

Fort Scott National Historic Site

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Junior Ranger Adventure Book

Welcome to Fort Scott National Historic Site's

Junior Ranger Program



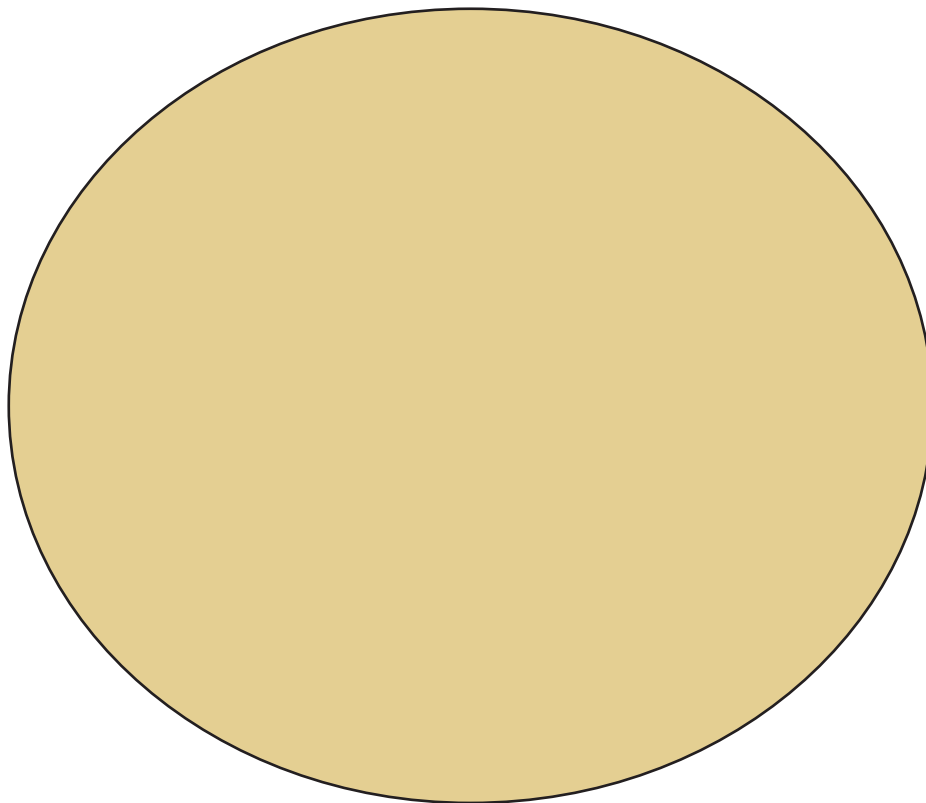
- Choose one activity on each page or you can do them all if you want.
- Bring along your haversack (checked out from the Visitor Center). Inside you will find things to help you with the activities.
- Use the map below to help find the way. The numbers on the map match the numbers on the pages. They show where to do the activities.
- Look for the letters colored red to help you solve a puzzle at the end of the book. When you're done, take the book back to the visitor center, review the activities, take the pledge, and you've earned your badge.
- Ready? Let's go!



1. The Native American Experience

Some of the exhibits in the Infantry Barracks tell about native tribes that lived nearby. The Osage were one of those tribes. Imagine yourself as an Osage as you do these activities.

The Osage **w**arriors often carried shields made of buckskin into battle. They were colorfully decorated. Design your own shield. Use your imagination and the colored pencils in your haversack.



Your haversack contains a list of some Osage words. Use this list to translate the following phrase.

“The buffalo **k**ill will be good in summer.
The village will eat this winter.”

Osage Translation:



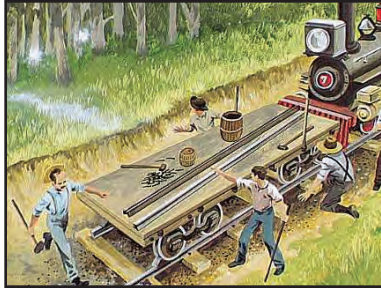
Red Letter

2. Movie

The movie tells about stories of adventure and exciting things that happened here. Watch it and then do one of these activities.

The movie tells about four different periods of time that are important to Fort Scott's history. Draw a line matching the time period to the picture.

