



Forest Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Alaska Region Junior Heritage Ranger



Alaska



Explore, Learn, Respect

Pacific Ocean

Be a Junior Heritage Ranger!



How to become a Junior Heritage Ranger

STEP 1: Complete at least 4 activities and the Junior Heritage Ranger Pledge.



STEP 2: Bring your booklet to one of the locations listed on the back cover and receive your reward.

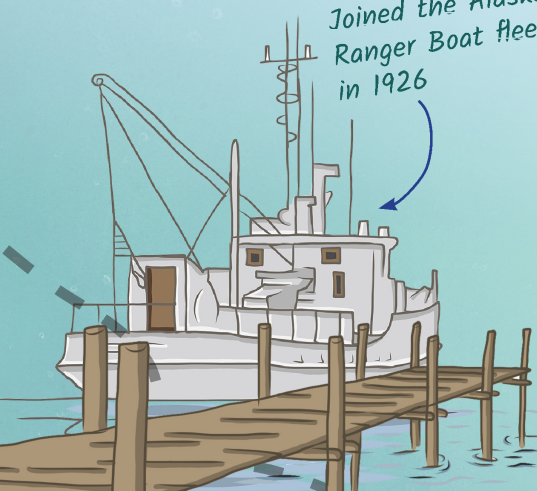


STEP 3: Congratulations! You are a Junior Heritage Ranger!





Hop aboard the M/V Chugach!

The M/V Chugach is a historic wooden boat once used by Forest Service rangers, scientists, officials, and guests to navigate the waterways of Alaska's National Forests. Hop aboard and let's explore heritage sites across the Chugach and Tongass National Forests!





*Joined the Alaska
Ranger Boat fleet
in 1926*



Chugach National Forest

- A. Iditarod National Historic Trail 
- B. Sqilantnu Archaeological District
- C. Cordova Post Office & Courthouse  
- D. McKinley Lake Mine 

Tongass National Forest

- E. Disenchantment Bay 
- F. Yaxté Totem Pole 
- G. Big Shaheen Cabin  
- H. Shuká Káa Cave
- I. Coffman Cove



Tongass/
Taant'a Kwáan (Lingít)
National Forest

What is "heritage"?

Heritage is anything that can be passed down or inherited, like places, objects, and traditions. Separately, we call these things **cultural resources**. At the Forest Service, archaeologists or Heritage program staff help to manage cultural resources on our National Forests.

Be a Steward of the Past

DIRECTIONS: Complete the maze below.

Alaskan Natives were managing the forests and harvesting resources for thousands of years before the establishment of the Forest Service. Evidence of this can be seen in culturally modified trees - these are trees that show signs of past human use.

START HERE
Heritage is anything that can be passed down or inherited, like places, objects, and ____.

homework

traditions

____ help to manage cultural resources.

biologists

archaeologists

Cultural resources are _____. This means they cannot be replaced once they are gone.

non-renewable

renewable

Try again

The heritage of public lands belongs to everyone. It's all of our responsibility to preserve and ____ it.

protect

practice

Try again

Congrats!

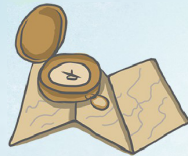
Iditarod National Historic Trail

For centuries, Alaskans have mushed and trekked over the Iditarod National Historic Trail (INHT), a 2,400 mile network of trails running from Seward to Nome. It played a vital role in transportation during the gold rush era. Today, the Iditarod Trail is used for a variety of activities such as hiking, biking, foraging, hunting, and traveling between villages.



Check out the INHT Junior Trailblazer activity booklet!

DIRECTIONS: Seward was the start of a long journey to the gold fields in the interior. Pack your sled so that you have everything you need for your journey. Keep it to 100 pounds or less.



