

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Grand Teton National Park
John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway



GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK

AGES
12-18+

Survivor



Playing the Game

What is survival?

The people, plants and animals inhabiting Grand Teton National Park depend on survival skills and resources to live here.

Survival skills are techniques utilized to provide the basic necessities of life: food, water and shelter.

How would you fare in a survival situation? In the wilderness, could you depend on your knowledge and skills to survive?

The park depends on us for its survival. It needs us to protect the resources that people, plants and animals depend on to survive.

Test your endurance, knowledge, dexterity and willpower. Travel through the park to complete the challenges in this booklet.

There are two different types of challenges. Some challenges are specific to certain locations while others can be done anywhere.

SAFETY COMES FIRST!
Your safety depends on your own good judgment, adequate preparation, and constant attention. Be safe while working on your challenges. Plan ahead and be prepared.



RULES OF THE PARK
Bring your completed book to any visitor center for your survivor sticker and certificate. To help you and the park survive, please read the park rules and sign below.

LEAVE WHAT YOU FIND
Take only pictures, leave only footprints. Examine, but do not touch, historical artifacts. Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.

RESPECT WILDLIFE
Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them. Never feed animals. Feeding wildlife damages their health, alters natural behaviors and exposes them to predators and other dangers. Protect wildlife by storing your food and trash securely.

RESPECT THE LAND
Stay on marked trails. Short-cutting trails causes the soil to erode away or to be packed down. Trampled wildflowers and vegetation take years to recover. Make sure all trash is put in a receptacle.

COMMIT TO THE CHALLENGE!

I, sign here promise to respect the rules of Grand Teton National Park.

HOW TO WIN THE GAME
To receive your official Grand Teton Survivor sticker and certificate, please complete the following challenges:

Required:

- Keep it Green ☐
- Be Bear Aware ☐

Choose 3:

- Native Survival: Colter Bay Visitor Center ☐
- Tools for Survival: Menor's Ferry Historic District ☐
- Take a Hike: Taggart, Jenny, or Swan Lake Trail ☐
- Gear up for the Grand: Craig Thomas Discovery & Visitor Center ☐

Choose 1:

- Community Quest ☐
- Animal Olympics ☐



The pika is a high elevation animal that will be impacted by global warming.

Current Climate Events

The five hottest years on record were:1998, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005.

Glaciers in Grand Teton National Park have lost more than 20 percent of their surface area since the late 1960s.

The growing season has increased by two weeks.

The extent of regions affected by drought has doubled since 1970s.

Since 1993, worldwide sea level has risen 1.7 inches—twice the rate of the previous 30 years.

Since the 1970s, wildfire season in the western United States has increased in length by 11 weeks.

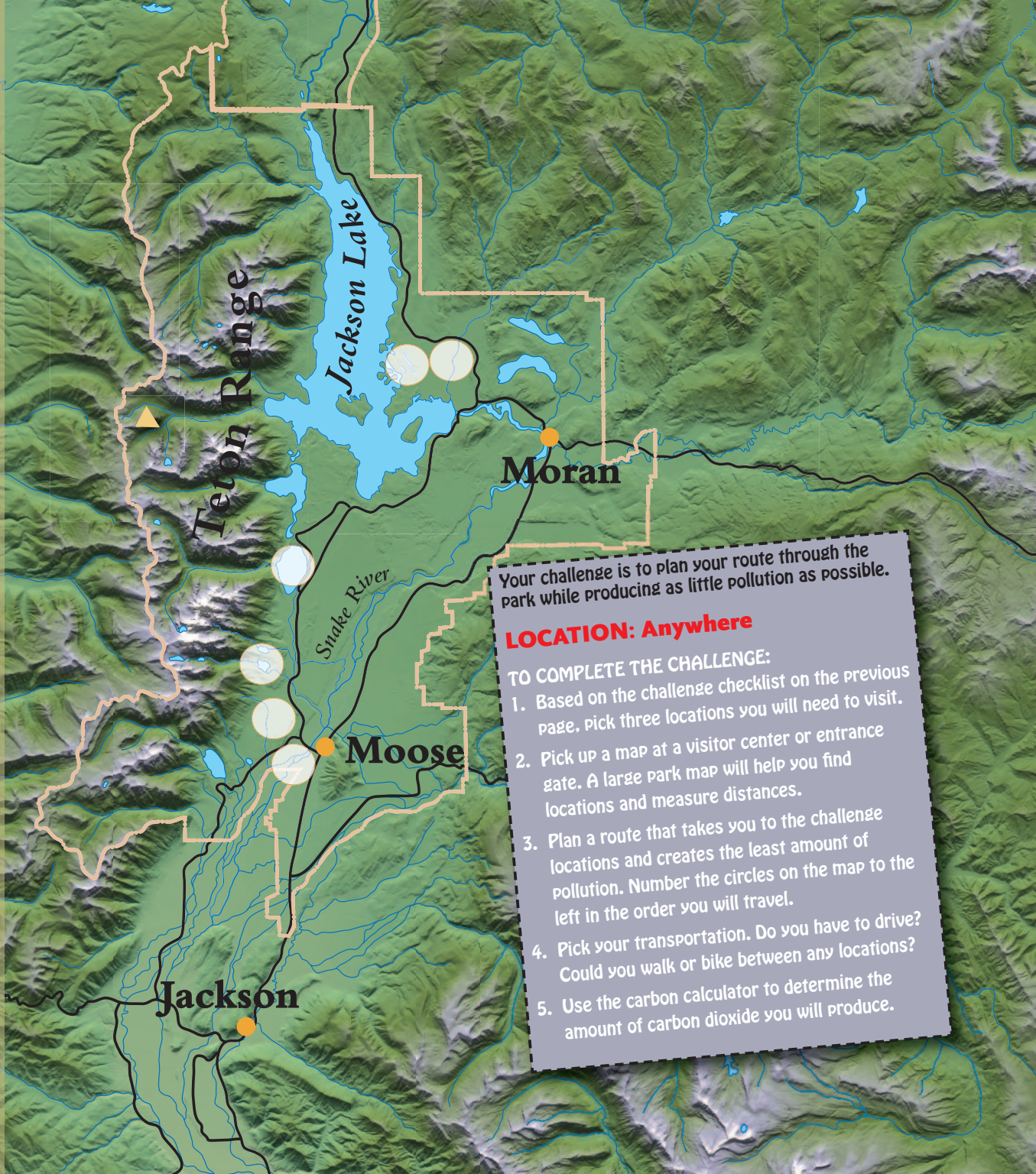
Snowpack is melting 2 to 4 weeks earlier. Spring runoff is 20 days earlier than in the 20th century.

