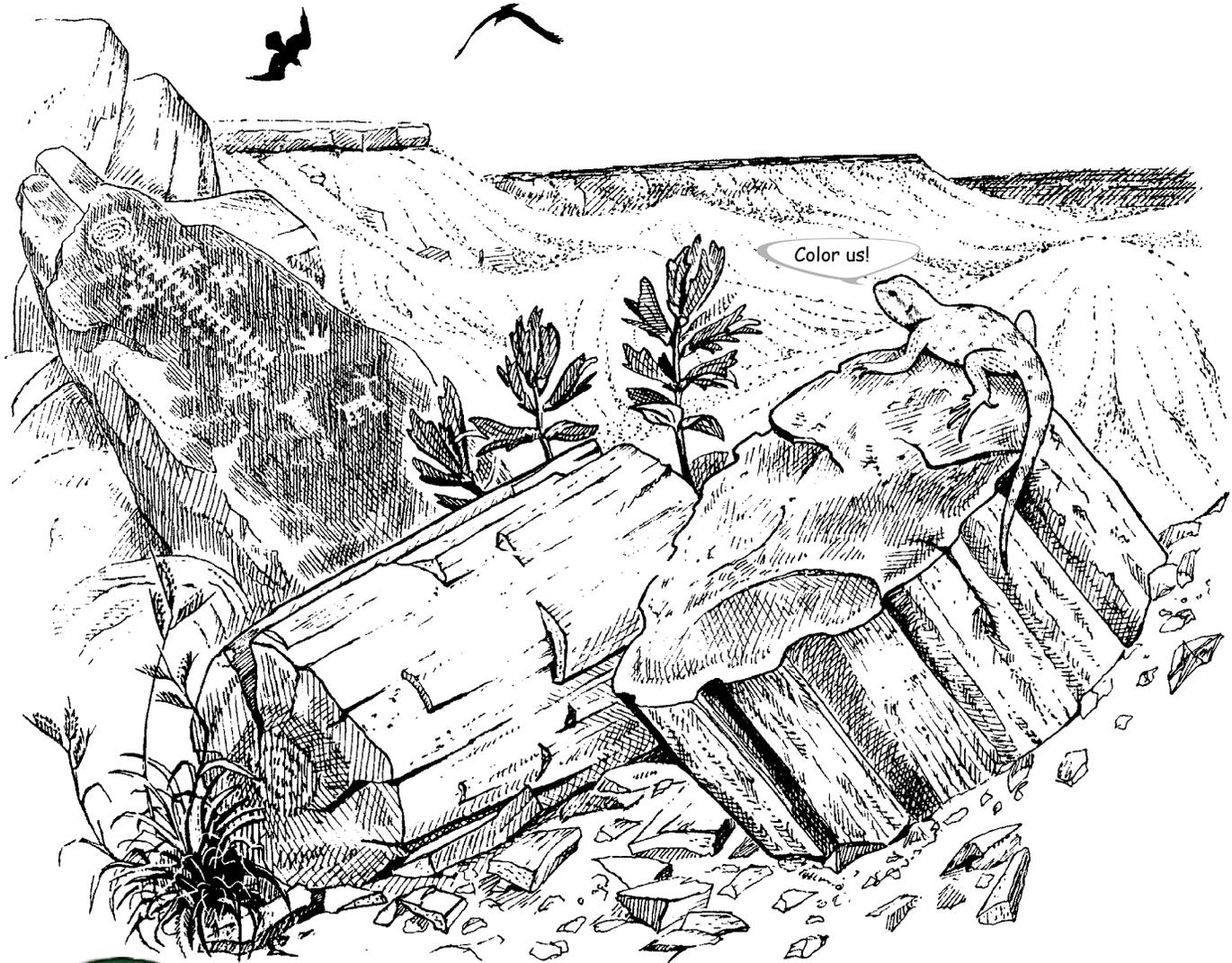




*Explore, Learn, Protect*

# Join the Junior Park Ranger Team at Petrified Forest National Park!



To become a Junior Ranger at Petrified Forest National Park:

Complete at least four (4) activities in this booklet.

Answer the "Short Essay Question" and "Preservation Takes Teamwork" on the last page of the book.

Show your answers to a park ranger at Rainbow Forest Museum, Painted Desert Inn or Painted Desert Visitor Center to receive your badge and patch.

# Petrified Forest Explorer

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As you explore the Petrified Forest National Park look for at least six things that match the pictures below and write down what it is and where you saw it.



