



LEARN ALL ABOUT the **PLANTS,**
ANIMALS, and **LANDMARKS** in
NINE NATIONAL PARKS with **FUN**
FACTS, ENGAGING QUESTIONS, and
INTRICATE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Explore your world top to bottom with *Seek & Find National Parks* to learn about what makes these nine North American national parks totally unique. See if you can spot the recurring shapes hidden throughout the illustrations, such as bighorn sheep, geysers, and California condors. Did you know the stinkpot turtle can breathe through its tongue? Or that Crater Lake was created by an erupting volcano? Seek and find these objects, and more, in their national park homes. A helpful glossary provides details for further discovery.

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PETERSON

SEEK & FIND NATIONAL PARKS

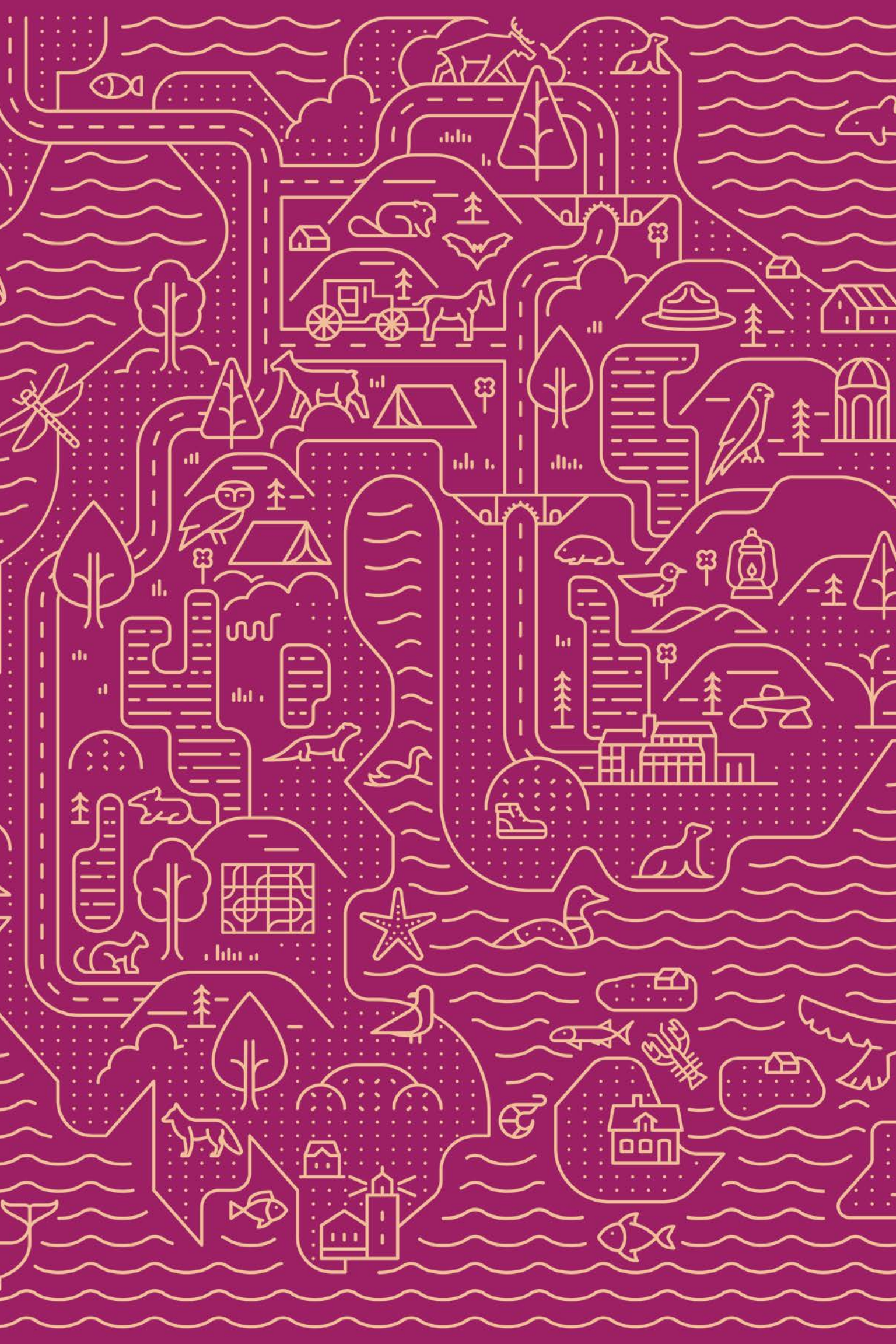
GIBBS SMITH



SEEK & FIND NATIONAL PARKS

CRATER LAKE • YOSEMITE • ZION • YELLOWSTONE • BANFF
THOUSAND ISLANDS • ACADIA • GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS • VIRGIN ISLANDS

JORRIEN PETERSON



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Seek & Find National Parks!

A national park is a special area of land set aside by the government to keep natural and cultural resources safe.

What makes national parks so special? They offer nature at its best and no two national parks are exactly alike. Each park contains some of the world's most stunning landscapes, amazing animals, incredible plants, and important artifacts.

Parks are meant to be both protected and enjoyed. When you visit a national park, you can learn from the extraordinary natural world around you. Ask questions, read plaques, and wander! Parks are best explored by activities that are kind to the earth, such as hiking, climbing, swimming, and paddling.

Are you ready to discover some of the most beautiful and diverse places in North America? This book is full of stories about national parks. Learn where they are, how they formed, and what (and who!) lives within their boundaries.

Each park featured in this book contains specific illustrations of real-life plants, animals, and landmarks for you to seek and find. Use the key at the bottom of each page to guide your search. For an extra challenge, see if you can find the icons below—there's one of each hidden in every illustration. Good luck!



