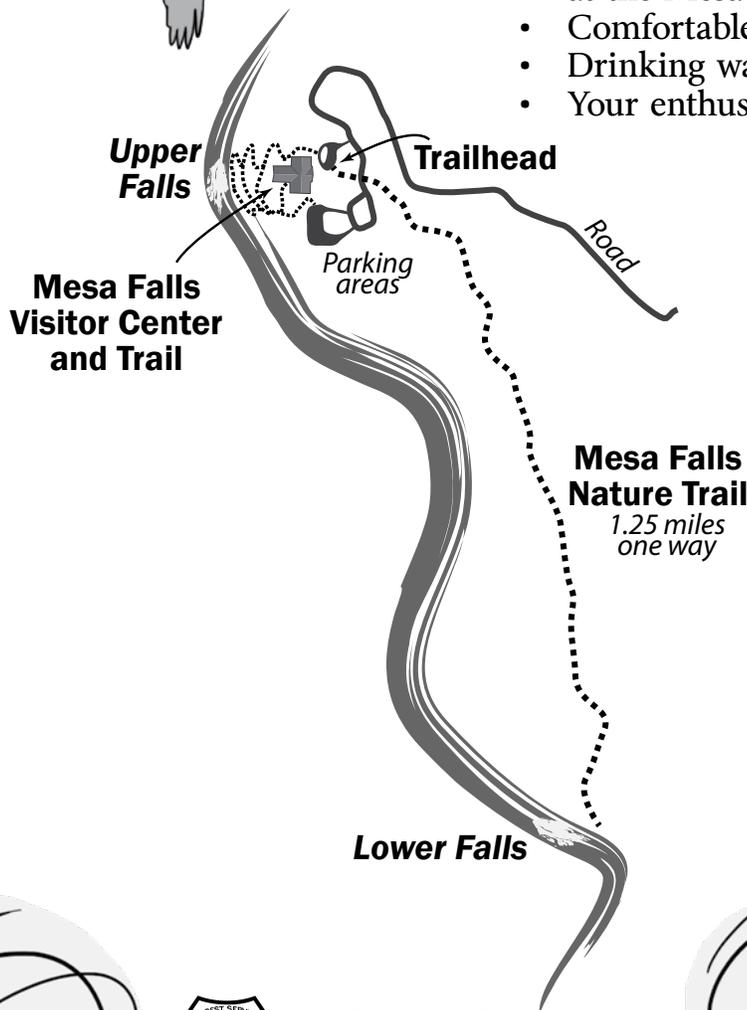
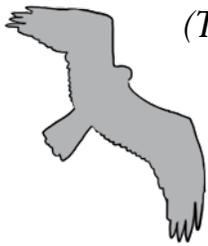


Mesa Falls Activity Booklet

This Activity Booklet has lots of fun ways to learn about Mesa Falls! Look for clues along the Mesa Falls Nature Trail as well as along the boardwalk to the Upper Mesa Falls overlook. (The Answer Key is on page 10.)



Handy items to bring:

- Colored pencils or crayons, available at the Mesa Falls Visitor Center
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Drinking water
- Your enthusiasm to discover!



**Caribou-Targhee
National Forest**



**Harriman
State Park**

Visit us at:
www.fs.usda.gov/ctnf

The Color of Mesa Falls

2

When you find these plants at Mesa Falls, color them to match what you see!



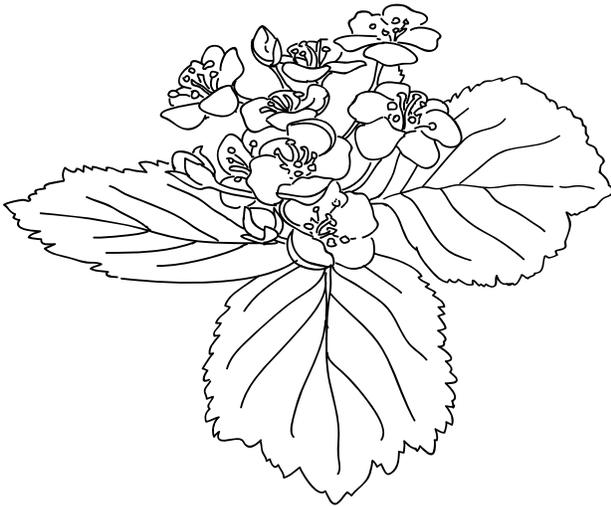
Also known as “Kinnikinnik” this plant has been used by Native Americans in religious ceremonies.

