

MANITOBA PARKS

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

All living things depend on water. Wetlands are areas that hold on to water for at least part of the year. If the water is less than 2 metres deep it is considered a wetland. A pond is a wetland and so is water in a ditch.

Can you name two other types of wetlands? 1) _____ 2) _____

Many different animals live in wetlands. Other animals just visit wetlands. In the list below, put an "L" next to the animals that live in the wetlands and a "V" for those that visit the wetlands.

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Frog | <input type="checkbox"/> Chickadee | <input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Moose | <input type="checkbox"/> Raccoon | <input type="checkbox"/> Muskrat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dragonfly larvae | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Strider | <input type="checkbox"/> White-tailed Deer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beaver | <input type="checkbox"/> Fox | <input type="checkbox"/> Turtle |

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

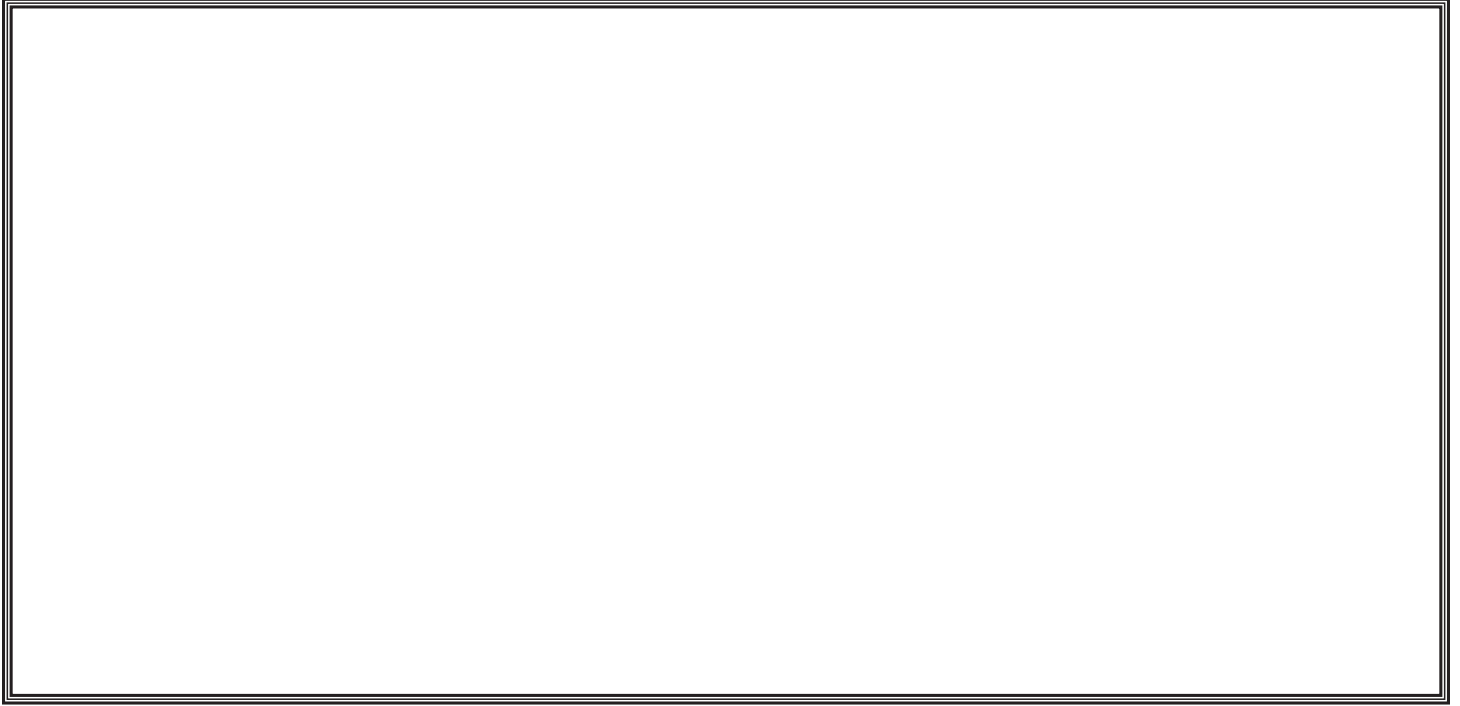
Words to Find

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| air | mayfly |
| aquatic | meal |
| backswimmer | mite |
| bug | moist |
| caddisfly | mosquito |
| camouflage | nymph |
| creek | pond |
| damsel fly | 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 beetle |
| larva | wings |
| legs | |

Secret Message

Wildlife Study

Parks are special places for many animals. In order to be a good Park Explorer you have to be a good observer. Find a place to sit quietly and watch and listen for wildlife. Draw a picture of any wildlife you saw. Remember even very tiny insects are wildlife!



