

Activity Booklet

JUNIOR NATURALIST

AGES 6-9



Hi! Would you like to become a Junior Naturalist just like Howie Whooo the Owl? Complete the activities in this booklet to discover more about Manitoba's provincial parks and the great ways for you to explore the outdoors. Once you are done, fill in the back page and return the book to become an official **Junior Naturalist!**

My name is

I am visiting

(Provincial Park)

What are your three favourite things to do in a park?

1

2

3

Word Find

At one time, thousands of years ago, Manitoba was covered in ice and snow. These glaciers came from the north and then as they receded (melted) they left behind sand, gravel, boulders as well as different landforms such as beaches, ridges, hills and wetlands. **15,000 years ago**, the Park you are at right now, was probably under **5 km** of ice. Find the **12 hidden words**. Remember they can be up and down, diagonal, backward and forward.



Words to Find:

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| beach | pond |
| boulder | ridge |
| glacier | river |
| gravel | rock |
| hill | sand |
| ice | wetland |

Parks are Fun!

There are so many things to see and do at a park. Listed below are some of the things that are possible. Unscramble them to find out. Then underline the things you have done or seen here at this park and put a circle around those activities you still want to do or things you want to see.

keih	sifh	orut	pamc
toiress	ikeb	tbao	yapl
rbid	reqsuirl	miws	rowelf



If you need further assistance in completing these activities, look for a Park Interpreter at park programs and interpretive centres for help.

Saving Species

Endangered Species are those that are in danger of **extinction** (disappearing) anywhere they are usually found. **Threatened Species** are those that are likely to become endangered very soon. Every type of animal and plant is different. If we lose one species we have lost something that can never be replaced. To find out why some species become extinct or endangered, replace the vowels in the sentences below.

A = 🍃 E = 🏠 I = ☞ O = 🌲 U = 🏔

L _ s s _ f H _ b _ t _ t
 🌲 🌲 🍃 ☞ 🍃

is main reason small species are in trouble.

P _ l l _ t _ _ n
 🌲 🏔 ☞ 🌲

kills plants and animals.

D _ s _ _ s _
 ☞ 🏠 🍃 🏠

kills native plants and animals.

_ n t r _ d _ c _ d s p _ c _ _ s
 ☞ 🌲 🏔 🏠 🏠 ☞ 🏠

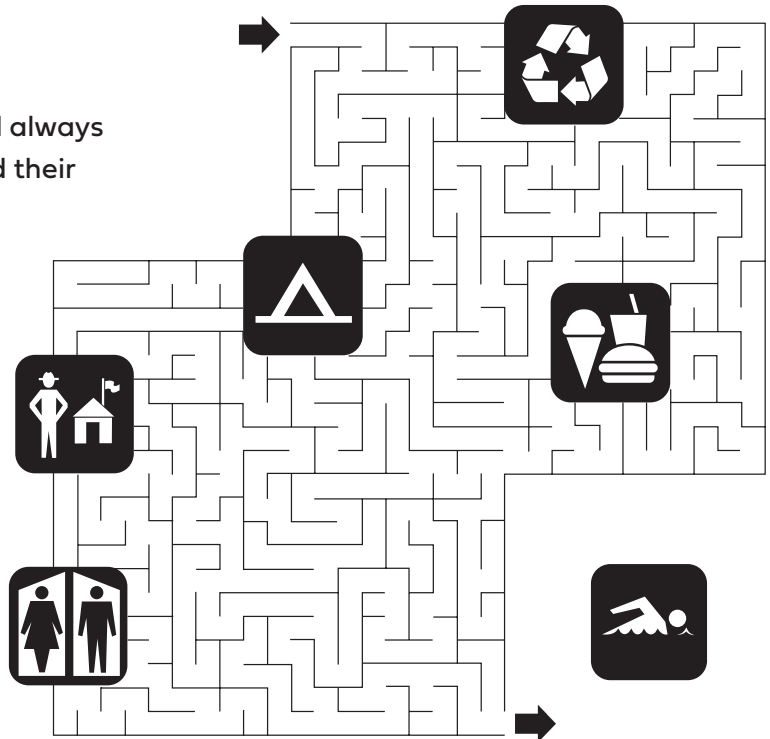
into a new area can cause a lot of harm because they may eat the same foods or they may become a predator to the native species.

_ d _ p t _ t _ _ n
 🍃 🍃 🍃 ☞ 🌲

(lack of) If something happens an animal's food source, they are in trouble.

Beach Maze

Going to the beach can be so much fun! You should always swim with a friend. Help Howie Whooo the Owl find their way to the beach.



Flower Find

Whether you are in the forest, the prairie, or in a wetland, you will find an amazing variety of flowers. Find a flower in the park that you like and answer the following questions.