What am I? _____



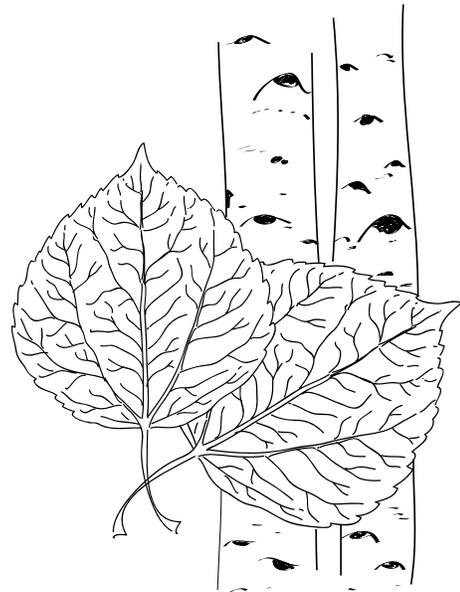
This low-growing shrub and its red berries are a favorite of grouse for food and cover.

What am I? _____



Thorny branches make a dense thicket—a favorite shelter for birds and small mammals.

What am I? _____

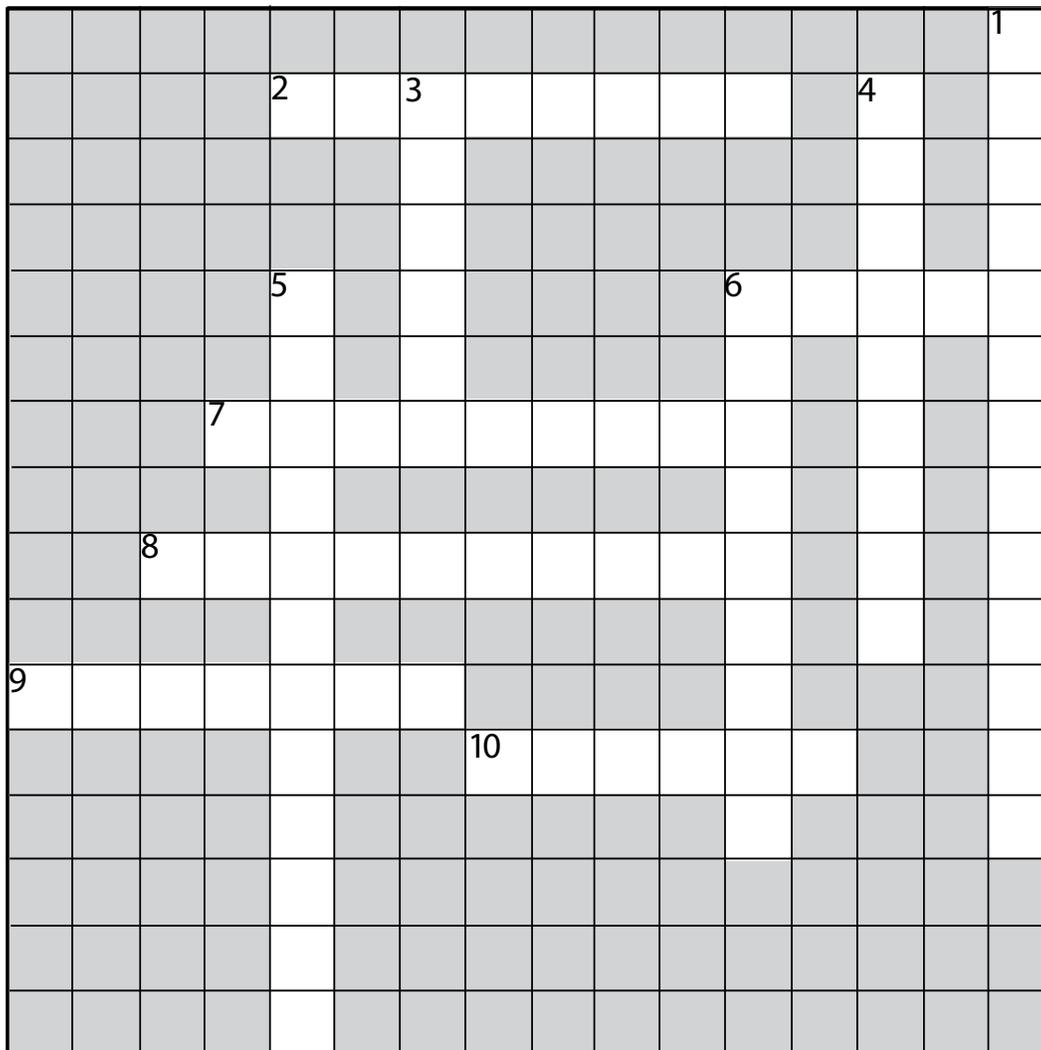


Leaves tremble due to a flat leaf stalk. Trunks develop “eyes” when branches self-prune.

What am I? _____

All About This Special Place

3



Possible words: mistletoe, caldera, pahoehoe, Snake, whortleberry, lodgepole, Thomas Elliott, volcano, willow, waterouzel, Boy Scouts, Henrys, magma

Across

2. Slow moving and cooling lava form these “ropes” of rock.
6. Boiling ____ erupts from cracks in the ground and spews hot ash.
7. This area was once a camp for these young men (2 words).
