

adventures in

BLACK CANYON



Official
**JUNIOR
RANGER**
Activity Book



Black
Canyon
of the
Gunnison
National
Park

Curecanti
National
Recreation
Area



Welcome to
BLACK CANYON!
ADULTS, READ ALOUD...

To Earn Your Junior Ranger Badge:

- Complete any 4 pages.
- When you are finished, bring your book back to the visitor center to receive your badge.

Follow the Junior Ranger Rules:

- **SAFETY FIRST!**
 - Stick close to an adult. Do not get near the canyon edge.
 - Do not climb on railings.
 - Do not throw rocks over the canyon rim.
 - Store food where bears and other wildlife can't get it.
 - Keep a safe distance from wildlife.
 - Be prepared. This means wear sunscreen, a hat, and sturdy shoes. Carry plenty of water.
- Take care of the park. Leave it better than you found it.

WORK TOGETHER:

While this book is suggested for 4-6 year olds, adults are invited to work closely with your child, and assist where needed. Encourage your child to think about, and articulate their own answers, even if you are the one recording them. "Work" required should be educational and fun for all.



Draw the Black Canyon! Over millions of years, the Gunnison River carved through hard rock to create this deep, narrow canyon.

- ▶ Go to an overlook.
- ▶ Sit in a safe place.
- ▶ Draw what you see.

What a

★ *VIEW!*

Find a rock that is smaller than your fist, but bigger than your thumb.

- ▶ What color is your rock? **Black** Gray **Pink** White **Purple**
- ▶ How hard is it? soft like play dough hard like a cookie harder than a penny
(hint: it scratches a penny)
- ▶ Is it alright to throw rocks or anything else into the canyon? Yes No
- ▶ Is it alright to keep rocks or other objects found in a national park? Yes No

When you are finished, find a special place to leave your rock.

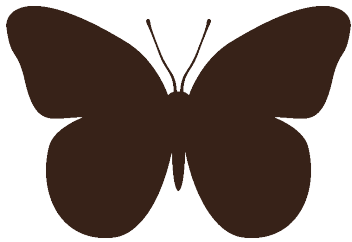
Are you my
MOTHER?



Draw lines to match each adult with its young.

Adult

Young



Butterfly



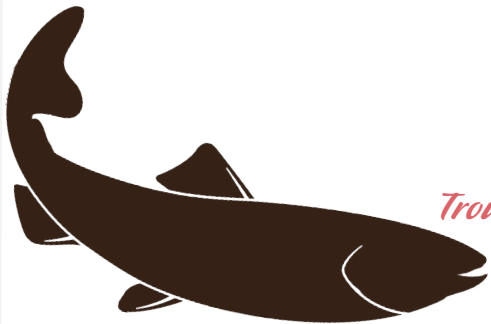
Fry



Doe



Caterpillar



Trout



Eaglet



Eagle



Fawn

► Extra: Circle the animals you see while at the park.

Explore the **WILD INNER CANYON!**

In a *Wilderness* canyon you must tread lightly. It is hard work to climb down into the rugged, remote, inner canyon. It is even harder to climb back up! Explore the inner canyon by completing this page.



I counted

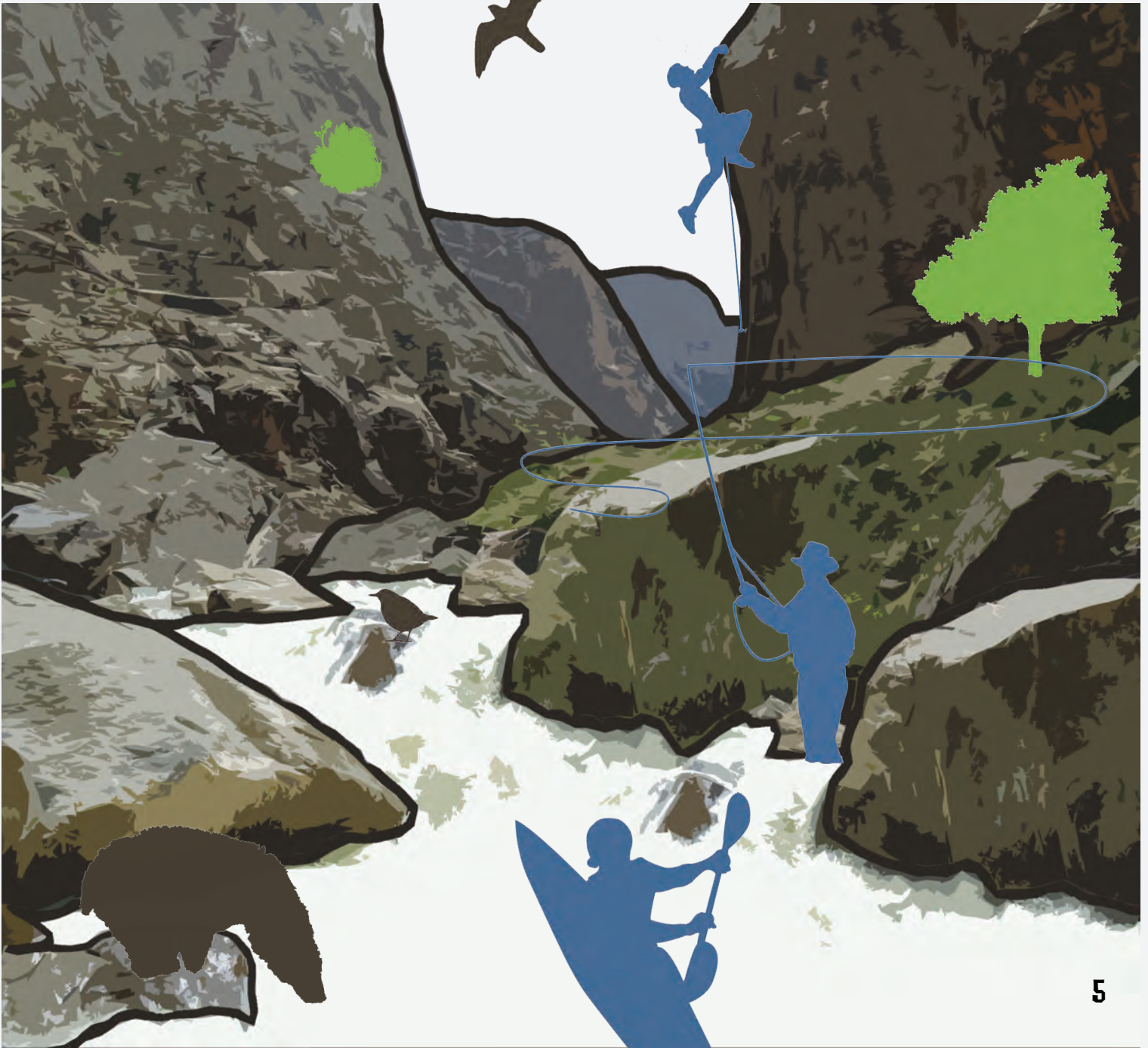
plants.

