

Big Hole National Battlefield

Junior Ranger Activity Book

This booklet contains activities that you can complete to earn a Big Hole Junior Ranger badge and certificate.

Grades 1, 2: complete pages 1, 2, 3, and 11

Grades 3, 4, 5: complete pages 1, 4, 5, 6, and 11

Grades 6, 7, 8: complete pages 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11



SAFETY FIRST!

To learn how to stay safe while you visit Big Hole Battlefield,
unscramble the following sentences.

*on stay the Please trails.

* _____ .

☆animals plenty room of Give--close don't too get!

☆ _____ -- _____ !

*Be by river the careful, you so in fall don't.

* _____ ,

_____ .

* the animals never Please feed.

* _____ . They need to
eat wild food to stay healthy.

**WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE! IF YOU NEED HELP,
ASK A RANGER. WE'LL DO OUR BEST TO HELP!**

CHECK IT OUT!!

Check out the Museum, vista room, and lobby to find the objects below. Put a $\checkmark$ by the picture to show you found it, then decide who used each one. Write "NP" if a Nez Perce used it, or "S" if a soldier used it. You might have to draw the dot-to-dot first!



What kind of house is warm in winter, cool in summer, and easy to carry with you? Do the DOT-TO-DOT to find out!



Get down and DIG IT!

Do you ever wonder how people know what happened more than one hundred years ago? There are lots of different kinds of clues about what happened before anyone living today was even born! But--no matter what kind of clues you're looking for, when you're looking into the past, you have to DIG IT!



Books, letters, and diaries are great ways to learn about past events. Look in the museum for Colonel Gibbon's official diary. You might think digging is easier than reading his handwriting!



Photographs can tell lots, too. The first black and white cameras were being used in the west about 1847. This is a picture of Billy Edwards, one of the civilians who came with the soldiers to fight the non-treaty Nez Perce in the Big Hole.



Really digging in the dirt is what **ARCHEOLOGISTS** do. They look for clues about how people lived, what they ate and wore, even whether they were sick or well.

EXCAVATIONS are the holes archeologists dig. They are very careful and dig slowly so they don't destroy any clues.

STRATIGRAPHY is the study of the layers of soil in the earth.

ARTIFACTS are things made by humans, like arrowheads, shoes, toys, computers, and beads.

LOOK IN THE MUSEUM AND VISTA ROOM FOR THE ANSWERS.



1. This R _ _ _ _ is the kind the soldiers were using.

2. This item belonged to *Penahwenonmi*, or Helping Another. It is made with knots, beads, and metal pieces and helped her remember important dates.

_ _ _ L _ _ _ or counting string.

3. There are 5 pouches or pockets in this black and tan bag. Soldiers carried the bag, and put food, tobacco, and personal items. They used this bag because they didn't have backpacks.

_ _ _ V _ _ _ _ _

4. He was the youngest member of the Looking Glass band to fight in the Battle of the Big Hole. He helped other warriors capture and take apart the cannon. His Nez Perce name means "Bird Alighting" and is spelled:

_ _ _ _ _ THOLEKT

5. This man was in charge of the soldiers who fought here. He was a Civil War veteran, and was wounded in the Battle. He was

COLONEL _ _ _ _ _ N.

6. Chief Joseph's coat is made of _ _ _ _ wool.

It has W _ _ _ _ _ ermine skins on the sleeves.

WHO FOUGHT HERE? Fill in the blanks to discover who fought the Battle of the Big Hole. Use the list of words below.

The Ni-Mii-Pu (nee-MEE-poo) was one of many groups of American _____ who lived in the northwest for _____ of years. In 1805, _____ and _____ met some Ni-Mii-Pu when they were _____ the west. French trappers also met the Ni-Mii-Pu and called them by the _____ name “Nez Percé” (NAY purSAY) because some of them had pierced their _____. Most people call them the Nez Perce (nez PURSE) today. The English names of some of their famous leaders were Chief _____, Chief Looking Glass, and Chief _____ Bird.

The soldiers were mostly young _____ who enlisted in the Army. Some of the _____ were immigrants who had moved from Germany, _____, or Scotland. Most of the _____ had fought in the Civil _____ just 10 years earlier. Because the troops walked instead of riding horses, they were called _____.

Officers	French	France	exploring	thousands
Lewis	noses	War	Indians	Clark
men	Joseph	Infantry	White	soldiers

USE THE ALPHABET CODE TO UNCOVER CLUES ABOUT ARCHEOLOGY AT BIG HOLE!

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

_____ are scientists who _____
 1 18 3 8 5 15 12 15 7 9 19 20 19 19 20 21 5 25
 people and cultures of the past.

More than 1000 _____ from the _____ Hole Battle
 1 18 20 9 6 1 3 20 19 2 9 7
 were found when archeologists studied the battlefield in 1991.



