

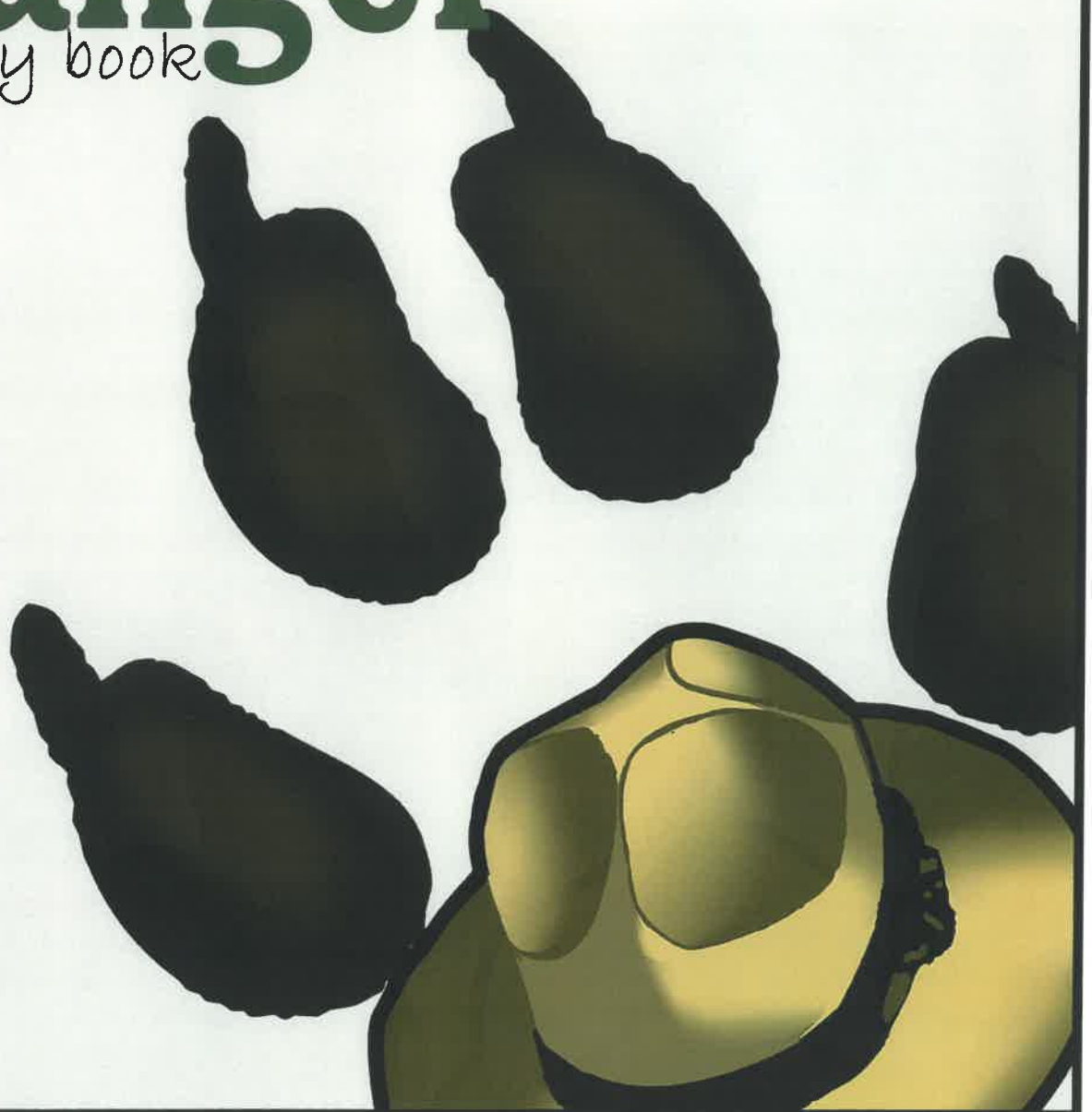
Waco Mammoth
National Monument



Ages 5+


B.A.R.K. Ranger

activity book



What is the B.A.R.K. Ranger Program?

Waco Mammoth National Monument loves man's best friend, and as part of the National Park Service we have a responsibility to maintain our country's natural resources. Dogs can have a big impact on their environment, so many parks and monuments have started participating in B.A.R.K. Ranger, a program teaching visitors to responsibly explore nature with their pets.

 **Finish this book to earn
a badge for your pup!**



Learn to B.A.R.K.!