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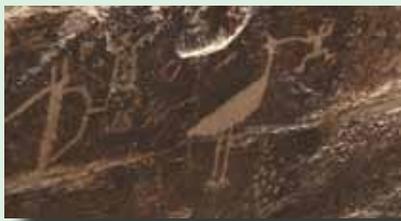
Hint: visit sites listed on the park map.



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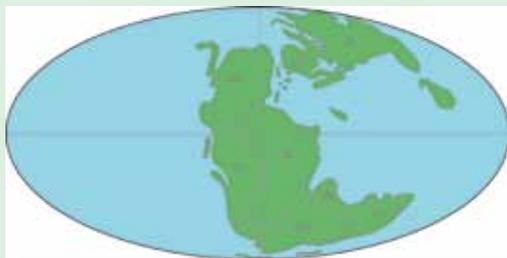
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# Wildlife Watch

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Petrified Forest National Park is home to all kinds of modern wildlife! As you journey through the park watch for the animals (or their scat and tracks) pictured below. Look carefully, they may be hard to see. Draw a circle around each animal you spot.

**Remember: never feed or disturb the wildlife you see in the park**



**Pronghorn**



**Lizards**



**Cottontail**



**Jack Rabbit**



**Coyote**



**Roadrunner**



**Snakes**



**Ravens**



**Insects**

# Petrified Wood Detective

Petrified wood is found in many colors, shapes, and sizes. Walk on a trail (Blue Mesa, Giant Logs, Long Logs, or Crystal Forest), and look for the colors, shapes, and sizes listed below. Put a check mark next to each item you see.

When you touch a piece of petrified wood, how does it feel?

smooth     hot  
 rough     glassy  
 sharp     wet     cold

Find a giant log you cannot wrap your arms around. How close are you from touching your finger tips?

\_\_\_\_\_

Put a check next to each color you see.

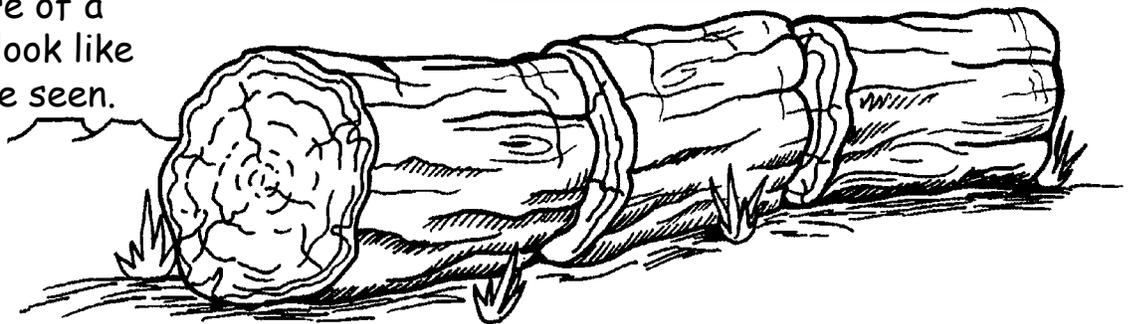
Orange     White  
 Pink     Yellow  
 Brown     Gray  
 Purple     Black  
 Red

Find a petrified log that is longer than you are. Walk next to the log and count your steps.

\_\_\_\_\_ steps long

Be sure you leave all petrified wood in its place so others can find it too.

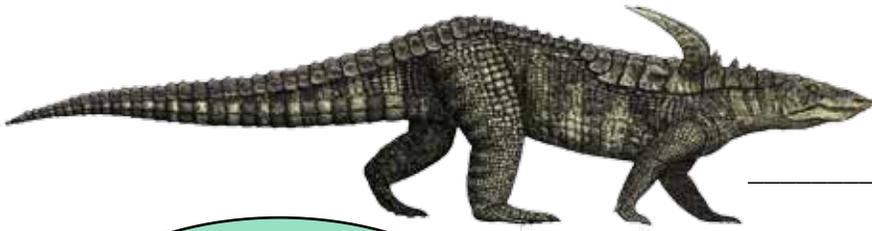
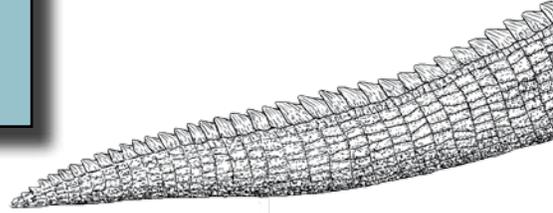
Color this picture of a petrified log to look like the logs you have seen.



