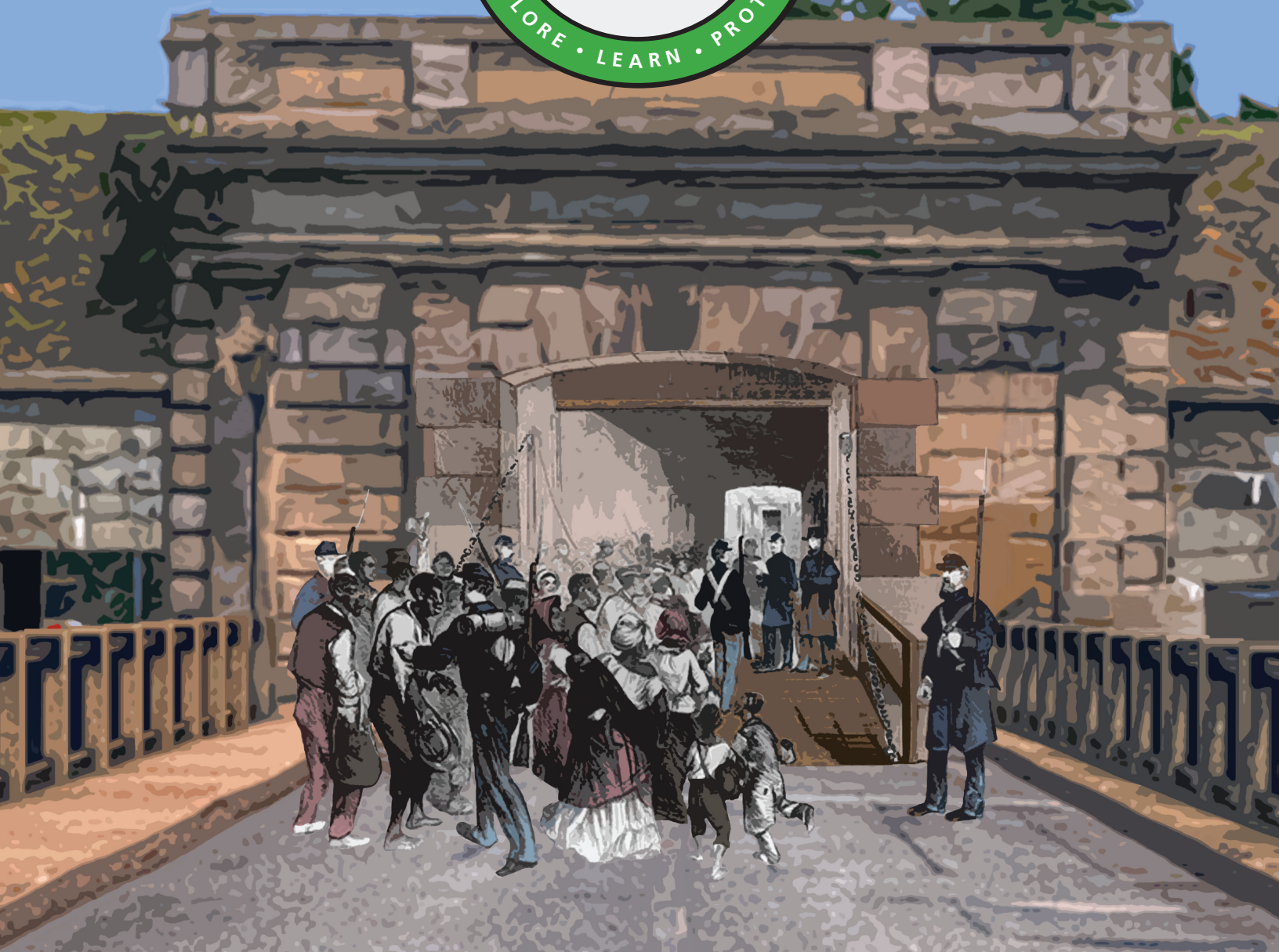


**FORT MONROE**

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Fort Monroe National Monument



# JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM





# Junior Ranger



## Welcome to Fort Monroe National Monument!

Abundant natural resources made this small piece of land attractive to the American Indian for hundreds of years before Captain John Smith and the Virginia Company saw its importance for the defense of the Chesapeake Bay. In 1609 the first fortification, Fort Algernourne, was built here along the bay. This location has proven to be an excellent place for national defense for over 400 years.