My flower is...

1. As tall as my ankle or shorter
2. Between my ankle and my knee
3. Above my knee

The leaves on my flower have...

1. Smooth edges
2. Edges with tiny teeth

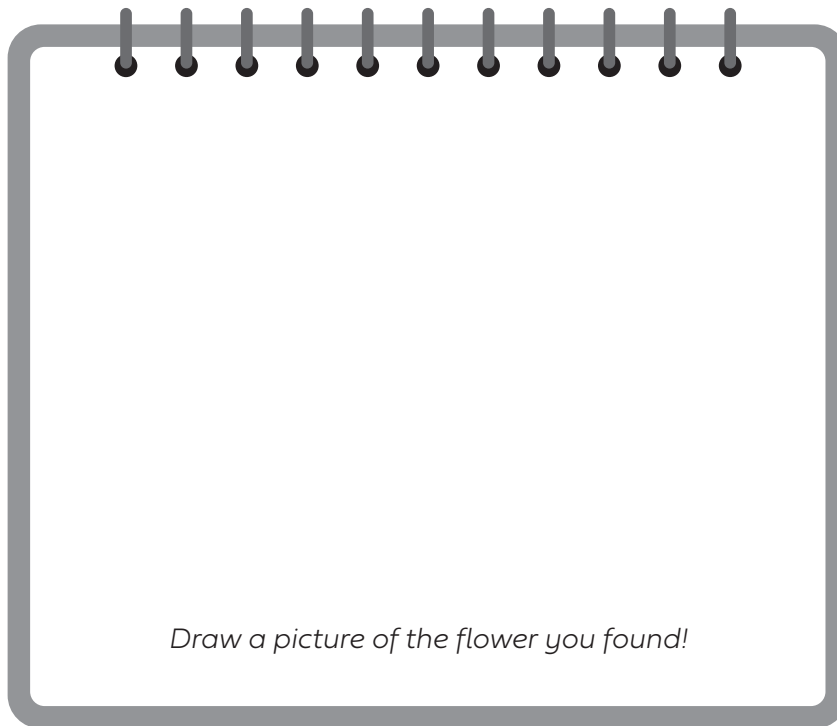
The leaves on my flower are...

1. Fuzzy or hairy
2. Smooth

The petals of my flower are...

1. Pointed or spiky
2. Rounded

The colour of my flower is...



Squirrel Whirl

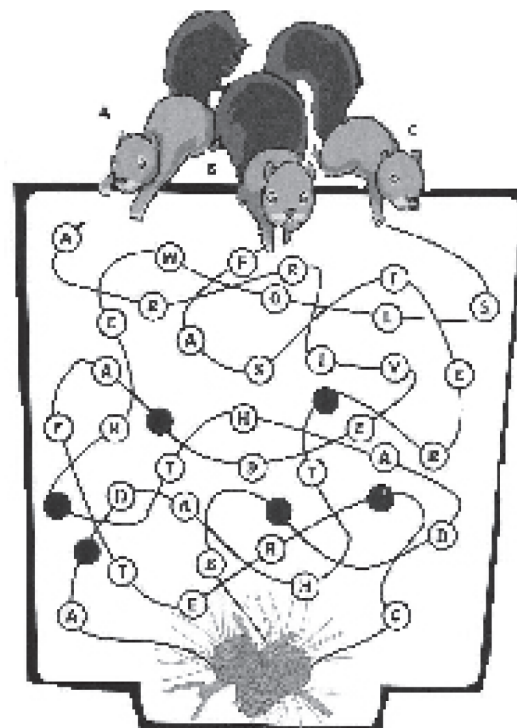
Red squirrels are found in parks in Manitoba and across Canada. These acrobats in the trees have an amazing sense of smell. They can locate cones and seeds buried up to **30 centimetres** underground. You can hear their chatter as they defend their home turf. Remember although they may seem tame, they are wild animals and need to be left alone.

These red squirrels (A, B, C) are having a race to the pinecones. Follow each squirrel's path to spell out clues as to which came first, second and third.

First: _____

Second: _____

Third: _____



Storytime: *Who Lived Here?*

Fill in the blanks to complete the story of the history of Manitoba.

Words to Use:

bison
canoe
caribou
ceremonies
flat
food
hunted
Indigenous
Manitoba
rivers
snowshoe
whales

By the early 17th century when the first Europeans arrived, five _____ groups inhabited what is now known as _____.

Two groups lived in the far north. The Inuit who survived by hunting _____ in Hudson Bay and caribou in the boreal forest and the Chipewyan who also hunted _____ in the boreal forest.