8. Known as the underwater bird (2 words).
9. Created when volcanoes collapse after erupting.
10. Twigs of the Scouler’s _____ may smell like skunk.

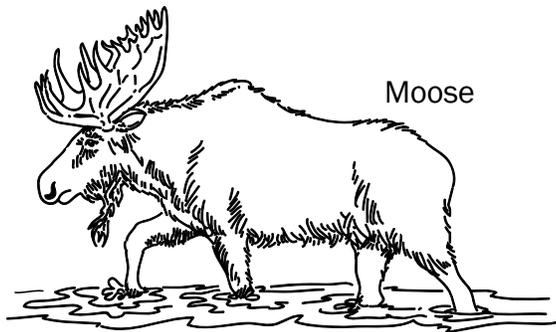
Down

1. He was president of an early electric company (2 words).
3. Mesa Falls is on this fork of the Snake River.
4. Used for making lodges, teepees, and fences.
5. This low-growing shrub and berries are a favorite of grouse.
6. This parasite creates “witches brooms” and reduces wood quality.

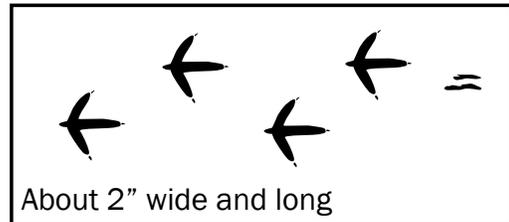
Animal Detectives

Who lives here? What signs can you detect around you of the animals who call this area home? Draw lines to match animals to their tracks and scat (that's the scientific term for poop). Circle the animal if you have seen one in nature.