Alpine habitat is decreasing as warm temperatures move up the mountain sides.

Source: Greater Yellowstone Science Learning Center greateryellowstonescience.org

What's the big deal?

Well, we all contribute to climate change every day. The carbon dioxide we produce by driving a car or leaving lights on adds up quickly. Read the Current Climate Events listed above to see how Grand Teton (and maybe even where you live) is being affected.



Your challenge is to plan your route through the park while producing as little pollution as possible.

LOCATION: Anywhere

TO COMPLETE THE CHALLENGE:

1. Based on the challenge checklist on the previous page, pick three locations you will need to visit.
2. Pick up a map at a visitor center or entrance gate. A large park map will help you find locations and measure distances.
3. Plan a route that takes you to the challenge locations and creates the least amount of pollution. Number the circles on the map to the left in the order you will travel.
4. Pick your transportation. Do you have to drive? Could you walk or bike between any locations?
5. Use the carbon calculator to determine the amount of carbon dioxide you will produce.

Keep it Green

Human activities, such as the burning of fossil fuels, are thought to have increased the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere. The scientific consensus is that CO₂ build-up is very likely the cause for the rapid increase in global average temperatures over the past several decades. In order to survive a changing climate, humans, plants and animals will need to adapt. According to the Natural Resources Defense Council, Grand Teton is one of the “Top 12 Western National Parks Most at Risk from Climate Disruption.”

Complete this required challenge to determine your carbon footprint:

Estimate how many miles you will travel to get to your challenge locations. Hint: Look at the Park map for mileage distances.

_____ Miles driven

Then, determine what type of car you have and the miles per gallon for your car.

_____ MPG

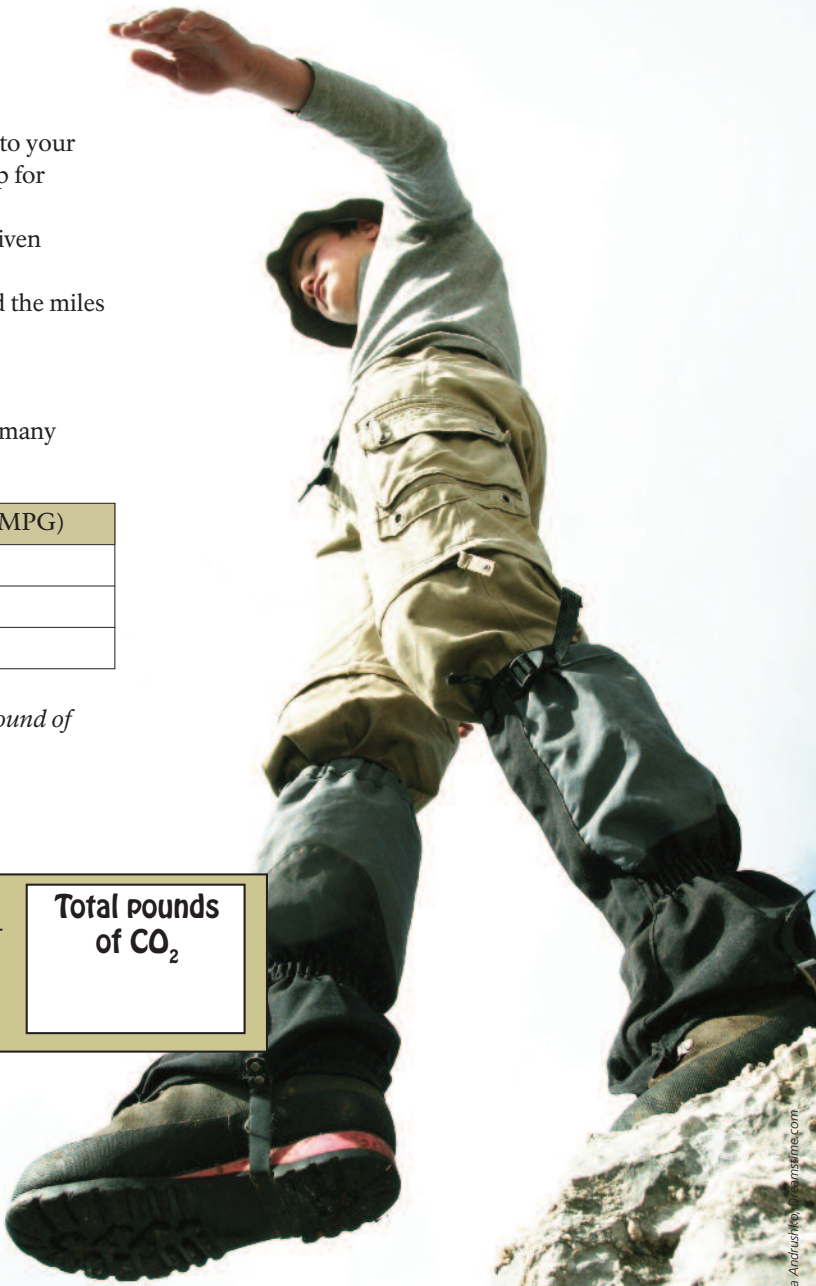
Now, use the equation below to calculate how many pounds of CO₂ you produced.*

