



Junior Forest Ranger
Activity Booklet



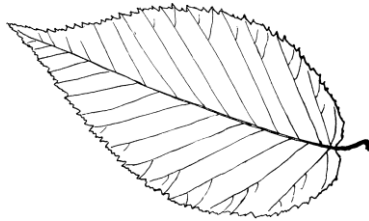
This book belongs to: _____

Welcome!

The Cradle of Forestry in America is the birthplace of forest conservation and America's first school of Forestry. Lots of important history happened here that you will learn more about as you complete your booklet.

What To Do:

Complete as many activities as you can while you explore our exhibit hall and trails. Once you are finished, take this workbook to the front desk where our staff can review it. You will officially become a Junior Forester when you receive your certificate and badge.



Responsibilities of a Junior Forester:

Becoming a Junior Forester is a big responsibility: Forest Rangers need your help taking care of our natural resources! Here are some ways you can help:

Environmental Education: teaching family and friends what you learned about the forest and how to take care of it.

Responsible Recreation: follow park rules to stay safe, staying on trails to protect sensitive plant species, and picking up litter – even if it isn't yours!

The Biltmore Forest School: America's First School of Forestry

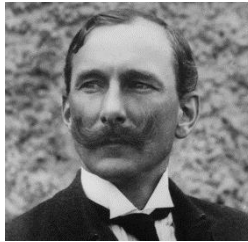
Deep in Pisgah National Forest lies the **birthplace of forest conservation** in America. Before Pisgah was created as public land for everyone to use, it was owned privately. **George Vanderbilt** (owner of the Biltmore Estate) purchased 125,000 acres surrounding the mansion, which included present-day Pisgah. Back then, the forest was **entirely clear-cut**, but Vanderbilt sought to restore a healthy forest ecosystem. He hired **Gifford Pinchot**, America's first forester, and Dr. **Carl Schenck**, a German forester to teach the first school of forestry in the US in 1898.

Little Known Fact:
We can thank Edith Vanderbilt (George's wife) for Pisgah – after George's death, she sold the land to the US Forest Service, making it free for the public to enjoy!

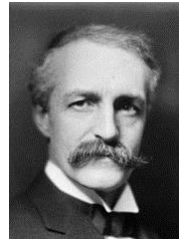
Who did what? Check out our exhibit hall and connect the historical figure to their role in pioneering forest conservation in America.



George Vanderbilt



Carl Schenck



Gifford Pinchot

German forester and founder of the Biltmore Forest School

America's first forester and implemented the first forest conservation initiatives

Owner of Biltmore Estate and surrounding land that would become Pisgah National Forest

Inside the Exhibit Hall: Explore the Exhibit Hall displays to answer the following questions:

Connect the tool to its name:

Dibble bar

Drip torch

Pulaski

Soil probe

Swedish axe



Leave No Trace: Find the “*Leave No Trace*” sign in the Exhibit Hall and complete each principle for camping without a trace:

Take only pictures - _____

Plan ahead and _____

Pack it in, _____

Properly dispose of _____

Leave what you _____

Pick the _____

Use _____

Why is the forest always changing?

Complete the word search:



Urbanization

Pollution

Drought

Flooding

Decomposition

Insects

Habitat Changes

Animals

Prescribed Fire

Logging

Sunlight

Humans

What are the three trails you can hike at the Cradle of Forestry?

Take a look at our trail map and list each trail name below:

Biltmore Campus Trail

The Biltmore Campus Trail follows the original Biltmore Forestry School campus. It takes you to different buildings that were once used by the forestry school students.