The United States Army began construction of Fort Monroe in 1819 and named it for President James Monroe. The U.S. Army remained here until the fort closed as a military base in 2011.

Fort Monroe was important to the protection of the nation's capital in Washington, D.C.. It is the largest stone fort ever built in the United States. It has also been called the "Gibraltar of the Chesapeake," because of its strength and location. Working with other surrounding defensive positions, Fort Monroe was able to control the entire mouth of the Chesapeake Bay so well that it was never attacked.

During the U.S. Civil War tens of thousands of freedom seekers found sanctuary at Fort Monroe starting in 1861. Fort Monroe has also been called "Freedom's Fortress" ever since.


Today the health of the Chesapeake Bay area is returning. Once again native plants and animals are thriving in the areas surrounding Fort Monroe after years of absence. Explore the Fort Monroe peninsula. In the beach areas you might see oyster shells. Looking out over the waters, or flying over-head, you might see the Brown Pelican and other birds. These are examples of conservation efforts at work.

As a Junior Ranger, part of your job is to protect the environment, historic places, and to treat everyone equally. By doing so, and asking others to as well, you can help make sure everyone has the same freedom and opportunity as you for many years to come. Ask a parent or adult you know to join you in your Junior Ranger explorations.




## How to earn your Junior Ranger Badge and Certificate

### Junior Rangers (Ages 5-8)

- ☆ Tour the Casemate Museum and walk around the fort. Explore what is here and use that information to help you.
- ☆ Complete at least 4 activities in the booklet and show your work to a Park Ranger or a staff member at the Casemate Museum.
- ☆ Activities with  symbol are recommended for you.

### Junior Rangers (Ages 9 and Up)

- ☆ Tour the Casemate Museum and walk around the fort. Explore what is here and use that information to help you.
- ☆ Complete at least 6 activities in the booklet and show your work to a Park Ranger or a staff member at the Casemate Museum.
- ☆ Activities with  symbol are recommended for you.

Adults can assist the Junior Ranger in the activities but please allow the Junior Ranger to work on the activities on their own.

"Hi, I am Sergeant Patches. The U.S. Army was here for a long time! I served as the mascot for the 2nd Coast Artillery, Battery G in Battery DeRussy during World War II here at Fort Monroe. I was very good at my job. I could even pull the rope to fire the battery's 12 inch disappearing gun!

We are looking for new recruits to be Junior Rangers here at Fort Monroe National Monument. Will you complete the activities needed to join our ranks?"

