



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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For Immediate Release
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Coming Soon! Independence National Historical Park's New Junior Ranger Program

Looking for something fun to do with the family? Want to introduce your children to the wonders of our national parks? Then come out this spring to Independence National Historical Park (INHP)! INHP is excited to announce its new Junior Ranger Program, which will be available from the Independence Visitor Center in spring 2007.

The park will be offering a new Junior Ranger booklet with activities for children ages 5 and up. Our young friends and their families can attend ranger programs and complete activities from the booklet. Participants who complete at least 1 ranger program and 5 booklet activities will earn a Junior Ranger badge. Activities are related to locations throughout the park and include word scrambles, dot-to-dot, bingo, matching and more... as well as activities to do at home.

The Junior Ranger programs began in national parks in the late 1960's, based on a model observed in the California State Park System. The programs are offered in the parks and funded with NPS and cooperating association funding. The intention of the program is to introduce young people, usually between the ages of 7-11, to the national parks.

Our new Junior Ranger program was developed through the National Park Foundation's Junior Ranger Ambassador Initiative. The INHP program was created by a Student Conservation Association intern who worked with the Independence Park Institute in the summer of 2006. This Junior Ranger program was created through a partnership of the National Park Service, the National Park Foundation, and the Student Conservation Association, and was made possible through the generous support of Ocean Spray Cranberries, Inc., a National Corporate Partner of the National Park Foundation. To learn more about the online Junior Ranger program, visit www.nps.gov/webrangers.

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