



# Be a Junior Ranger

At Weir Farm National Historic Site, you can be a Junior Ranger! Learn about the only national park dedicated to American painting and have fun in the process!

In order to earn the Junior Ranger Badge, you must complete one of the two Junior Ranger activities. By completing both activities, you will earn the special Weir Farm Junior Ranger Patch. You must show both completed booklets to receive the patch. These are the activities to choose from:

## 1. Junior Ranger Letterboxing

Use the clues in this booklet to navigate the landscape and locate stamps in hidden locations. Five containers, or letterboxes, have been hidden at various locations throughout the park.

## 2. Junior Ranger Pond Pack

Take this pack with you on a hike around Weir Pond. Use the supplies inside to sketch, measure and identify trees, and search for wildlife. This activity is a combination of art and nature-related tasks.

## You've Chosen Letterboxing!

### *What is it?*

This activity is a scavenger hunt, navigation, and puzzle-solving all in one. You are a detective using clues in this booklet to search for hidden containers, called letterboxes. Along the way, you will learn about five important parts of the park: the artists who lived here, the gardens, farming, the stone walls, and the National Park Service.

### *How do I do it?*

There are five different stamps in square plastic boxes hidden throughout the park's landscape.

- 1) Use the clues in this booklet to navigate to the hiding spots.
- 2) When you find the letterbox, stamp the space in your booklet with the stamp, sign the log book with your name and date, put everything away, and hide the letterbox back in its spot.
- 3) When you are finished finding the letterboxes, return to the visitor center and show your work to a park ranger to earn your Junior Ranger Badge.

### *What are the rules?*

Please remember everything at a national park is protected for the enjoyment of generations to come, so please do not pick flowers, climb trees or stone walls, or take things back home with you.

# Junior Rangers: Explore - Learn - Protect

Now that you have completed the Letterboxing activity, you are ready to take the Junior Ranger Pledge! Stop by the Burlingham House Visitor Center to pick up your special Weir Farm National Historic Site Junior Ranger badge. Congratulations on joining the ranks of the National Park Service Junior Rangers! Any time you visit a national park, be sure to ask if there is a Junior Ranger program available - earn as many badges and patches as you can!

I, \_\_\_\_\_, promise to appreciate, respect, and protect all national park areas so they can be enjoyed by future generations. I also promise to continue learning about the landscape, plants, animals, and history of these special places.



## Junior Ranger Motto

The National Park Service Junior Ranger program connects kids to their national parks. The Junior Ranger motto is "Explore, Learn, Protect." These three words explain what it means to be a Junior Ranger:

### **Explore**

You can discover new places and things that spark your curiosity.

### **Learn**

Families learning together about the national parks have an experience they can share and remember.

### **Protect**

By exploring and learning about our national parks, you will understand what you can do to help protect them for future visitors.



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Weir Farm National Historic Site  
Connecticut



# Junior Ranger Letterboxing

