FORT ORD

NATIONAL MONUMENT

JOIN THE ADVENTURE

Junior Explorer Field Guide

NATIONAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC LANDS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

NATIONAL CONSERVATION LANDS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

BLM

California

FORT ORD
Wildlife

USFWS

Mountain lion

GARY KRAMER/USFWS

Bobcat

STEVE THOMPSON/USFWS

Coyote

GARY STOLZ/USFWS

Badger

California king snake

Coast horned lizard

MARK BOHN/USFWS

Red-tailed hawk

GEORGE GENTRY/USFWS

Great horned owl

Junior Explorer Field Guide

JOIN THE ADVENTURE

PUBLIC LANDS *belong to you!*

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is a federal government agency that takes care of more than 245 million acres of land. Most of these lands are in the western part of the United States. These lands are America's public lands, and they belong to all Americans. These public lands are almost equal in area to all the land in the states of Texas and California put together.

The BLM manages public lands for many uses. The lands supply natural resources, such as coal, oil, natural gas, and other minerals. They provide habitats for plants and animals. People enjoy the big open spaces on the lands. The lands also contain evidence of our country's past, ranging from fossils to Indian artifacts to ghost towns.

Junior Explorers

BLM's Junior Explorer program helps introduce young explorers like you to the lands and resources that the BLM manages. This booklet focuses on the Native American heritage, Military history, and the native plants and animals of the Fort Ord National Monument. Promoting good user group ethics is also a part of enjoying the outdoors.

You can work through the activities on your own or invite a sibling, parent, or an adult you know to join you. When you complete the activities, then say the Junior Explorer pledge on the last page, sign the certificate, and you're on your way to exploring and protecting America's public lands. **Have fun!**

FORT ORD NATIONAL MONUMENT

Leave No Trace

when visiting the outdoors!

Hiking, biking, riding your horse, walking your dog, or enjoying other outdoor adventures is a great deal of fun! However, there are some guidelines you should follow so that you leave little or no clue of your outdoor visit. Leaving no trace helps the plants and animals remain healthy and provides people who visit the area a more enjoyable experience. Following these principles will allow you keep enjoying outdoor places into the future.

leave no trace
CENTER FOR OUTDOOR ETHICS

LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPLES

1. Plan ahead and prepare.
2. Travel and camp on durable surfaces.
3. Dispose of waste properly.
4. Leave what you find.
5. Be careful with fire.
6. Respect wildlife.
7. Be considerate of others.

To learn more about leaving no trace when you are recreating, visit the Leave No Trace website: www.lnt.org

Plan Ahead
TO VISIT FORT ORD

You and your family plan to visit the Fort Ord National Monument. But, before you leave for your journey, you need to unscramble the words to the right in order to pack the items needed for your trip!

HINT: Words found at the bottom of this page will help you with this word scramble!

Word Scramble

sahrt agb _____ _____

doof _____

apm _____

strif dia itk _____ _____ _____

tawer _____

mercaa _____

teckaj _____

eenrcsuns _____

eonph _____

larsnocubin _____

WORD SCRAMBLE WORD CHOICES: map, binoculars, first aid kit, camera, phone, jacket, sunscreen, food, water, trash bag

FORT ORD NATIONAL MONUMENT

Native
PLANTS & ANIMALS

The Bureau of Land Management currently protects 7,200 acres of land. To give you an idea of how big that is, let's compare the size of the Monument to a football field. One acre is equal to one football field, so the current size of the Fort Ord Monument is the same size as 7,200 football fields. That is a good amount of open space.

When the military base closed, the BLM was asked to manage the remainder of the land as a habitat area. This land is very important to the survival of sensitive plants and animals that are in some cases only found on Fort Ord. There are 44 different species of endangered and rare plants and animals that live at Fort Ord National Monument.

See how many of the 25 plants and animals you can find in the word search found on the following page.