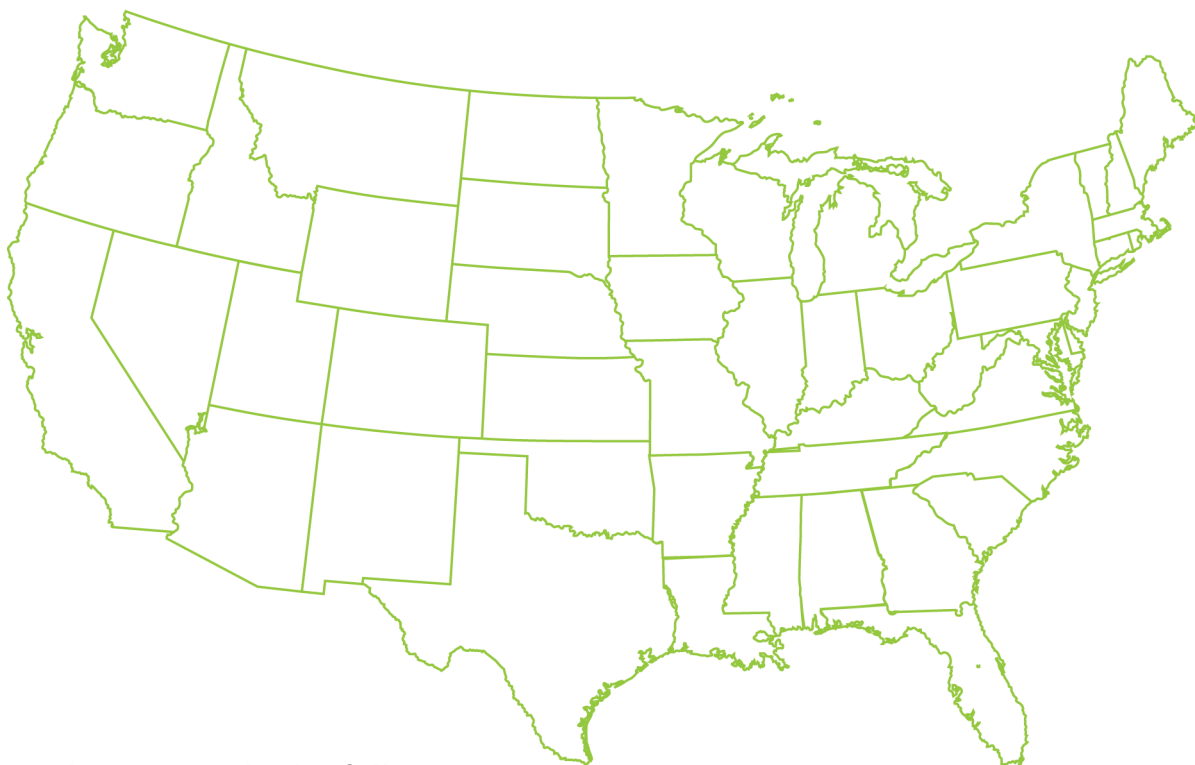






# Seeking Freedom

- ✧ In May of 1861 escaped enslaved people started arriving at Fort Monroe looking for freedom. The United States Civil War was just a month old and a trained lawyer, U.S. Major General Benjamin Butler, in command at Fort Monroe announced his "Contraband decision." Arguing that since Virginia had seceded, saying it was no longer part of the United States, the Fugitive Slave Act did not apply. Freedom seekers arriving at Fort Monroe would not be returned to bondage. Instead, freedom seekers would be considered "contraband of war." Becoming a "contraband" was the first step towards freedom for thousands of enslaved people in the United States. So many freedom seekers came to Fort Monroe that it became known as "Freedom's Fortress." The Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution finally ended slavery in the United States in 1865.



- ✧ For this activity do the following:

On the map place a mark where Fort Monroe is located.

Draw a house where you live and draw the route you took to get to Freedom's Fortress.



Did you know Building #1 - Quarters No. 1 is on the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom?

To learn more visit: [www.nps.gov/ugrr](http://www.nps.gov/ugrr)



NATIONAL  
UNDERGROUND RAILROAD  
NETWORK TO FREEDOM





# Find Your Way Around



For this activity do the following:

Match the locations with the correct number on the map below.

Old Point Comfort Lighthouse

Casemate Museum

Continental Park Gazebo

Building #17 - Lee's Quarters

The Chamberlin

Moat

Chapel of the Centurion

Parade Ground and Lincoln Gun

Battery DeRussy

Building #1 - Quarters No. 1

North Beach Area

Building #50

Engineer Wharf

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_





# True or False?

As a Junior Ranger, it is important to research the past in order to know and understand historical events. Your job is to help uncover the history of what has happened at Fort Monroe National Monument.

Use the exhibits, brochures, signs, and trading cards if you need help.



**Junior Rangers (Ages 9 and Up):** decide whether the statements below are true or false and explain what really happened to any false statements.

- ☆ Fort Monroe is called "Freedom's Fortress" because escaped slaves sought freedom here. True or False? If false, what really happened?
- ☆ James Apostles Fields was born a slave and became a lawyer and Virginia State Delegate. True or False? If false, what really happened?
- ☆ Mary Smith Peake started Hampton University for elite students. True or False? If false, what really happened?
- ☆ The U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corps was based at Fort Monroe. True or False? If false, what really happened?
- ☆ Captain John Smith said, "This is a poor location for defense." True or False? If false, what really happened?
- ☆ Jefferson Davis was never at Fort Monroe. True or False? If false, what really happened?