Type of Car	Miles per gallon (MPG)
Small	29 MPG
Medium	26 MPG
Large (SUV, truck)	21 MPG

**If you biked or walked any miles subtract one pound of CO₂ for every mile.*

$$\frac{\text{Miles driven}}{\text{MPG}} = \frac{\text{Gallons of fuel}}{\text{Gallons of fuel}} \times 20 = * \frac{\text{Pounds of CO}_2 \text{ produced}}{\text{Pounds of CO}_2 \text{ produced}}$$

Total pounds of CO₂





Shield Design Guidelines

Shields had great significance to American Indians. Warriors carried shields into battle for physical and spiritual protection. Shield designs represented the warrior's spirit-guided power and brought them into closer contact with the natural world.

Ideas for your shield design can be found by looking at the displays in the museum.

■ The shield should represent things important to you.

■ The shield must contain at least four elements or symbols.

■ The shield must be in harmony with the natural world.

Humans have occupied the Jackson Hole valley for at least 11,000 years. Many tribes inhabited the valley seasonally, hunting animals and gathering food during warmer months. Your challenge is to travel to Colter Bay Indian Arts Museum to learn and explore some of the survival skills American Indian tribes used.

LOCATION: Colter Bay Indian Arts Museum

TO COMPLETE THE CHALLENGE:
1. Complete all the activities on these pages.



Design your own shield to help you survive in the park!

Native Survival

Did you know that the largest wild bison population in the United States lives in the Greater Yellowstone Area?

Bison, also known as buffalo, are the largest land mammal in North America. Bulls (males) can weigh up to 1,500 pounds. Despite their size, bison are quick and agile and can run 30 mph and jump six feet high.

Up to 60 million bison may have roamed North America before the mid 1800s. Many American Indian tribes depended on bison for survival. Almost every part of a bison provided something, whether it be food, tools, shelter, clothing, or spiritual use.

Find at least ten of the items below in the Colter Bay Museum:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| HORNS | <input type="radio"/> Bowstrings |
| <input type="radio"/> Spoons | <input type="radio"/> Dolls |
| <input type="radio"/> Cups | |
| <input type="radio"/> Toys | BONES |
| | <input type="radio"/> Knives |
| HIDE | <input type="radio"/> Arrowheads |
| <input type="radio"/> Tipi Covers | <input type="radio"/> Shovels |
| <input type="radio"/> Moccasins | <input type="radio"/> Hide Scrapers |
| <input type="radio"/> Shirts | <input type="radio"/> Paint Brushes |
| <input type="radio"/> Shields | |
| <input type="radio"/> Drums | |
| <input type="radio"/> Snowshoes | |



© Anton Kotile, Dreamstime.com

Tools for Survival

SETTING UP A HOMESTEAD

Imagine you are a homesteader arriving in Jackson Hole trying to survive. Put the following tasks in order, from first to last.

- Transport your family's possessions to Jackson Hole in a wagon.
- Receive a title for the land you claimed under the Homestead Act.
- File an application for land through the Homestead Act of 1862.
- Plant crops adaptable to the short growing season.
- Locate and cut timber to build your cabin.
- Build a temporary shelter or sod house for the first winter.
- Find a site for your permanent cabin.
- Build a log cabin using the tools you brought into Jackson Hole.



WHO WAS BILL MENOR?

A lifelong bachelor known for his temper and “colorful” language, Bill Menor moved to Jackson Hole to homestead in 1892. In 1894 Menor constructed a ferry to transport people and supplies across the Snake River. Until 1927 the ferry was one of the few ways for a wagon or automobile to cross the river.

Bill Menor was the first person to homestead on the west side of the Snake River in Jackson Hole. Go back in time by exploring the buildings, stories and pictures Bill Menor left behind. You will discover ways early settlers survived.

The Homestead Act of 1862 gave a homesteader the title to any 160 acres of land. The law required just three steps: file an application, live on and improve, or “prove up,” the land for five years and file for the deed of title.

Even with the offer of free land, Jackson Hole was one of the last areas of the American West to be settled. The cold

climate, rocky soils and isolation made this a very inhospitable place.



CHALLENGE LOCATION: Menor's Ferry Historic District

Locate Menor's Ferry on the map and travel there. Complete all the boxed activities on these pages.