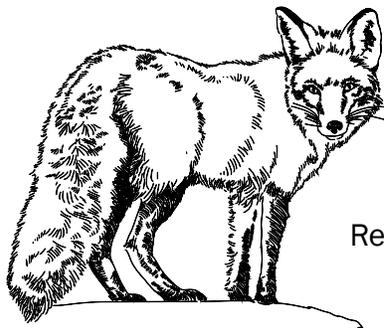
1
Inches
2
3
4
5
6
7
8



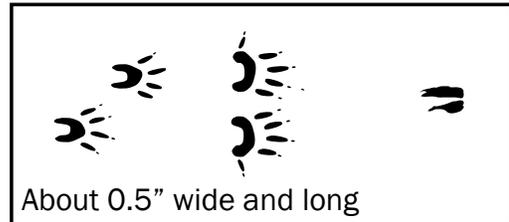
Moose



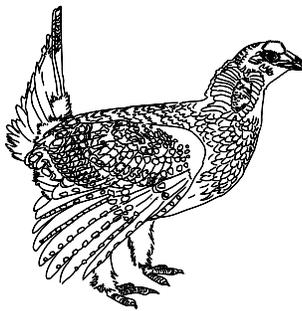
About 2" wide and long



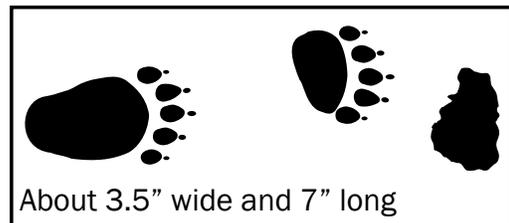
Red fox



About 0.5" wide and long



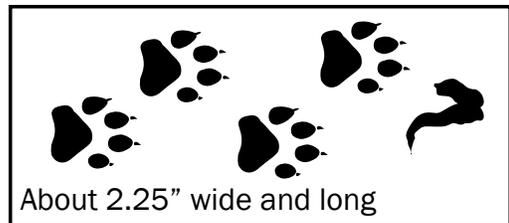
Grouse



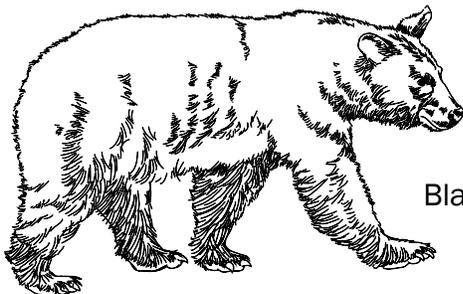
About 3.5" wide and 7" long



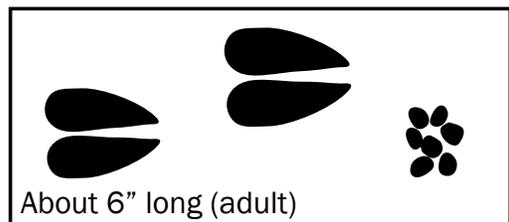
Chipmunk



About 2.25" wide and long



Black bear

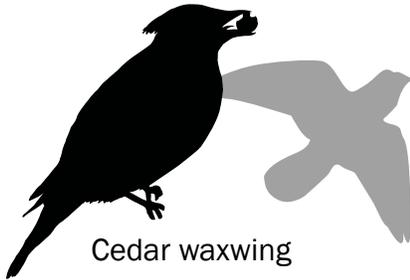


About 6" long (adult)

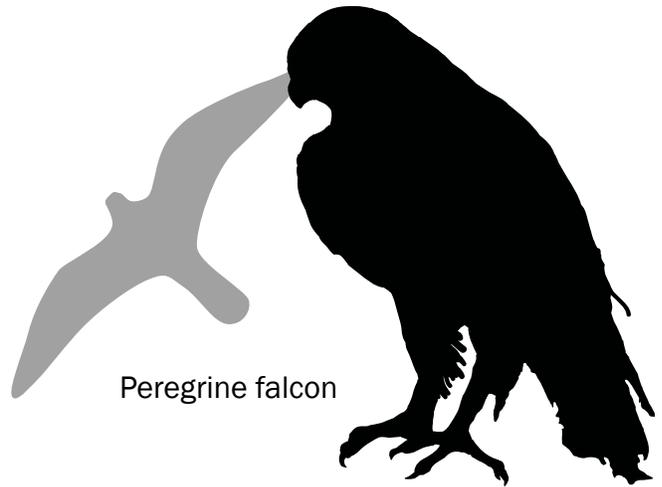
Of a Feather

5

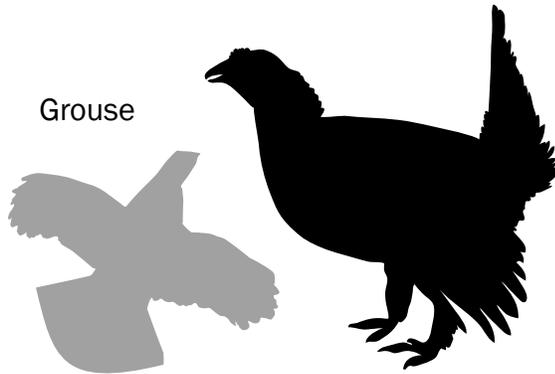
People of all ages can enjoy watching birds. From backyards to forests, see what flies your way! Some birds can be identified only by their silhouette. Circle all those that you have spotted around Mesa Falls.