YOSEMITE

CALIFORNIA // USA

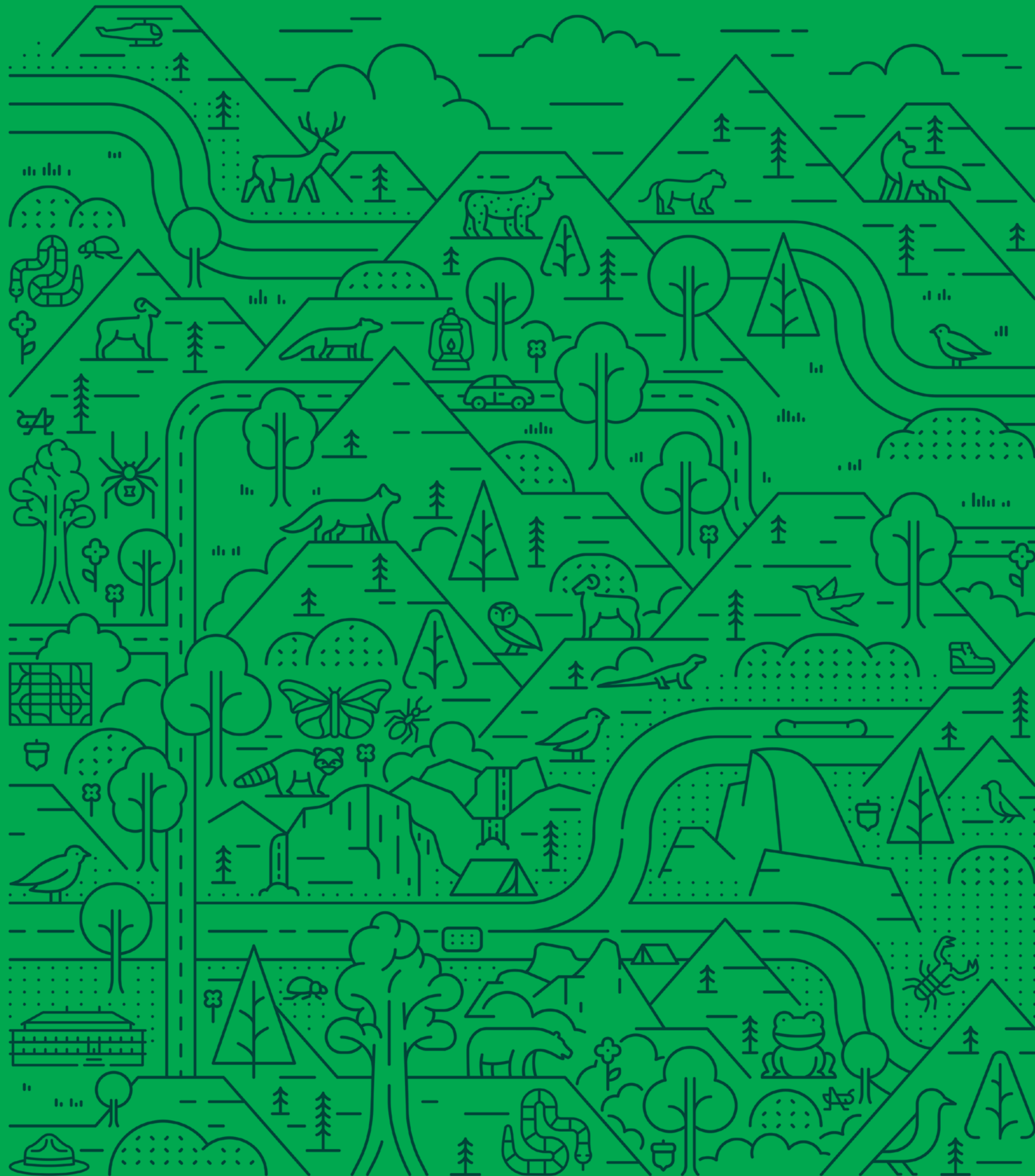
Yosemite National Park preserves a wild and scenic environment. Over millions of years, rock in this area was pushed upward, then carved by rivers and glaciers. These events created many different landscapes for plants and animals at Yosemite to flourish in.

Yosemite has some of the world's most dramatic rock formations. **Half Dome** was shaped and rounded as it was lifted to the Earth's surface and eroded over time.

The park has several unique habitats, including chaparral, forest, meadow, and alpine. **Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep** take advantage of alpine meadows for grazing. They keep close to steep, rocky terrain for a quick escape from predators. **What landscapes do you enjoy exploring?**

SEEK & FIND the items shown here, all of which can be found in Yosemite National Park.

- | | |
|---|---|
|  1 HALF DOME |  2 SIERRA MOUNTAIN KINGSNAKES |
|  1 YOSEMITE CAVE PSEUDOSCORPION |  1 YOSEMITE FALLS |
|  1 EL CAPITAN |  3 AMERICAN DIPPERS |
|  2 SIERRA NEVADA BIGHORN SHEEP |  2 GIANT SEQUOIAS |
|  3 INCENSE CEDARS | |