LIFE ON THE HOMESTEAD

Your challenge is to find items throughout Menor's Ferry Historic District that helped Bill Menor survive. List what the item is and where you found it on the homestead.



Ways to build your cabin:

Ways to stay warm:

Ways to cross the Snake River:

Ways to find food:

Ways to travel over snow:



Bill Menor operating the ferry across the Snake River



Take a Hike

Grand Teton National Park has many stories to tell. This landscape has survived MANY changes. To read the story of the land, you need to get outside! This will challenge you mentally and physically.

THE CHALLENGE:
Pick one of the three hikes described below and take a hike!

Read and complete all the activities. Before you go, pick up a trail guide and check conditions at a visitor center. Better yet, go on a ranger-led hike. Check the park newspaper for times and information.



Heron Pond & Swan Lake at Colter Bay

Start at the Hermitage Point trailhead and follow rolling terrain through forests and meadows. Look for pelicans, swans, cranes and herons. Moose and elk are frequently spotted in this area.

Distance:

3.0 miles round-trip

Time: 2 hours

Elevation:

350-foot total climbing

Difficulty: Easy



Taggart Lake

The trail traverses sagebrush flats and then climbs through lodgepole pine forests to reach Taggart Lake. Watch for osprey, mule deer, moose and bear.

Distance: 3.2 miles round-trip to the lake

Time: 2 hours

Elevation: 410-foot total climbing

Difficulty: Easy



Inspiration Point at Jenny Lake

Hike around the lake to the mouth of Cascade Canyon or take a shuttle boat across Jenny Lake (ticket required). Follow the trail to Hidden Falls and then continue up to Inspiration Point overlooking Jenny Lake.

Distance:

5.8 miles round-trip

Time: 4 hours

Elevation: 700-foot total climbing

Difficulty: Moderate

Via Shuttle:

2.2 miles, 2.5 hours, 420 foot total climbing

YOUR HIKING OBSERVATIONS

Answer the following questions to complete the Take a Hike challenge.

Which hike did you choose?

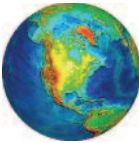
Glaciers shaped the landscape you see. What evidence of glaciers, past or present, did you see on your hike?

What are some ways you would survive if you got lost while hiking?

© Julie Barracato, Dreamstime.com

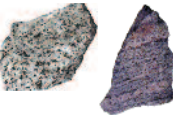
The Life and Times of the Tetons

4.6 billion years ago



Earth formed

2.8-2.5 billion years ago



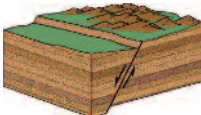
Igneous granite and metamorphic gneiss form

500-100 million years ago



Seas deposit layers of sediment on top of granites and gneisses.

10 million years ago to present



The mountains tilt skyward and the valley floor drops along the Teton fault.

1.8 million-14 thousand years ago



Masses of ice flowed from Yellowstone down into the valley.



Glaciers flowed from high peaks carving U-shaped canyons and lakes.

WAIT! Before you go...
do you have the 10 Essentials?
Be prepared! Always carry the 10 Essentials with you. Find them below in the word search and then make sure you have them in your pack.

map
compass
flashlight
head lamp
food
water
clothes
sunglasses
sunscreen
first aid
knife
matches
firestarter

Words can be forward, backward and diagonal.

m	f	n	e	e	r	c	s	n	u	s
f	i	r	e	s	t	a	r	t	e	r
c	r	s	p	s	h	h	f	s	n	t
s	s	u	l	n	g	e	s	r	s	s
h	t	i	t	n	i	a	n	s	e	s
w	a	t	e	r	l	d	r	t	h	e
f	i	o	k	g	h	l	s	p	t	h
t	d	s	n	s	s	a	p	m	o	c
t	i	u	i	l	a	m	a	t	l	t
h	s	g	f	a	l	p	s	s	c	a
m	e	t	e	n	f	o	o	d	i	m



Glenn Exum on the Exum Ridge, 1951

Remember!

Climbing is a dangerous sport and you should never attempt any climb without proper training and guidance. If you are interested, take a course, do your homework, stay in good shape, but most of all, know your limits!

Gear up for the Grand



Did you know there are over forty routes to the summit of the Grand Teton? Although the Tetons offer amazing views from atop any peak, they offer a climber much more.

The rocks, granite and gneiss, that make up much of the range are hard and strong, a good thing when a climber’s life depends on the strength of the rock.

The Tetons offer small glaciers and snowfields that allow climbers to use the mountains as a training ground for higher peaks in Asia and South America. Mt. Everest, anyone?

The Grand Teton is one of the most popular peaks in the country. It takes training, experience, skill and endurance to climb a mountain.

GETTING READY TO CLIMB

Climbers have developed a system of gear to decrease the risk of a fall or injury. Your challenge is to become familiar with some of this gear. Use the climbing exhibit at the Craig Thomas Discovery and Visitor Center to help you answer these questions.

1. Label the types of protection pictured below that climbers depend on.



2. How do you determine the soundness and reliability of the rock before you place protection?

3. What are ropes used for? _____

4. Explain what belaying is.

5. Draw a line to each item in the picture.



Rope
Helmet
Protection
Climbing Shoe

6. What makes a climbing shoe different from a regular shoe?

7. What do you think is the most important piece of climbing equipment? Why?

LOCATION: Craig Thomas Discovery and Visitor Center

TO COMPLETE THE CHALLENGE:
1. Locate the Craig Thomas Discovery and Visitor Center on the map and travel there.
2. Read and complete all the activities.