Fill in the blanks using the words below to learn what it means to B.A.R.K.

leash poop
explore wildlife



B ag your dog's _____

A lways use a _____

R espect _____

K now where you can _____

Exploring fossils with dogs

Mixing fossils with dogs is a bad idea,
and not just because they might chew on them!

Dogs can carry in bugs that may cause an infestation near our fossils
that cannot be treated with the usual pesticides.

Dog slobber, urine, or feces will also cause irreparable
damage to any bones they come into contact with. So when visiting fossil sites,
its better to stick to our hiking trails.



What's Wrong Here?

Circle 3 activities taking place in the picture below that are against the B.A.R.K. pledge.

Then explain in the space to the left why each activity can be harmful to the park.

1

2

3



What Do Service Dogs Do?

The answer? A LOT!

Service animals come in all shapes and sizes, and perform a variety of tasks. Service dogs can guide those who are visually impaired, guide those with mobility issues, and even alert to drops in insulin or blood pressure to save their owner's life!

**Decorate Mesa's cape like
the superhero she is!**



How to behave around service dogs

NEVER distract a service dog! Just like you don't distract the driver of a car, their owner's life depends on their focus. This includes petting, calling the dog, or bringing your own dog in its path. So when nearing a service dog, give it room to work!

Real Life **BARK Rangers**

Did you know some National Parks have dogs on staff?

At National Parks across the country, dogs have joined in the conservation effort. Some dogs help to herd wildlife away from high traffic areas, while others help pull sleds to allow access to otherwise unreachable areas and minimize damage done to the land by modern wheeled transport.

Certain parks also employ volunteer **BARK Ranger Ambassadors** to direct visitors and promote safe interactions between visitors, their pets, and their National Parks.



Herding dog in Glacier National Park
Photo by A.W. Biel for the NPS

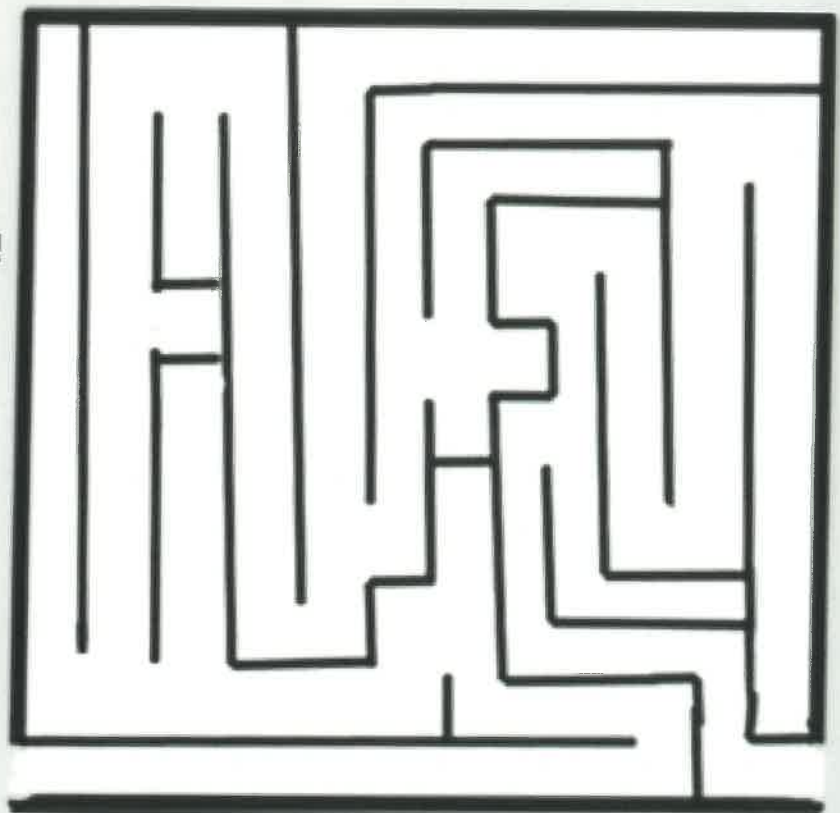


Dog sled team in Denali National Park
Photo by Laurie Smith for the NPS

Sometimes a dog "nose" best!

When visitors become lost in a big park, sometimes canines are used to help find them before they can get hurt. Their amazing sense of smell allows them to follow the scent trail of the visitor from an object carrying their very unique chemical "trademark," like a blanket or a piece of clothing.