YELLOWSTONE

IDAHO, MONTANA & WYOMING // USA

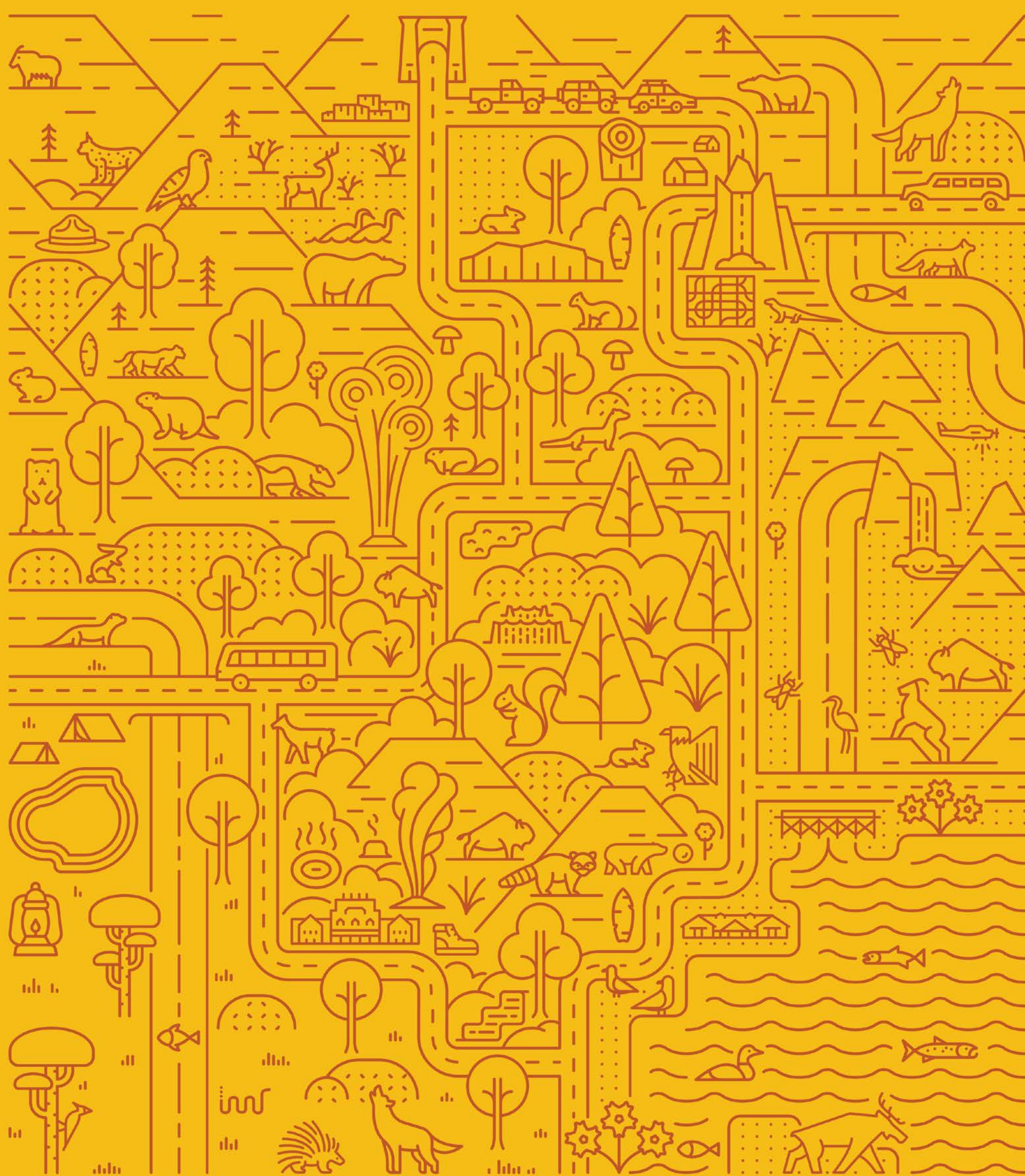
Yellowstone National Park preserves one of the world's most geologically active areas. Magma here lies very close to the Earth's surface, which creates extremely hot water features on land, such as geysers, hot springs, and mudpots.

Yellowstone contains more than half of the Earth's active geysers. **Steamboat Geyser** is the tallest in the world, shooting water and steam jets more than 300 feet (90 meters) into the air!

Some organisms survive the harsh winter by living near all of this heat. **Yellowstone sand verbena** is a plant that takes advantage of the warmth created by the ground to thrive during colder months. **How do you keep warm when it's cold out?**

SEEK & FIND the items shown here, all of which can be found at Yellowstone National Park.