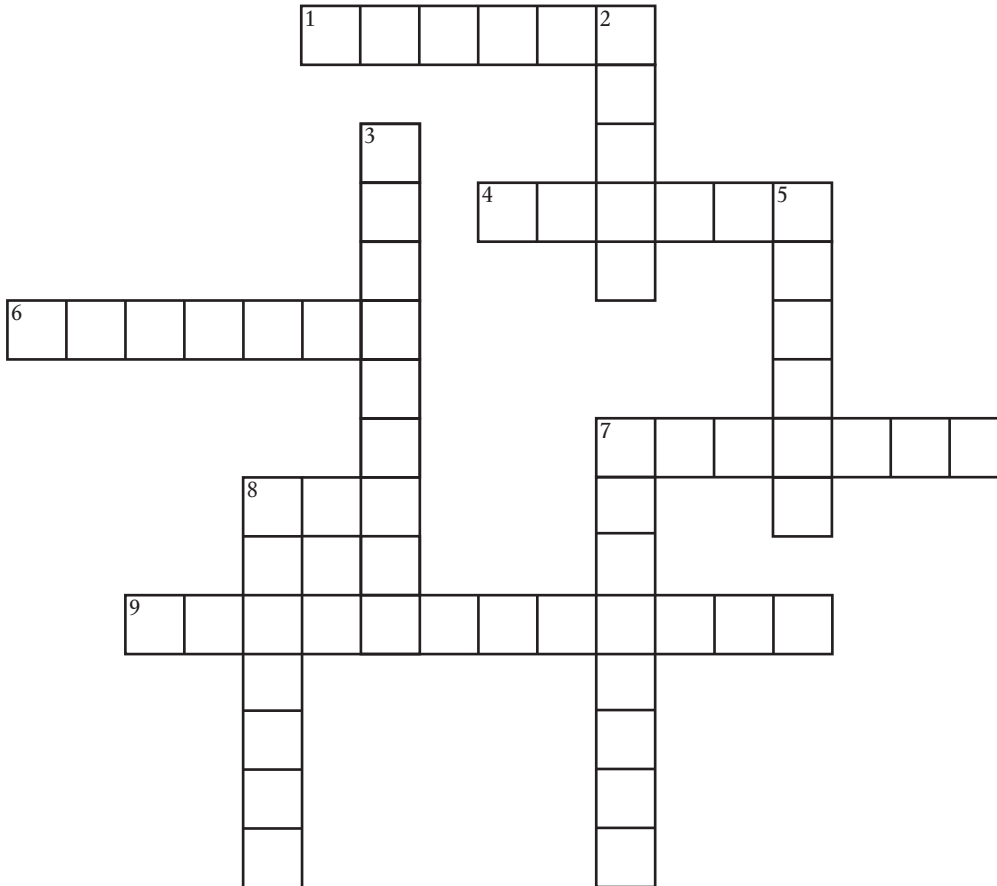




# Crossword Puzzle



- Use the clues to help solve the puzzle. There are more words in the list than in the puzzle. Try to solve it by yourself but if you need help ask an adult or a Park Ranger.



## Possible Words

Endicott  
Hampton  
Lee  
Contraband  
Fields  
Fortress  
Peake  
Army  
Jefferson  
Butler  
Ranger  
Gibraltar  
Freedom  
Smith  
Lincoln  
Amendment  
Custis  
Construction

## Across

1. Mary \_\_\_\_\_ married a young lieutenant posted at the fort.
4. U.S. Major General Benjamin \_\_\_\_\_ decided the U.S. Army would protect escaped slaves.
6. On the grounds of what is today \_\_\_\_\_ University Mary Smith Peake taught freedom seekers, becoming the American Missionary Association's first African American teacher.
7. In 1862, James Apostles Fields escaped to \_\_\_\_\_ at Fort Monroe.
8. Robert E. \_\_\_\_\_ helped to complete construction of the fort.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ of Fort Monroe took 15 years (1819-1834).

## Down

2. Captain John \_\_\_\_\_ proclaimed the Fort Monroe peninsula a "little isle fit for a castle."
3. The 13th \_\_\_\_\_ to the U.S. Constitution made slavery illegal in the United States.
5. A Junior \_\_\_\_\_ is a young person training to be a member of the National Park Service.
7. Fort Monroe has often been called "Freedom's \_\_\_\_\_."
8. President \_\_\_\_\_ signed the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863.