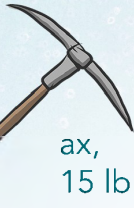
clothes,
3 lbs

books,
5 lb



map and
compass,
1 lb

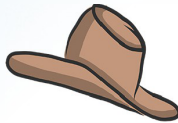
plate and bowl, 2 lb



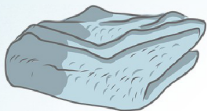
food,
8 lb



fun hat,
1 lb



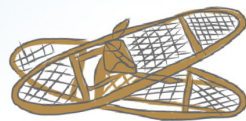
blankets, 3 lbs



rope,
1 lb



canned
food,
1 lb



Object	Quantity	Weight
Total=		

Sqilantnu Archaeological District

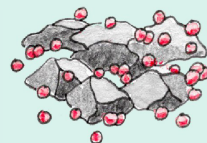
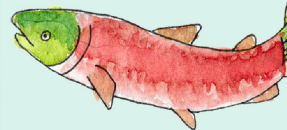
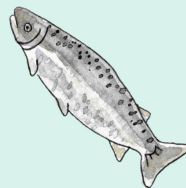
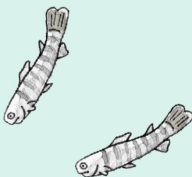
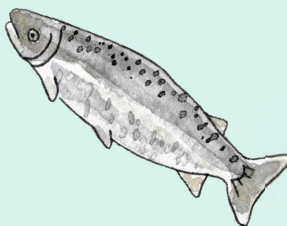
Welcome to the Sqilantnu Archaeological District!





Archaeologists have found 6,000 years worth of artifacts here. For generations, people from different cultures have used this area, including the Kenaitze Indian Tribe. Salmon have long been a part of the Sqilantnu area and are considered essential to Dena'ina culture and identity.



















We recognize the importance of acknowledging this area is the ancestral home of the Dena'ina people.

Directions: Use the nature icon chart below to translate three Dena'ina words describing different types of salmon runs into English. Use the language guide to help pronounce the Dena'ina words.



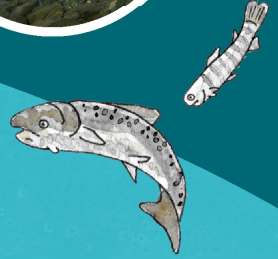
								
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I

								
J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R

							
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

What is a salmon run?

A "run" is when a school of adult salmon swim from the ocean to the river that they were born in.



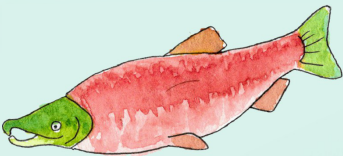
ts'iluq'a



chiluq'a



tuleha



Dena'ina Language Guide

a	like "a" in "father" or "u" in "gut"
e	like "e" in "men"
i	like "ee" in "seed"
u	like "oo" in "food"
ts	like "ts" in "cats"
q	like k, but pronounced further back in the throat
,	like the pause between "uh-oh"

s, l, n, t, and ch are similar to English

Cordova Post Office & Courthouse



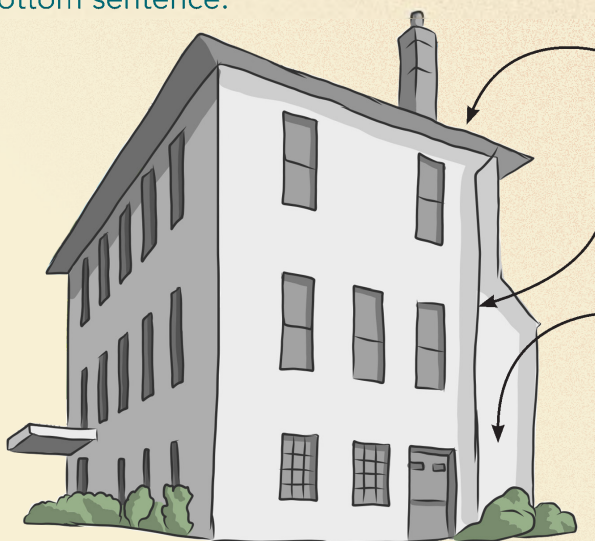
C



Cordova is the homeland of the Eyak.

The Cordova Post Office Building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places because of its continued historical use as a post office. However, the building has been more than just a post office.

DIRECTIONS: To fill in the blanks, match the symbols. Then, use the numbers beside the symbols to answer the bottom sentence.



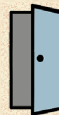
1. The third floor was a



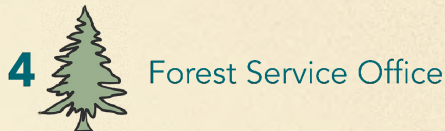
2. The second floor was a



3. The first floor was a



4. Today the building is used for the _____



The Cordova Post Office was built in

McKinley Lake Mine

D

The McKinley Lake Mine – a collection of shafts, ruined buildings, railway tracks, and rusting equipment – tells the story of gold fever in Alaska...despite the fact that no gold was actually found here!