- | | |
|---|---|
|  3 BISON |  3 OBSIDIAN PROJECTILE POINTS |
|  1 GRAND PRISMATIC SPRING |  1 OLD FAITHFUL |
|  2 GRAY WOLVES |  1 STEAMBOAT GEYSER |
|  1 ISA LAKE |  2 YELLOWSTONE SAND VERBENAS |
|  1 MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS | |



ACADIA

MAINE // USA

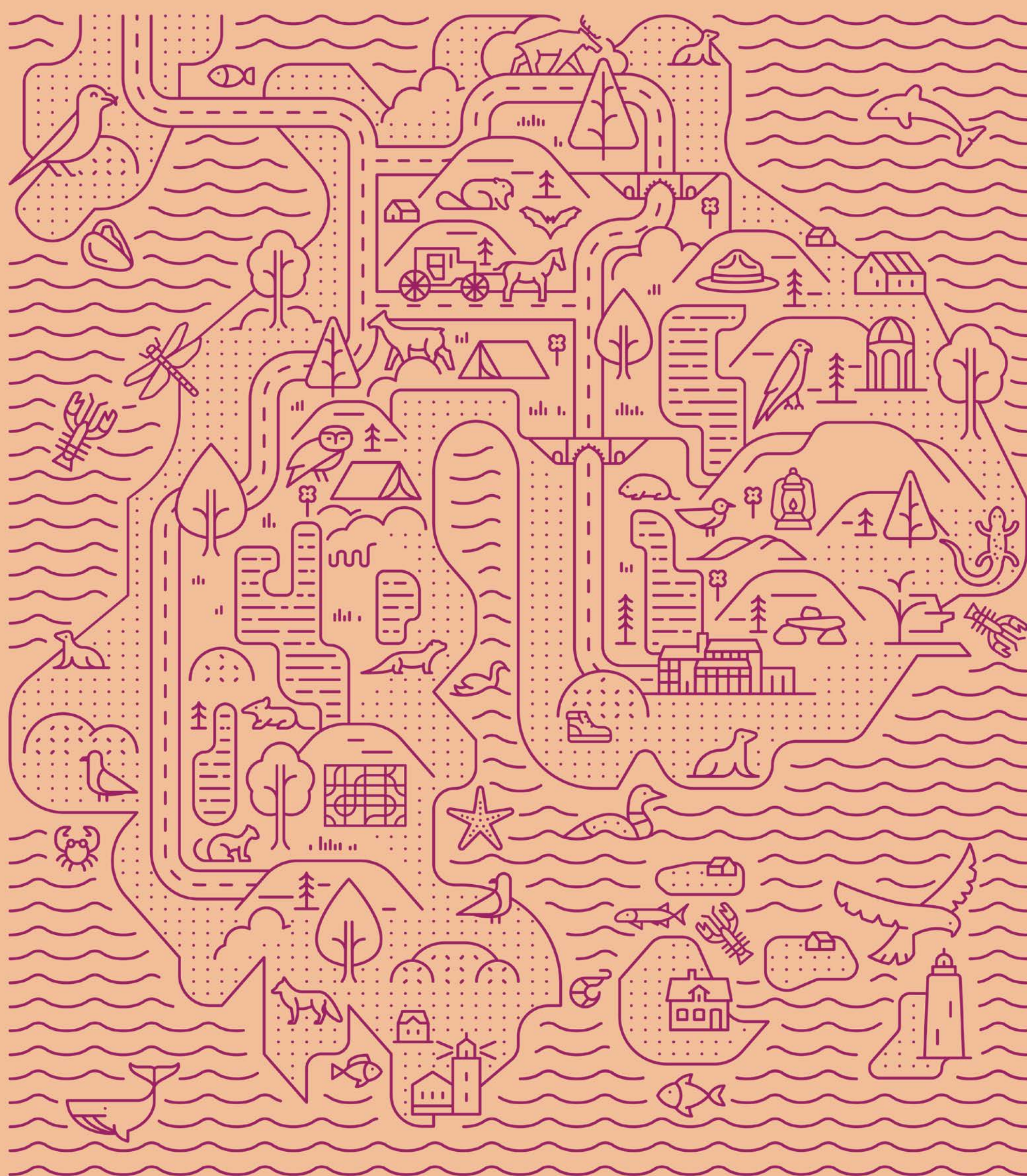
Acadia National Park preserves an incredible stretch of coastal land. Constant waves slowly shaped the shoreline. Ice sheets moving south carved parallel lines in the form of ravines, lakes, and a fjord.