**Help BARK
Ranger Rusty
sniff his way
through the maze!**



How can dogs smell so well?

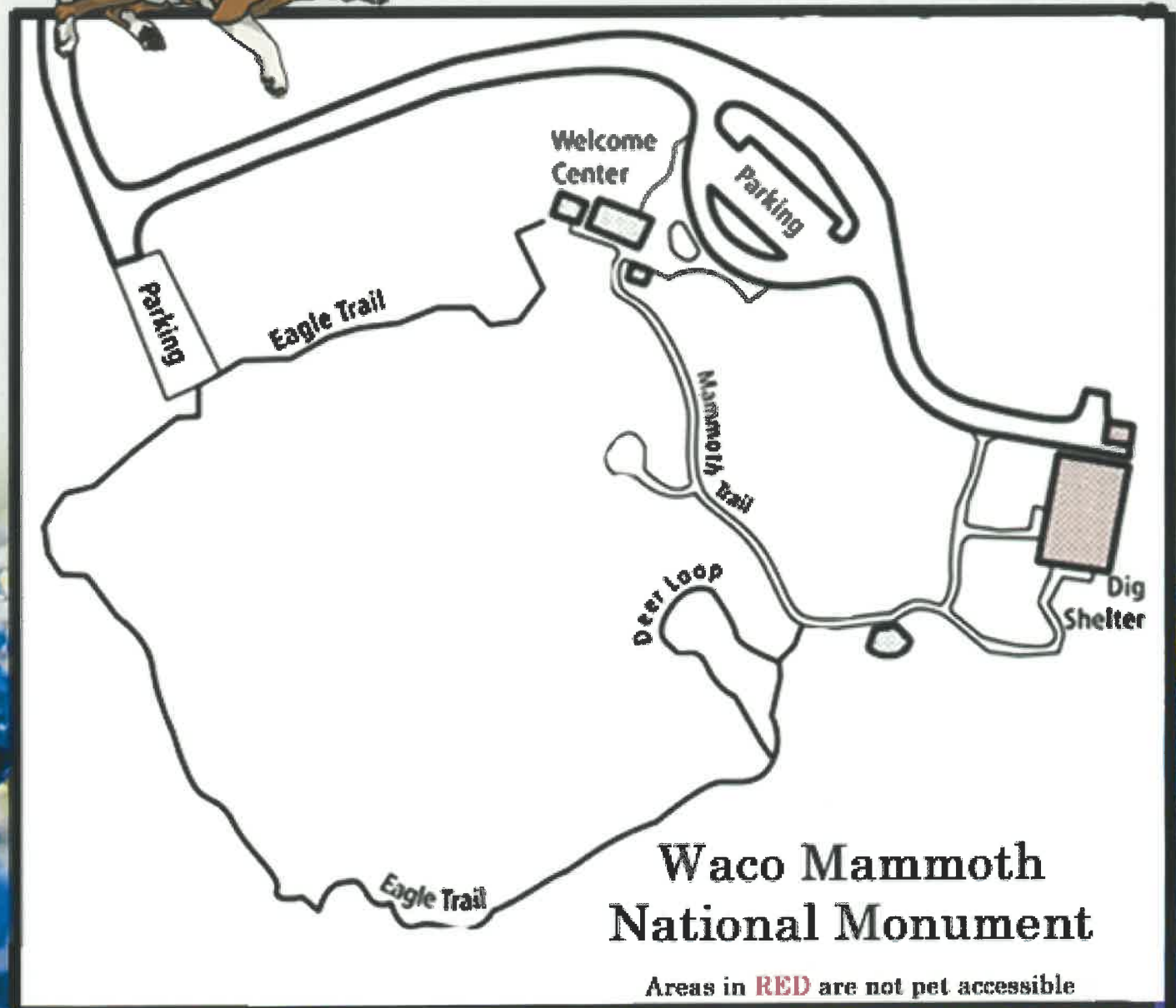
Noses have “**olfactory receptors**,” sensors that pick up smells in the air. Humans have around 6 million of these sensors.

Dogs have over 100 million! Dogs also have an additional sensor called a “Jacobson’s Organ” that detects chemicals in the air that don’t even have a scent. With these two things working together, dogs can have a sense of smell up to 10,000 times that of a human!