CALIFORNIA TIGER SALAMANDER
POISON OAK
DEER
COAST HORNED LIZARD
SAND GILIA
COYOTE
LUPINE
MONTEREY SPINE FLOWER
BOBCAT
MANZANITA
RATTLE SNAKE
MOUNTAIN LION
POPPY
WILLOW
BADGER
COAST LIVE OAK
FIDDLENECK
QUAIL
WHITE YARROW
BARN OWL
SNAKE
SUNCUP
BLACK SAGE
REDTAIL HAWK
STICKY MONKEY FLOWER

Word Search

Find the native plants and animals of
Fort Ord from the list to the left.

K F C G M P W H I T E Y A R R O W I L L O W J L T
C Q O I T R E W A Y P N T E Y U O Z J T E W X B H
E R A Y I O U T R P D X W Q Y M A T I N A Z N A M
N J S U R E W M O U N T A I N L I O N V H T R U O
E Q T S W V B P T T Y I O P K J L N V N B T R W N
L A L X T Y I O O P L J H G N V Y R O P C A Z B T
D B I R E R T I Y B O B C A T P F V M M U I O P E
D Q V A S D B S K L B A R N O W L S U R E Q R T R
I W E T Y O T O N J K M T H Y U K O E P M B E J E
F H O T E K A N S Q B N M U O R Y E I O P E G Q Y
X F A L G Y C O A S T H O R N E D L I Z A R D P S
S E K E T Y U A I O P L K J H G F C U V N M A C P
A S D S G H U K K I N J P K H D E W R P G J B U I
W E R N S A N D G I L I A V B T M Q U A I L C K N
Z E T A H J U K I L O P B N O F T R S E T N E W E
E R G K R T Y J O P B C E Y W A Z C V B U P E Y F
Q W R E W O L F Y E K N O M Y K C I T S B H J K L
A Q W E R G Y J K U I C P U P L F M B N V C X A O
E G A S K C A L B C R D S T E Y H K L O P L P U W
A S T R W E A Y H K P I R E D T A I L H A W K L E
C A L I F O R N I A T I G E R S A L A M A N D E R

FORT ORD NATIONAL MONUMENT

SALAMANDERS NEED *Vernal Pools*

Salamanders begin life in the water. They hatch from eggs and are born with gills. It takes about 3 months for a salamander to develop lungs. This is about the same time that the pool it was born in dries up. Salamanders spend their summers (the dry season) in empty burrows. When the rain begins to fall (during the winter), the salamanders will travel (at night) back to the pools.

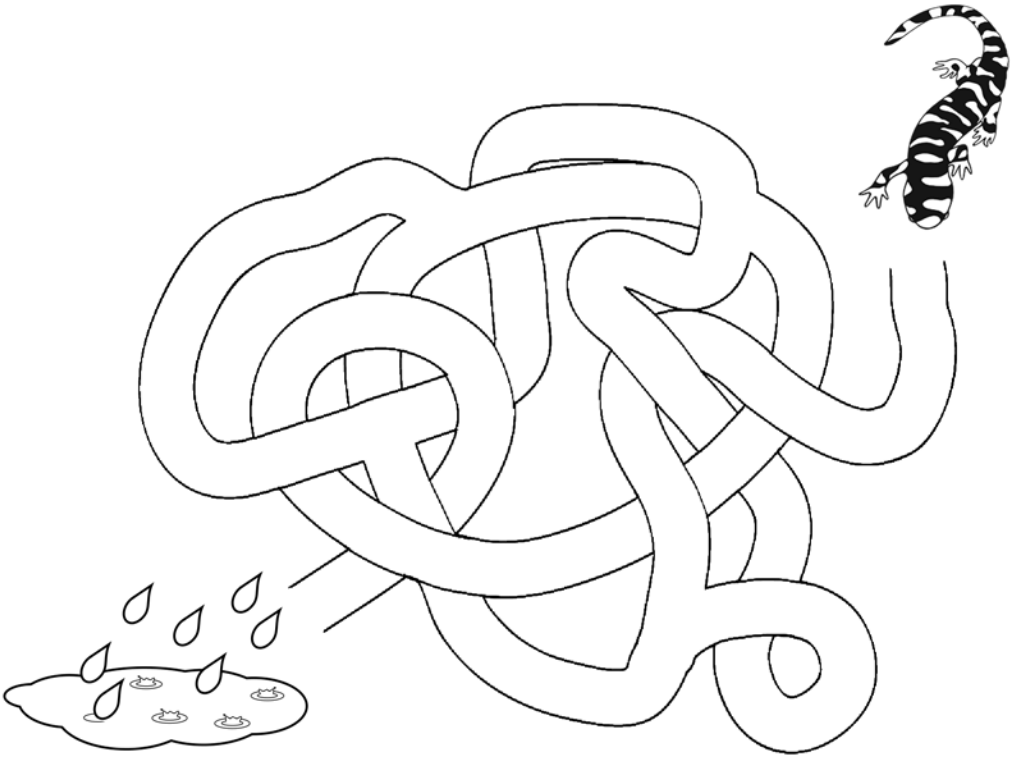
The California Tiger Salamander is a threatened species. This means that there aren't very many of them left. This salamander's habitat is special, and changes to its habitat can limit how many salamanders there are. Humans often build where salamanders live (vernal pools), weather can determine if a pool will form, and adding different animals (fish) to the pool can all affect the survival of the California Tiger Salamander.