Over time, beaches, cliffs, sea caves, and sea stacks were sculpted at Acadia. At **Thunder Hole**, waves created a rock inlet where water traps air, which then escapes with a loud boom that sounds like thunder.

Long ago, mile-tall glaciers rounded off the park's mountaintops. Despite being eroded, **Cadillac Mountain** is still the tallest point on the United States' Atlantic coast. **What would you bring with you to a mountaintop?**

SEEK & FIND the items shown here, all of which can be found at Acadia National Park.

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
|  | 1 CADILLAC MOUNTAIN |  | 1 PEREGRINE FALCON |
|  | 1 THUNDER HOLE |  | 3 LOBSTERS |
|  | 1 THE BUBBLES |  | 3 HARBOR SEALS |
|  | 2 CARRIAGE ROAD BRIDGES |  | 1 BASS HARBOR HEAD LIGHTHOUSE |
|  | 1 RED CROSSBILL | | |



VIRGIN ISLANDS

US VIRGIN ISLANDS // USA

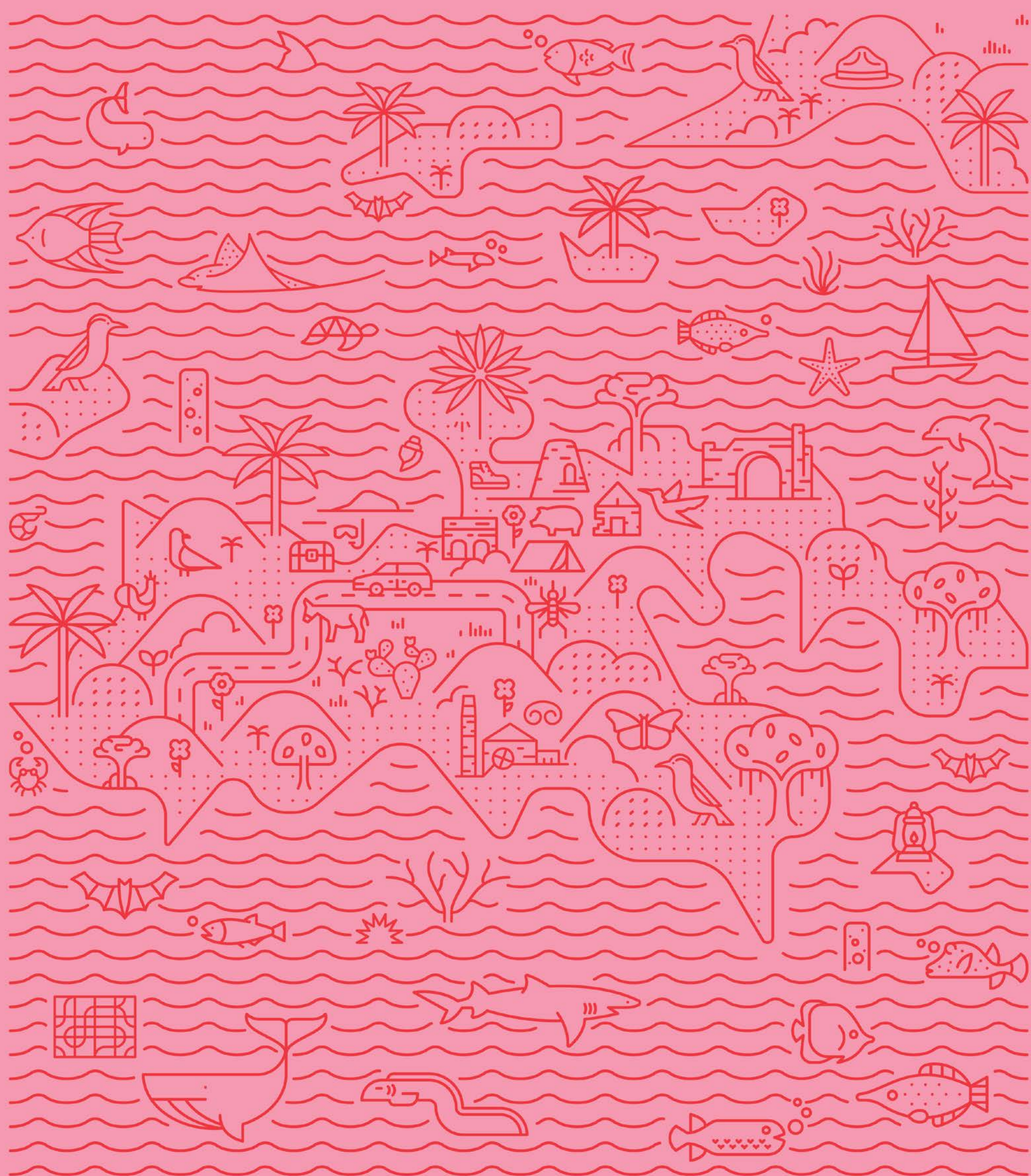
Virgin Islands National Park preserves a tropical paradise. From coral reef to sea grass, almost half of the park is underwater. White sand beaches and lush forest dominate the shore.