Makin' Tracks

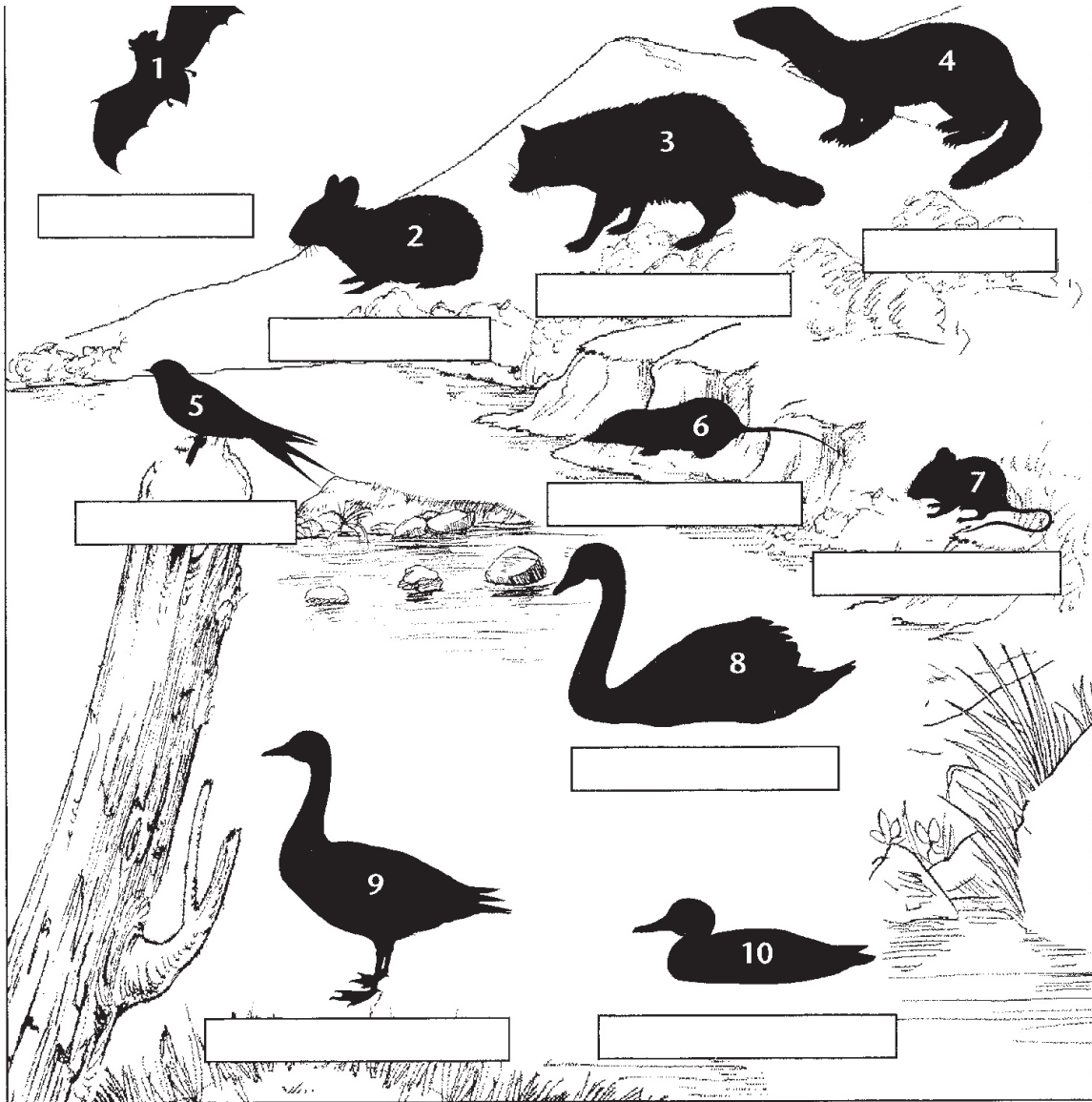
Wildlife is sometimes hard to see. They often leave reminders that they were here. One of those reminders is their footprints or tracks.

Below are some animals that might live in the park. Name the animal and connect it with the correct track.



Pond Species

Can you identify these pond species?



WORD NERD

Can you make 20 words out of this pond creature?



