Junior Ranger Activity Book
Welcome to Voyageurs National Park. This amazing place, covered with forests and lakes, has been a National Park since 1975.

Park rangers work hard to protect the park and keep visitors safe. You can help by learning more about Voyageurs and taking a few simple steps to keep the park healthy and beautiful.

The compass rose is a tool that helps travelers find the direction they need to travel. Look for the compass rose on each page to find the directions for each activity.

Greetings Junior Ranger

There are many natural and man-made objects found in the park that help tell the park’s story. These objects may be found indoors or outdoors.

Bingo! Search for the items below as you travel through the park. Cross off (X) each item as you find it. Try to get four in a row, diagonal, or the four corners.

To become a Junior Ranger, you will need to:

**Explore** (check 2 or more)
- Hike, ski, or snowshoe on a park trail
- Camp, fish, canoe, or enjoy another outdoor activity in the park
- Attend a ranger-led program
- Watch the park film

**Learn** (check 1 club and complete activities)
- Beaver Club: 5-6 activities (ages 6-8)
- Wolf Club: 7-8 activities (ages 8-10)
- Bear Club: 9 or more activities (ages 10 and up)

**Protect**
- Take the Junior Ranger pledge to protect Voyageurs National Park

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**Bingo!**

- Red Squirrel
- A HUGE Rock
- Park Ranger
- Spider Web
- Park Map
- Birch Bark
- Snowshoes
- Woodpecker Tree
- Bald Eagle
- Arrowhead symbol
- North Canoe
- Island
- White Pine Tree
- Wildlife Tracks
- Trail Sign
- Beaver Fur

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Bonjour! My name is Claude. I am a French-Canadian voyageur who paddled these lakes in the 1700s. I will be guiding your journey through the park.
We have been paddling for just a short time and already reached our first stop - Little American Island. In 1892, gold was discovered on this island. In the 1800s, many Americans did not have jobs. Some people thought mining for gold was a good way to make money.

The word voyageur is French and means ‘traveller’. During the fur trade, wealthy people in Europe wanted fancy hats made of beaver fur. My job was to transport goods and furs, on the water, across North America just like a modern day truck driver traveling on the highway.

Together, we are going to paddle a canoe and travel a part of the “water highway” through Voyageurs National Park. Before we do, we must prepare for our journey!

**What’s the Weather?**
Draw a picture of today’s weather.

1. How will this weather affect your plans today?
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

2. What should you pack to stay safe in today’s weather?
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

**Let’s Get Packing!**

1. **Circle** the items you would pack in the canoe below.

2. **Cross off (X)** items the voyageurs packed in their birch bark canoes.

**Golden Math Problems**

1. Solve the math problem below to find out how much $ in gold was mined during the Rainy Lake Gold Rush.
   By the end of the Rainy Lake Gold Rush in 1897, 232 ounces of gold had been mined. The value of gold was $20.67 per ounce.
   
   \[
   \text{_________ ounces of gold} \times \text{$_{_________}$ per ounce} = \text{$_{_________}$}
   \]

2. Solve the math problem to find out how much $ the same 232 ounces of gold is worth, if the price is $1,500 per ounce.
   
   \[
   \text{_________ ounces of gold} \times \text{$_{_________}$ per ounce} = \text{$_{_________}$}
   \]
Your next stop is Saginaw Bay on Rainy Lake. Many visitors like to fish here. Did you know 40% of Voyageurs National Park is made up of water? These large and small lakes provide clean water and homes to many kinds of fish.

In Voyageurs, some visitors like to fish for walleye. However, visitors must follow fishing rules, called regulations. When walleye reach a certain size, they are called “spawners” and are able to have baby fish. These fish cannot be kept and must be released back into the lake.

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**Harry Oveson’s Fish Camp**

Your next stop is Harry Oveson’s Fish Camp. This is where Harry Oveson lived and ran his commercial fishing business. During the mid 1900s, many people made a living from commercial fishing - catching fish with nets and selling them at markets. While the actual catching of walleye and whitefish was only done in the summer, a lot of preparation took place before and after the catch.

**A Year-long Process.** Use the pictures and descriptions below to number the events in order from 1 to 6. Number 1 is an event that would take place in January.

1. First, ice cakes (blocks) were cut from the frozen lake.
2. Fish nets were set at night and checked early in the morning.
3. Fish were packaged into boxes and covered in ice.
4. Boxes of fish were loaded onto trains and taken to big cities to sell.
5. Finally, nets were repaired and stored for the next season.
6. Next, ice cakes were stacked in an ice house to keep fish frozen all year long.

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**Word Bank:**
- Northern Pike
- Yellow Perch
- Bluegill
- Smallmouth Bass
- Lake Sturgeon
- Black Crappie
- Lake Whitefish

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1. Find out the current slot size for walleye and fill in the blanks above the ruler.
2. Since this fish measures in the red part of the ruler, do you think you can keep it?

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**Who is Swimming Down Below?** Unscramble the letters below to learn which fish are found in the park.

**Word Bank:**
- Northern Pike, Yellow Perch, Bluegill, Smallmouth Bass, Lake Sturgeon, Black Crappie, Lake Whitefish

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In Voyageurs, some visitors like to fish for walleye. However, visitors must follow fishing rules, called regulations. When walleye reach a certain size, they are called “spawners” and are able to have baby fish. These fish cannot be kept and must be released back into the lake.

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1. Find out the current slot size for walleye and fill in the blanks above the ruler.
2. Since this fish measures in the red part of the ruler, do you think you can keep it?
Your next stop is Anderson Bay. The Cruiser Lake Hiking Trail starts here. It crosses over the largest piece of land in the park - the Kabetogama (pronounced cab-ah-toe-gah-ma) Penninsula. The trail connects Rainy Lake and Kabetogama Lake. The Kabetogama Penninsula has many small lakes, called interior lakes. People can only get to these lakes by hiking on the trails.

