Bureau of Land Management

Junior Explorer

JOIN THE ADVENTURE

Activity Book

San Juans Islands National Monument

CELEBRATE THE OUTDOORS!

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages public land – the land belongs to YOU. The BLM follows the principle of multiple use which means the lands are used in different ways. In the San Juan Islands, the land uses are primarily recreation and environmental protection; hunting & fishing are also allowed.

You can help BLM Lands stay healthy in many ways - this activity book will help you learn how to care for your public land. By completing this book, you will also earn your BLM Junior Ranger Badge while having fun!

When you have finished the activities in this book, give it to a BLM employee for review. If you need help completing any activities, ask a family member, friend, or BLM employee.

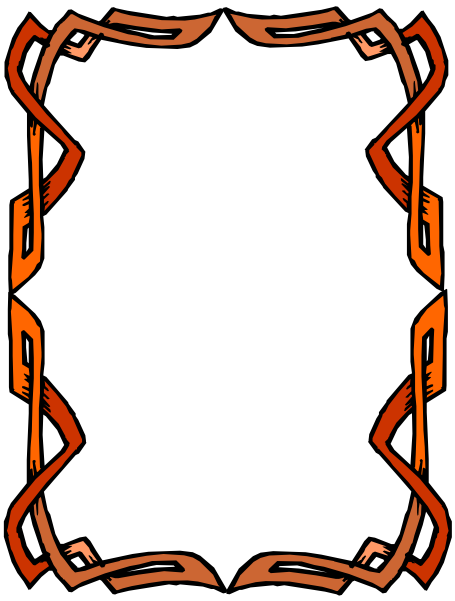
NAME:

BIRTHDAY:

HOMETOWN:

BLM LAND VISITED:

Draw or tape a picture of yourself in the frame below:



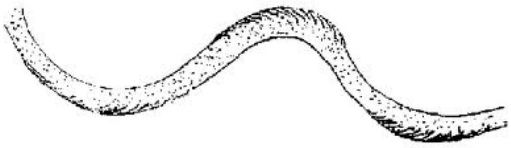
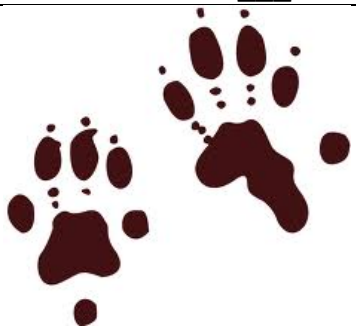
Hi! I'm Sammy, the Salish Sea River Otter, and I'll be your partner as you explore the outdoors!

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
San Juan Islands National Monument
PO Box 3, Lopez Island WA 98261
Tel: 360-468-3754

Looking for animal tracks is fun!

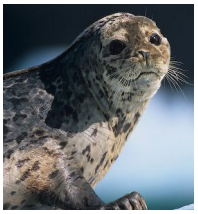
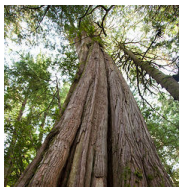
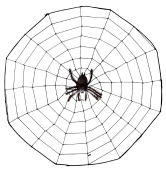
ANIMAL TRACKS

When hiking in the outdoors, you are visiting the homes of many animals, so be a polite guest and tread softly! Staying on trails is a great way to help animals by leaving them undisturbed. Can you match the animal with its unique footprint?

Black-Tailed Deer:___	Garter Snake:___
Great Blue Heron:___	River Otter:___
Meadow Vole:___	Wild Rabbit:___
 A.	 B.
C.	D.
E.	F.

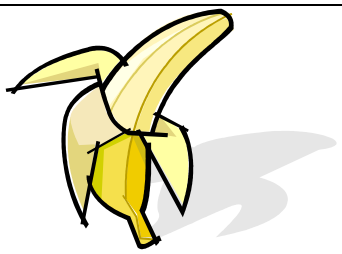
TRAIL BINGO

Explore BLM lands and find five items that create a horizontal, vertical, or diagonal row for B-I-N-G-O!