Salamander

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

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

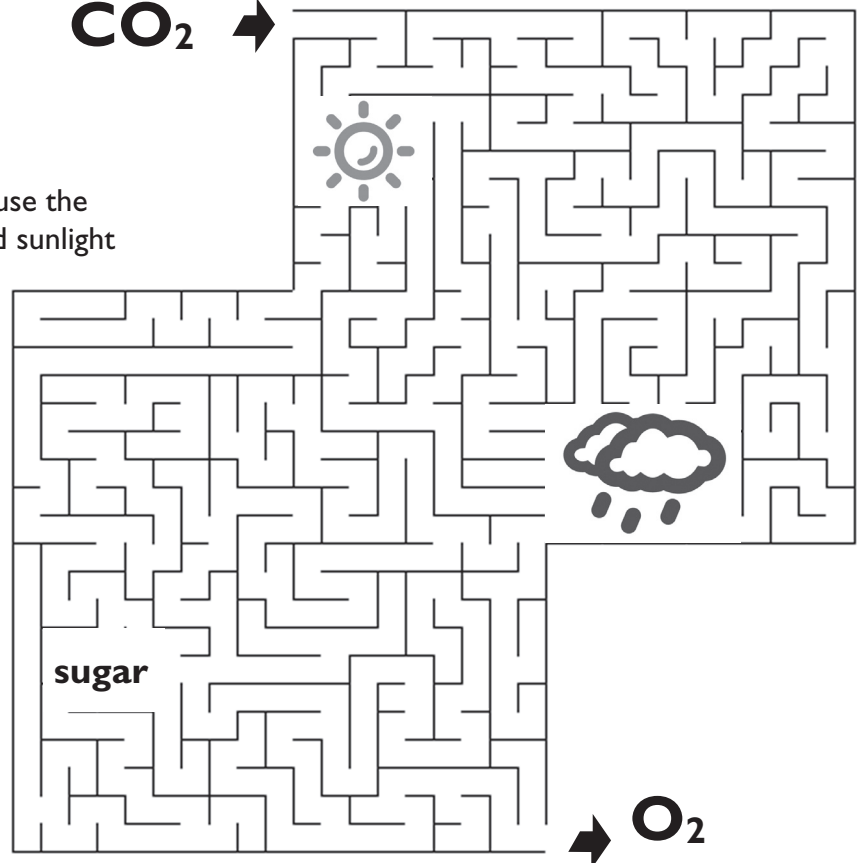
are also helping to fight climate change!

Photosynthesis is A-MAZE-ING!

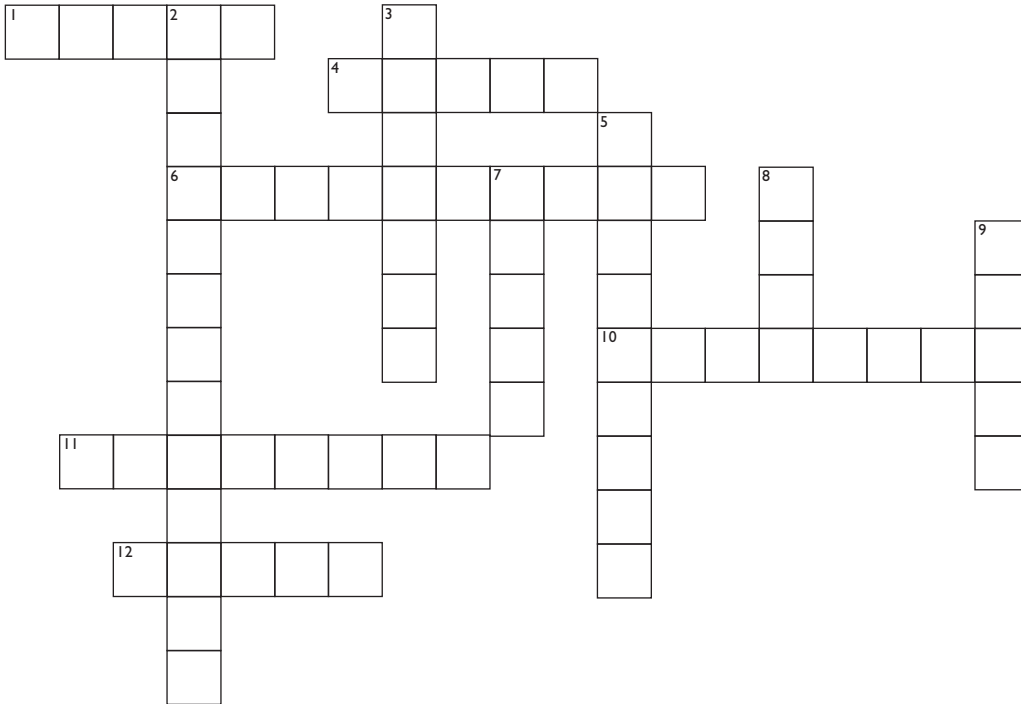
Can you help the green plants of the earth use the carbon dioxide and together with water and sunlight make sugar so that the plants have energy?



CO₂ →



Park Explorer Crossword



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.

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

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.

Ask an Interpreter!

Do you have a question for a park interpreter about a plant that you saw during your visit?
Send us your questions and we will answer them and send it back with your completed booklets.

My question is:



Park Explorer Checklist of Activities:

- My Three Favourite Things...
- Watery World Word Search
- Wildlife Study
- Makin' Tracks
- Pond Species
- Word Nerd
- Meet a Bird
- Becoming a Birdwatcher
- The Earth's Lungs
- Photosynthesis is A-maze-ing
- Crossword
- Ask an Interpreter



Park Explorer: _____
Adult: _____

Check off the boxes of each activity you have completed. Return the completed booklet to receive your official pin and certificate. (Your book will also be returned to you.)

Did you enjoy doing this activity book? If so, you can do other Junior Naturalist / Park Explorer books 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:

Park Explorer Program
Head of Interpretation
Parks and Natural Areas
200 Saulteaux Crescent
Winnipeg, MB, R3J 3W3

YOU ARE ALMOST AN OFFICIAL PARK EXPLORER!

Child's Name _____
Address _____
City _____
Province _____
Postal Code _____