



United States Department of Agriculture

Tongass National Forest Junior Ranger



Welcome to the Tongass National Forest!

Did you know that the Tongass is...



... the largest National Forest in the United States.



... larger than West Virginia.



... home to 14,000 miles of ocean shoreline.

... home to all five species of Pacific salmon.



... home to three Indigenous Nations – Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian.

Look for Tlingit translations throughout the book!

How to Become a Junior Ranger

1. Complete 4 activities in this booklet
AND the 'Ask a Forest Service Ranger' activity below.
2. Find a ranger and take the Junior Ranger Pledge.

This style of art is called formline design. Formline design is a tradition of the Southeast Alaska Native culture. Look for designs throughout the book created by local students!



Ask a Forest Service Ranger

Find a ranger on your visit and ask them a question about the forest.

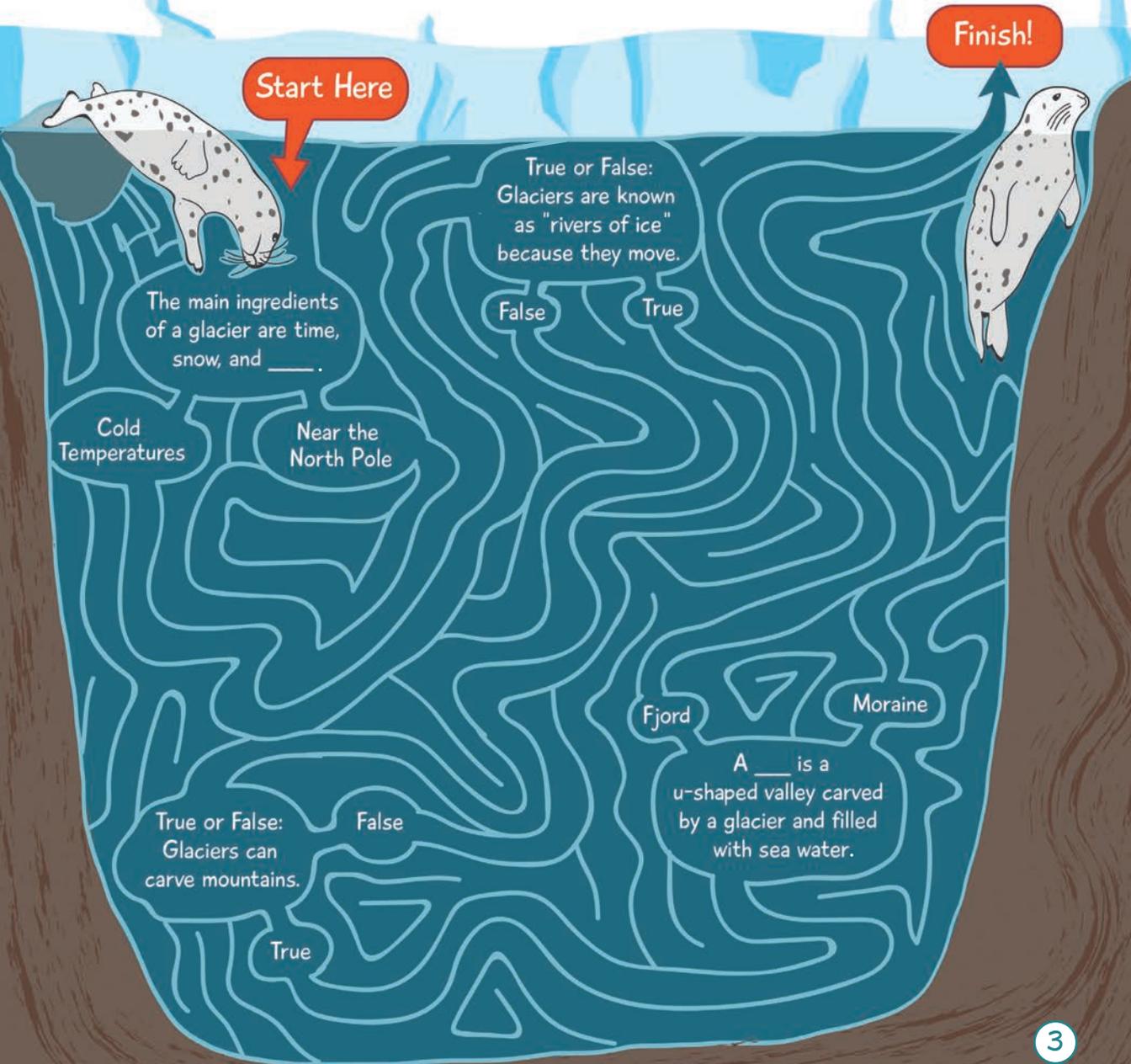
Ranger's Name _____

Question _____

Answer _____

Active Glaciers

Did you know that glaciers carved most of the Tongass National Forest landforms? Some of these glaciers are called tidewater glaciers because they end in the ocean. Pretend you are a harbor seal that needs to get from one side of the fjord to the other.



Pacific Ocean

6

* Juneau Icefield
Júneau Dzántik'i Héeni

7

Hoonah
Xunaa

* Tlingit

Admiralty
Island
Xaá'á'daan



gray wolf

8



orca

9

Sheet'ka

Sitka

Canada

Petersburg
Gántiyakw Seedi

Wrangell
Kaachyaxa, áak'w

* Stikine
Icefield

* Theodore
Roosevelt

10

Tongass National Forest
(in United States of America)



Canada



Pacific Ocean



Town or City

* Possible Answer

11

* Haida

Thorne
Bay

Craig
Shaán Seet

* Tsimshian

Ketchikan
Kicjxaan

12

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

Map of the Tongass

Find the answers by following the coordinates on the map. Example: A,2 is Yakutat.