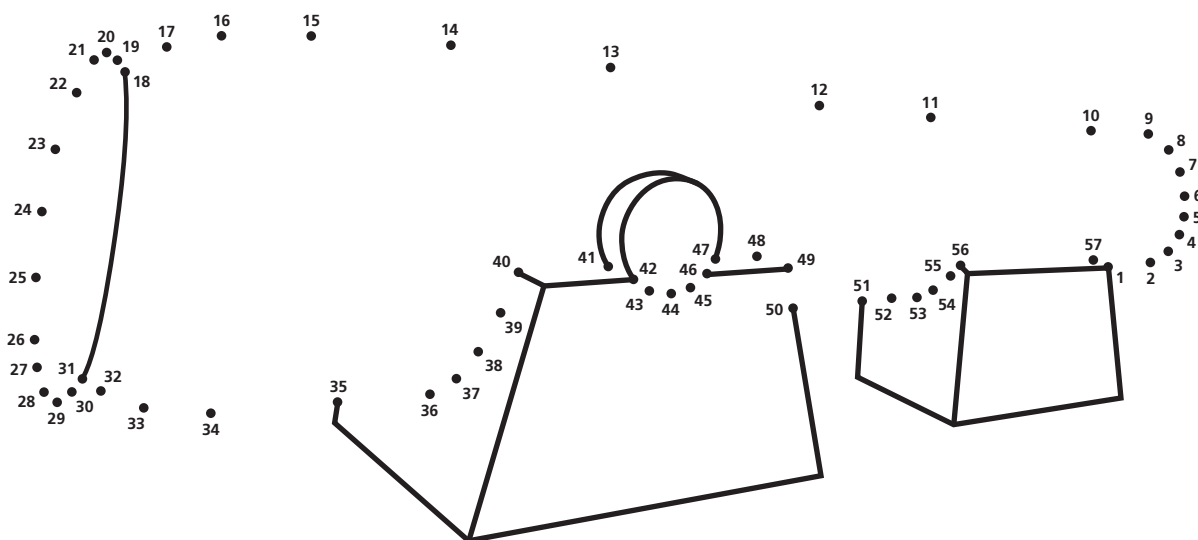
# Connect the Dots



For this activity do the following:

Connect the dots and fill in the blanks in the sentences to help answering the question below.

Cast in 1860, this was the first 15-inch \_\_\_\_\_. Its range was more than four miles. Weight of the \_\_\_\_\_ was over 300 lbs. During Civil War it was used to bombard Confederate batteries on \_\_\_\_\_ Point. The gun was named for President \_\_\_\_\_ in March 1862.



What am I called?



Junior Rangers (Ages 9 and Up): Edit the text above taken from the historic marker. Circle any mistakes and write in the corrections.



Students of history are discovering new facts about the past all the time. When that happens we may learn that information in books and on signs are not always as correct as we thought. We now know the correct, verified, range of the Rodman gun from tests at Fort Monroe was actually 3.25 miles. Remember to always double check your sources before finishing a project!

Hint: A sign like this one may help you.





# Eye Spy



Draw a picture of something you see here at Fort Monroe.



**Junior Rangers (Ages 9 and Up): Answer the following questions.**



The ramparts are the stone and earth walls of the fort.  
What do you find on the ramparts today? Give an example.



How does the water get in the moat?



Built in 1928, today the Chamberlin is a retirement community.  
What was it originally?



The return of the once endangered Brown Pelican that  
you see around the Fort Monroe peninsula is a sign of  
the improvement of the health of the Chesapeake Bay.  
They were taken off the endangered species list in 2009.  
How many pelicans have you seen today?



Did you know the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail is about 3,000 miles long? The trail is based on maps and journals John Smith wrote in 1607-1609.

To learn more visit: [www.smithtrail.net](http://www.smithtrail.net)





# Word Search



Find the words hidden in the puzzle then match the numbers to the correct definition of the word. The words may run up, down, forward, backward, or diagonal.

