



Can you locate the parks listed to the right? Write the 4-letter park code in each box.

HINT: you can visit [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov) and search for parks alphabetically or by state. You can also go directly to the park site by adding the official park code to [www.nps.gov/](http://www.nps.gov/). For example: Badlands National Park would be [www.nps.gov/badl](http://www.nps.gov/badl)  
 You can explore each park's website and decide which ones you would like to visit! For more puzzles and fun join the National Park Webrangers! [www.nps.gov/webrangers](http://www.nps.gov/webrangers).

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|-------------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|
| Agate Fossil Beds       | (AGFO) | Missouri           | (MNRR) |
| Badlands                | (BADL) | Mount Rushmore     | (MORU) |
| Devils Tower            | (DETO) | Niobrara           | (NIOB) |
| Fort Union Trading Post | (FOUS) | Pipestone          | (PIPE) |
| Homestead               | (HOME) | Wind Cave          | (WICA) |
| Jewel Cave              | (JECA) | Scotts Bluff       | (SCBL) |
| Minuteman Missile       | (MIMI) | Theodore Roosevelt | (THRO) |
| Knife River             | (KNRI) |                    |        |



# National Parks



**Missouri National Recreational River!** Wow! That's a long name for a park. But it's a very long park on a very long river! Did you know that the Missouri River measures over 2600 miles from its source in the mountains of Montana to the Mississippi near St. Louis? That's longer than the distance from New York City to Los Angeles!

For many years, people have tried to tame the Missouri; part of it has been narrowed and deepened to carry barges, and part of it is backed up behind six big dams. Only one-third of the Missouri is still really a river, so Congress decided that some of it should be protected as one of America's Wild and Scenic Rivers. Our congressional representatives gave 98 miles of the Missouri that long name and put the National Park Service in charge of it. The National Park Service manages and protects the Missouri River with the help of many other departments of our state and federal governments.

There are almost 400 National Parks in the United States. See how many nearby National Parks you can find in the puzzle below.

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

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Agate Fossil Beds</b>       | <b>Missouri</b>           |
| <b>Badlands</b>                | <b>Mount Rushmore</b>     |
| <b>Devils Tower</b>            | <b>Niobrara</b>           |
| <b>Fort Union Trading Post</b> | <b>Pipestone</b>          |
| <b>Homestead</b>               | <b>Wind Cave</b>          |
| <b>Jewel Cave</b>              | <b>Scotts Bluff</b>       |
| <b>Minuteman Missile</b>       | <b>Theodore Roosevelt</b> |

The National Park Service was created by Congress in 1916 to manage America's special places so that everyone can enjoy and learn from them. This federal agency also protects these places so people can continue to enjoy them in the future. These parks belong to you and to all Americans.

There are many kinds of National Parks. In addition to those called National Parks, there are National Monuments, National Memorials, National Lakeshores and Seashores, National Battlefields, and National Rivers. These parks protect special natural or famous places, or commemorate famous people and events in American history. Some of them cover hundreds of square miles of land and some are as small as a house and yard.