Community Quest

Your challenge is to visit two different communities in the park, learn what plants and animals survive there and record your observations.

LOCATION: Varied

TO COMPLETE THE CHALLENGE:

1. Visit two communities.
2. Use your map to help you find locations.
3. Complete all the activities including *What Survives Here?*

Type of Community Visited

In the first community you visit, find two plants. Name them if you can, if not, describe them (size, shape, color, scent). Remember! Park rules say leave what you find!

What was your favorite part about this community?

For the second community you visited, list all the animals you saw. Remember: Respect wild-life, keep your distance!

This is a drawing of the most interesting thing I saw:



ALPINE

The Alpine is difficult to access because there are no roads into the mountains. Only a strenuous hike will get you into the alpine environment.

Hiking: (Ask a ranger about trail conditions before attempting any of these hikes.)

Amphitheater and Surprise Lakes, Holly Lake or Marion Lake

A community is much like a neighborhood. It is an area where plants, animals, and microorganisms are living and interacting. Communities provide for the survival of more than 1,000 species of plants, 60 species of mammals and 300 species of birds in Grand Teton National Park.

The place a plant or animal lives within the community is called its habitat. A habitat provides food, water, shelter and space. Without suitable habitat, a plant or animal will not survive.

Grand Teton National Park has many stories to tell. This landscape has survived MANY changes. To read the story of the land you need to get outside! This will challenge you mentally and physically.



SAGEBRUSH

Driving: Antelope Flats Road, Teton Park Road, or Hwy 191/89/26

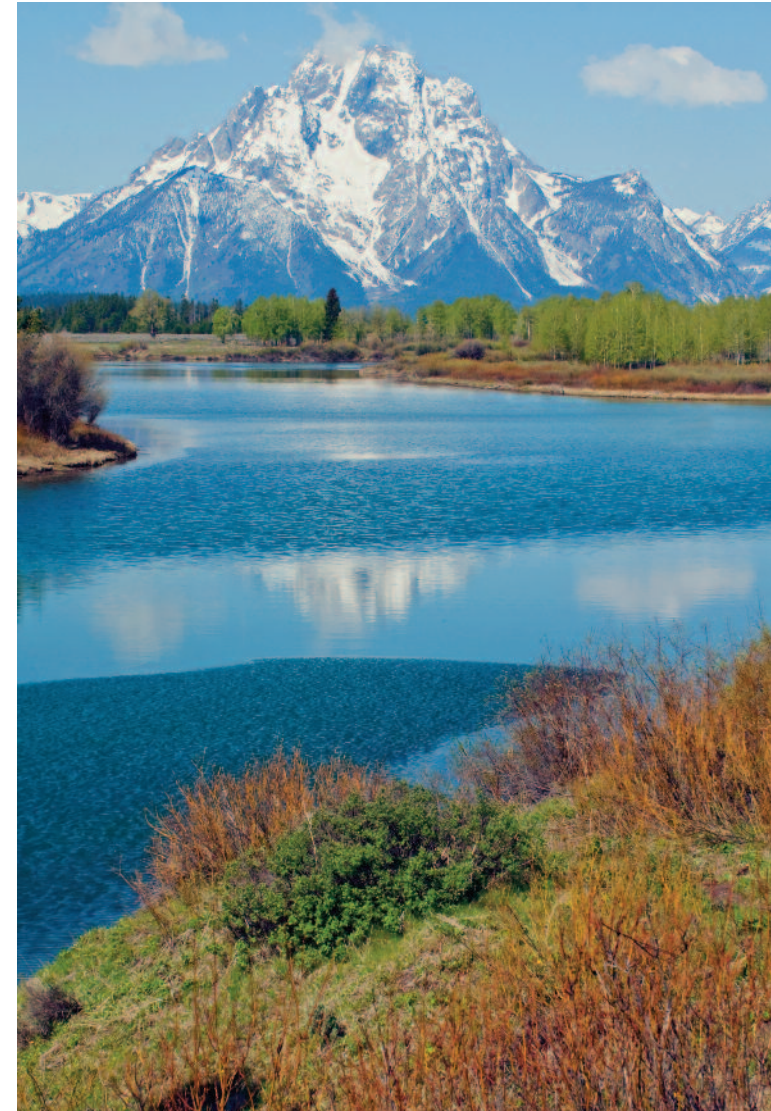
Hiking: Go to Cunningham Cabin or Lake Creek



FOREST

Driving: North Jenny Lake Scenic Drive

Hiking: Colter Bay Lakeshore, Jenny Lake, or Death Canyon



WETLAND

Driving: Oxbow Bend, Schwabacher, and Willow Flats

Hiking: String Lake, Two Ocean Lake, and Christian Pond

TURN THE PAGE TO DISCOVER PLANTS AND ANIMALS THAT LIVE IN THESE COMMUNITIES!

What Survives Here?