DIRECTIONS: Circle the mining artifacts.
Then, write a story based on what you find.

Hint - there are 7 hidden mining artifacts.



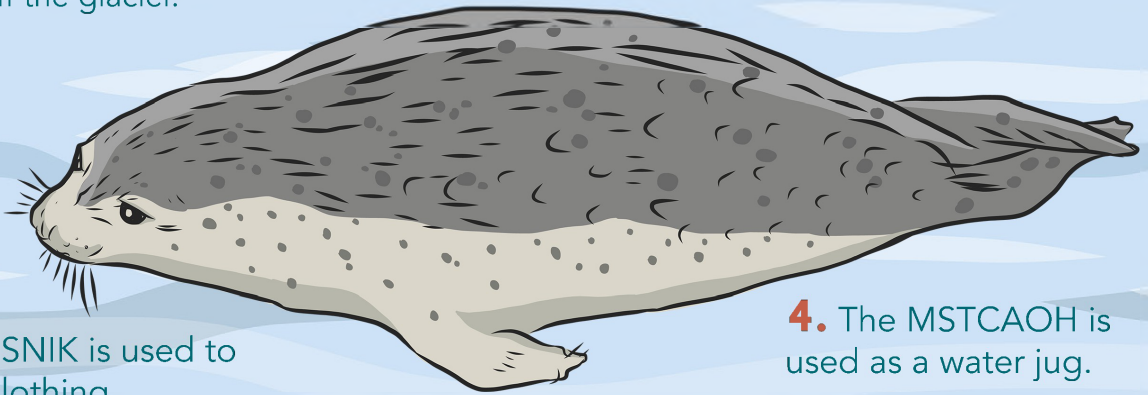
WRITE YOUR STORY HERE:

Disenchantment Bay

Welcome to At'ëik - meaning "Behind It" - or Disenchantment Bay, not far from the town of Yaakwdáat (Tlingit)/Yakutat!

Subsistence hunting is a way of life for Alaska Native peoples. Hunting seals in Disenchantment Bay has been important for hundreds of years and continues to be so to this day. Seals are hunted when they rest on floating chunks of ice that have fallen off the glacier.

DIRECTIONS: After a hunt every part of the seal is used, honoring the life that was taken. Unscramble the letters to find out how each part of the seal is used.



1. The SNIK is used to make clothing.

2. OLI is used to store food.

3. EATM is dried or smoked for food.

4. The MSTCAOH is used as a water jug.

WORD BANK

- | | |
|------|---------|
| Fur | Brain |
| Oil | Meat |
| Nose | Stomach |
| Skin | Lungs |

We recognize the importance of acknowledging this area is the ancestral home of the Tlingit people.

Yaxté Kootéeyaa

Big Dipper Totem Pole



Raven

Chickadee

Robin

Blue Jay

Magpie

Raven's
Friend

Lady
of the
Lake

Bear

Totem poles, or kootéeyaa means “chiseled cylinder.” The images carved on a pole can tell many stories. The Yaxte Kootéeyaa tells four stories.

DIRECTIONS: Draw a line from each character in the story told below to its place on the totem pole.

RAVEN PICNIC STORY

Raven (top) insulted a spring king salmon until it took offense and came close enough to shore where Raven caught him. Raven then called forth his companions to prepare the salmon, gather wood, and build the fire. After the hard work was done, and the salmon had finished cooking, Raven sent off his companions to greedily eat the salmon on his own.

Upon returning, Raven told the little birds the fire had destroyed the fish. This made them terribly sad, **Magpie** (1st face under Raven) was given an impressive flowing tale to lift his spirits, **Robin** (3rd face) sat so close to the embers his breast became red, and Raven attempted to sooth **Blue Jay** (4th face) by giving him a new crested hair-do, the little **Chickadee** (5th face) cried and cried, wiping his eyes until the black under them came off.

