

Activity Booklet

PARK EXPLORER

AGES 10-12



Hi! Would you like to become a Park Explorer just like Frankie Fox? 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 **Park Explorer!**

My name is

I am visiting

(Provincial Park)

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

1

2

3

Watery World Word Search

Until recently, most people thought that wetlands were useless areas because you can't build on them or farm them. Now we know just how important wetlands are. Wetlands help **filter** the water and keep it clean and they hold on to water like a sponge and release it slowly back into the soil so that plants can use it.

See if you can find all the words hidden below. They may run forwards, backwards, horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. Circle the letters of each word carefully. When you have found all the words on the list, read through the word search from left to right, top to bottom and place all the unused letters you find in sequence in the spaces below. These letters spell out a secret message.

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

Words to Find:

- | | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| air | legs |
| aquatic | mayfly |
| backswimmer | meal |
| beetle wings | mite |
| bug | moist |
| caddisfly | mosquito |
| camouflage | nymph |
| creek | pond |
| damselfly | prey |
| dipnet | pupa |
| dragonfly | scuds |
| fairy shrimp | snail |
| fin | splash |
| fish | stream |
| flow | sun |
| gills | surface tension |
| habitat | swim |
| ice | water strider |
| insect | wet |
| lake | whirligig |
| larva | |

Secret Message:



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

The Earth's Lungs

Unscramble the words and fill in the blanks and learn how important trees and plants are!

Did you know that trees and plants take in carbon dioxide and produce _____?
nexgoy

That's right! The green plants act like a set of _____ for the earth. Take a deep breath.
gluns

You are taking in oxygen from the air. Your body needs oxygen to burn the food you eat and produce the _____ you need to go out and explore the park. Now breathe out.
yrneeg

Your body is getting rid of carbon _____ (CO₂) because we can't use it. Luckily,
dexiiod

trees and plants can! They use the carbon dioxide and together with water and _____
tlugsnih

create the food that they need. This process is called _____.
stoopsenythis

This helps to purify our air and helps in the fight against climate change.
When you plant trees or a garden you are also helping to fight climate change!

Marsh Match-a-Track

These animals can be found around a marsh where they leave tracks in the mud.
Draw a line to match the animal to its footprint.