An entire _____ was found
 20 18 15 23 5 12 2 1 25 15 14 5 20
 when archeologists dug _____
 5 24 3 1 22 1 20 9 15 14 19
 on the battlefield.

Archeologists have to be prepared to get _____ and _____
 8 15 20 4 9 18 20 25
 when they work, and sometimes they find _____ !!!
 14 15 20 8 9 14 7

Artifacts tell _____ about ancient people. Never move
 19 20 15 18 9 5 19
 or disturb arrowheads, beads, or pieces of _____ that
 16 15 20 20 5 18 25
 you find outside. You might mess up the clues. Instead, tell a
 park ranger or call the closest university archeology or history
 department.

To figure out how **STRATIGRAPHY** works:

☉ **PRETEND** you drop a dime on the ground

☼ **IMAGINE** grass growing over it

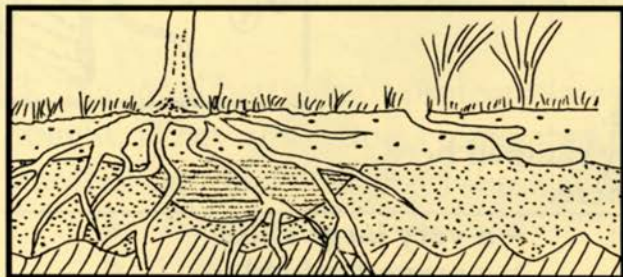
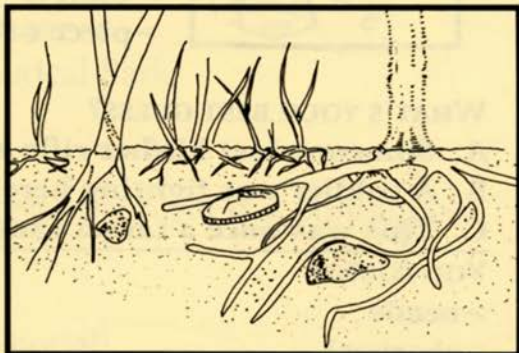
Leaves blowing over it ☼

Snow falling on it *

⑩ years pass by.

WHERE IS YOUR DIME?

It's several inches deep by now, and grass roots have grown over it. Soil has formed over it, too. As more time passes, it's buried deeper and deeper under the surface.



Today's soil level, area is city park.

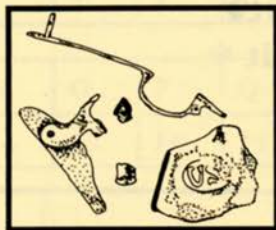
Soil level in 1970, area was backyard.

Soil level in 1910, area was cornfield.

Usually, artifacts deeper in the earth are older than things on the surface, or close to the surface. Studying this is called *stratigraphy*. It helps archeologists figure out how old an artifact is when they find it in an excavation.

QUESTION: If someone dropped a quarter 50 years **AFTER** you dropped a dime, would future archeologists find it *above* or *below* the dime????

TEST YOUR SKILLS AS AN ARCHEOLOGIST! Look at the picture of each excavation. Circle the answer you think tells what happened long ago in each place.



YOU FOUND:

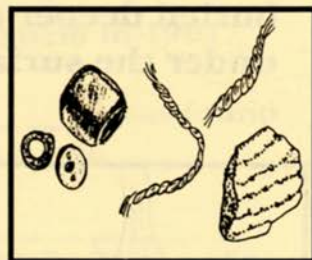
- >parts of a rifle
- >bullets
- >piece of leather with "US" stamped on it

WHAT'S YOUR BEST GUESS?

- A. Someone lost his/her rifle and ammo here.
- B. A soldier was fighting here.
- C. This was once a target range.

YOU FOUND:

- >beads
- >charcoal
- >small pieces of pottery
- >small pieces of string

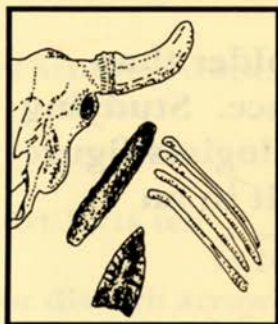


WHAT'S YOUR BEST GUESS?

- A. Soldiers camped here once.
- B. An American Indian family camped here.
- C. A blacksmith's shop was here.