Find The Schoolhouse and draw a sketch:



Follow the Biltmore Campus Trail and unscramble the following landmarks:

LKABCSIHTM _____

MACROSISMY _____

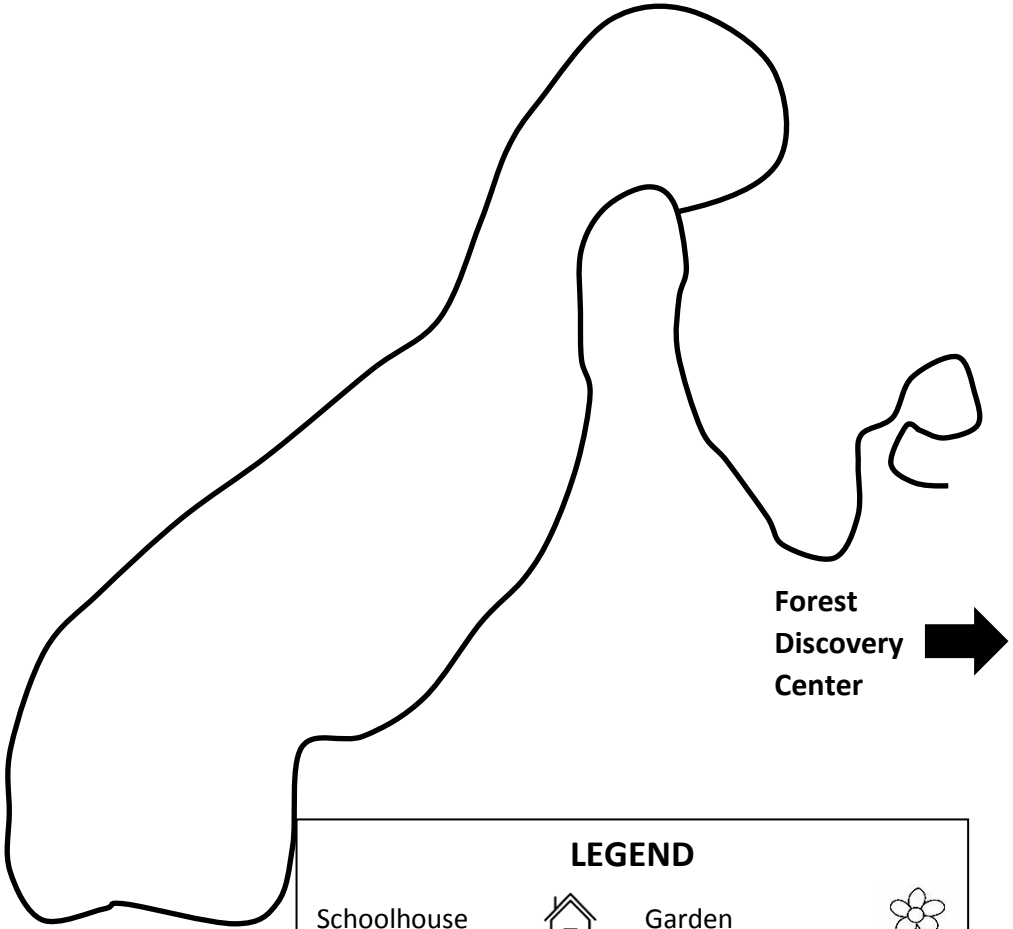
EARDGN _____


SHUOLCOHUSEO _____











EYOTRRFS _____

Biltmore Campus Trail Landmarks

Follow the Biltmore Campus Trail and mark as many landmarks as you can find on the map below:



**Forest
Discovery
Center** 

LEGEND			
Schoolhouse		Garden	
Student Quarters		Tunnel	
Commissary		Blacksmith	
Washplace		Black Forest Lodge	
Schenck's Office		Ranger's Dwelling	

Forest Festival Trail Trivia: Located along the Forest Festival Trail are landmarks and educational signs that will help you answer the following questions:

What species of tree is the “Moon Tree”?

What year was the Biltmore Forest Fair held?

What blaze color is the Forest Festival Trail?

What are the three different years listed on the side of the train?

Who made that print? Find our animal print display on the Forest Festival Trail and match the print to the animal that made it:



Black Bear

Coyote

Beaver

White-Tail Deer

Raccoon

Tree Diversity: Pisgah National Forest is well-known for its tree diversity. Behind our Forest Discovery Center and along the Forest Festival Trail we have labeled common trees found in Pisgah. Find the following trees and sketch the leaf-shape in the blank spaces below:

Black Walnut	Northern Red Oak
Sugar Maple	Sycamore
Eastern Hemlock	White Oak

Sound Map

A sound map is a map locating all the sounds you can hear in the forest - from leaves rustling in the wind, insects buzzing or a babbling creek, the forest is filled with different sounds!