1. The Tongass National Forest was created in 1907 by President _____ (G,11).

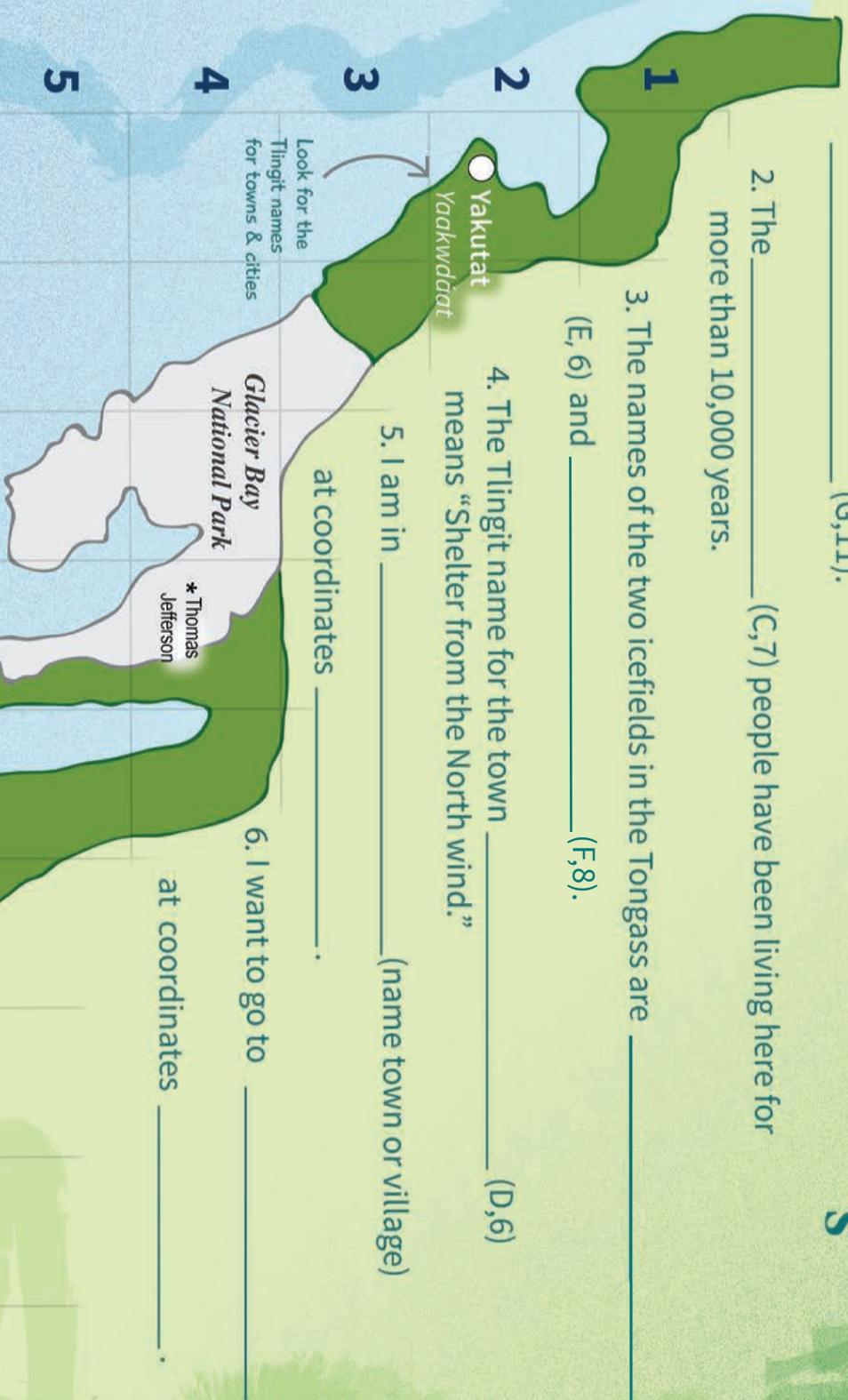
2. The _____ (C,7) people have been living here for more than 10,000 years.

3. The names of the two icefields in the Tongass are _____ (E,6) and _____ (F,8).

4. The Tlingit name for the town _____ (D,6) means "Shelter from the North wind."

5. I am in _____ (name town or village) at coordinates _____.

6. I want to go to _____ at coordinates _____.



parr



Salmon Life Cycle

Salmon Sketches

All five species of Pacific salmon breed in the rivers and streams in the Tongass. Learn how to draw a spawning sockeye salmon by following these six steps.

Species of Pacific Salmon

Chum (dog) *téel'*