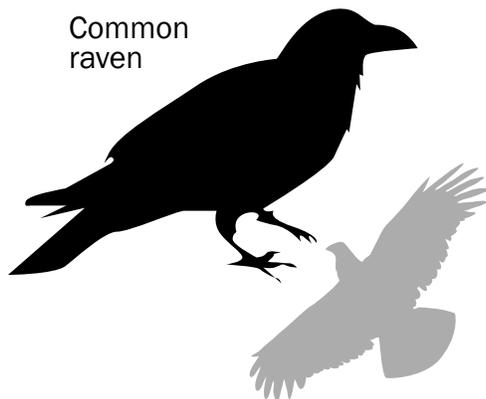
Cedar waxwing



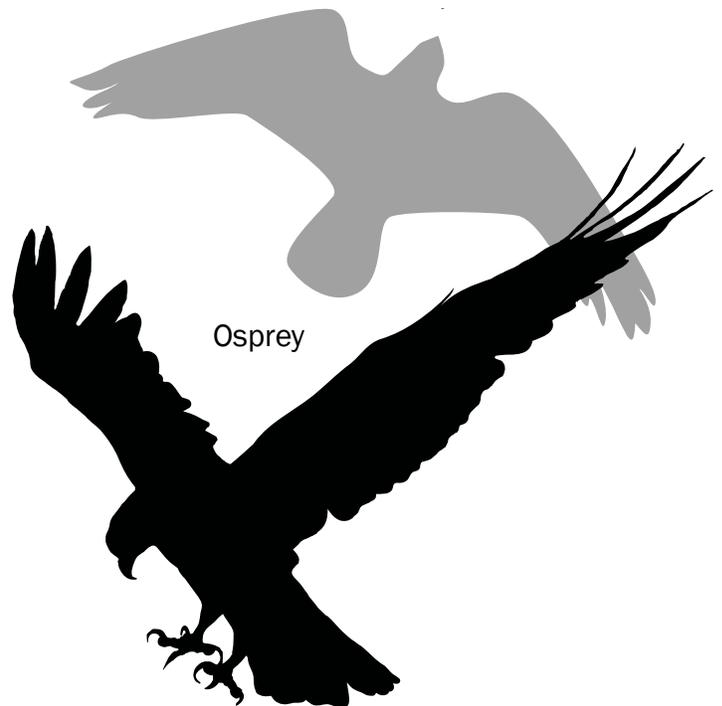
Peregrine falcon



Grouse



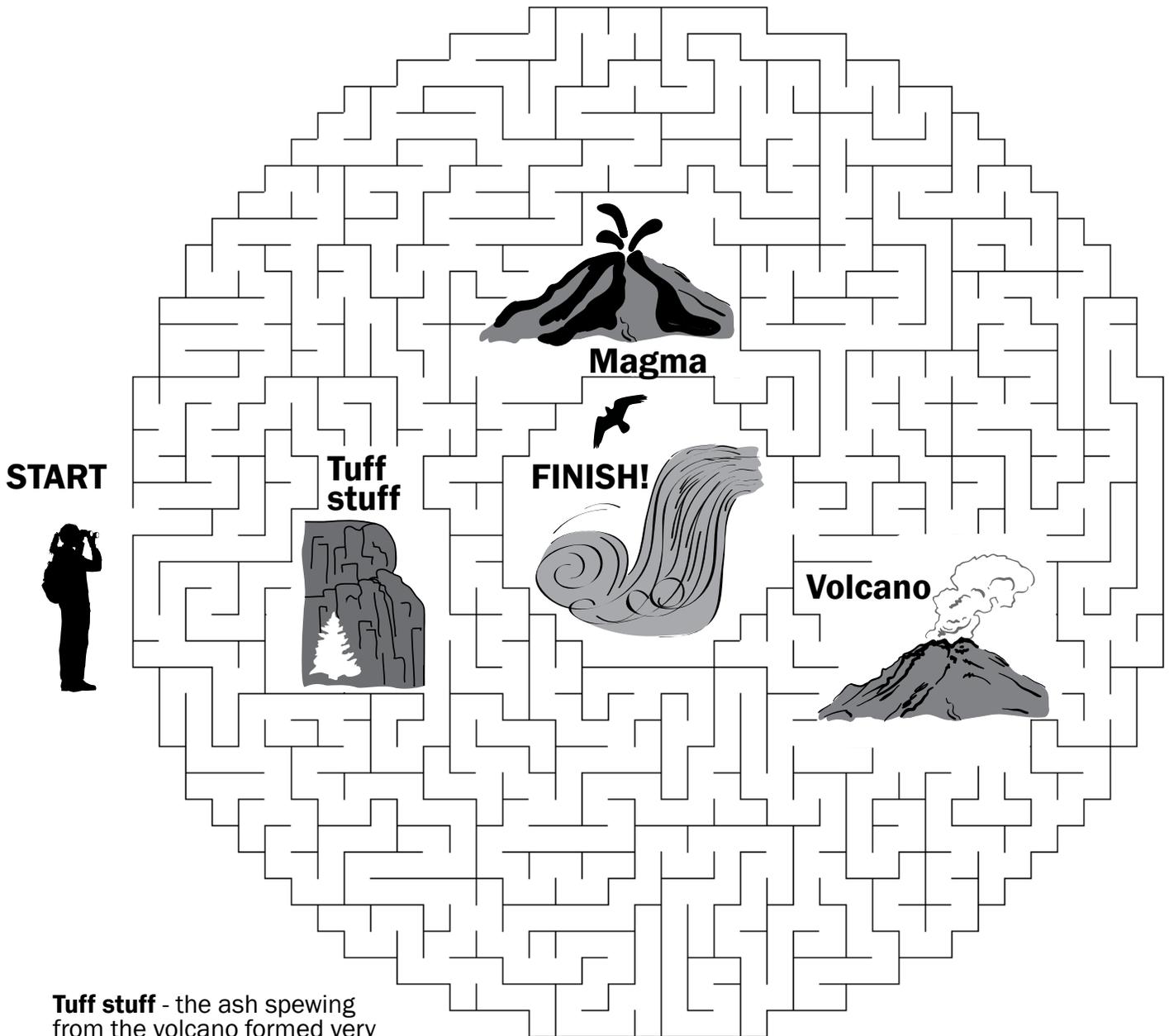
Common raven



Osprey

You're standing in a collapsed volcano! Can you find your way through the maze of this caldera to Mesa Falls?

Ouch—look out for the **magma!** That's the hot lava that erupted from the volcano.