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

Words to find:

1. Casemate
2. Rodman
3. Fortress
4. Moat
5. Union
6. Ironclads
7. Contraband
8. Monroe
9. Freedom
10. Hampton
11. Gibraltar
12. Engineers

Matching:

- \_\_\_\_\_ another name that the United States forces were called during the U.S. Civil War
- \_\_\_\_\_ those in charge of design and construction in the U.S. Army
- \_\_\_\_\_ a fundamental right in the United States that belongs to all individuals
- \_\_\_\_\_ a type of cannon protecting Fort Monroe during the U.S. Civil War
- \_\_\_\_\_ part of a nickname for the largest stone fortification built in the United States
- \_\_\_\_\_ status of freedom seekers behind Union lines at Fort Monroe after May 1861
- \_\_\_\_\_ fortified gun emplacement
- \_\_\_\_\_ name of a local university that started as a place to educate former enslaved persons
- \_\_\_\_\_ water surrounding a fortified location
- \_\_\_\_\_ the USS *Monitor* and CSS *Virginia* were this type of warship
- \_\_\_\_\_ an impressive military defensive position
- \_\_\_\_\_ the last name of the President of the United States this fort was named in honor of







# Equal or Unequal?



All Junior Rangers: circle if you believe the situation is equal or unequal.



Junior Rangers (Ages 9 and Up): Also explain how to make unequal situations equal.

Captain John Smith enjoyed the same food and living conditions as the other colonists while exploring the surrounding waters that are now part of the Captain John Smith National Historic Trail.  
If unequal, what would you do to make it equal?

Equal

Unequal

Another student in your class is being bullied.  
If unequal, what would you do to make it equal?

Equal

Unequal

Any soldier could bury their pet on top of Fort Monroe's ramparts.  
If unequal, what would you do to make it equal?

Equal

Unequal

During the U.S. Civil War former enslaved persons living at Fort Monroe as "Contraband" often had to work without pay.  
If unequal, what would you do to make it equal?

Equal

Unequal

All the students on the playground always play together.  
If unequal, what would you do to make it equal?

Equal

Unequal





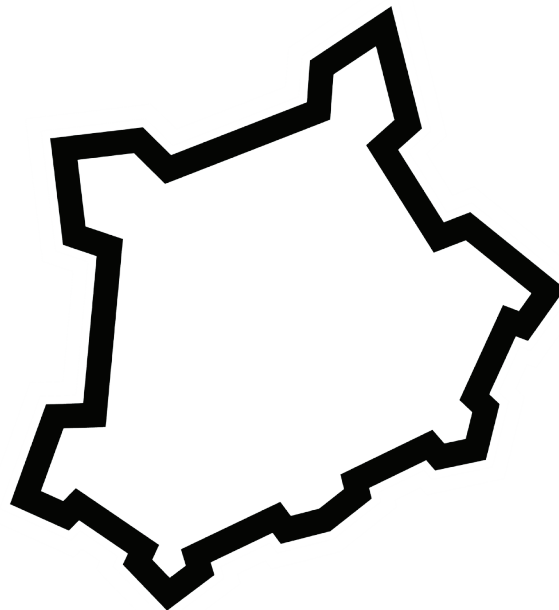
# Draw a Fort



Fort Monroe was designed by skilled French-born engineer Brigadier General Simon Bernard and constructed from 1819 - 1834. He designed the fort to have six sides, tipped with seven triangular shaped points, called bastions, that allow cannons to protect all sides of the fort, and a tidal moat eight feet deep at high tide. It is the largest stone fort ever built in the United States, and was the crowning example of the system of forts being built on the east coast at that time. In September of 2011, Fort Monroe was the last active U.S. Army fort to be protected by a moat when it closed as a military base. On November 1, 2011, the fort was proclaimed Fort Monroe National Monument, the 396th addition to the National Park Service.



In the space provided, draw your own design for a fort.



Compare: How is your fort similar to, or different from, Fort Monroe?