THE CHALLENGE:

Scientists use keys to identify things in the natural world. Identify each animal or plant photo on these pages:

A. Pick any photo.

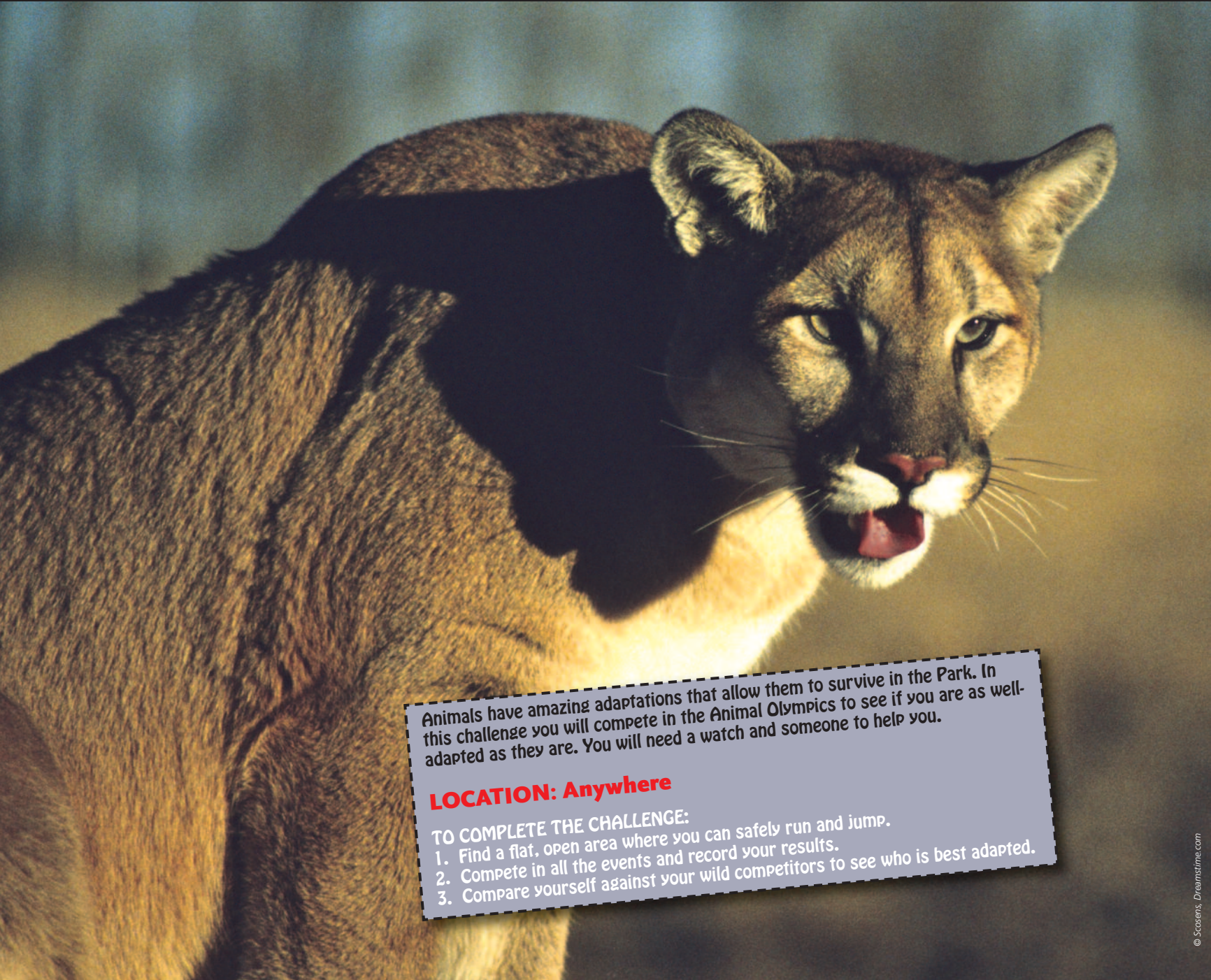
B. Start at question #1 and continue answering questions until you identify the animal or plant.

C. Write the correct answer below each photo.

1. Is it a mammal? If yes, go to 2, if no go to 6.
2. Does the mammal have horns or antlers? If yes, go to 5, if no go to 17.
3. Does the animal build it is home in the water? If yes, it is a beaver, if no go to 11.
4. Does the mammal have long legs, dark fur and a “beard” under it is chin? If yes, it’s a moose. If no go to 5.
5. Does the animal live in a wetlands community? If yes, go to 4, if no go to 12.
6. Is it a plant? If yes, go to 7, if no go to 9.
7. Is it a flower? If yes, go to 22, if no go to 15.
8. Is it red? If yes, it is Indian paintbrush.
9. Is it a bird? If yes, go to 10 , if no go to 23.
10. Does it have a long tail? If yes, go to 14, if no go to 25.
11. Is it a small mammal that looks like a prairie dog? If yes, it is a Uinta ground squirrel.
12. Does the mammal have horns, a large furry head and a large shoulder hump? If yes, it is a bison, if no go to 13.
13. Does the mammal have a white underbelly and branching horns? If yes, it is a pronghorn, if no go to 26.
14. Does it have a black head with a white belly? If yes, it is a magpie.
15. Is it a tree? If yes, go to 16, if no go to 27.
16. Does the tree have needles? If yes, it is a lodgepole pine, if no go to 20.
17. Is the mammal larger than a large dog? If yes, go to 18 if no go to 19.
18. Does the mammal have tall rounded ears and a straight nose? If yes, it is a black bear.
19. Does the animal live in rocky areas and look like a small rabbit? If yes, it is a pika, if no go to 21.
20. Does the tree have heart shaped leaves? If yes, it is an aspen.
21. Is the mammal plump and lazy-looking? If yes, it is a yellow bellied marmot. If no go to 3.
22. Is it blue? If yes, go to 24, if no go to 8.
23. Is it a reptile? If yes, it is a garter snake.
24. Does it have five petals? If yes, it is alpine forget-me-not, if no it is lupine.
25. Does it have a long neck and a red stripe on it is head? If yes, it is a sandhill crane.
26. Does the mammal have a dark neck and large branching antlers? If yes, it is an elk.
27. Is it a green shrub? If yes, it is sagebrush.