Coral colonies are a magnet for marine life. Sea fans often grow across the current to catch passing phytoplankton for food. The ones at the Virgin Islands National Park have beautiful purple hues.

Animals have adapted to survive in this unique island ecosystem. The fisherman bat uses the sound of echoes to sense ripples in the water as it searches for insects and fish to eat. What would you bring on a picnic to the beach?

SEEK & FIND the items shown here, all of which can be found in the Virgin Islands National Park.

- | | |
|--|--|
|  1 TAINO PETROGLYPH |  3 FISHERMAN BATS |
|  1 TRUNK BAY SNORKEL TRAIL |  2 ORANGE SPOTTED FILEFISH |
|  1 TEYER PALM |  2 SEA FANS |
|  2 KAPOK TREES |  3 BANANAQUITS |
|  1 PRICKLY PEAR | |



GLOSSARY

Acadia National Park sits southwest of Bay Harbor in the state of Maine. The sprawling park, covering more than 49,000 acres, offers access to a variety of environments, including mountains, coastlines, woodlands, lakes, ponds, and wetlands.

The **American chestnut** tree once comprised one-third of the trees in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. A fungus that was introduced accidentally from Asia caused the chestnut blight, which killed an estimated four billion American chestnut trees throughout the nation. Now American chestnut trees are rare—but scientists are constantly looking for more ways to help these trees survive and spread.

The **American dipper**, also known as the water ouzel, is found in Yosemite National Park and is North America's only truly aquatic songbird. Their extra eyelids, called nictitating membranes, help them see underwater when they dive down to find insects to eat.

American ginseng is an herbaceous perennial plant in the Thousand Islands that is used commonly in traditional medicine. Related to ivy, its fragrant flowers and bright berries attract bees and birds, which help its pollination and ability to spread.

Angels Landing is a world-renowned hike. Located in Zion National Park, this 1,488-foot-tall (450 m) monolith takes hikers (round trip) over more than 5 miles (8 km) of steep trail. With an exposed cliff face and frequent overcrowding, this is one of the most dangerous hikes in the world.