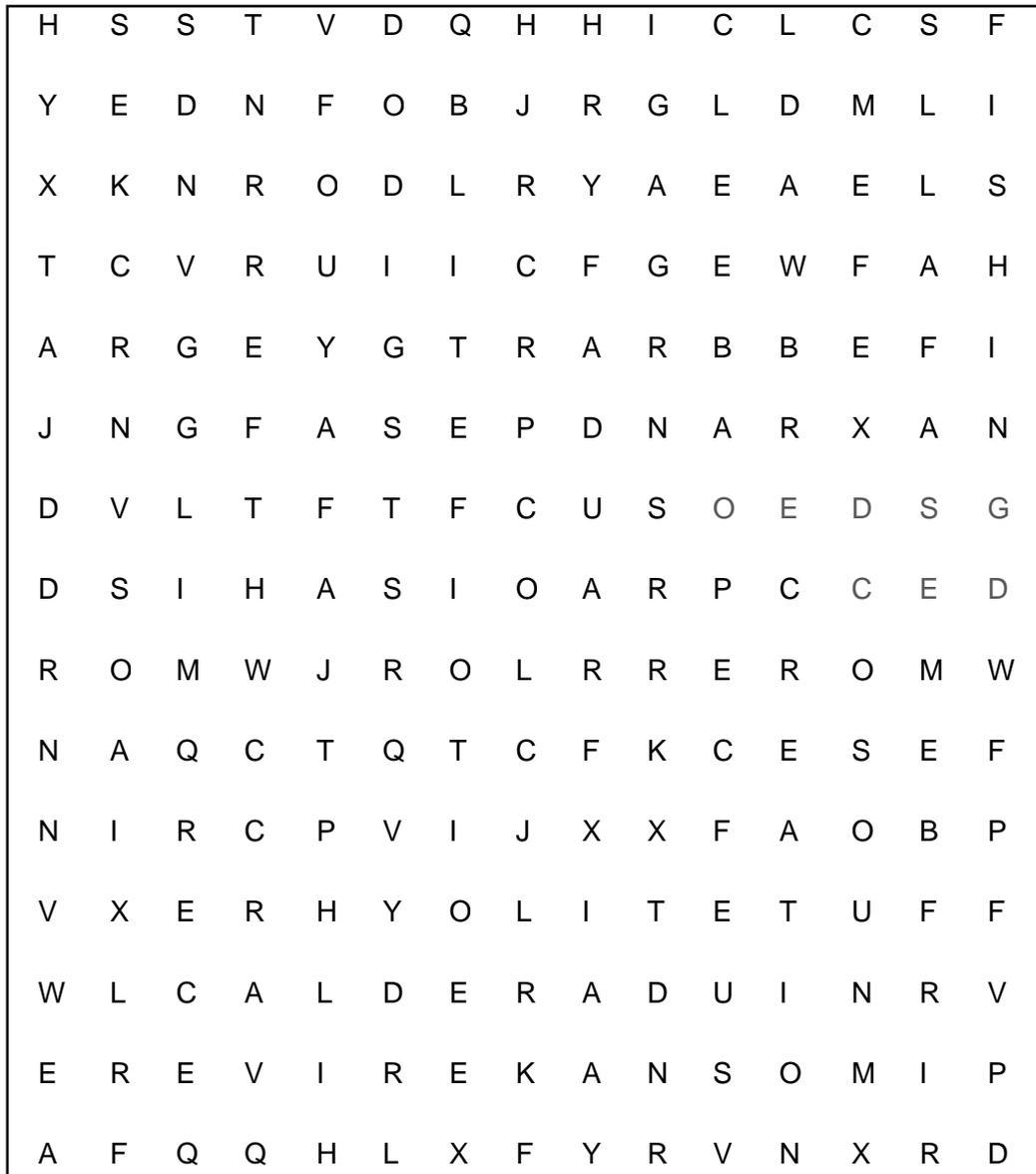
Tuff stuff - the ash spewing from the volcano formed very hard rock—*Mesa Falls Tuff*.

The **volcano** eventually collapsed, leaving behind a large crater called a *caldera*.