Great Blue Heron

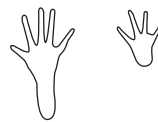
Muskrat

Frog

Beaver

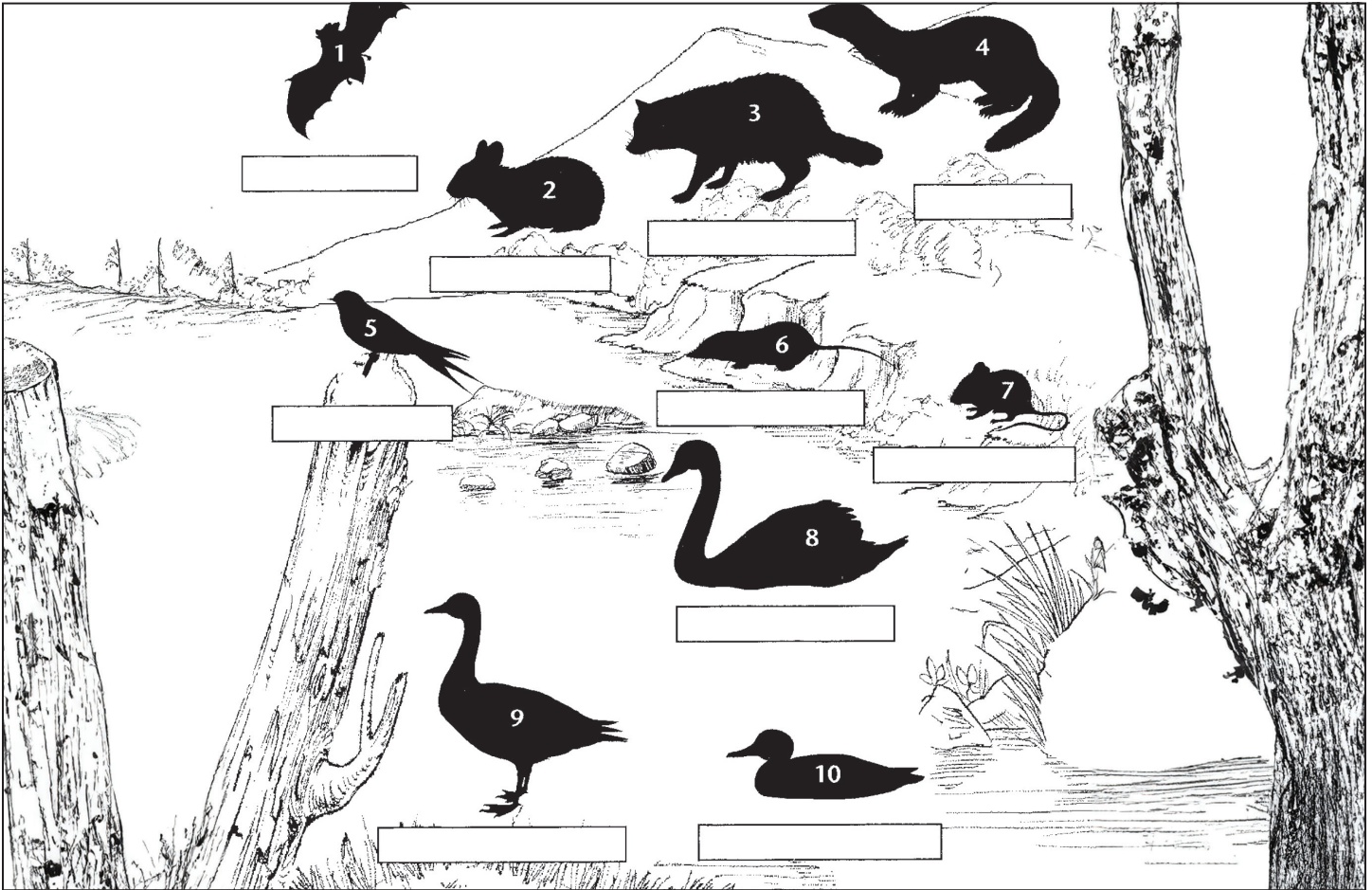
Canada Goose

Snapping Turtle



Pond Species

Can you identify these pond species?



Word Nerd

Can you make 15 words out of the letters of this pond creature's name?