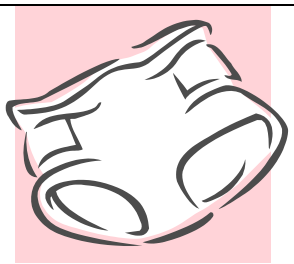
Douglas Fir Cone	Stonecrop	 Harbor seal	Steamer clam shell	Natural erosion
Glaucous-winged gull	Bull thistle (invasive)	***Hi there!*** Kayak	BLM Trail Rules Sign	 Cedar Tree
Woodpecker holes	Butterfly	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT FREE	Dog on leash	Lichen
Western buttercup	Garter snake	Wild animal tracks	Olympic or Cascade Mountains	Great Blue Heron
Alder tree	Agate rock	 Spider web	Salal	Driftwood

HOW LONG DOES IT LAST?

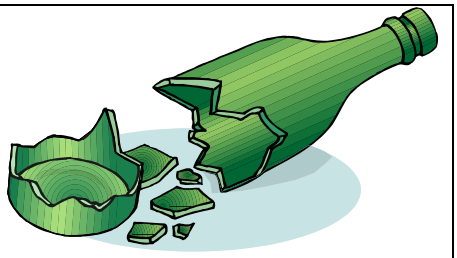
Match each item with the letter below representing the amount of time it takes for the material to decompose.



BANANA PEEL:____



DISPOSABLE DIAPER:____

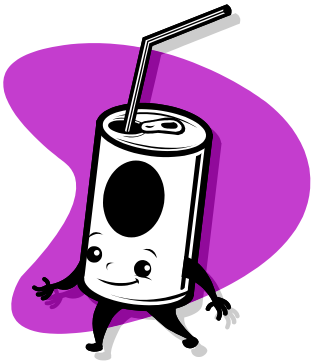


GLASS BOTTLE:____

LEATHER:____

PLASTIC HOLDERS FROM A 6-PACK OF SODA:____

CIGARETTE BUTT:____



ALUMINUM CAN:____

WOOL:____

HARD PLASTIC:____

TIMES:

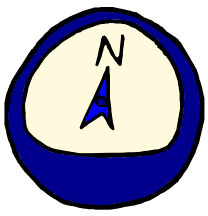
A. Up to 2 years
B. 1-5 years
C. 1-5 years
D. 15-20 years
E. 20- 30 years
F. 80-100 years
G. 1,000,000 years
H. 100 years
I. 1-5 years

Keep up the great work, explorers!

Good job paying attention to your surroundings!

WHERE ARE YOU?