Bananaquits, found in the Virgin Islands National Park, are small, vocal birds that can be heard singing and squeaking all year long. They build their homes near wasp nests to protect themselves from other predators.

Banff National Park is Canada's oldest park, established in 1885. With more than 2,500 miles (4,000 km) of land, Banff takes visitors through mountainous terrain, glaciers, ice fields, coniferous forests, and alpine expanses. The mountains were formed between 80 and 55 million years ago, and have been carved over time by glaciers.

First identified in the Banff National Park in the Cave and Basin National Historic Site, the **Banff Springs snail** is an air-breathing freshwater snail that is as small as a popcorn kernel!

The **Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse** was built in 1858. Marking the entrance to Bass Harbor and Blue Hill Bay, it houses a 4,000 pound (1,800 kg) fog bell and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Beavers are found along the Thousand Islands and are the second-largest rodents in the world. They often build underwater entrances to their lodges to keep other animals from entering.

Yellowstone National Park is the only place in the United States where **bison** have lived continuously since prehistoric times. During the winter, the herd often stays by the hydrothermal areas near geysers, hot springs, fumaroles, and rivers to take advantage of the warmth and thinner snow cover.

There are 1,500 **black bears** in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Black bears tend to create dens in hollow stumps or other shelters during the winter, but bears in the Smokies are unusual: they often den high above ground in standing hollow trees.

Of the Dicentra flowers in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, **Bleeding Heart** is the largest, rarest, and latest to bloom. This herbaceous perennial, with its shape and vivid color, resembles a bleeding heart.

The **Bubbles**, also called the North and South Bubble Mountains, provide a picturesque hike to Maine's famous boulder: Bubble Rock. Bubble Rock's precarious position on the summit of South Bubble Mountain is due to ancient glaciers moving it there.

Standing at a whopping 1,530 feet (466 m), **Cadillac Mountain** is the highest point along the North Atlantic coast. It would stand even taller if not for the glaciers that sheared off its top, which left it rounded.

The **California condor** is the largest flying bird in North America and is critically endangered. This fierce condor has a 3-meter wingspan—nearly 10 feet long!

The **Carriage Road Bridges** in Acadia National Park were built out of hand-hewn locally quarried granite, designed to blend into the landscape and provide viewing platforms for the scenery.

Castleguard Cave, with its impressive 66,788 feet (20,357 m) of passages, is Canada's longest cave. This limestone cave network lies beneath a modern glacier in Banff National Park.

The **Cave and Basin hot spring** in Banff National Park is the lower of 9 sulfurous

hot springs along Sulphur Mountain. It is surrounded by a cave of Devonian limestone and is geothermally heated.

Clingmans Dome is the tallest mountain in the Great Smoky Mountains. The top holds an observation tower which allows spectators to look out over 100 miles (160 km) in every direction. You can see 7 states from the top of the tower: Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Alabama!

Crater Lake National Park encompasses the caldera of Crater Lake, a sprawling lake left behind by the destroyed volcano called Mount Mazama. Beyond the lake are old-growth forests and an array of wildlife, including black bears, mountain lions, elk, and spotted owls.

Crater Lake rockcress is a rare, naturally occurring hybrid of 3 rockcress species. This plant, with its rich purple flowers, is found almost exclusively in Crater Lake National Park.

Eastern hemlock trees are some of the largest and most common trees in the Great Smoky Mountains. These magnificent trees can grow over 150 feet (46 m) tall. These trees play an important role in the ecology of the area by providing habitats for insects, birds, and even bears, and by cooling off the streams with their shade.

El Capitan, which looms high in Yosemite National Park, is the tallest granite monolith in the world. It reaches 3,000 feet (914 m) high and is home to snakes, mice, and tree frogs that live in its cracks and fissures.

The **Emerald Pools** are tucked into the west side of Zion Canyon in Zion National