A. Permanent Indian Frontier



B. Bleeding Kansas



C. Civil War

D. Railroad expansion

Mark the following statements as true or false.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | 1. The native tribes of the East were forced west to free land for the settlers of a growing nation. |
| T | F | 2. Soldiers from Fort Scott left to go fight in Canada. Many gave their lives in battle. |
| T | F | 3. There was violence at Fort Scott during the 1850s 'Bleeding Kansas' |
| T | F | 4. Many soldiers died in the hospital at Fort S cott during the Civil War. |
| T | F | 5. The Army came to Fort Scott in 1900 to help run telegraph lines. |

The narrator of the film states that "the soldiers arrived by horse and left by train." Can you explain how this statement relates to the history of the fort?



Write the red letters here.

3. Stables

To patrol the frontier, the army sent dragoon soldiers to Fort Scott. A Dragoon was a soldier trained to fight on horseback and on foot. Explore the stables to learn more about horses.

If you could choose the color of your horse, what would it be?
Why would you **p**ick this color?



Bay



Black



Sorrel



Gray

Horses are measured in “hands.” Lay your hand sideways and measure the horse on the wall from the floor to the top of the shoulder.

How many hands tall is the horse? _____ How many hands tall are you? _____

The hand is a 4 inch measurement of length. It is used to measure the height of horses in many English-speaking countries

One of the things that **d**ragoons had to do every day was to groom their horse. There are several tools used to do this task including the mane comb. Take the mane comb from your haversack and brush out the tail of the horse on exhibit in the first stall on your right. Why was grooming an important task at Fort Scott?



Red Letter

4. Dragoon Barracks

When the dragoon soldiers weren't out on horseback, they slept on the second floor of the barracks. Go upstairs to the squad room. Half the company shared this one room. As you can see, it was crowded in here. Sometimes this caused fights. There was one soldier who was killed at Fort Scott in a fight over a dog.

Study the beds. The single beds with ropes were for the corporals. They got their own beds. The bunks were for the privates. They slept two to a bunk, two on top, and two on bottom. Counting all of the beds, figure out how many people slept in this room.

Look at the names on the bunks. These are the names of the first dragoon soldiers stationed here. Write down the names of four of the soldiers

One of the exhibits across the hall tells about the weapons of the dragoons- the saber, the carbine, and the pistol.

The **saber** and the carbine were the main weapons. As you read the exhibit, compare the two weapons. If you were a dragoon, which weapon would you prefer, the saber or the carbine? Explain why you would make this choice. Hint: Think about how you would use each weapon.



Red Letter

5. Laundress Quarters

Most of the work at the fort was done by the soldiers, who were all men. There were some women though, called laundresses, that washed the soldiers' clothes. They worked hard scrubbing the soldiers' clothes on a washboard. They made extra money by mending rips and tears on clothes and sewing on buttons. Let's help the laundress do her work.



The laundress had many tools to do her work. Look at the pictures below and decide which of these tools the laundress would need to complete her work. Cross out the unnecessary items.



If a laundress did the laundry for 4 soldiers and then mended 2 coats, altered 3 vests, and sewed on 16 large buttons, how much money would she make?



From: Council of Administration
To: Post Laundress
July 1845

Prices for laundry and mending:
Set Price for laundry \$.50 per mo. per Soldier
Buttons- small \$.01 per button
 large \$.03 per button
Mending- coats \$.25
 vest \$.12
 pantaloon \$.19
 Great Coat \$.37 1/2
Altering- vest \$.37
 pantaloon \$.37 1/2
 coats \$.40
Shortening Vest \$.12
Enlarging Vest \$.20
Mending Shirts \$.10
1 yard of Muslin thread \$.20
Mending Drawers \$.09

Chairman of Council
Capt. Sydney Burbank
Commander of Fort Scott



Next to the laundress quarters is a washboard and tub. **R**emove the shirt from your haversack and pretend to scrub it on the washboard to experience the hard work of a laundress.

Red Letter

6. Kansas Territory and Statehood

The army left Fort Scott in 1853. Two years later, the fort became a town. The town was involved in the conflict over slavery in the Kansas Territory. The conflict lasted for seven years until Kansas became a state on January 29, 1861.

Here are three pictures that show some scary things that took place around Fort Scott in 1858.