Sockeye (red) *gaat*

King (Chinook) *t'á*

Coho (silver) *l'ook*

Pink (humpy) *cháas'*

- 1** With a pencil, lightly draw a long oval. Then draw a triangle on the left and tilted oval on the right.



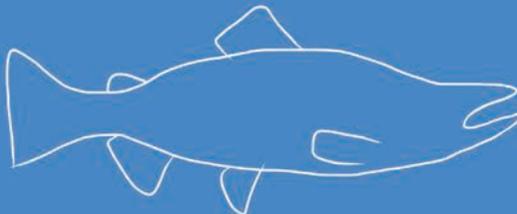
- 2** On the right end, draw an open mouth. Then trace the three shapes together to form the fish.



- 3** Erase the shapes you made in Step 1.



- 4** Add five fins - two on the top, two on the bottom, and one on the side.



smolt

6

adult



spawning adult



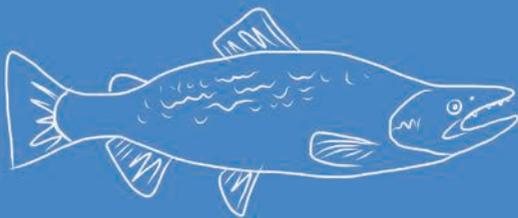
fry

alevin

Draw Here

eggs

5 Add details like an eye, scales, and teeth.



6 Color the tail, side fin, and head green. Color the rest of the body red.

Congrats! You just made a salmon!