Explore Together

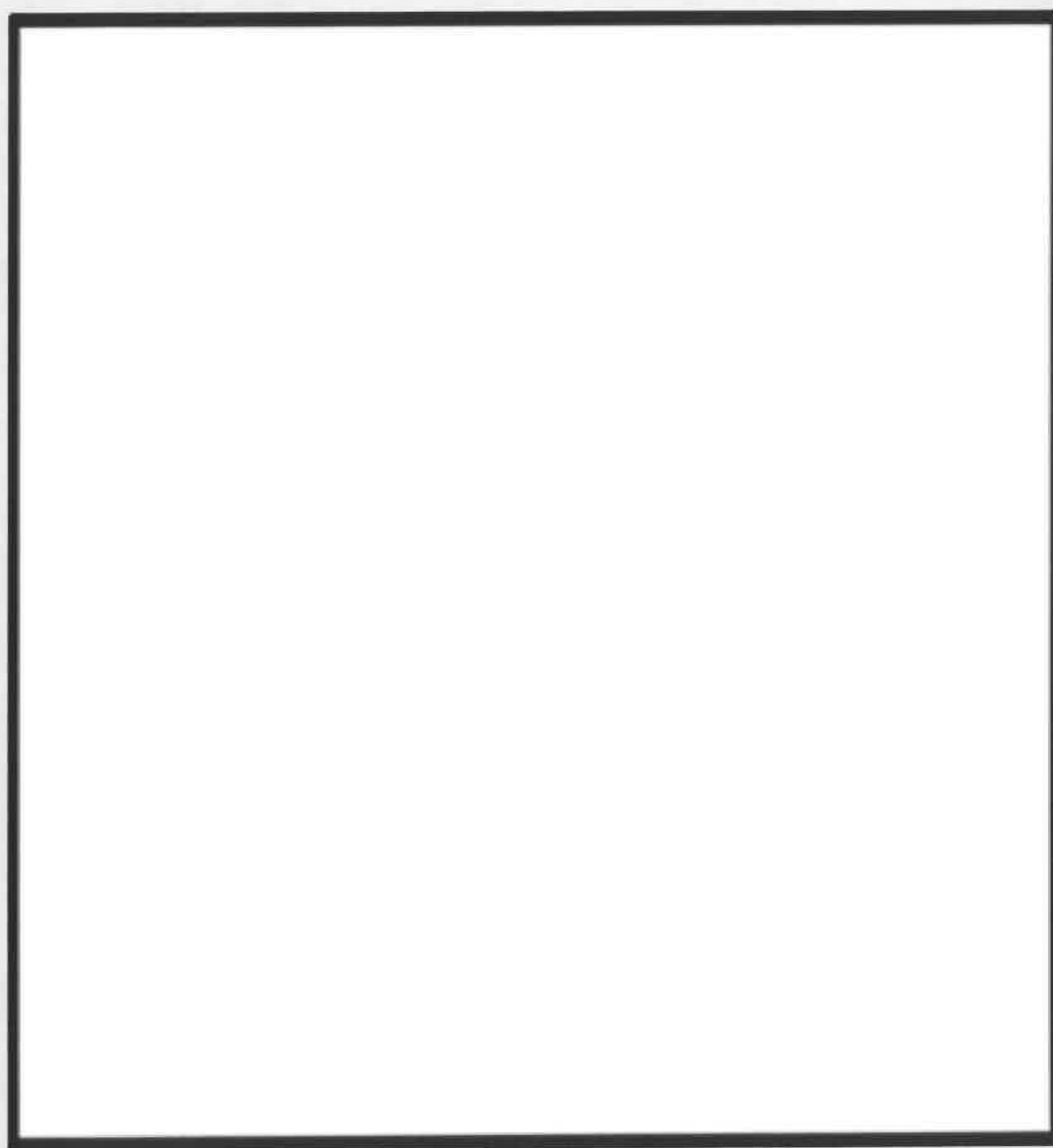
**Spend some quality time
with your furry friend**

Explore one of our trails, take pictures, and remember to use
#wacomammoth !



Record Your Adventure

Draw a picture, make up a poem, or write a story about what you experienced while exploring with your furry pal.



WACO MAMMOTH NATIONAL MONUMENT

officially declares the below participants

B.A.R.K. RANGERS

*for completing the associated program
and learning how to safely explore
the U.S. National Parks as a team*



B.A.R.K. Ranger (human)
Signature

Park Ranger
Signature





**To receive a badge for your pup,
mail this completed book to:**

Waco Mammoth National Monument
6220 Steinbeck Bend Dr.
Waco, TX 76708

Contact Us:

www.nps.gov/waco
(254)750-7946

Activities and artwork
by Mason Bozzo