# Who Lived Here Long Ago?

Fossils of animals who lived at Petrified Forest during the Late Triassic continue to be discovered by paleontologists (the scientists who study ancient life).

Look around the Rainbow Forest Museum to find the names for some of these creatures. Write down the name and one thing you noticed about the fossil.



Hint: My name means "Banded crocodile from Spur"

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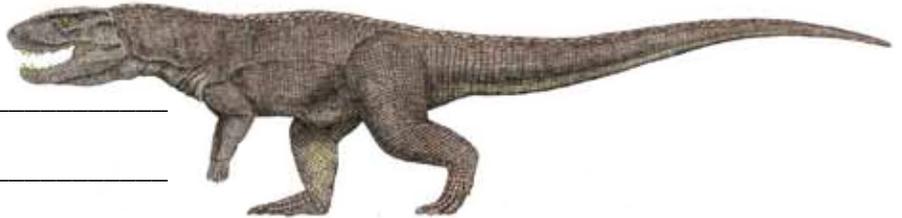
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The Late Triassic occurred 235 to 201 million years ago... **before** dinosaurs ruled the land.

Hint: My name means "Kirkpatrick's Post reptile", named after the town of Post Texas, where Post cereal was originally made!



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Color Me!

Hint: My name means "Sieve tooth perfected"



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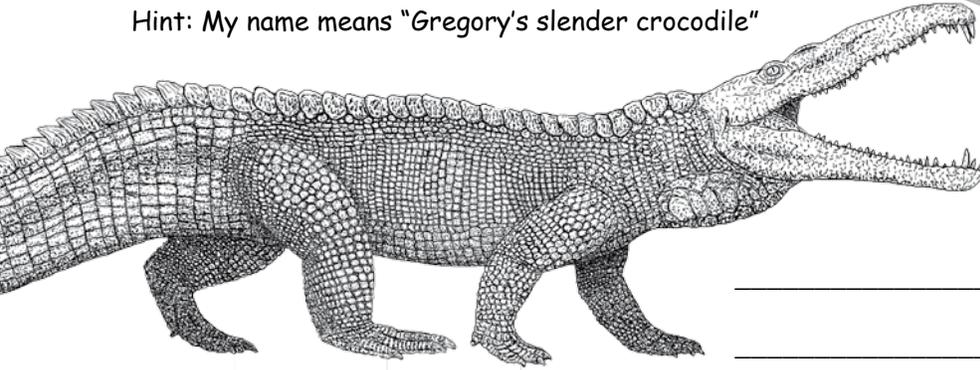
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Color Me!

Hint: My name means "Gregory's slender crocodile"



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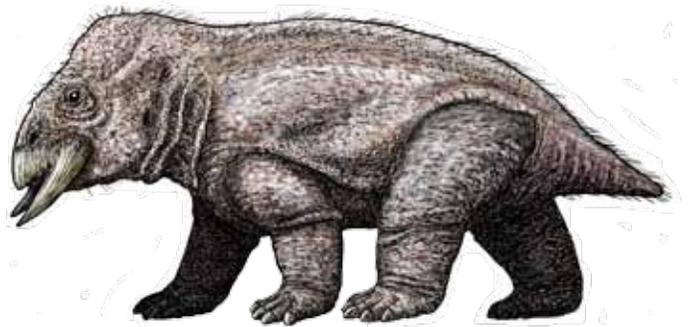
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Paleontologists study modern animals to help them figure out how ancient animals might have looked and lived.

Hint: My name means "Broad body of yesterday"



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If you could be a paleontologist anywhere in the world, what kinds of fossils would you look for and why?

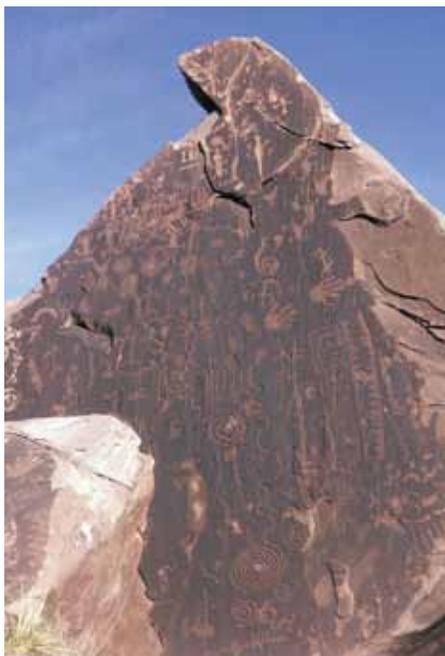
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# At Home in Petrified Forest

For thousands of years people have called this area home. The Ancestral Puebloans lived in houses made of stone, called pueblos (pronounced Pweb-lows), a Spanish word that means "towns". The people who lived here grew crops, such as corn, beans and squash. They hunted animals to eat and traded with other people throughout the area. Archeologists (scientists who study past human life) learn about these people by studying the beautiful pottery, mysterious petroglyphs, and the remains of the homes they left behind.