Temperate Rainforest

Did you know that you are in a rainforest? We get a lot of rain here! Rain is important for plants and animals. It's also a lot of fun to be in the rain.



Keepin' an Eye on the Sky

Some areas of the Tongass National Forest get drenched by over 100 inches of rain each year! That is over eight feet of rain. What is the weather like today? Today it is...



How is the weather?

*Waa sa
Kuwatee?*



Smellin' in the Rain

Rain helps unlock smells that we can't smell when it's dry. Smell the following things and describe what you smell.

- The air _____
- A tree trunk _____
- A smooth leaf _____

Rain Lovers

Each of these living things depend on rain for their survival. How many can you find?

Mushrooms

Slugs

Ferns

Skunk Cabbage



Moss

Mosses need to live in wet areas. Check out the ground and tree branches around you. Look at the colors, shapes, forms, and patterns of the moss. Find a moss and circle the words that describe it.

dry cool fragile
moist
soft hard sharp

Singin' in the Rain...

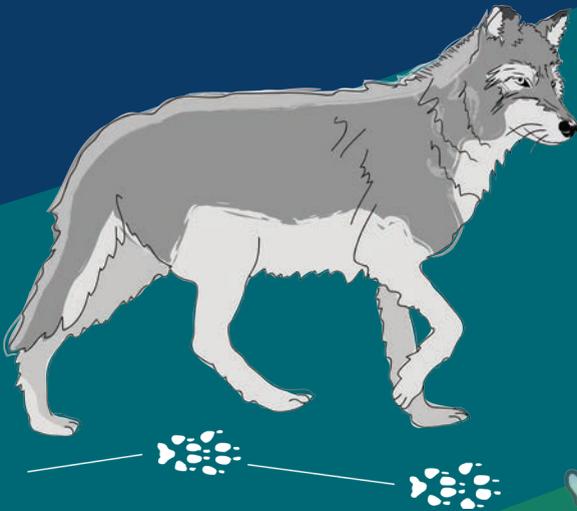
... or dancing, hiking, exploring, or fishing in the rain. What is your favorite thing to do in the rain? Write or draw.

Mammal Motions

Pretend to be some of the creatures that spend time in the Tongass. Remember to be safe while doing these activities.

Gray Wolf

Unlike other animals that walk with their feet spread apart, wolves walk in a narrow line. This stride uses less energy.



Try to “walk like a wolf” ten steps forward and back.

Northern Flying Squirrel

This nocturnal rodent can glide over 150 feet from one tree to another tree.

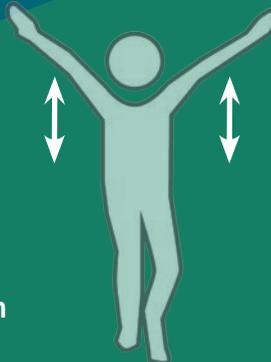
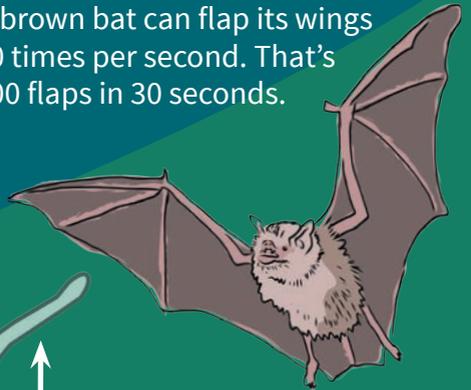


Try a standing long-jump and see how far you can go.



Little Brown Bat

A little brown bat can flap its wings over 10 times per second. That’s over 300 flaps in 30 seconds.



See how many times you can flap your arms in 30 seconds.

Aas Kwáanee

as told by Tá Gooch Clarence Jackson

This story took place long, long ago before the great flood.