What is a vernal pool?

A vernal pool is a body of water that appears after a wet, rainy winter—kind of like a giant mud puddle. Since vernal pools only get their water from the rain (no rivers or streams feed into them), they dry up in the summertime. The soil under the vernal pools are cemented together by small particles of clay. This means that water cannot pass through, and the area can hold water for several months. Once the weather becomes warm, the water will evaporate and the vernal pools look like a grassy field. Only animals that need water for just a part of their life cycle can live in vernal pools. Because the pools do not have fish, they are a great place for salamanders to raise their young.

Maze

Help Calvin the California Tiger Salamander find the vernal pool.

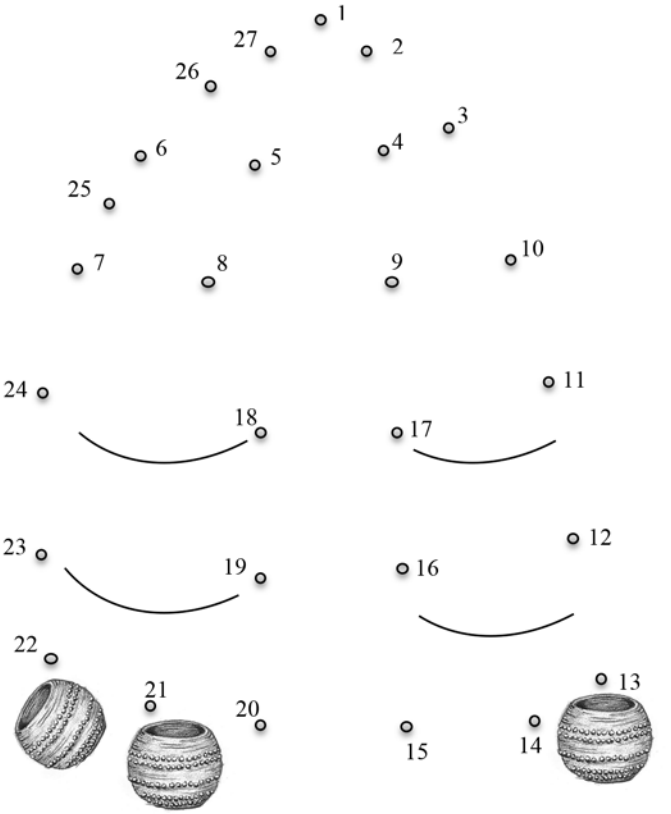


FORT ORD NATIONAL MONUMENT

Ohlone
CALIFORNIA INDIANS

Fort Ord National Monument wa
home to the Ohlone California
Indians. They lived in simple dom
shaped homes made of tule
(say 'too-lee') reeds.