Just south of these groups, lived the Woodland Cree, who _____ and fished in Manitoba's forests and _____. The Ojibway lived in Central Manitoba and they traveled by _____ in the summer and _____ in the winter. The _____ prairie land of southern Manitoba was the home of the Assiniboine people who hunted _____. Bison were used for _____, clothing, shelter and spiritual _____. No part of the bison was wasted.

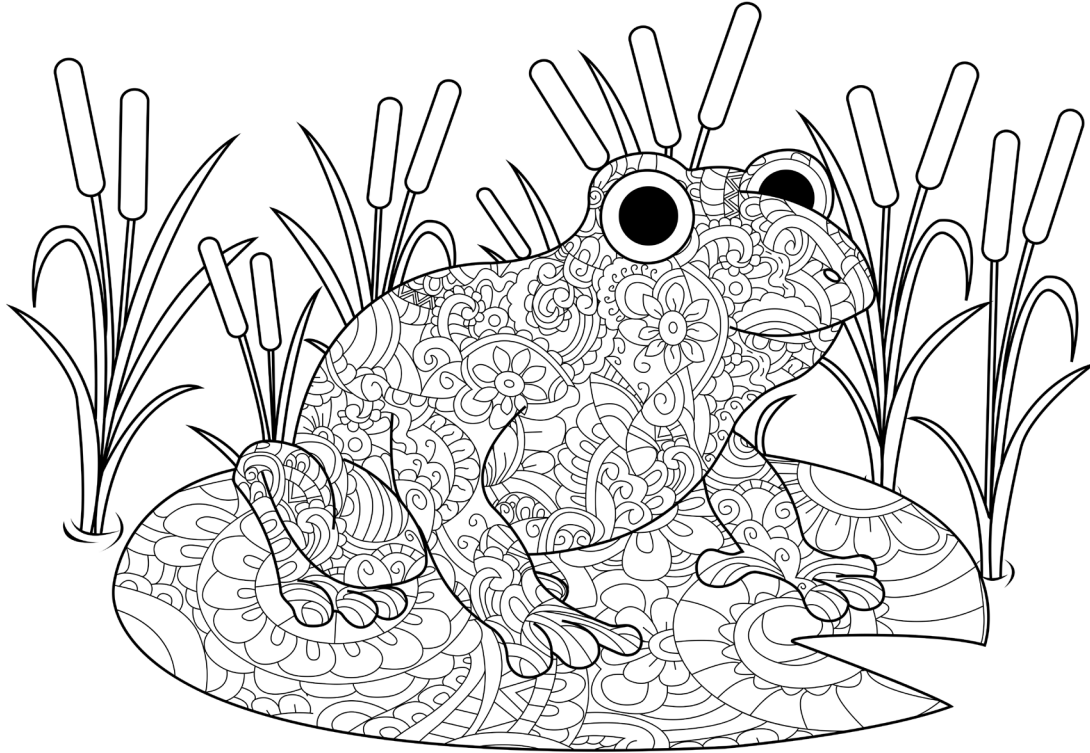
Alphabet Hike

Let's go on a Alphabet Hike! Choose a trail in the park to go hiking on or take a walk through the visitor centre. Take along a parent or a friend to enjoy the hike with. While hiking, try to find things that begin with each letter of the alphabet. You can find more than one thing for each letter; however, they must be **natural** or **antique**. Your discoveries can be something you see, hear, touch or smell.

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

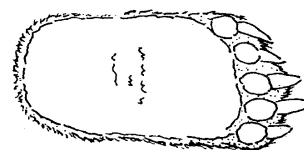
The Wonders of the Wetlands

Wetlands protect us from flooding, drought and climate change. They provide relaxing places to eat, sleep and exist for hundreds of species. They also play a vital part in cleaning the water we enjoy at beaches, lakes and rivers.