It is said that the tree people were plenty on the side of this one mountain not too far from here. This one winter it snowed and snowed and snowed.

In the spring there was rain, wind, and just miserable weather that the tree people had to endure. Then one day there was a great avalanche that started tearing down all the trees that were in its path. The powerful wind going before it was loud as it thundered down the mountain side.

It is said that all the trees were ripped down and that all the tree people perished except for one tree at the top.

One day the tree started to call out to see if there were any other trees that survived the great snow slide. He yelled out, "Can you hear me out there? Can anybody hear me?"

He did this every day for a long time until one day he heard a still, small voice say, "I can hear you!"

The tree at the top called out, "Do you know what happened to us?" The little tree yelled back, "No! What happened?"

The tree at the top replied, "A great snow slide wiped almost all of us out!" The tree at the top then asked the other tree, "Do you know why this happened?"



"No," said the little tree.

"It is because we thought we could stand by ourselves. We thought we did not need each other's help and that we could stand tall and alone all by ourselves. So when this snow slide came it killed off almost all of us on this mountain. We need to stand together, support each other with our roots and hold each other up. This is the way we will survive...by helping one another."

Questions

Tlingit values are passed from one generation to the next through stories. What is one lesson this story teaches?

How can you use this lesson in your life?



Please see the back page for more information about the story.



In Berry Bear Country

Test your knowledge about how to act in bear country.

1. Read the question and then circle the matching berry in the bush that has the correct answer.
2. Check to see if your answers are right by solving the math puzzle in the white box.

Questions



thimbleberry

A. You go for a walk in the woods with friends. Do you stay quiet or make noise on the hike?



blueberry

B. You stop for a picnic and then play in a stream nearby. Do you leave the food out while playing or pack it up before playing?



elderberry

C. You see a bear in the distance. Do you run away or stay calm?



1

Run away as quickly as you can.



13

Leave the food out while playing in the stream. I'll get to it later.

8



Make noise. I don't want to surprise a bear.

3



Pack all of the food, including trash, in my backpack and keep it near me.

5



Stay calm. Talk in a calm voice, don't turn your back from the bear, and keep your distance.



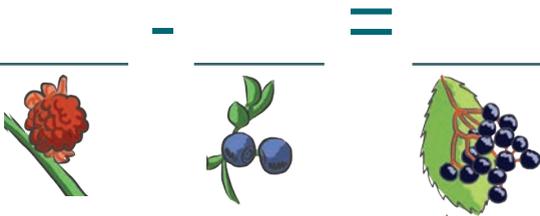
2

Stay quiet. I don't want animals to know I'm here.



Check Your Answers

A bear has ...



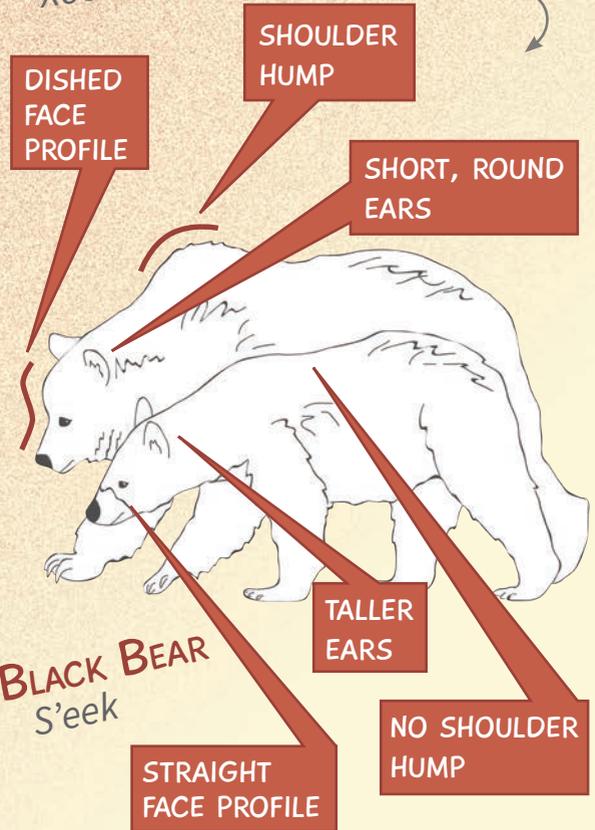
...toes on each paw.