.....Shaped by Water

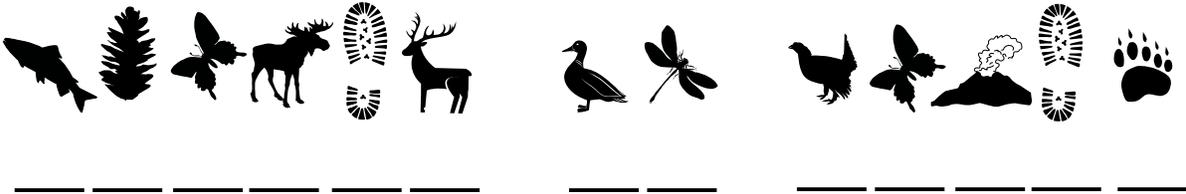
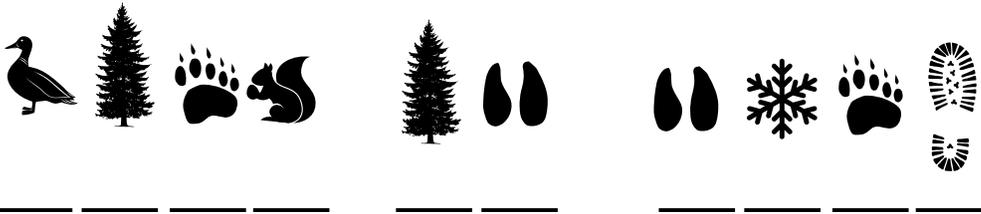
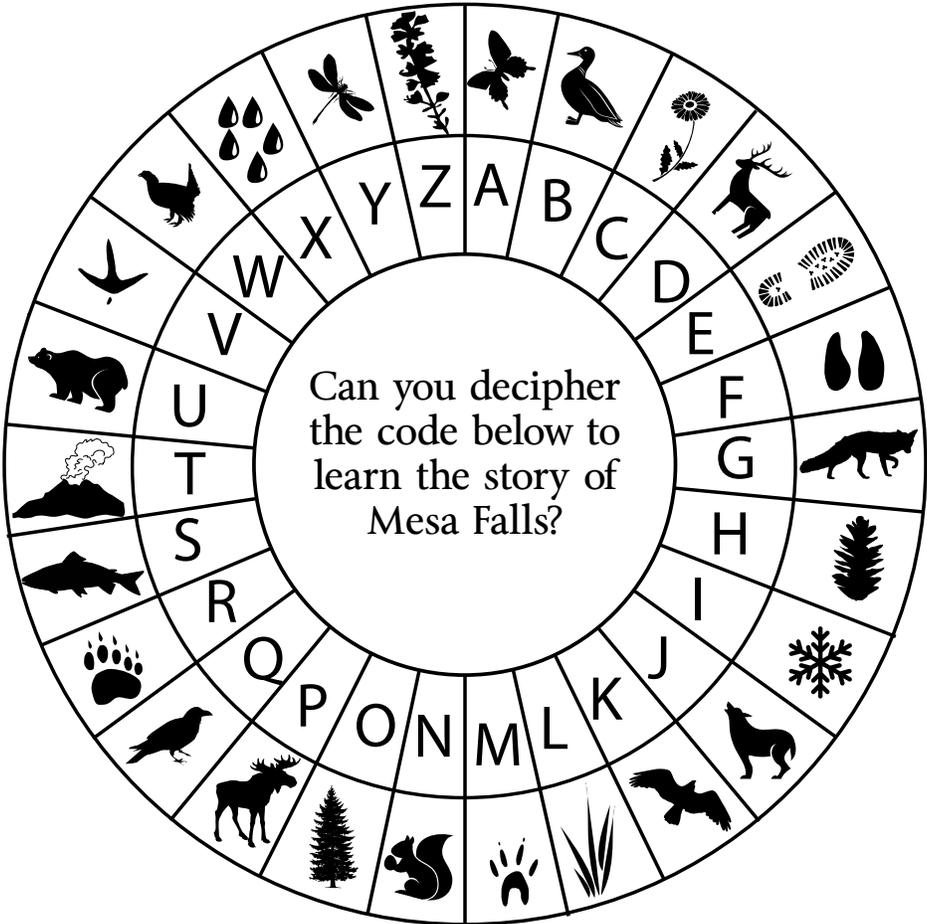
7

Persistently carving through the basalt and rhyolite tuff, the river shapes the land and sustains livelihoods within the Henrys Fork Watershed. See if you can find some of the words that describe this river and its history.



- BASALT
- ERUPTIONS
- RHYOLITE TUFF
- CALDERA
- VOLCANO
- HENRYS FORK
- SNAKE RIVER
- MESA FALLS
- FISHING
- TROUT
- RECREATION
- IRRIGATION
- ELECTRIC DREAMS
- WATERFALL

Crack the Code



There's a lot more to Mesa Falls than what you can see. Find a comfortable spot outside to sit, and use your other senses to explore this special place.

Can you name three different sounds?

Can you describe two different smells?

Describe something that is:

prickly

smooth

cold

SHINEY

soft

