White Sands

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

White Sands National Monument

Pre-K Junior Dunes Ranger Activity Book

Become a Junior Dunes Ranger!

Welcome to White Sands friends! My name is Riley, and I am excited to share my favorite place with you today. We are going to have a great adventure exploring and learning about White Sands, the world's largest gypsum dunefield.

When you are finished with your activities, please return your book to a park ranger in the visitor center to be sworn in as an official White Sands Junior Dunes Ranger! If you have any questions, please ask a park ranger. Let's explore White Sands!

Riley

Parents: This is a family program. Feel free to help your aspiring Junior Ranger. We hope that your whole family learns about the monument.

Are you on a tight timeline and can't return your book today? Not a problem. Mail in your book to the address below and a ranger will take a look at it. Just make sure you let us know if you want a badge or patch.
Address: White Sands NM, PO Box 1086, Holloman AFB, NM 88330.

Needing Color

Riley's been out in the sun too long and has lost all of her color. Help her get her color back by coloring her in.

Having Fun and Being Safe

Leave No Trace

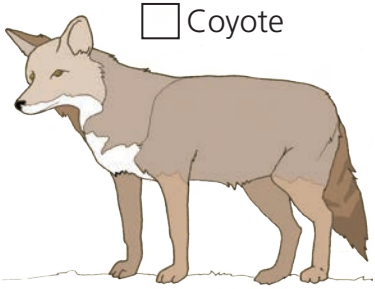
Riley loves being outside and having fun! She knows the best way to enjoy White Sands is to follow a few safety tips. Find and circle all the safe ways Riley is enjoying the dunes. Riley's safety tips:

- Drink lots of water
- Throw away trash in a trash can
- Wear a hat, sunscreen, & sunglasses
- Be prepared for your hike
- Keep pets on a leash
- Hike with a friend

Nature and Geology Checklist

This is a checklist of some of Riley's favorite things. As you visit the monument, check off any of them that you find. Some of the critters only come out at night so don't be discouraged if you can't find them all.

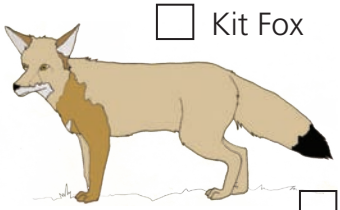
Mammals



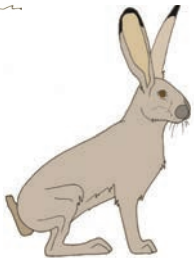
☐ Coyote

☐ American Badger

☐ Apache Pocket Mouse



☐ Kit Fox



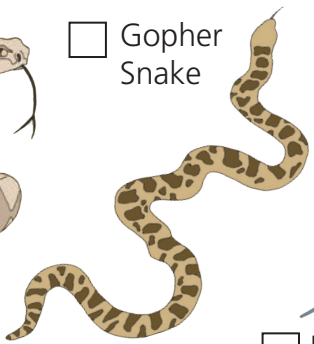
☐ Kangaroo Rat

☐ Blacktail Jackrabbit

Reptiles

☐ Western Diamondback Rattlesnake

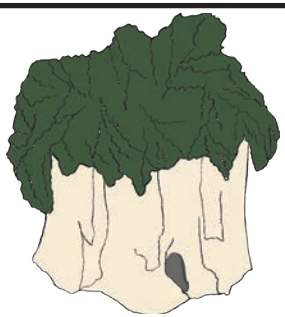
☐ Gopher Snake



☐ Bleached Earless Lizard

☐ Little striped Whiptail

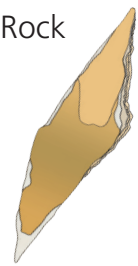
Geology



☐ Plant Pedestal

☐ Gypsum Rock

☐ Sand



☐ Selenite Crystal

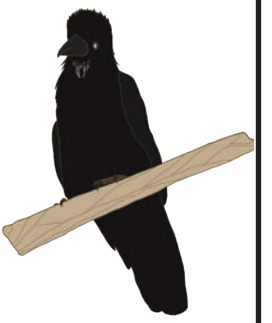
Did you see something that's not on the list? Draw or describe it in the space below. Ask a ranger if they can help identify it.

Birds

☐ Barn Swallow

☐ Loggerhead Shrike

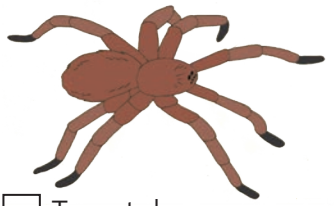
☐ Greater Roadrunner



☐ Raven

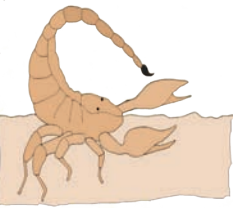
Insects

☐ Tarantula Hawk Wasp



☐ Tarantula

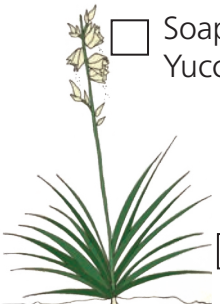
Darkling Beetle ☐



☐ Scorpion

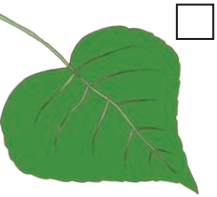
Plants

☐ Soaptree Yucca



☐ Indian Rice Grass

☐ Cottonwood Tree Leaf



Skunk Bush Sumac ☐

Junior Ranger Pledge

I promise to,

- Learn about other National Parks;
- Help keep special places clean, safe, and beautiful for everyone;
- Not disturb or collect objects I see and leave them for others to enjoy;
- Become a Junior Ranger in other National Parks.

Certificate of Achievement

This certifies that

_____

has met the requirements of a
White Sands Junior Dunes Ranger.

_____

Ranger Signature