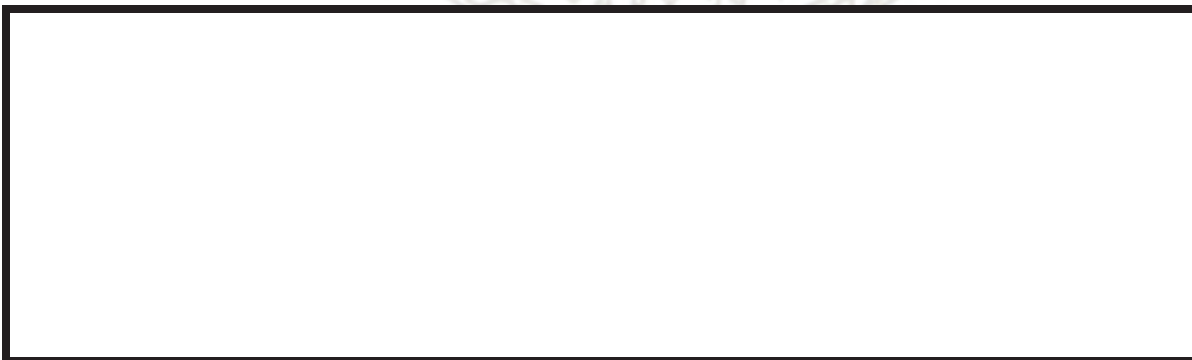
They are pictures of the A) Marais des Cygnes Massacre B) Montgomery Raid C) Peace Convention

Match the picture with the event by writing the name of the event below the picture. Look at the outdoor exhibits to find the answers.



From your haversack, find the Kansas state flag. Notice what is on the flag—the word Kansas, the state flower and the state seal. The seal has 34 stars because Kansas was the 34th state. It also has other important symbols. The riverboat means trade and commerce. The person plowing symbolizes farming. What do you think the buffalo and covered wagons mean?

Imagine you are trying to design a flag for a new state. Below, draw your own version of a state flag. Include things that are important for your state.



Red Letter

7. Officers Quarters

Officers had the responsibility of command and received the perks that came with the position. Most officers came from wealthy families and were well connected politically and socially. Both they and their wives were accustomed to privilege.



The bedrooms are on the third floor, the parlor and dining room on the second floor, and the kitchen and sitting room on the first floor.

1. How are these rooms different than those of the enlisted soldiers? Think about why?



2. How are these rooms different than those in your house?



The starting **pay** for an officer was 21 dollars a month, three times that of an enlisted man. What are your thoughts about an officer making that much more money? Can you think of any reasons why?



Red Letter

8. Tallgrass Prairie

Before we go to the next building, walk back to the prairie. As far as you can see was once rolling prairie. Officers in the 1840s hunted in the prairie and their wives would pick the flowers. As you walk along the trail through the prairie, please don't pick the flowers or disturb the animals. Everything here is protected.

As Fort Scott grew, the landscape changed. From prairie to military fort to thriving city, Fort Scott has seen many changes. As you look at the prairie around you, imagine how the landscape

As you walk, listen to all the sounds. Are these sounds you would have heard in the 1800s or are there modern sounds? Below, circle the sounds that you might have heard in the 1800s and cross out the modern sounds.

looked before the fort was built and draw the scene you imagine in the first space below.

In the second space, draw that same scene as you see it today with all the modern buildings.

- Wind blowing*
- Cars*
- Train*
- Leaves*
- Insects*
- Animals*
- Power Tools*



Before

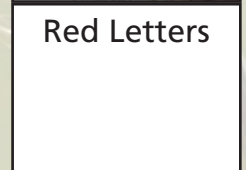


After

Early explorers called the prairie “the Great American Desert”. A Fort Scott officer described it as “magnificent”. During 1850s Bleeding Kansas, prairie land was one thing people fought over. What do you think after walking through the prairie? How do you feel about the worth of a prairie? If you owned land here, would you fight to keep it?



Red Letters



9. Quartermaster Storehouse

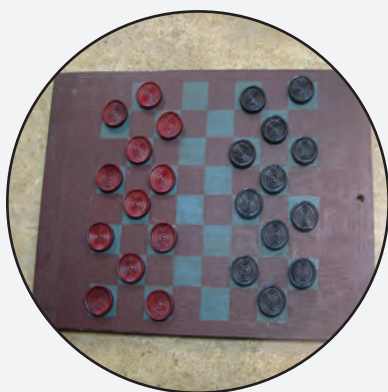
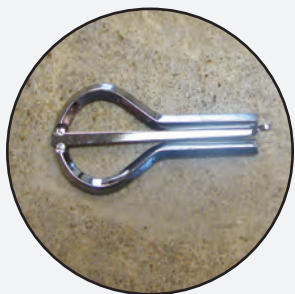
After the Civil War began, the army came back to Fort Scott for the third time. Many buildings in town, including this one, was leased back to the army to store food and equipment for the soldiers. These supplies are very important because they keep soldiers fed and ready to fight.

