



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 the Pond Pack!

What is it?

This is an art and nature activity to complete as you hike around the Weir Pond. You will learn about the natural and man-made environment as you use your senses to explore the farm and forest.

How do I do it?

- 1) Open up your backpack! It contains all the necessary items for your hike. In it you will find a trail map, Field Guide, sketchbook, pencils, tape measure, magnifying glass, and bug box.
- 2) Follow the directions in this booklet and at each stop, complete the corresponding activity, while making notes in this booklet and sketches in your sketchbook.
- 3) After your hike, return your backpack 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. That's why you have a sketchbook! Please use it to record memories of your visit here, just like the many artists who explored, and still explore, this landscape today.

Stop #6

The Return Trail

Continue around the pond and into the forest. Have you seen any animals or animal signs (droppings, tracks, fur, feathers, nests)? Find a comfortable spot to sit quietly and try to spot an animal or locate an animal sound. Take out the magnifying glass and bug box from your backpack and examine the forest more closely. Please only examine items already on the ground, you don't want to hurt the living forest!

Look at leaves, bark, sticks, or other items you found on the ground and draw them as they look under the magnifier.

- Can you find bugs to look at in the magnifying bug box? How many different kinds can you find?

- Can you identify them? Use your guide book for help.

Draw a magnified view of the objects you have studied under the magnifying glass and bug box. Then please put them back where you found them.