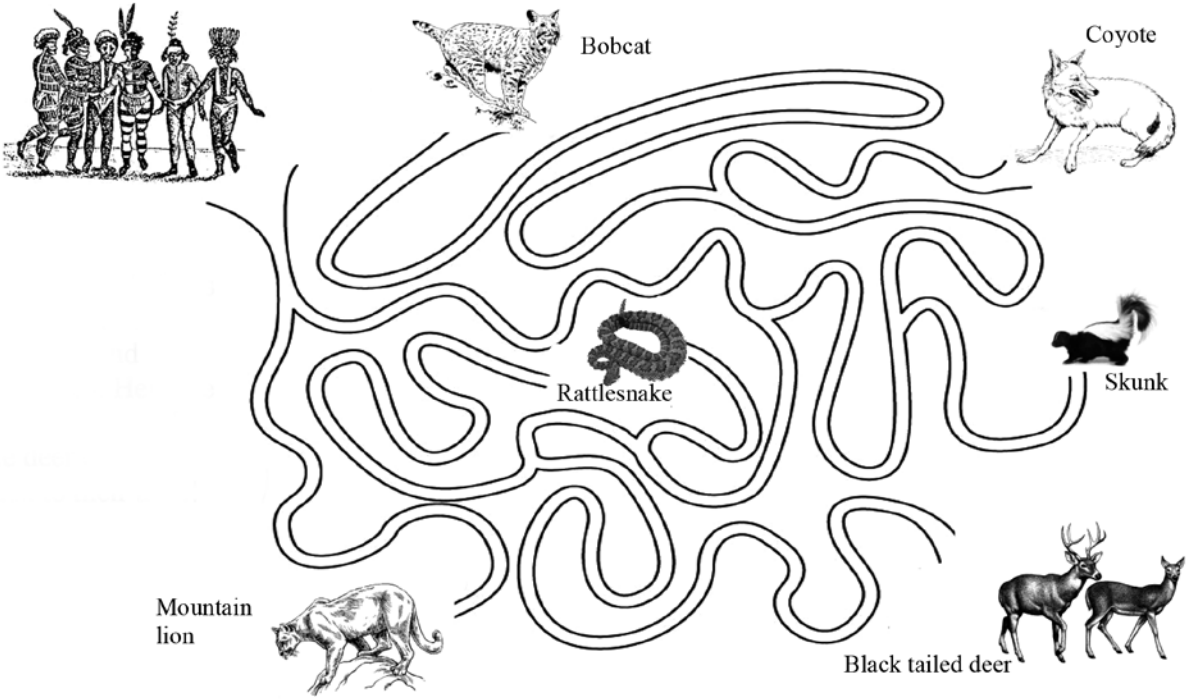
Connect the dots to see what
their homes looked like!



What does your home look like?
Draw it here.

Maze

Ohlone Indians were animal hunters, plant gatherers, and fishermen. Help these Ohlone hunters get to the deer to bring back to their tribe.



FORT ORD NATIONAL MONUMENT

Anza
EXPEDITION

On October 23, 1775, Juan Bautista de Anza and about 240 settlers left the Tubac Presidio, Mexico, in search of a better life. These explorers had no guarantee that they would arrive at their destination, Alta California. However, it was a risk they were willing to take.

Journals kept by Anza and by a Franciscan priest Pedro Font recorded the details of this epic journey. These two journals document dates, distances traveled, places visited, and people encountered. Without these journals, the details of this journey would never be known.

On June 27, 1776, the expedition arrived in what is now called San Francisco.