Animal Olympics



Animals have amazing adaptations that allow them to survive in the Park. In this challenge you will compete in the Animal Olympics to see if you are as well-adapted as they are. You will need a watch and someone to help you.

LOCATION: Anywhere

TO COMPLETE THE CHALLENGE:

1. Find a flat, open area where you can safely run and jump.
2. Compete in all the events and record your results.
3. Compare yourself against your wild competitors to see who is best adapted.



Name:
Great Blue Heron
Ardea herodias

Hometown:
Wetland Community

Ht: / Wt: 46" / 5.3 lbs
Wingspan:72"

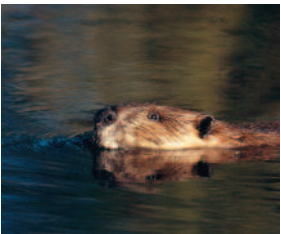
Event:
BALANCE

A sleeping heron can stand on one leg for over an hour.

With my eyes closed I can stand on one leg for

_____ minutes

_____ seconds



Name:
Beaver
Castor canadensis

Hometown:
Wetland Community

Ht: / Wt:
2'-3' / 30-70 lbs

Event:
HOLDING BREATH

A beaver can hold its breath for up to 15 minutes (900 seconds).

I can hold my breath for _____ seconds.

_____ minutes

_____ seconds



Name:
Mountain Lion/Cougar
Puma concolor

Hometown:
Forest Community

Ht: / Wt:
3'-5' / 65-265 lbs

Event:
LONG JUMP

A mountain lion can jump 20 feet in one leap from a standing position.

I can jump _____ feet in one leap.

Hint: To measure out how many feet you jumped, one of your feet is about one foot long.

_____ minutes

_____ seconds



Name:
Pronghorn
Antilocapra americana

Hometown:
Sagebrush Community

Ht: / Wt:
2.5'-3.5' / 75-140 lbs

Event:
25 YARD DASH

A pronghorn (antelope), the fastest land mammal in North America, can sprint 60 miles per hour. That's the 25-yard dash in less than 1 second.

I can run 25 yards in _____ seconds. Hint:

Make sure you are in a SAFE place for this event! Measure out 25 yards by taking about 75 steps. Mark your start and finish lines, have someone ready to time you and...ready, set, go!

_____ minutes

_____ seconds



Name:
Great Horned Owl
Bubo virginianus

Hometown:
Forest Community

Ht: / Wt: 22" / 3.1 lbs
Wingspan: 44"

Event:
STARING

Owls have the ability to stare without blinking for hours.

I can stare without blinking for _____ seconds.

_____ minutes

_____ seconds

ARE YOU ADAPTED TO SURVIVE IN GRAND TETON? Did you win any events?

Be Bear Aware!



SURVIVAL STEP 1

Learn about bears and their behavior

- 1. Bears prefer to eat: (Circle all that apply.)
 - a) People
 - b) Plants & berries
 - c) Ground squirrels
 - d) Elk calves
 - e) Junk food
- 2. Bears are what type of eater?
 - a) Carnivores
 - b) Omnivores
 - c) Herbivores
 - d) None of the above

3. Circle the scat (poop) that belongs to a bear.



SURVIVAL STEP 2

Camping precautions in bear country

- 1. What objects smell like food to a bear?
 - a) Sunscreen
 - b) Hot dogs
 - c) Camp stove
 - d) Toothpaste
 - e) All of the above

- 2. Where is it safe to store your food? (Circle all that apply.)
 - a) In a cooler under the picnic table
 - b) In a food storage locker or “bear box”
 - c) Locked in your car with the windows up

- 3. What evidence of bear activity should you look for while hiking?
 - a) Scat
 - b) Tracks
 - c) Markings on trees
 - d) All of the above

- 4. True or False? (Circle one.)
A bears sense of smell is seven times greater than that of a bloodhound.

SURVIVAL STEP 3

Safety and protection when hiking

- 1. What is the required distance you should stay from a bear?
 - a) 25 feet
 - b) 100 feet
 - c) 300 feet

- 2. True or False? (Circle one.)
If you encounter a bear you should turn and run away screaming.

- 3. What is the best way to avoid a bear encounter? (Circle all that apply.)
 - a) Never go outside
 - b) Go hiking alone
 - c) Hike in groups of 4 or more
 - d) Always carry bear spray
 - e) Make noise while hiking, especially in thick brush.

- 4. What can happen to a bear that obtains human food? (Circle all that apply.)
 - a) Park rangers smack the bear on the nose

- b) The bear is relocated
- c) The bear is killed
- d) The bear becomes aggressive to obtain more human food

SURVIVAL STEP 4

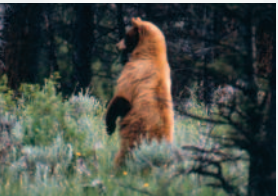
Know Your Bears

Color and size can be misleading and are not the best ways to identify a bear. Here are some better ways...

