

AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION JUNIOR RANGER



THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

Becoming a Junior Ranger takes more than completing activities in this book. You can help the Park Rangers by protecting the plants, animals, historic sites, and even the rocks from being harmed by always leaving the things you find for other visitors to enjoy.



Remy Ringtail says, "Try to complete as many activities as you can, then stop by the Park Ranger Station at the Zilker Caretaker Cottage to take the pledge and become a Junior Ranger."

Want to know more?

Park Ranger Station at Zilker Caretaker Cottage is at
2105 B Andrew Zilker Road, Austin, TX 78746.

512-978-2600 <http://austintexas.gov/parkrangers>

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?



Austin has a lot of different kinds of parks!

300 Parks

12 Dog Parks

147 Playgrounds

227 Miles of Trails

20,254 Acres of Green Spaces

35 Swimming Pools

11 Museums, Arts & Cultural Centers

78 Mixed-use fields

5 Disc Golf Courses

76 Basketball Courts

10 Performing Arts Venues

26 Recreation and Senior Centers



Circle a park you've visited on the map.
Or checkout the map online www.austintexas.gov/parks.

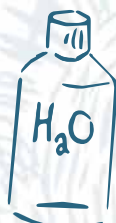


Go for a hike on a trail. Hiking is a great way to get to know the park, and will also help you finish the other activities in this book. What things should you bring along to have a safe and fun hike? What things could you do without?

Put an X over the items you would not need on a hike.



NATURE GUIDE



WATER



SUNSCREEN



JACKET



MAP



SUN HAT



HEALTHY SNACKS



FIRST AID



CANDY & GUM



STURDY SHOES



SANDALS



FLASHLIGHT



SODA



MUSIC



BINOCULARS



CAMERA

What else might you bring along to have fun and be safe?

Write your answers here:

THINGS TO BRING: _____

THINGS TO LEAVE: _____



"I" represents the impact that an individual can have. Put the letter "I" into the words below to discover the 7 ways you can Leave No Trace!

1. Know before you go.
2. Choose the r____ght path.
3. Trash your trash.
4. Leave what you f____nd.
5. Be careful w____th f____re.
6. Respect w____ldl____fe.
7. Be k____nd to other v____s____tors.

How did you practice Leave No Trace today?

Jr. Ranger L.N.T. promise:

"I promise to learn & practice the 7 principles of Leave No Trace.
I also promise to share my knowledge with my friends and family!"

CRACK THE CODE

Each clue reveals the name of a native Texas tree. Use the special letters found in the tree circles to decode the secret message!

○ s h e J _ n i p _ r

S y ○ a m _ r _

S w ○ _ t G u m

B _ l d C y ○ r _ s s

C _ t t _ ○ w _ _ d

What is the State Tree of Texas?

NATURALIST JOURNAL

A Naturalist is someone who learns about the natural world around them. Most rangers are naturalists and share their knowledge with others. Practice being a Naturalist by finding a quiet spot outside to watch nature for 5 minutes. Record what you observed.

NAME:

DATE/TIME:

LOCATION:

WEATHER:

SKETCH HERE:

NOTES:

WILDLIFE OBSERVATION

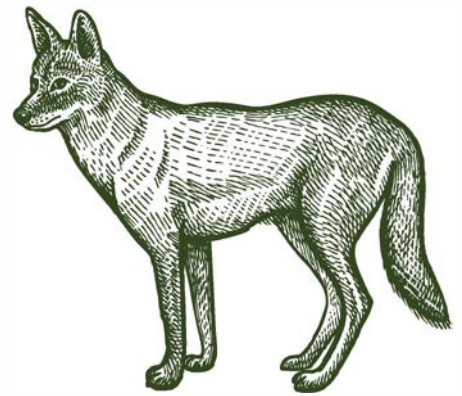
Austin is home to many wild animals.
Circle any of these animals you saw evidence of on your hike.



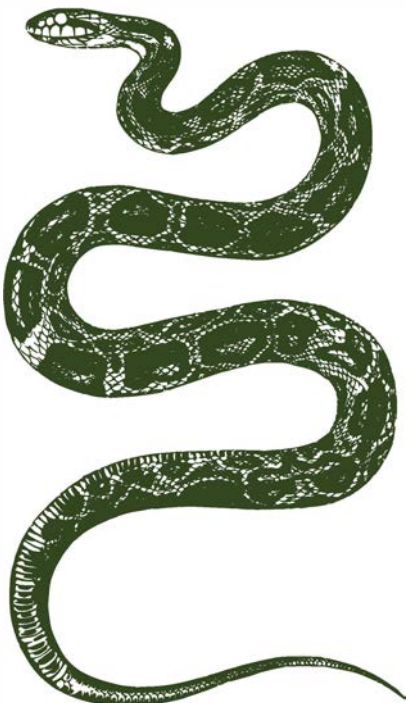
GREAT BLUE HERON



MONARCH BUTTERFLY



COYOTE



RAT SNAKE



SQUIRREL



GOLDEN-CHEEKED WARBLER



GREEN DARNER
DRAGONFLY



All animals must have food, water, and shelter to survive.
Choose one animal from your wildlife observation and draw what food,
water, and shelter might look like for that animal.



BINGO HUNT

Find these items outside.

Hint: Nature is all around; don't forget to look up and down!

Person
Biking

Dog on a
Leash

Trash

Something
Soft

A Seed

A Bird

Person
Exercising

Trail

Fossil

INTERVIEW A RANGER

Rangers have an exciting job. They help keep parks _____.
Find a ranger and interview them by asking a few questions.

1. What do you like most about being a ranger?
2. What is your favorite experience while ranging?
3. Try asking a question of your own!
(write it here)

4. How can I respect and help protect my parks?



Remy Ringtail says,
"Finish your book then say the Junior Ranger Pledge with a
Ranger to earn your official Junior Ranger Badge!"

JUNIOR RANGER PLEDGE

"I, _____,
am proud to be a City of Austin
Junior Ranger. I promise to appreciate,
respect, and protect Austin's parks. I
also promise to continue learning about
the landscape, plants, animals, and
history of these special places. I will
share what I learn with my friends and
family."



The City of Austin is proud to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require assistance for participation in our programs or use of our facilities, please call (512)-974-3914.