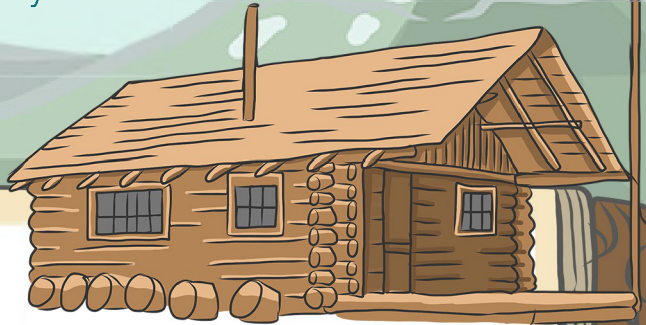
Big Shaheen Cabin



G

People have been using Big Shaheen Cabin since 1935. It has a long history of providing shelter for hunters, trail crews, and campers. You, too, can stay in this historic cabin!

DIRECTIONS: Log books can be found in each Forest Service cabin where you can read stories from past visitors. Fill out the mad lib and then read your story out loud.



Cabin Log Book

Date _____ Title _____

After a long journey _____ and I arrived to the cabin.
name

The next day we went fishing for _____ and
animal

_____. We were in the _____ boat when it
a hairy animal adjective

started to rock back and forth. I exclaimed _____ !!
an exclamation

All of a sudden we saw a _____ in the water. It came
animal

closer and stole the _____ from our line. Without a
large object

fresh catch, we had _____ and _____ for
food that is green food that is squishy

dinner instead.

Shuká Káa Cave

H

Shuká Káa Cave is an archaeological site that confirmed thousands of years of Tlingit oral history.

DIRECTIONS: Follow along the cave path! Answer each question to discover the mysteries of Shuká Káa cave.



2. Shuká Káa means _____ in Tlingit.

- a. "Under the Trees"
- b. "The Man Ahead of Us"

Hint: Káa means "man" in Tlingit

3. The investigation of this site was only possible due to the partnership between the Forest Service and _____

- a. local tribes
- b. NASA

1. Archaeologists found _____ at the cave.

- a. stone tools, charcoal and shells
- b. fresh food and berries

4. Carbon dating confirmed that humans have been occupying the area for over _____ years.

- a. 50
- b. 10,000

What is carbon dating?
It's a way of telling the age of a once living thing by measuring the amount of carbon inside of it.

**Start
Here**



Answers 1. a 2. b 3. a 4. b

Coffman Cove

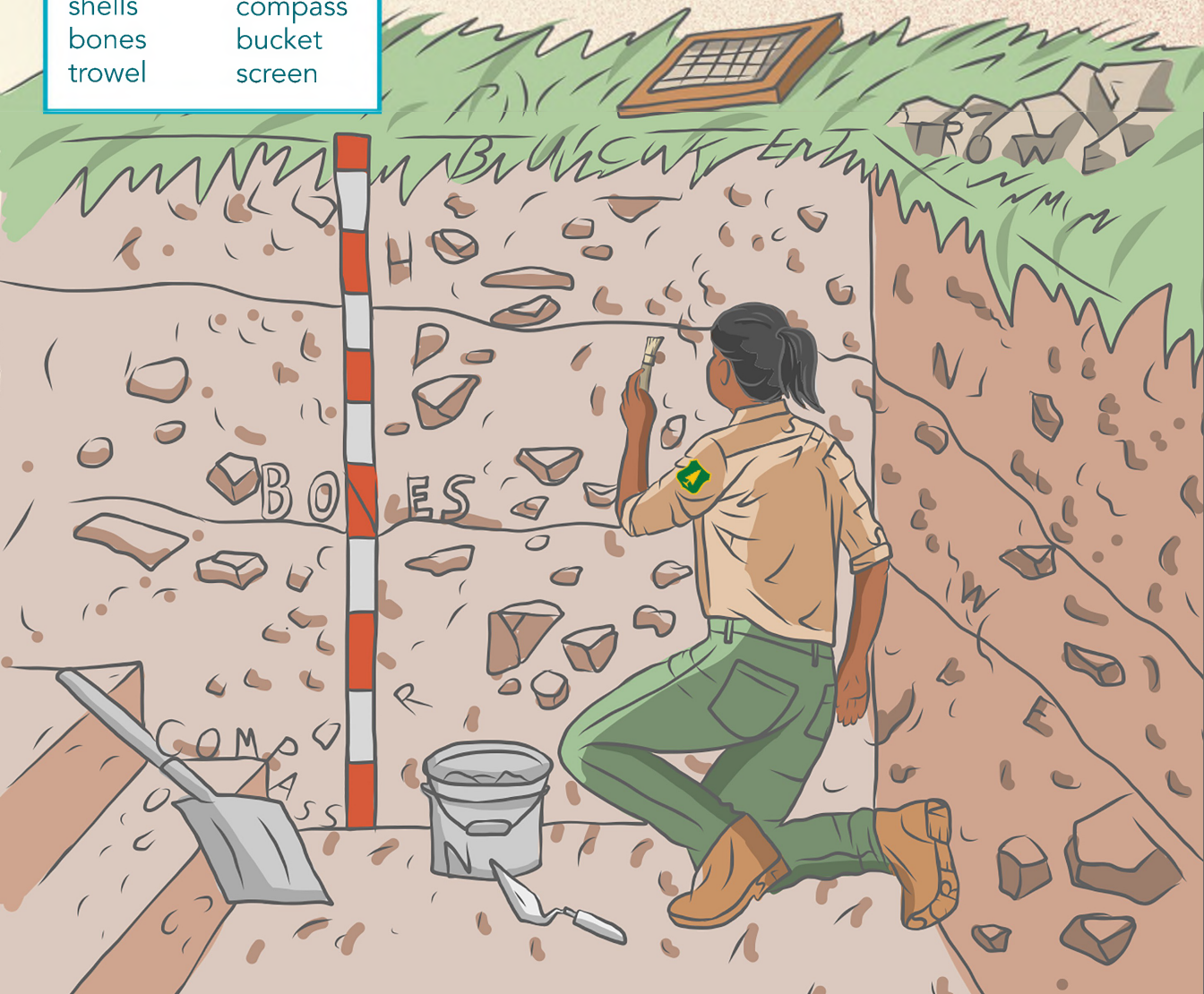
In the city of Coffman Cove, an archaeological site was discovered. Archaeologists and volunteers dug test pits looking for artifacts that helped tell the story of what life was like in this area hundreds of years ago.



