

## JUNIOR RANGER PLEDGE

"I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
am proud to be a City of Austin  
Junior Ranger. I promise to appreciate,  
respect, and protect Austin's parks. I  
also promise to continue learning about  
the landscape, plants, animals, and  
history of these special places. I will  
share what I learn with my friends and  
family."

## AUSTIN PARKS & RECREATION JUNIOR RANGER



The City of Austin is proud to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require assistance for participation in our programs or use of our facilities, please call (512)-974-3914.



THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

\_\_\_\_\_

## DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES?

Becoming a Junior Ranger takes more than completing activities in this book. You can help the Park Rangers by protecting the plants, animals, historic sites, and even the rocks from being harmed, by always leaving the things you find for other visitors to enjoy.

Riley Ringtail says "Try to complete as many activities as you can, then stop by the Park Ranger Station at the Zilker Caretaker Cottage to take the pledge and become a Junior Ranger."

Want to know more?

Park Ranger Station at Zilker Caretaker Cottage is at  
2105 B Andrew Zilker Road, Austin, TX 78746.

512-978-2600

<http://austintexas.gov/parkrangers>



## INTERVIEW A RANGER



Rangers have an exciting job. They help keep parks \_\_\_\_\_.  
Find a ranger and interview them by asking a few questions.

1. What do you like most about being a ranger?
2. What is your favorite experience while ranging?
3. Try asking a question of your own!  
(write it here)  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. How can I respect and help protect my parks?



Riley Ringtail says,  
"Finish your book then say the Junior Ranger Pledge with a Ranger to earn your official Junior Ranger Badge!"



# SCAVENGER HUNT

Find these items outside.

Hint: Nature is all around, don't forget to look up and down!

Person Biking	Dog on a Leash	Trash
Something Soft	A Seed	A Bird
Person Exercising	Trail	Fossil

# WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?



Austin has a lot of different kinds of parks!

300 Parks  
12 Dog Parks  
147 Playgrounds  
227 Miles of Trails  
20,254 Acres of Green Spaces  
35 Swimming Pools

11 Museums, Arts & Cultural Centers  
78 Mixed-use fields  
5 Disc Golf Courses  
76 Basketball Courts  
10 Performing Arts Venues  
26 Recreation and Senior Centers



Circle a park you've visited on the map.  
Or checkout the map online [www.austintexas.gov/parks](http://www.austintexas.gov/parks).

# TAKE A HIKE

Go for a hike on a trail. Hiking is a great way to get to know the park, and will also help you finish the other activities in this book. But what sort of things should you bring along to have a safe and fun hike, and what things could you do without?

Put an X over the items you wouldn't need on a hike, or that you think don't belong in the wilderness.

 NATURE GUIDE	 WATER	 SUNSCREEN	 JACKET
 MAP	 SUN HAT	 HEALTHY SNACKS	 FIRST AID
 CANDY & GUM	 STURDY SHOES	 SANDALS	 FLASHLIGHT
 SODA	 MUSIC	 BINOCULARS	 CAMERA

Everyone enjoys hiking in the wilderness differently. What else might you bring along to have fun and be safe? Write your answers here:

THINGS TO BRING: \_\_\_\_\_

THINGS TO LEAVE: \_\_\_\_\_

# WILDLIFE HABITATS

All animals must have food, water and shelter to survive. Choose one animal from your wildlife observation and draw what food, water and shelter might look like for that animal.





## WILDLIFE OBSERVATION

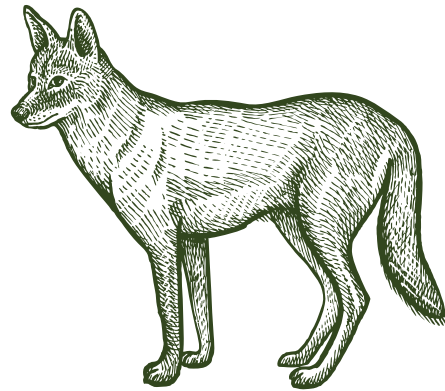
Austin is home to many wild animals.  
Circle any of these animals you saw evidence of on your hike.



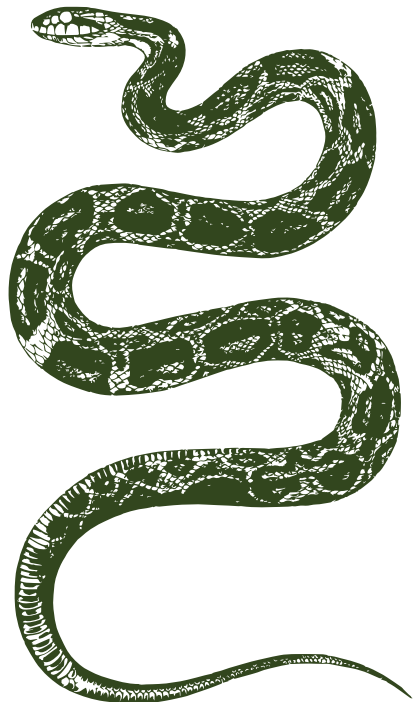
GREAT BLUE HERON



MONARCH BUTTERFLY



COYOTE



RAT SNAKE



SQUIRREL



GOLDEN-CHEEKED WARBLER



GREEN DARNER  
DRAGONFLY

## LEAVE NO TRACE



Put the letter "i" into the words below to discover the 7 ways you can Leave No Trace!

1. Know before you go.
2. Choose the r\_\_\_\_ght path.
3. Trash your trash.
4. Leave what you f\_\_\_\_nd.
5. Be careful w\_\_\_\_th f\_\_\_\_re.
6. Respect w\_\_\_\_ldl\_\_\_\_fe.
7. Be k\_\_\_\_nd to other v\_\_\_\_s\_\_\_\_tors.

How did you practice Leave No Trace today?

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Jr. Ranger L.N.T. promise:

"I promise to learn & practice the 7 principles of Leave No Trace.  
I also promise to share my knowledge with my friends and family!"

# CRACK THE CODE

Each clue reveals the name of a native Texas tree. Use the special letters found in the tree circles to decode the secret message!

1 = e  
2 = o

○ s h J u n i p 1 r

S y ○ a m 2 r 1

S w ○ 1 t G u m

B a l d C y ○ r 1 s s

C 2 t t 2 ○ w 2 2 d

What is the State Tree of Texas?

\_\_\_\_\_

# NATURALIST JOURNAL

A Naturalist is someone who learns about the natural world around them. Most rangers are also naturalists and share their knowledge with others. Practice being a Naturalist by finding a quiet spot outside to watch nature for 5 minutes then record what you saw.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE/TIME: \_\_\_\_\_ LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_ WEATHER: \_\_\_\_\_

SKETCH HERE:

NOTES:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_