

Find Your Park



photo courtesy NPS

Did you visit one of our 412 national parks or monuments this summer? National parks are in every state, so they're closer to you than you think!

The National Park Service is celebrating a special anniversary on Aug. 25. It has been 100 years since President Woodrow Wilson established the NPS "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and wildlife therein."

The Mini Page spoke with an NPS representative to learn more about this anniversary and how our national parks are looking forward.

"This is more than a one-day celebration," she said. "We are celebrating the past, but we're also looking ahead. We want to involve kids with their national parks, since they will be our future park stewards." (A **steward** is someone who is responsible for taking care of property.)

Our first national park

Yellowstone National Park was the world's first national park. In fact, it is older than the park service. Yellowstone, in Wyoming, Montana and Idaho, was established in 1872.

On Aug. 25, Yellowstone will mark the first century of the NPS with a concert at the Roosevelt Arch in the park.



photo courtesy NPS/Jay Elhard

A ranger at Yellowstone leads kids in an activity.

Every Kid in a Park

If you're going to be a fourth-grader this year, the park service wants you! The NPS offers free entrance to fourth-graders through the school year in a new program called Every Kid in a Park. About 2 million passes have already been downloaded. To get your pass to America's parks, visit bit.ly/29IIW26.

Parks passport

Kids and adults can keep track of visits to national parks with a Passport to Your National Parks. Each time you visit a park, you can stamp your passport with the date. The passports also include maps, photographs and other information about each park.

Collect the coins

The U.S. Mint is honoring the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service with three limited-edition coins. The gold \$5 coin features President Theodore Roosevelt and John Muir, who both worked to create the NPS. The reverse, or tails side, of the coin features the NPS logo.

Since 2010, the U.S. Mint has been circulating quarters with national parks and other sites featured on the reverse. Do you have any of these quarters now?



photo courtesy NPS



photo courtesy U.S. Mint



photo by Pete Souza, courtesy whitehouse.gov

President Obama visits Grand Canyon National Park in 2009.

Making a park

National parks can be designated only by the president of the United States or the U.S. Congress. During President Barack Obama's time in office, 21 new national parks and monuments, including the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial and the World War I Memorial in Washington, D.C., have been named.

Find your park

You can easily find the national park, historic site or monument closest to your home. Visit findyourpark.com/find and enter your state.

At that site, you can also find special events celebrating the centennial of the National Park Service.

Resources



On the Web:

- bit.ly/29vQwrL
- bit.ly/29eQ7ah
- bit.ly/29LFLR5

At the library:

- "Happy Birthday America's National Parks" by Bob Grogg

Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of national parks are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward. See if you can find:

ANNIVERSARY, COINS, CONSERVE, DESIGNATE, FUTURE, MEMORIAL, MONUMENT, NATIONAL, PASSPORT, PRESIDENT, SERVICE, STEWARD, VISITORS, WILSON, YELLOWSTONE.

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



Cook's Corner

Easy Summer Salad

You'll need:

- 1 package prewashed romaine lettuce
- 1/2 cup cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1/2 avocado, sliced
- 1/4 cup reduced-fat feta cheese
- 1/4 cup dried cranberries

- 2 tablespoons honey-roasted sliced almonds
- salad dressing of choice



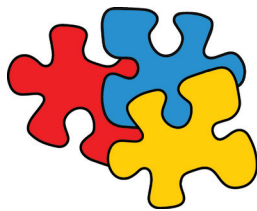
What to do:

1. Place torn romaine lettuce in a large salad bowl.
2. Add other ingredients in the order listed, with almonds on top.
3. Pour on desired amount of salad dressing; gently toss and serve.

* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

Puzzling

Unscramble the words below that remind us of summer.



anitoavc _____
eopelrx _____
miyafI _____
gishst _____

Answers: vacation, explore, family, sights

Mini Jokes



Cassie: What did the doctor say to the patient who swallowed his camera?

Calvin: "Let's just see what develops!"

Eco Note



Birds growing up in the stress of urban environments have a greater risk of dying young than those raised in the country, according to new Swedish research. The DNA of test birds exposed to city life had markers that indicated a shorter life expectancy than those raised in the countryside.

adapted with permission from Earthweek.com

Thank You



The Mini Page thanks Kathy Kupper with the NPS Office of Communications for help with this issue.

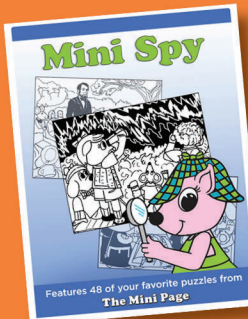
Teachers:

For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: bbs.amuniversal.com/teaching_guides.html

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