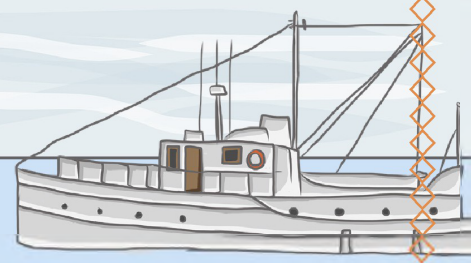
DIRECTIONS: Look closely at the test pit below and see how many of the key words you can find.

WORD BANK

shells compass
bones bucket
trowel screen



Junior Heritage Ranger Pledge



AS A JUNIOR HERITAGE RANGER, I

_____ ,

(Name)

promise to respect and help protect the heritage and cultural resources of the Chugach National Forest, Tongass National Forest and other places I visit. I respect all people who call Alaska home, and acknowledge that it is the ancestral home of many Alaska Native groups.

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

(Forest Service Ranger)

(Date)

Claim Your Reward!

After completing at least 4 of the activities and the Junior Heritage Ranger pledge, you can bring your book to one of the sites below or have an adult send an email to sm.fs.AKJrHrtgRngr@usda.gov that includes a list of the 4 activities you did along with your mailing address.

Chugach National Forest
161 E. 1st Avenue, Door 8
Anchorage, AK 99501

Tongass National Forest
648 Mission Street, Suite 110
Federal Building
Ketchikan, AK 99901

There's More to Explore!

Learn more about Alaska's heritage by visiting Forest Service locations in person. Visit our website -



The M/V Chugach

We hope you enjoyed your trip on the M/V Chugach through both the Chugach and Tongass National Forests today. Did you know that the Forest Service used the M/V Chugach for over 90 years to help accomplish a wide variety of work on both national forests in Alaska?

It was a tough job, but the M/V Chugach was a well-built boat and up for the task! Today she is the last remaining wooden hulled ranger boat owned by the Forest Service and is on display at the Nolan Center in Wrangell, AK. You can visit her and learn more about her long career.



Looking for more fun?

Join Agent Northern Flying Squirrel at the Alaska State Museum to learn more about Alaska's rich history and culture by playing Mission 49: Journey to Alaska's Past!

Hi! I'm Agent Northern Flying Squirrel!