I counted

animals.

I counted

people.



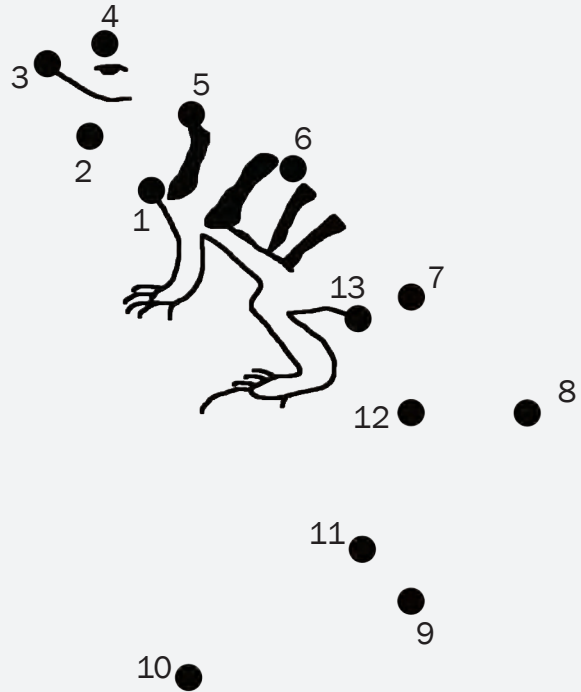
Who lives



HERE?

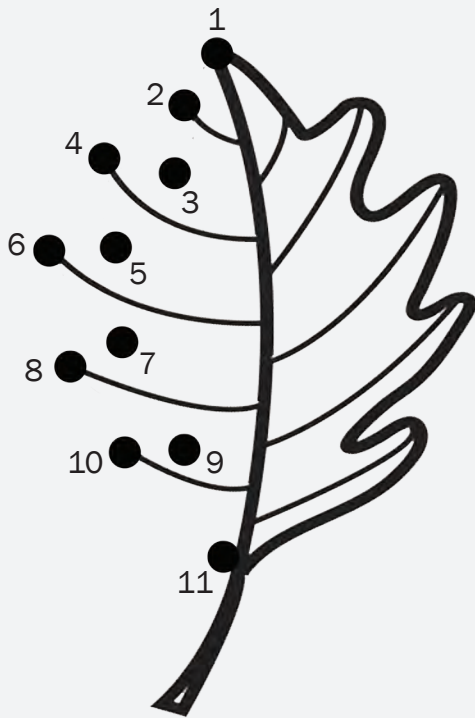
Each riddle gives hints about something that lives here.

Fill in the missing letters to solve the riddle. Check your answer by connecting the dots.



► I move quickly wherever I go.
If I lose my tail, it just might regrow!

l **z** **r**



► In spring I am green, but later turn brown.
I blow in the wind, and fall to the ground.

l **f**

Tic-Tac-Toe!

Attend a Ranger program...



...or ask a Park Ranger a question.

Spot a soaring bird.



Hint: Look up!

Have a picnic.



Clean up your trash.

Don't attract bears, birds, or chipmunks!

Hike a park trail.



Visit two overlooks.



Be an explorer!

Imagine walking in the shoes of a past explorer, what would you choose?

Float the Gunnison River

Climb up a rock wall

Ride a train

(circle one)

Smell sagebrush or a wildflower.



Remember: Don't pick it!

Take a picture with your family or friends.



Watch a bug for 1 minute.

Sketch it.

Remember: Don't touch!

BLACK CANYON

Junior Ranger Certificate

"I, _____, PROMISE TO

TEACH OTHERS ABOUT WHAT I LEARNED AT
BLACK CANYON, PROMISE TO EXPLORE OTHER
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AREAS, AND PROMISE
TO TAKE CARE OF THESE PLACES SO THAT ALL
PEOPLE CAN ENJOY THEM FOREVER. "



OFFICIAL JUNIOR RANGER
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Junior Ranger Signature

Park Ranger Signature

Date



You can also mail completed booklets to: Education Office, Black Canyon NP, 102 Elk Creek, Gunnison, CO 81230. We will mail your badge with your completed booklet.
For more, visit: www.nps.gov/blca www.nps.gov/webrangers