Find a quiet place to sit (the pond is a great spot!) and listen to the forest. Draw yourself in the middle of the map and sketch where each sound is coming from.



Earth MadLibs: Complete the following MadLib with a family member or friend – don't be afraid to make it silly!

Ways You Can Help The Earth:

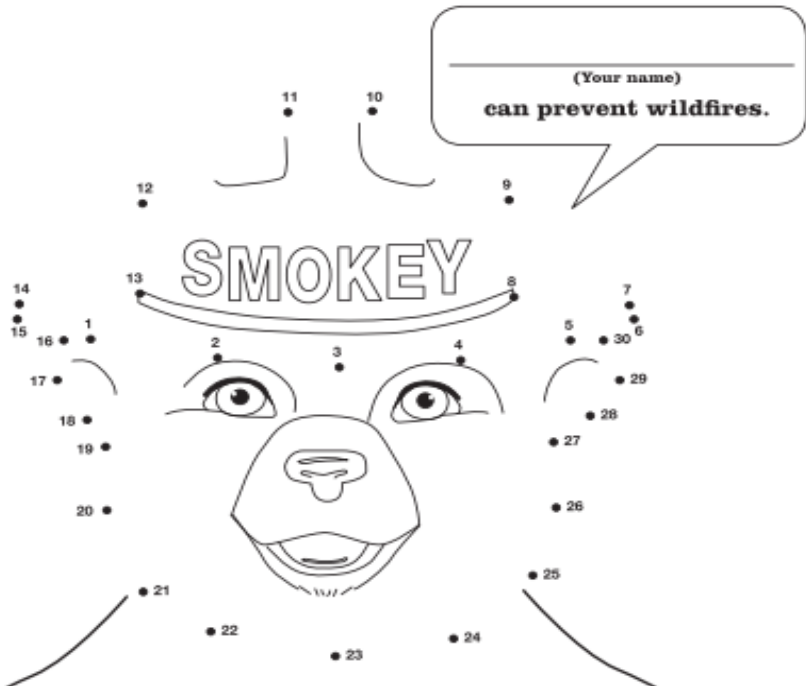
Everyone can help our planet by _____ a
(verb -ing)
few _____ things. For example, _____
(adjective) (verb -ing)
off the lights when you _____ a room
(verb)
helps _____ electricity. _____ trees
(verb) (Verb -ing)
provides shelter for animals like _____
(animal)
and _____ and _____ air for
(animal) (adjective)
everyone to _____. If you _____
(verb) (verb)
or _____ a bike to _____ from
(verb) (verb)
place to place, you reduce the amount of
_____ you use by _____ in a car. All
(noun) (verb -ing)
of these _____ actions add up!
(adjective)

Smokey Bear: Fire Safety

How can you practice fire safety when you are in the woods or at home?

Campfire Safety Tips:

1. Make sure campfire is allowed there and there are no fire bans due to weather.
2. Never leave fire unattended
3. Never build fire under overhanging branches
4. Pour water over your campfire and make sure it is COLD before leaving



Smokey Bear: Fire Facts

How much do you know about the ecology of wildlands and other natural areas?

Take Smokey's True/False Quiz to find out!



- _____ 1. Heat, oxygen, and fire are the three elements needed to build a fire
- _____ 2. Fire is a natural part of most forest ecosystems
- _____ 3. Prescribed fire, or the setting and controlling of fire in wildland areas by firefighters, is something that is done only to practice firefighting skills
- _____ 4. Fire is harmful to every kind of tree and vegetation found in the forest
- _____ 5. 85% of wildfires are caused by humans in the United States
- _____ 6. Firefighters can only put out wildfires with water
- _____ 7. Currently, the number of wildfires has decreased in the United States.

Record your experience: Write down the things you did, heard, saw, or felt while you were in Pisgah National Forest.

Before you go...

Take this workbook to the front desk once completed. To earn your badge you'll need to recite the Junior Forester Conservation Pledge:

*“I give my pledge as a Junior
Forest Ranger to save and
faithfully defend from waste the
natural resources of my country-
its soils and minerals, its flowers
and trees, its waters, and its
wildlife.”*