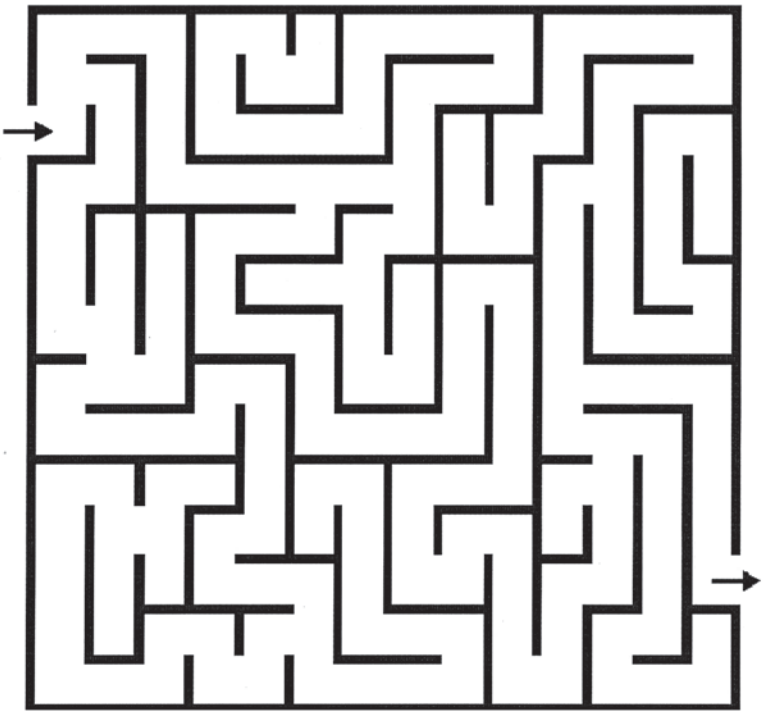
The Anza Expedition changed the course of California history. Today visitors can experience part of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail at Fort Ord National Monument.

Junior Explorer Field Guide

JOIN THE ADVENTURE

Maze

Help Juan Bautista de Anza and the settlers find an overland route to Alta California!



FORT ORD NATIONAL MONUMENT

FORT ORD
Military History

In 1917 the U.S. Army purchased 15,000 acres to use as a training field. It was known as the Gigling Reservation, named after a local German family that had emigrated to America many years before and owned a local ranch.

By 1938, the training field was re-named Camp Ord in honor of Major General Otho Edward Cresap Ord, a Union Army officer during the American Civil War. Camp Ord was used by horse cavalry units until the military started using motorized equipment.

In 1940, Camp Ord was re-designated Fort Ord and was established as a permanent Army post. For the next 50 years, Fort Ord was a "Basic Training" area for Army soldiers. During the 1950s and 1960s, Fort Ord was a staging area for troops leaving for war. At one time there were 50,000 troops on the grounds. This is more people than the cities of Marina and Monterey combined!

Fort Ord continued to serve as a training and staging area for several decades until 1994 when it was officially closed. The base closure was one of the largest closures during that time.

Fill in the Blank

Complete each sentence after reading
the history to the left.

1. The training field was known as _____ Reservation
2. Camp Ord was used by _____ until the military started using motorized equipment.
3. At one time there were _____ troops on the grounds.
4. In _____Fort Ord was officially closed.
5. By 1938 the training field was re-named _____ .
6. In _____ the U.S. Army purchased _____ acres to use as a training field.
7. Major General Otho Edward Cresap Ord was a Union Army officer during the _____ .
8. In 1940 Camp Ord was re- designated _____ and was established as a permanent _____ post.

Outdoor Art
LEARNING TO FOCUS

1. Take a walk outside and find a comfortable place to sit—maybe under a tree or out in the sun. While you sit quietly look around you—what do you see? Perhaps a dog is walking with its owner or a bird is getting a drink or taking a bath in a puddle. In the space below quickly sketch a scene that you see. Make this a rough sketch, don't worry about detail yet.

For Younger Children:
Use pencils and crayons to draw and color what things you are seeing and hearing in nature. What colors do you see? What sounds do you hear? If you hear a bee buzzing, draw a bee.

2. Next, with one hand put your last four fingers onto your thumb in a circular shape, creating a hole with your fingers. Now hold this up to your eyes to look through—like using 1/2 a pair of binoculars (called a "monocular"). Use your monocular to focus on one thing within the scene you sketched above. Study this one thing for a few moments very carefully. Use the space below to draw what you've focused on and use as much detail as you can in your drawing.

3. What happened when your focus went from a rough sketch to a more detailed drawing? Did your concentration change? When you were making your rough sketch did your mind take in more details like sounds, smells, or other activity around you? What about when you were focusing on one object in more detail—were you aware of the same sounds and distractions or did your focus strengthen your powers of concentration?