Examine the barrels in the storeroom and look at some of the boxes in the quartermaster office. Write down two types of food and two types of supplies, that were not food, that were here.

During the Civil War, the opposing armies often attacked supply wagons. Can you explain why they would do this? How would attacking a supply wagon hurt the army you were fighting?

Sutler Store

The post sutler would sell items to soldiers beyond their military rations. In the 1840s, Fort Scott's sutler was Mr. Hiero Wilson. Through the fort closing, the violence of Bleeding Kansas, and the Civil War, Mr. Wilson kept his store running. He saw it all! Let's take a look at what he sells.



Can you identify these items?

Note: you may find some of these items at the sutler counter in the visitor center.



Red Letter

10. Guardhouse

Guards on duty at Fort Scott in the 1840s patrolled the fort perimeter to keep intruders out and to keep the peace within the confines of the fort.

During the Civil War, Kansans and Missourians raided each other up and down the border. Fort Scott was closely guarded. Spies, Confederate prisoners, and Union soldiers who got in trouble were jailed in Fort Scott. This building housed many of the troublemakers until a new prison was built later in the war.



Locked in Cell



Standing on Barrel



Tied on Sawbuck

Above are some typical punishments of the time. Which one of these punishments would you like the least? Explain why.

A soldier who deserted the Army was badly punished. During wartime, the army shot deserters. Look at the “Strict Rules” exhibit in the guardhouse. Write below what the punishment was for desertion during peacetime. How do you feel about the army shooting deserters?



Red Letters

11. Hospital

The hospital is one of the 11 original buildings on site. By 1864, the Civil War was still being fought. Several Union soldiers whom fought at the battle of Mine Creek, were wounded and treated in this hospital.

Below are items that were used in the hospital. All are on display today. Can you guess what each one is? Write your answer below each item.



Chamber Pots



Apothecary



Pitcher and Wash Basin

Read the exhibit panels in the hospital and then answer the following.

How did doctors wet thread? _____

What didn't they know about? _____

As a surgeon in the Civil War, you often had to make choices. For example, you sometimes had to choose between working hours to save a soldier's leg or saving another soldier's life. What would you choose and why?

What is different from the last time you visited the doctor? A hospital?



Red Letter

12. Fort Scott National Historic Site

Today Fort Scott is a national historic site so you can learn about Fort Scott's role in shaping the west, the fight for freedom, and the Civil War, and so that you can hear stories about the important things that happened here during those times.

Unscramble the red letters that you have been collecting throughout the booklet to find out who protects Fort Scott today.

List three things that are protected at Fort Scott National Historic Site.

Fort Scott National Historic Site works to help the environment. One example of this is recycling. Look for the recycling areas and list some types of things we collect below.

One of the most important duties of the National Park Service is the protection of our nation's resources. Why is it important to protect our natural and cultural resources?

DO YOUR PART

There are many practices that you can do in order to be "green". These are things that you can do around your home. They include recycling, turning off the lights when nobody is in a room, not wasting water, and riding a bicycle or walking to school (with parental permission) instead of riding in a car.

Congratulations, take the pledge and you are now a Junior Ranger at Fort Scott National Historic Site.

Sign your name below, show your book to the person working in the visitor center and have them sign it, then take the pledge. You will then get your junior ranger badge.

The Junior Ranger Pledge:

I, _____ promise to continue to learn and help preserve and protect the landscapes, plants, animals, people, and history of National Parks. When I go home, I will continue to learn and teach others about these special places and how to preserve and protect them for generations to come.

Signature of Junior Ranger

Signature of Ranger or Volunteer

Junior Ranger Programs

Many other National Park Service sites also offer junior ranger programs. Many of these are available online.

For a complete listing of parks with junior ranger programs, including those online, visit


www.nps.gov/kids/become-a-junior-ranger.htm

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Thank you for taking the time to explore your park. Fort Scott National Historic Site is administered by the National Park Service, which is an agency of the United States Department of the Interior. The National Park Service oversees over 420 sites in all 50 states and some U.S. territories.