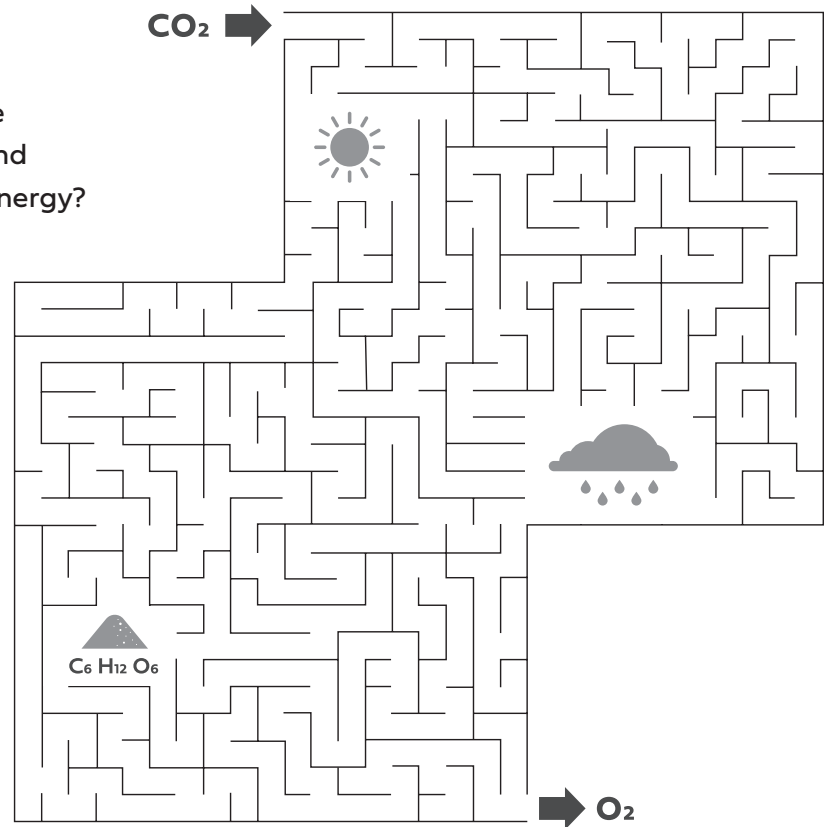
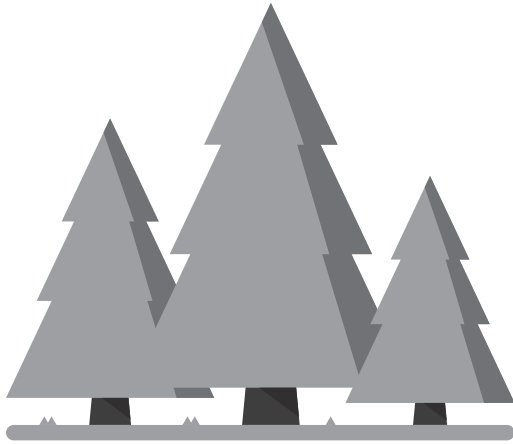
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Salamander



Photosynthesis is A-maze-ing!

Can you help the green plants of the earth use the carbon dioxide and together with water and sunlight make sugar so that the plants have energy?



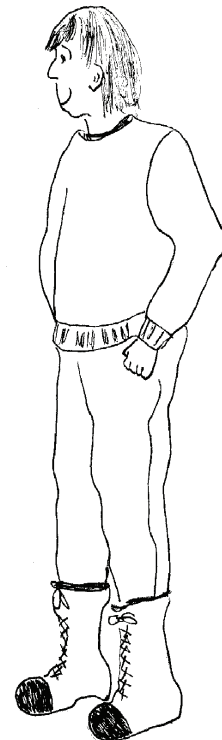
Becoming a Birdwatcher

Birds can be identified by different **physical features**.

You may notice the colour of their feathers or the white spot on their throat. You also look for the size of a bird and the shape of a bird. What about its tail, legs, beak?