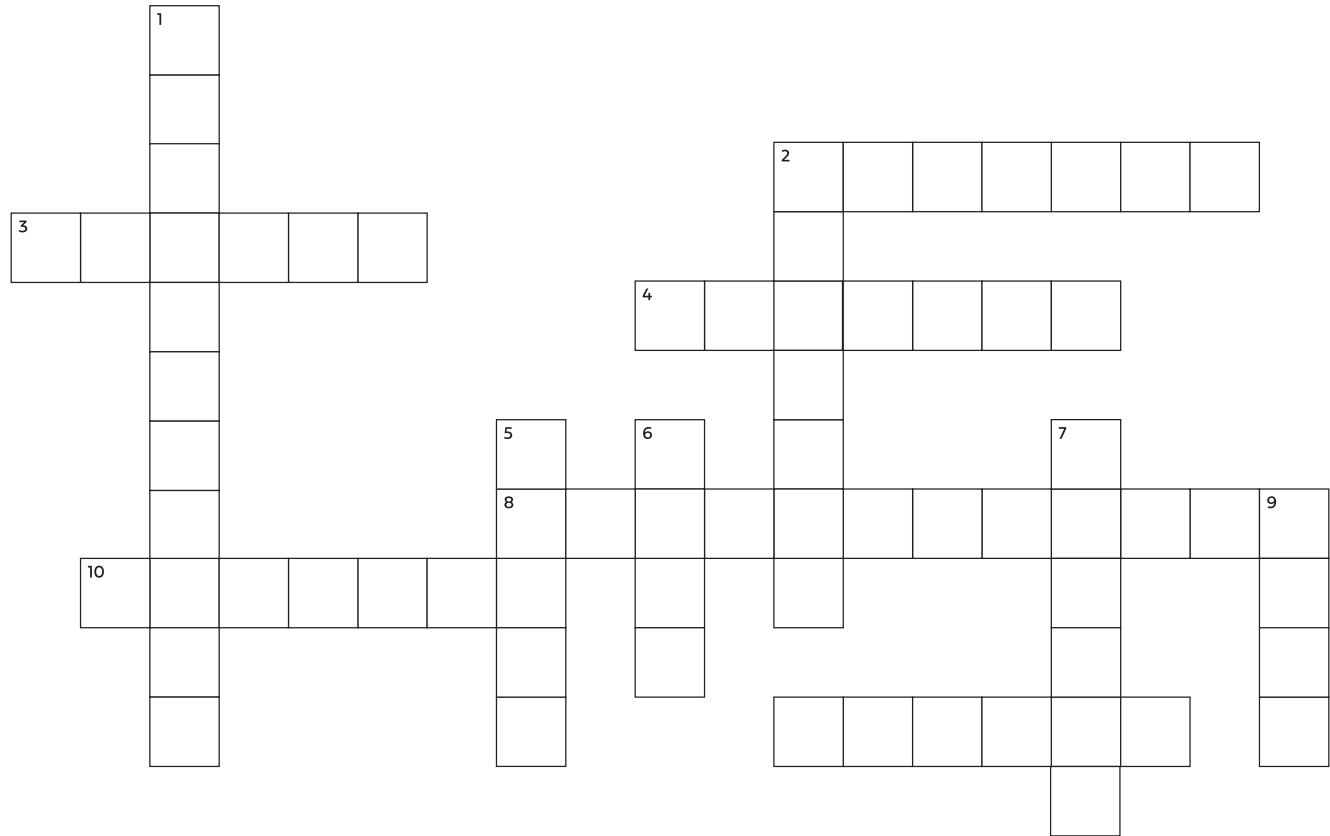
Makin' Tracks

Wildlife is sometimes hard to see. They often leave reminders that they were here. One of those reminders is their footprints or tracks. Below are some animals that might live in the park. Name the animal and connect it with the correct track.



Junior Naturalist Crossword

Need a Hint? All the answers are hidden in your booklet.



Across

2. Loss of _____ is one of the main reasons that animals become extinct.
3. You should always swim with a _____.
4. Made up of snow and ice, this once covered all of Manitoba.
8. You sometimes roast these over a campfire when you go camping.
10. This often kills native plants and animals.
11. An animal that lives in a marsh, builds a lodge, and was important for the fur traders.

Down

1. Bison were an important part of life for these people. *Hint: There is also a river in Manitoba by the same name.*
2. Plants keep a wetland _____.
5. Red squirrels have a good sense of _____.
6. This little green animal lives in a wetland.
7. This will bloom in the spring or the summer in the prairie, the forest or a wetland.
9. We usually do this around a campfire.



Check off the boxes of each activity you have completed. Return the completed booklet to receive your official pin. (Your book will also be returned to you.)

Did you enjoy doing this activity booklet?

If so, you can do other Junior Naturalist/Park Explorer booklets at the following locations:

- **Whiteshell**
- **Spruce Woods**
- **Birds Hill**
- **Hecla**
- **Grand Beach**

Completed booklets can be returned to campground offices, park interpreters or mailed to the address below:

Manitoba Parks
Interpretation Unit
258 Portage Ave, 4th Floor
Winnipeg, MB, R3C 0B6

Junior Naturalist Activity Checklist:

- My Three Favourite Things
- Word Find
- Parks are Fun
- Saving Species
- Beach Maze
- Flower Find
- Squirrel Whirl
- Storytime: Who Lived Here?
- Alphabet Hike
- The Wonders of the Wetlands
- Makin' Tracks
- Junior Naturalist Crossword

Junior Naturalist: _____

Adult: _____

You are almost an official Junior Naturalist!

Child's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____

Postal Code: _____