Similar

Different





# Interview a Ranger



Ask a Park Ranger or Casemate Museum staff member the following:

- ☆ What is your job?
- ☆ What do you like best about your job?
- ☆ What are some ways that a Junior Ranger can protect our National Parks?
- ☆ How can a Junior Ranger help preserve and educate others about Fort Monroe National Monument?
- ☆ Ask your own question for a Park Ranger or Casemate Museum staff member.

## Junior Ranger Responsibilities:

Junior Rangers are responsible for taking care of national parks and helping those who need assistance. As a Junior Ranger, it is your duty to protect and educate others about the National Park Service and treat everyone with kindness.

Answer the questions about the responsibilities of a Junior Ranger by circling an answer and explain why you chose that answer. Ask an adult or a Park Ranger for help.

Does a Junior Ranger exclude others from playing with them during recess? Yes      No  
Why or Why not?

Does a Junior Ranger say "Please" and "Thank you?" Yes      No  
Why or Why not?

Does a Junior Ranger help others when they need help? Yes      No  
Why or Why not?

Does a Junior Ranger bring food, drinks, and gum into a historic site? Yes      No  
Why or Why not?

Does a Junior Ranger pick up litter even if it is not their own? Yes      No  
Why or Why not?







# Junior Ranger



## Congratulations!

- Now that you have finished your training, take this book to a Park Ranger, or Casemate Museum staff member to check your work.
- After a Park Ranger or Casemate Museum staff member confirms it is complete, recite and sign the Junior Ranger Pledge.
- Receive your Junior Ranger Badge

### The Junior Ranger Pledge

"As a Junior Ranger, I promise to explore other national park sites, protect, and preserve national park sites so others can enjoy them, follow all rules in the park, treat others fairly and with respect, and to teach others about what I learned today and in future national park visits."

---

Junior Ranger

Date

---

Park Ranger

Date

"Well done and welcome to the ranks of the Junior Rangers!

Your next mission is to become a Junior Ranger at as many other National Parks that you can."

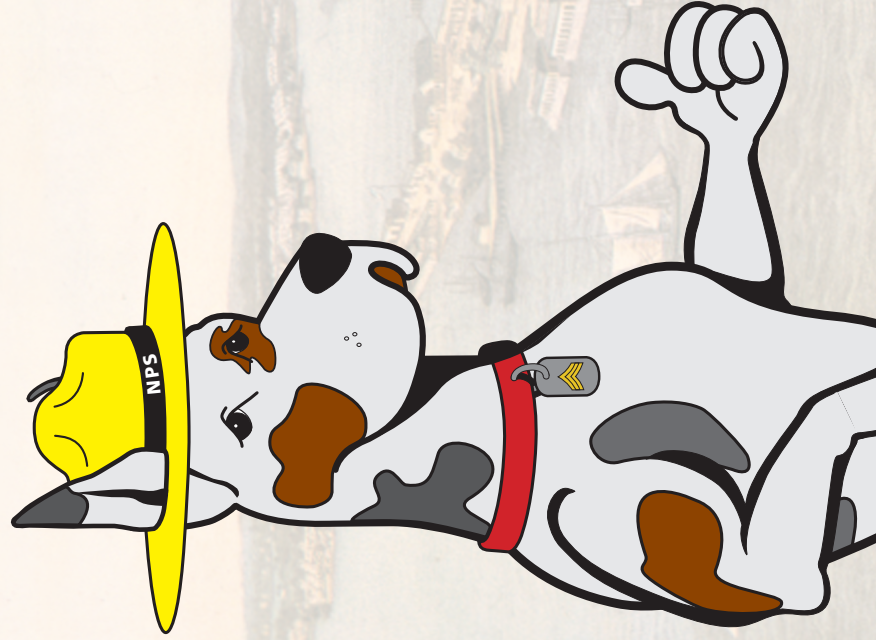


# Fort Monroe National Monument



Awarded for successfully exploring, learning, and completing all the requirements earning the title:

# JUNIOR RANGER



\_\_\_\_\_  
Junior Ranger

\_\_\_\_\_  
Park Ranger      Date





**National Park Service**  
**Fort Monroe National Monument**  
**41 Bernard Road | Fort Monroe, VA 23651-1001**  
**ph: 757-722-FORT (3678)**  
**[www.nps.gov/fomr](http://www.nps.gov/fomr)**