Junior Ranger Activity Book

Explore the Largest National Park in the USA!
Here’s how YOU can be a Junior Ranger...

- Complete the Junior Ranger Activity Book.
  - If you are 4-6 years old, do any four pages with a RED SQUIRREL at the top of the page.
  - If you are 7-9 years old, do any four pages with a SPRUCE CONE at the top of the page.
  - If you are 10 or older, do any four pages with a SILVER SALMON at the top of the page.

- Attend a ranger program or watch the park movie.
  - What I attended: ____________________________
  - Ranger signature: __________________________

- Take the Junior Ranger pledge and wear your badge with pride!

Wrangell-St. Elias is a Super Star!

Did you know that the park...
  - is the largest national park in the United States!
  - is home to a wide variety of plants, animals, and fish!
  - contains some of the nation’s largest glaciers and mountains!
  - has the largest wilderness in the national park system!
  - holds evidence of more than 3000 years of human history!
1. Draw a **to show where you live. If you live outside the US and Canada, where are you from? 

2. On the map, Wrangell-St. Elias is marked with a ✪. Draw the route you took to get here!

3. Place a dot and write the name of any other national park that you have visited or plan to visit.
Scavenger Hunt Bingo

Circle each activity that you’ve done while visiting the park. Try to complete three in a row...or maybe you can fill in the whole board!

- Draw a Leaf
- Touch a Spruce Tree
- Walk on a Trail
- Watch the Park Movie
- Free Space
- See or Hear a Squirrel
- See a Fish Wheel
- Listen to a Bird
- Find Something White in Nature - What was it?
Life as a Copper Miner

Men mined for copper in Kennecott Mill Town back in the early 1900s. But did you know that kids and families also lived in Kennecott? Can you imagine living there?

Circle the things that you think people used in Kennecott 100 years ago.
Sit quietly outside for a few minutes. Look, listen, smell, and feel to complete the following sentences:

The colors around me are... In the forest I can hear the sound of...
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

The outdoor air smells like... The weather feels like...
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Describe a tree that you’ve seen in the park... What colors are on the bark? What color are the leaves or needles? Do the leaves or needles have a scent? What does the bark feel like? Does the tree make a sound when it’s windy?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
Awesome Adventures

Think about all the animals, plants, and sounds that you experienced here... Create a story, write a poem, or draw a picture about the adventures you’ve had at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve!
Did you know that five kinds of salmon live in rivers in Alaska? They are:

- sockeye (or red) salmon
- coho (or silver) salmon
- chinook (or king) salmon
- pink (or humpback) salmon
- chum (or dog) salmon

In Wrangell-St. Elias, we are famous for our “Copper River Reds”!

Try to draw one of the salmon listed above. You can color it too!
Alaskan Native people, explorers, pioneers, prospectors, and homesteaders have lived in this area for hundreds of years. And many of these people still live here today! Making a home in rural Alaska can be exciting, but challenging. Many people choose a subsistence lifestyle, which means that they live off the land. They gather plants and berries, use fishwheels and dipnets to catch fish, and hunt animals like moose and caribou.

Alaskans use items from nature to make things like jewelry, clothing, dyes, and food.

How do you think each item below could be used?

Porcupine quills:


Animal claws:


Berries:


Birch bark:


Take a Hike!

After an adventurous day of hiking, can you safely find your way back to your camp site? Watch your step and look for signs of wildlife!

What animals have you seen in Alaska? ____________________________
Animal Scramble

National parks are important because they help protect animals! There are a lot of different animals that live in Wrangell-St. Elias.

Unscramble the names of each animal found in the picture below. Then copy the letters in the numbered boxes to the puzzle at the bottom. When you’re done, a secret message will be revealed!

Secret message:

Bairuco: 1 11
Metrupret: 7 10
WASN: 13 8
EBVÆR: 5 9
DER: 
Rusqirle: 4 12
Gylirzz: 
Reba: 2
Dnloagfry: 6 3

When you’re done, a secret message will be revealed!
Help Protect National Parks

Would you like to help protect our National Parks when you get older? Come work for the National Park Service! Since 1916 the National Park Service has helped protect our nation's outstanding natural and cultural resources. Today there are more than 390 National Park Service sites across the United States!

If you were to work for the National Park Service, here is what you might do:

- Interpretation/Education Park Ranger—tell people about the park.
- Law Enforcement Park Ranger—enforce the rules in the park.
- Biologist—study and protect animals, plants, and other wild things.
- Archeologist—study and protect ancient buildings and artifacts.
- Firefighter—help prevent and fight wildland fires.
- Maintenance Worker—maintain and fix things in the park.
- Administration & Management—help manage the park.

These are just a few of the things you could do while working for the National Park Service. Check out our website to learn more: www.nps.gov. Also check out the Student Conservation Association for internships: www.thesca.org.

Find out more! Talk to a park ranger and ask these questions:
Why or how did you become a park ranger? What's the best part of your job?

Park ranger's name: ____________________________

Now it's your turn! What would you like to do when you grow up?
Katie John was an Alaska Native of Ahtna (AHT-nuh) descent, who was an important part of Wrangell-St. Elias. For hundreds of years, Katie's family had fished at a traditional fish camp in Tanada Creek, located in the northern part of the park. They depended on and preferred the fish from this creek, above any other creek or river in the park. However, due to laws that were created in 1980, Katie and her family were no longer allowed to fish in Tanada Creek.

Katie John decided to challenge those laws in the courts, standing firm in her belief that her family had the traditional right to fish in Tanada Creek. After 20 years, she finally received the rights to fish in Tanada Creek, and today Katie's family enjoys the resources they've used for many generations.

Katie John was especially important because she fought to protect an area that was meaningful to her. Do you have a special place that is meaningful to you?

Draw a picture, or write a short story or poem about a meaningful place that you’d like to see protected.
What does Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve have in common with the Great Pyramids, the Galapagos Islands, and Yellowstone National Park? They are all **World Heritage Sites** that have been identified by the United Nations.

World Heritage Sites protect our planet’s more precious natural and cultural places. These sites are so special that countries around the globe want to make sure they are still here when you grow up and have your own kids and grandkids!

Wrangell-St. Elias and Glacier Bay National Parks and Preserves, along with Kluane National Park and Reserve and Tatshenshini-Alsek Provincial Park in Canada, make up one giant World Heritage Site! These parks contain impressive glaciers, high mountains, wild animals, and spectacular scenery. All together, these four parks include 24.3 million acres, one of the largest protected ecosystems on the planet!

**Now that you know about World Heritage Sites, complete the word search on the next page!**
Circle the words about our World Heritage Site, listed below. Words appear straight across, backwards, up and down, and diagonally.

ANIMALS  CULTURAL  ECOSYSTEM  GLACIERBAY  GLACIERS  HERITAGE  MOUNTAINS  NATURAL  PLANET  PROTECTED  RESOURCES  SCENERY  STELIAS  WORLD  WRANGELL

Find out more about UNESCO World Heritage Sites at http://whc.unesco.org/.
Junior Ranger Certificate

PLEDGE: As a Junior Ranger, I pledge to explore and learn about national parks.
I will share what I have learned with my friends and family and
I promise to protect all national parks for future generations.

This certifies that

has become a Junior Ranger at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park & Preserve!

Junior Ranger  Park Ranger  Date