**What do you think the petroglyphs mean? Why do you think we need to protect them?**

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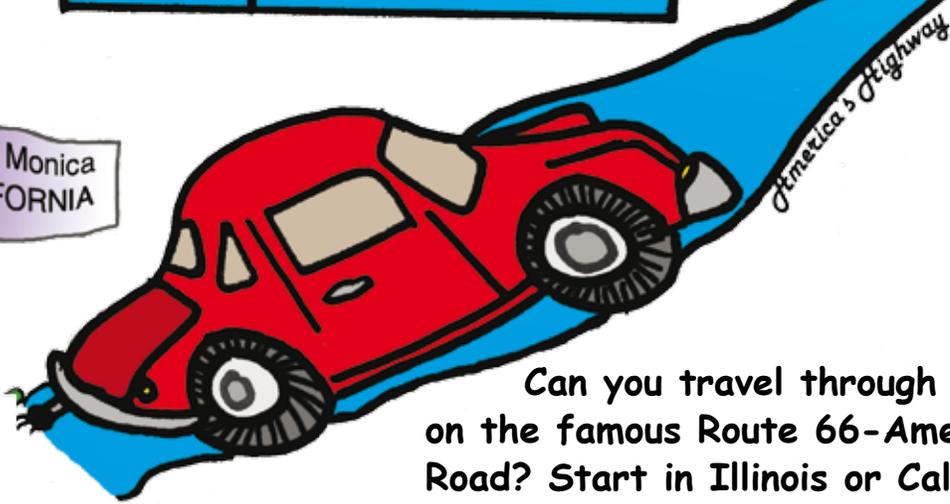
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Ancestral Puebloan pots and pottery designs are passed down from generation to generation.

Draw your own design on this water jar.



# GET YOUR KICKS ON ROUTE 66



Can you travel through all eight states on the famous Route 66-America's Mother Road? Start in Illinois or California.

# Junior Ranger Field Notes

Draw a picture or write down some things you experienced during your visit to Petrified Forest National Park.



While I was at Petrified Forest National Park...

I saw:

I heard:

I felt:

I wondered:

Take your answers and make a story or a poem about your visit.

**Short Essay Question-**

Why is it important to preserve and protect the rocks, fossils, plants and wildlife found within Petrified Forest National Park? Please give at least three reasons.

## Preservation Takes Teamwork!

National Parks are special places, where all of nature's things - animals, birds, plants and rocks - are protected so everyone can see and enjoy them. Although the rangers protect the park, we need your help too. Please give us your suggestions and tell us what you can do to help preserve the National Parks.

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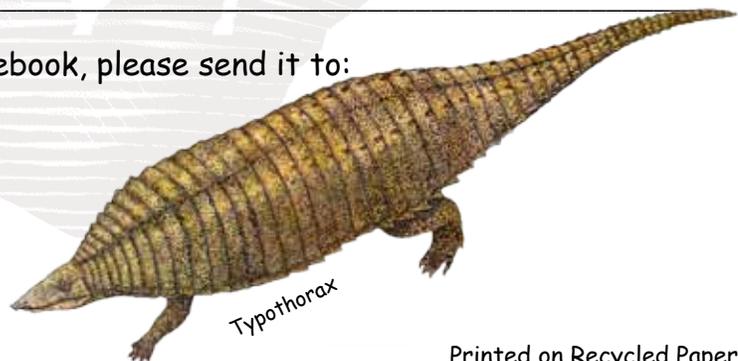
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If you are mailing your completed notebook, please send it to:  
Petrified Forest National Park  
Education Specialist  
PO BOX 2217  
Petrified Forest, AZ 86028  
928-524-6228 ex 264  
[www.nps.gov/pefo](http://www.nps.gov/pefo)



# *Explore-Learn-Protect*

*This Certifies That*

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*has completed the Junior Ranger Program at*

*Petrified Forest National Park*

*and is hereby considered an official*

*Junior Ranger*



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*Park Ranger*

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*Date*