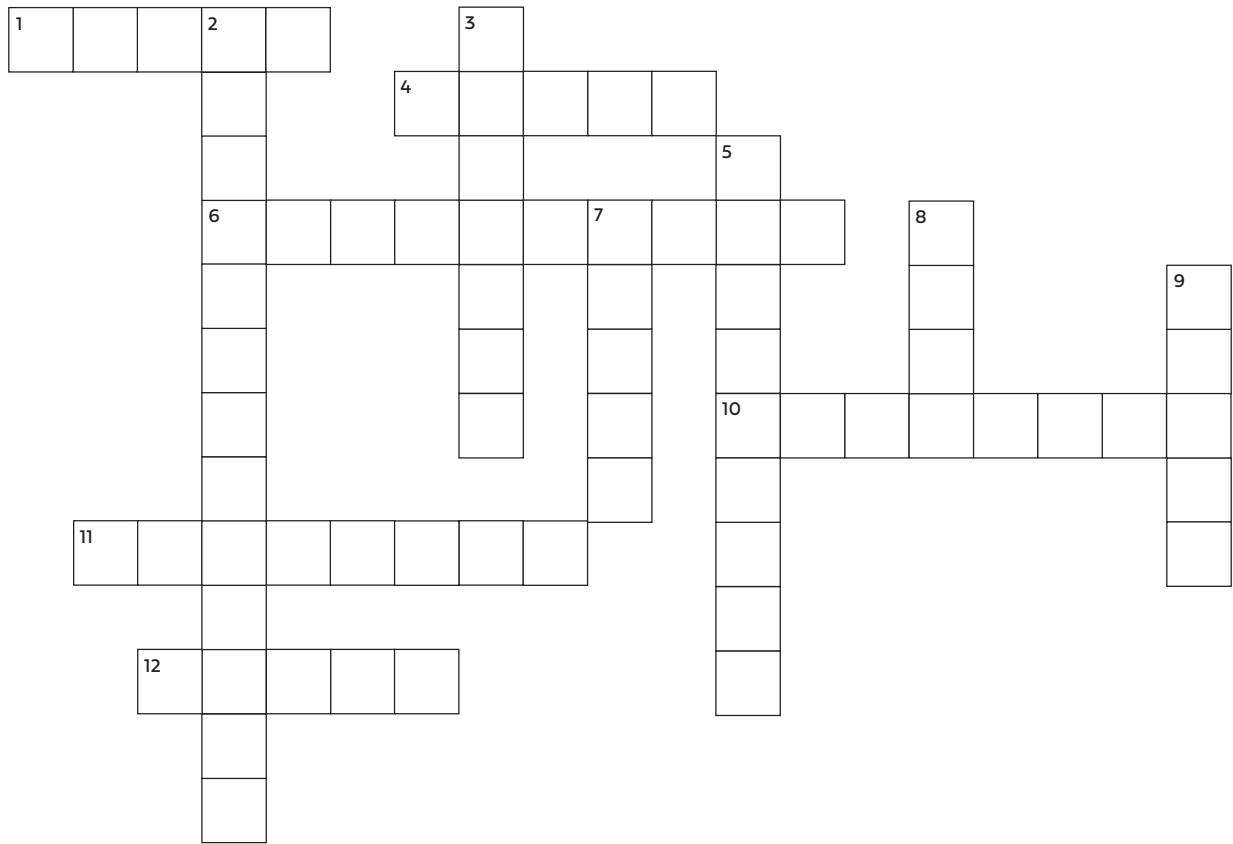
Frankie Fox has decided to go bird watching. He has worn long pants to avoid poison ivy or insect bites and boots or shoes that are appropriate for the habitat he will be in. What are some other items that might be useful for Frankie to take along? Draw these items for Frankie to make sure he is prepared.

Why don't you go bird watching too? Be sure to let an adult know where you are going or better yet, invite them along. Need help identifying a bird? Talk to your nearest interpreter! Tell the interpreter if you find anything interesting.



Park Explorer Crossword

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



Across

1. An animal will leave this behind in the mud to let you know it was there.
4. All living things depend on this.
6. Something you want to take with you when you go birdwatching that will help you see the birds.
10. One way to be a good Park Explorer is to be a good _____.
Shh! You'll need to be quiet.
11. A duck that nests in trees.
12. Clean water is _____ for all life.

Down

2. Plants take in this from the air which helps slow down climate change.
3. The name of an animal that likes to visit a pond and also likes to visit your campsite. Don't leave any food on your picnic table!
5. An insect that spends the first part of its life in water and then spends the remainder flying through the air.
Hint: They eat a lot of mosquitoes!
7. Trees and plants act as _____ for the earth.
8. One of the ways we have to try and identify birds is to look at their _____.
9. A type of wetland that has lots of tall grass growing in it.

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

Park Explorer Activity Checklist:

- My Three Favourite Things
- Watery World Word Search
- The Earth's Lungs
- Marsh Match-a-Track
- Pond Species
- Word Nerd
- Wildlife Study
- Meet a Bird
- Photosynthesis is A-maze-ing
- Becoming a Birdwatcher
- Park Explorer Crossword

Park Explorer: _____

Adult: _____

You are almost an official Park Explorer!

Child's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Province: _____

Postal Code: _____