YOU FOUND:

- >a very large skull
- >a stone knife blade
- >long skinny bones
- >an stone spear point

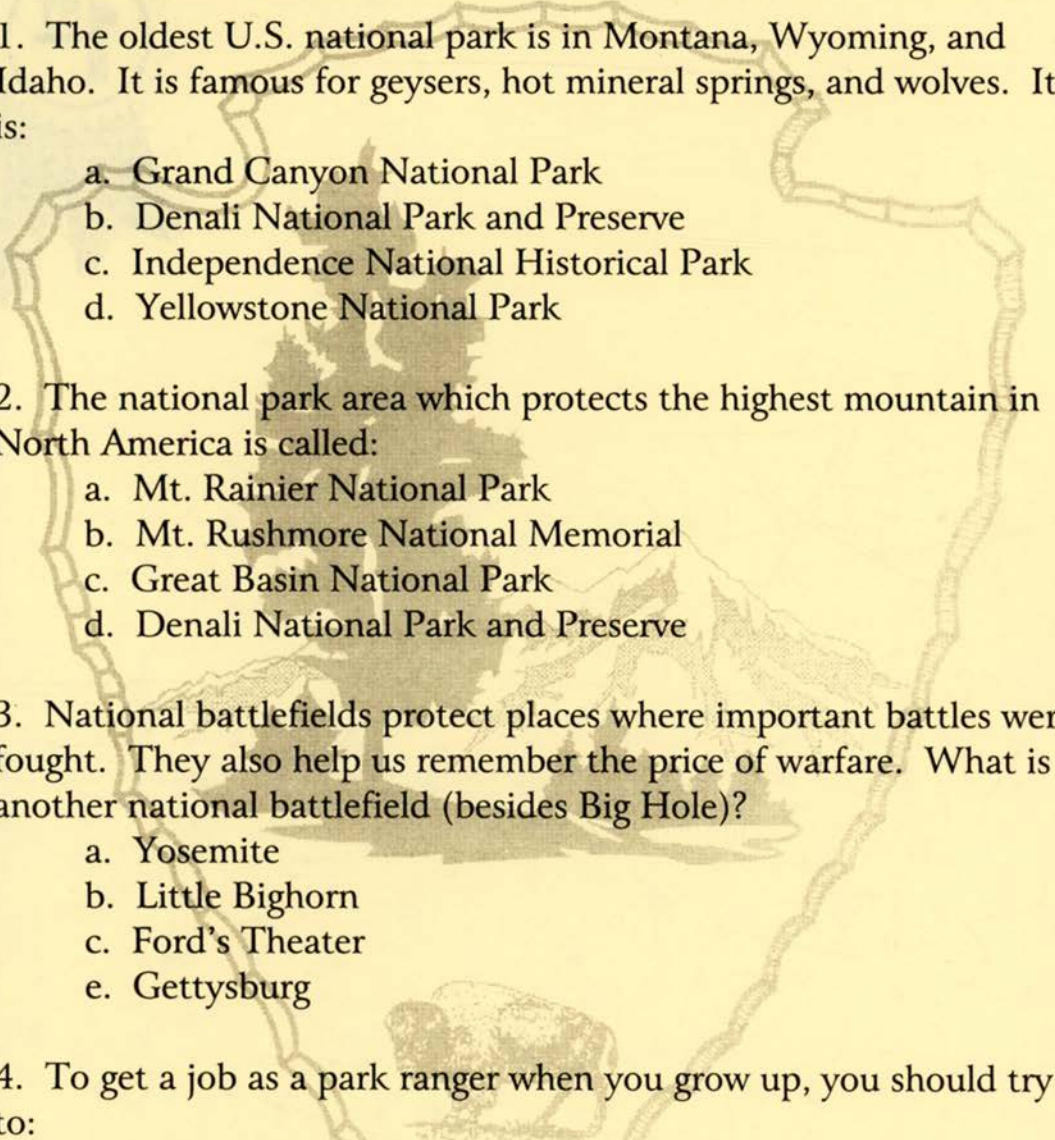


WHAT'S YOUR BEST GUESS?

- A. A bison (or buffalo) died of disease here
- B. Hunters shot a bison here 10 years ago.
- C. Hunters killed a buffalo and butchered it for meat and hide here.

T/F ARCHEOLOGY IS COOL!

STUMP THE JUNIOR RANGER! Test your knowledge of the National Park system. *There might be more than one answer.*

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1. The oldest U.S. national park is in Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho. It is famous for geysers, hot mineral springs, and wolves. It is:
 - a. Grand Canyon National Park
 - b. Denali National Park and Preserve
 - c. Independence National Historical Park
 - d. Yellowstone National Park
 2. The national park area which protects the highest mountain in North America is called:
 - a. Mt. Rainier National Park
 - b. Mt. Rushmore National Memorial
 - c. Great Basin National Park
 - d. Denali National Park and Preserve
 3. National battlefields protect places where important battles were fought. They also help us remember the price of warfare. What is another national battlefield (besides Big Hole)?
 - a. Yosemite
 - b. Little Bighorn
 - c. Ford's Theater
 - e. Gettysburg
 4. To get a job as a park ranger when you grow up, you should try to:
 - a. Get your college degree
 - b. Call the President and ask for the job
 - c. Volunteer at your local city or county parks
 - d. Introduce yourself to every park ranger you see

DRAW YOUR FAVORITE THING AT BIG HOLE. Ask the Ranger for crayons!