Is it a... BROWN BEAR OR BLACK BEAR?

BROWN BEAR
Xóots

Color the bears in



It's Not About Fur Color

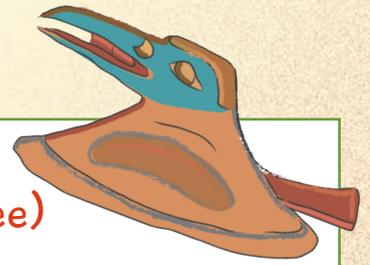


Both black bears and brown bears vary in color. Black bears and brown bears have fur that ranges from from blonde to brown to black.

Plant Uses

The plants in this forest have been used by generations of people for many purposes. People use plants for food, medicine, tools, clothing, and more. Check the box if you see the plant and describe a plant you use below.

WARNING: Do NOT pick or eat anything without an expert's permission. Some plants in the forest are poisonous.



Western Redcedar (tree)
Laax

Use: Traditional hats and canoes



Scaly Leaves

Devil's Club (shrub)
S'áxt'

Use: Medicine used as teas and tinctures



Ouch!
Don't Touch!

Sitka Spruce (tree)
Sheiyi

Use: Flavor food like Spruce tip jelly



Spiky Spruce!

What plant do you use from the forest?
How?

Wilderness Riddle

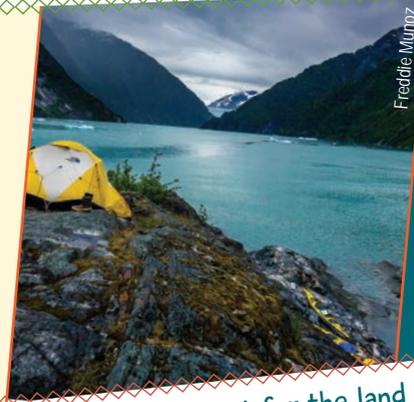
Much of the Tongass National Forest is made up of seldom-traveled lands called wilderness. Write a riddle about something that is wild in the Tongass, like a wolf, moss, or a glacier. Check out the other pages of the booklet for ideas. Read your riddle to a friend or family member and see if they can guess the answer.

What's your riddle?

Riddle example:

I am an untamed land
Where people visit, plants grow wild and
Animals roam. What am I?

Answer: wilderness



Freddie Munoz

You can show respect for the land
by following these principles.

Leave No Trace

1. Plan ahead and prepare
2. Travel and camp on hard surfaces
3. Dispose of waste properly
4. Leave what you find
5. Minimize campfire impacts
6. Respect wildlife
7. Be considerate of other visitors

Questions about how to do any
of these? Ask a ranger.

Junior Ranger Pledge

As a Junior Ranger I, _____,
promise to help protect the
Tongass National Forest, my community,
and the earth.

I will explore the natural world
and discover other cultures
wherever I go.

(Ranger)

(Date)

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Formline Design

Coho crest by

Jalynn Gregory "Kaasgiteen",
Tlingit, Kaagwaantaan
(Eagle/Wolf)

Bear, Wolf, Orca crests by
Kalila Arreola, Tlingit,
T'akdeintaan
(Raven/Sea Pigeon)

Aas Kwáanee, pg 11

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Juneau Indian Studies Program.
The permission is for educational
use only. It is not to be published
for sale but can be used for teaching
the educational values of working
together and cultural values of the
importance of our roots and how we
as a people are closely knit together
as a nation of Tlingit people. Clarence
Jackson shared this story at the
"Kake 100 Years Later" Celebration
held in Kake, Alaska in 2012.

