fulfill the National Park Service mission. During your visit, interview one of the Capulin Volcano Park Rangers to find out what they do.

Here are a few questions to get you started.

1. What is your name? _____
2. What is your job? _____
3. What do you like best about being a park ranger? _____

Now it's your turn to create the questions! What would you like to know about park rangers? Add two questions to those above.

1. _____
2. _____



Capulin Volcano National Monument

Junior Ranger Pledge

As a Junior Ranger at Capulin,
I promise to discover all I can.
I pledge to protect and preserve
every bug, plant, and bird.
National parks are tons of fun
because they're available to everyone.



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To learn more about Capulin Volcano National Monument visit our website at www.nps.gov/cavo or like us on Facebook.

If you have comments about this program, please contact:

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Safety First!

Please follow these tips when visiting Capulin:

1. Stay on designated trails.
2. Don't climb on rocks, railing, or ledges.
3. Don't feed or attempt to touch wild animals.
4. Drink plenty of water, wear a hat, and apply sunscreen.
5. Put trash in trash cans or recycling bins.