Let’s Go For a Hike!

1. If you hike the Cruiser Lake Trail, following the white line from Start to End, how many interior lakes will you see? __________________________

2. Using the scale at the bottom of the map, measure how many miles you would hike from Rainy Lake to Kabetogama Lake. ______________

Many kinds of animals live in Voyageurs National Park, but they are good at hiding. How do you know which animals live in the park if you can’t see them? Park scientists look for clues like animal tracks (footprints) and scat (poop) to learn which animals call this place home.

Who’s Scat is That?

Use the scat clues and animal picture choices below to figure out who has been hiking the same trail as you.

1. In late summer, I fill up my big belly with blueberries. Who Am I? ______________
   A) Throw it in the lake
   B) Hang it on a tree
   C) Put it in a baggie and take it with you
   D) Leave No Trace!

2. I am a common animal so my dark, shiny droppings are seen all over the park. Who Am I? __________________

3. I am a stinky little animal who digs for tasty grubs in the dirt. Who Am I? ______________

4. I spend most of my time in the water eating fish, mussels, and crayfish. Who Am I? ______________

5. My scat is a pile of large droppings with little pieces of plants inside. Who Am I? ______________

6. When I hunt an animal, I eat everything including bones and fur. Who Am I? ______________

7. I am a common animal so my dark, shiny droppings are seen all over the park. Who Am I? __________________

8. In late summer, I fill up my big belly with blueberries. Who Am I? ______________

9. My scat is a pile of large droppings with little pieces of plants inside. Who Am I? ______________

10. I am a stinky little animal who digs for tasty grubs in the dirt. Who Am I? ______________

11. I spend most of my time in the water eating fish, mussels, and crayfish. Who Am I? ______________

12. My scat is a pile of large droppings with little pieces of plants inside. Who Am I? ______________

13. When I hunt an animal, I eat everything including bones and fur. Who Am I? ______________

14. I am a common animal so my dark, shiny droppings are seen all over the park. Who Am I? __________________
Kettle Falls Hotel

Your next stop is the Kettle Falls Hotel. For hundreds of years, the waterfalls here caused people to stop their water travels and portage (travel on land) around the falls. Because of this, many people including lumberjacks, commercial fishermen, and gold miners, used this area as a stopping and resting place before and after the hotel was built.

Decoding History

Use the code below to learn who else used this area and why.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code Key</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A B C D E F G H I J K L M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Indians gathered, hunted, and speared at the falls,

paddled and

through the area carrying their goods and, and today enjoy eating and staying at the

Did you know?

Kettle Falls was given this name because the water at the bottom of the waterfall looked like bubbling water in a kettle. In 1913, a hydroelectric dam was built over the waterfall to provide electricity to the area.

I. W. Stevens Island

Your next stop is I. W. Stevens Island on Namakan Lake. This island was home to Ingvald Walter Stevens and his Pine Cove Resort for over 50 years.

I. W. Stevens kept a journal about his life on the lake. Read the captions below the pictures to learn more about his day-to-day activities.

A log cabin hand-built by I.W. Stevens

Use the space below to journal about your adventures in Voyageurs National Park.

Stamp your journal with a Voyageurs National Park Passport Stamp.
Your next stop is a campsite on the shores of Sand Point Lake. There are over 200 campsites in Voyageurs. After your long journey through the park, you are ready to set-up camp for the night. As a Junior Ranger, it is your job to be a safe and responsible camper.

**Setting Up Camp**
1. Draw a line from the camping gear to where it belongs at your campsite.
2. Find and circle 10 hidden objects that do not belong at your campsite.

Always leave your campsite cleaner than you found it.

*Do your part!*
A Journey from the Past into the Future

You have reached Crane Lake, the end of your voyageur journey today. Now it is time to look back on where we traveled together.

Mapping your Journey

1. Label each □ on the map with the name of that place. To find each place name, go back through the book and look at the titles for each page.

2. Trace your journey. Use a pencil to connect all the □ on the map. As you draw your lines, make sure you stay on the blue water.

The route you trace is the same route the Voyageurs traveled in the 1700s!

Since the time of the voyageurs, changes have happened to this land and water, such as new buildings, campsites, hiking trails, and motorboats.

Still, the park scenery is almost the same as what the voyageurs saw on their journey - the same rocks, trees, animals, lakes, sunsets, and night sky.

What can YOU do today to help people enjoy this scenery 100 years from now?
Congratulations! You are almost a Junior Ranger. Once you have completed your activities, present this booklet to the person behind the desk at a visitor center or mail it to:

Junior Ranger Program  
Voyageurs National Park  
360 Hwy 11 East  
International Falls, MN  56649

**Junior Ranger Pledge**

I pledge to learn all I can about Voyageurs National Park and what makes this a special place. I will help protect the plants, animals, land, and water in Voyageurs National Park. I will share what I learn with my friends and family.

Photo and Graphic Design Credits:

Cover: Snowshoe photo: Becky Olson; photo of two boys by tree: Rebecca Schultz  
Page 2: Voyageur sketch: Dylan Meconis  
Page 4: Birchbark canoe photo: Erik Simula  
Page 6: Locomotive photo: Karl C. Henkels; Ice cake cutting photos: Mike Williams; fish nets drying and boxes of fish photos: Minnesota Historical Society  
Page 7: Background photo: Chris Steeman; Fish illustrations: MNDNR and C. Iverson  
Page 11: Photos: NPS, I.W. Stevens Collections