MY NATURE *Journal*

Today's date is: _____

The time is: _____

What is the weather like? _____

_____

Where are you? Describe the location. _____

_____

What do you see? _____

_____

What do you smell? _____

_____

What do you hear? _____

_____

What can you touch? How does it feel? _____

_____

What else is special about where you are and what you are doing? (For example, if other people are around you, what are they doing?)

_____

Draw some of the things you have observed (leaves, trees, animals, people).

Now on a separate piece of paper, take a few minutes to write a short story about your nature observations. Your story can be fiction or non-fiction.

Bureau of Land Management

Junior Explorer

As a Bureau of Land Management Junior Explorer,
I promise to:

do all I can to help preserve and protect the natural and cultural resources on our public lands,

be aware of how my actions can affect other living things and the evidence of our past,

keep learning about the importance of nature and our heritage, and

share what I have learned with others!

_____ _____

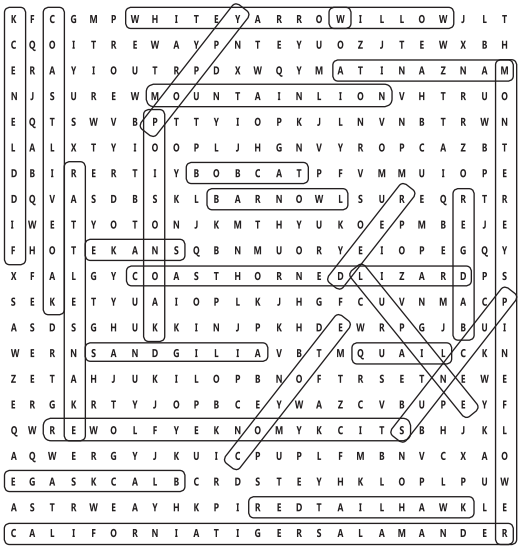
Date Explorer Signature

ANSWER *Key*

Page 3

- trash bag
- food
- map
- first aid kit
- water
- camera
- jacket
- sunscreen
- phone
- binoculars

Page 5



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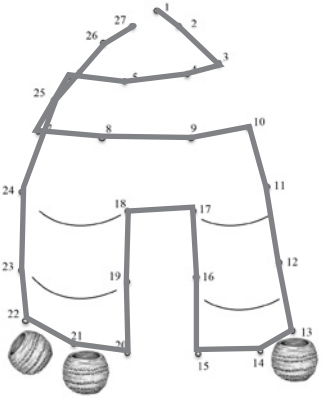

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ANSWER Key *(continued)*

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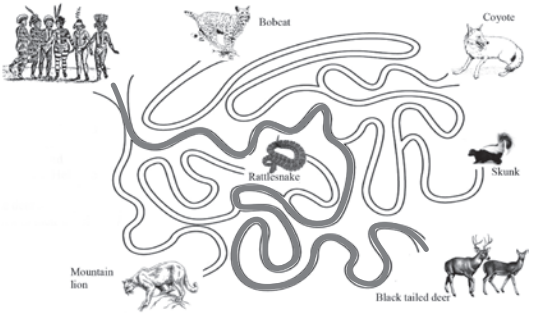

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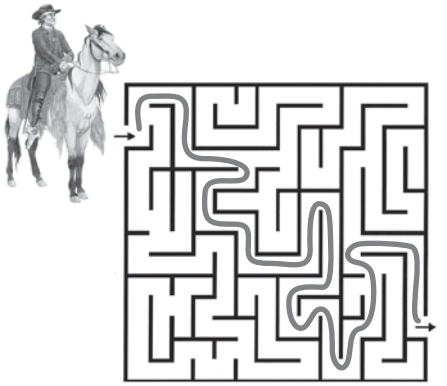

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1: 7, Division

2: Camp

3: Horse

4: 1917; 15,000

5: Gigling

6: 1940, Fort Ord

7: 50,000

8: training

9: 7

10: Fort Ord, closed, largest

FORT ORD
Native Plants

Tidy tips

Poppies & Lupine

Goldfields

Baby blue-eyes

Fiddleneck

Shooting star

Black sage

Bureau of Land Management

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