Black Bear *Ursus americanus*
Body Shape: Lack shoulder hump
Face: Straight profile from the forehead to the nose
Ears: Large and pointed
Community: Forested areas and their edges and clearings

Grizzly Bear *Ursus arctos*
Body Shape: Distinct shoulder hump
Face: Dish-shaped profile, between the eyes and the end of the nose
Ears: Short and rounded
Community: Forested areas, meadows and valleys

Identify these pictures as black or grizzly bear.



☐ black ☐ grizzly



☐ black ☐ grizzly



☐ black ☐ grizzly



☐ black ☐ grizzly



Hint: Go to any visitor center and tell a ranger the secret word for an answer sheet.

Secret Word: What is the scientific name both bears share that means “bear” in Latin?

HINT: The answer is on this page

Black and grizzly bears live throughout the park. In most cases, bears avoid people. Usually, they only attack when they feel there is a threat to their cubs, food or personal space. This challenge will teach you the best ways to survive in bear country and to identify differences between black and grizzly bears.

LOCATION: Anywhere

TO COMPLETE THE CHALLENGE:

- 1. Take the “Be Bear Aware” Quiz on these pages.
- 2. Take your completed quiz to any visitor center in the park and tell a ranger at the desk the “secret word” to receive your answer sheet.
- 3. **HINT:** Use the Bear’s Blog on p. 19 for clues to help you answer some of the questions.
- 4. Grade yourself and write your grade here: _____

© Carrie Davis,
Dreamstime.com



My tourist pose. They love it! Little do they know, I'm not always this sweet and cute!



My campground raid. I guess they should have stored their food better. Unfortunately I got a little sick from all the human food.



Ripe berries! YUM



THIS IS NOT A
GOLDSILKS
AND THE THREE BEARS
STORY,
THIS IS MY BLOG

May 15 - So hey, I'm new at this, it's my first time blogging. My name is Ursus. I live in Grand Teton National Park. It's pretty cool. I get to roam around, eat all the time, watch tourists do funny things, sleep through the winter...it's sweet. I woke up this morning and looked outside the den. Snow day!! There must be 6 inches! So much for summer coming early. But, everything's going amazingly well since I woke up from hibernation.

July 5 - Hey, I'm back! So, I found this bag of Doritos sitting out in someone's campsite. I'M IN LOVE! LOL (The problem is, I found that one bag was not enough so I ripped into a few tents to find some more. I even ate some sunscreen because it smelled so good - yuck).

July 6 - Ugh! I am so sick! I've been lying around trying to recover from my campground binge. Why did I eat all that human food? Didn't those campers know how bad that stuff is for me!? Plus, I don't want to get in trouble with the law - they could send me away, or worse... Please! Hikers, picnickers, campers, I beg you! Lock it up in your car or in one of those metal lockers that I just can NOT seem to break into.

July 25 - There's nothing I enjoy more than watching a group of photographers perform for me. Usually I leave them alone, but

today one got too close to me and I about lost it. If only they realized that was total harassment! How would they feel if I came into their house uninvited while they were trying to eat breakfast!? I mean, I know I am THE COOLEST animal around, but seriously people, give me a little room! I think the law says they are supposed to stay at least 300 feet away from me, but they don't. If it keeps happening, I'll have to show these humans how dangerous I can be!

August 15 - I've been soooooo busy. It's finally berry season here! But I have to compete with all the humans who seem to love huckleberries as much as I do. I'm lucky to have a great nose to lead me to the berries first, I've been told my sense of smell is 7 times better than ANY dog!

October 31 - Well it's Halloween, but I've been too busy gearing up for another winter to find a costume. I'm in my usual feeding frenzy before I go into the den for winter. I think humans call it "hyperphagia." Whatever it is I seriously eat enough calories every day to equal 35 Big Macs! Yeah, I guess I've gained a bit of weight since my last posting - about 30 pounds a week. I'm not too picky about what I eat... meat, veggies or whatever will pack on the pounds!

December 15 - So, I won't be posting for awhile. I'm about to go into hibernation and sleep away the winter. Aren't you jealous? But I've heard I don't really "sleep." These biologists came to my den last winter and did a bunch of tests on me. They said my heartbeat and breathing dropped way down and my body temperature dropped about 12 degrees. And I thought I was just sleeping. Hopefully I am fat enough to survive the winter without eating. Wish me luck. Check you next spring!

© Denis Tabler, Dreamstime.com



Optional:
WRITE YOUR BLOG

If you were going to blog about your trip to Grand Teton National Park what would you want to write? What would you want to remember or tell people?

Use this page to keep a journal, write a story or poem, sketch or write down your thoughts about your visit.



Produced by the Division of Interpretation
Grand Teton National Park
John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

www.nps.gov/grte
307-739-3300



The program is funded by the Junior Ranger program.
Grand Teton National Park Survivor created in 2010.

Survivor Certificate

I, _____,
promise to appreciate, respect and protect Grand Teton National Park. I promise to
continue learning about the landscape, plants, animals and history of this special place.
I will share what I learn with my friends and family.

Congratulations! This is to certify that

_____ **has successfully completed the requirements of**