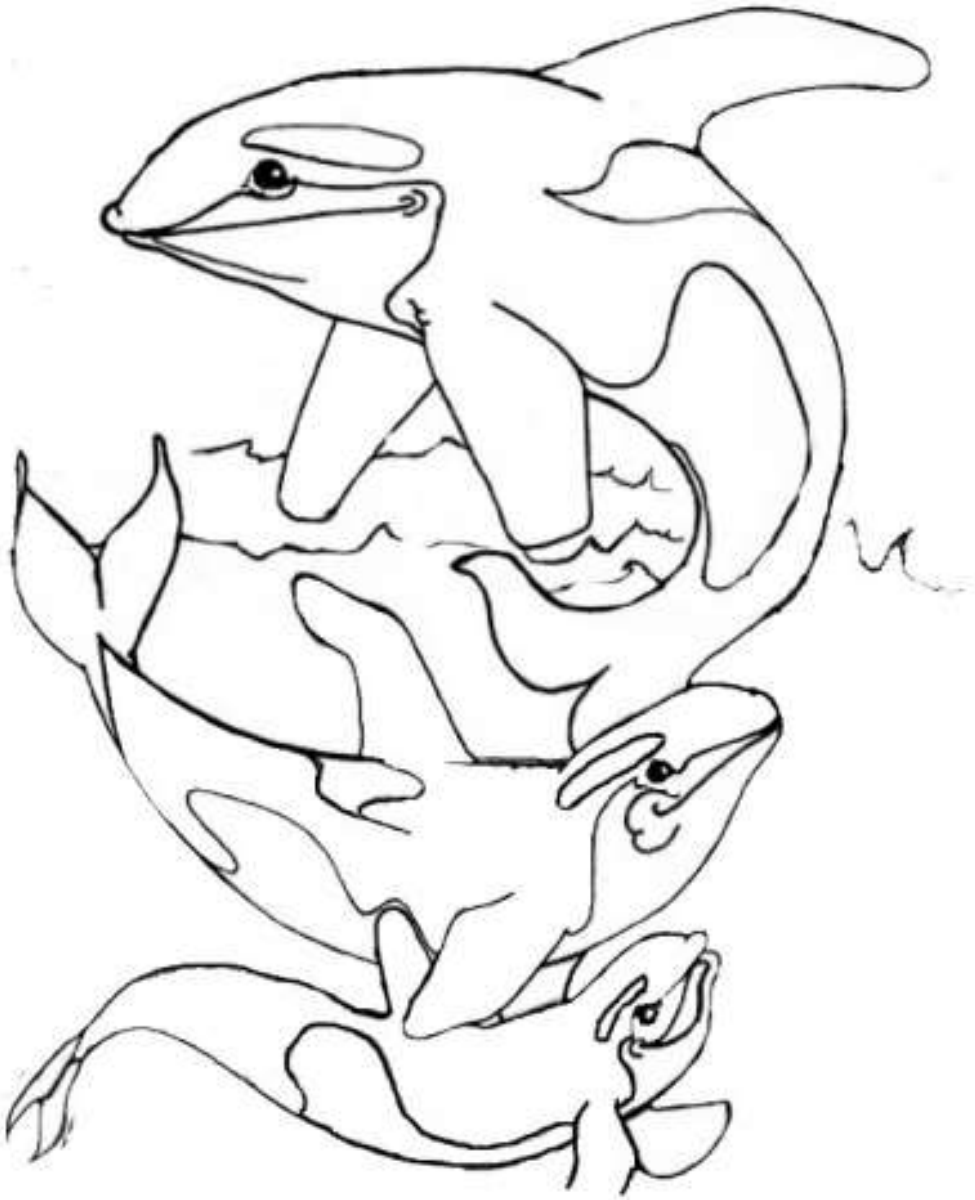
Use the space below to draw a map showing where you are and the path you took to get there. Include any interesting landmarks you noticed along the trail. Notice the North Arrow in the bottom corner – try to give your map the most accurate orientation possible. If the sun is out, it can help you get your bearings!



ORCA WHALES

Orca whales frequently pass through the local waters hunting and playing. While hiking on BLM lands, be sure to keep an eye on the surrounding waters for these majestic whales.

Color the image below & enjoy reading the trivia!



ORCA WHALE

Did you know the orca whale can swim up to 30 miles per hour? Normal speed is 6 to 10 miles per hour. Humans are the only predator and enemy of the orca.

How fast can you run? _____ Walk? _____ Swim? _____

DOG TRAILS

Bringing your best friend outside on public lands can be fun, but help keep our lands, oceans, and wildlife healthy. Fill out the phrases below using words from the list provided and test your doggie etiquette!

1) Giardia is a parasite that is commonly found in dog poop that can also infect humans and harbor _ _ _ _ _ and cause _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

2) Savannah _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ nest in the grass and are easily disturbed and harmed when dogs run off-leash.

3) Remember there are other _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ to the land who might be afraid of dogs – be respectful and _ _ _ _ _ your dog.

4) Dog poop often has the same _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ as human poop – such as E. coli & salmonella - and can be harmful to human health.

5) It's fun to _ _ _ _ in the water and _ _ _ _ on the trails – but it's not safe, healthy, or fun if there is dog poop there!

WORD LIST:

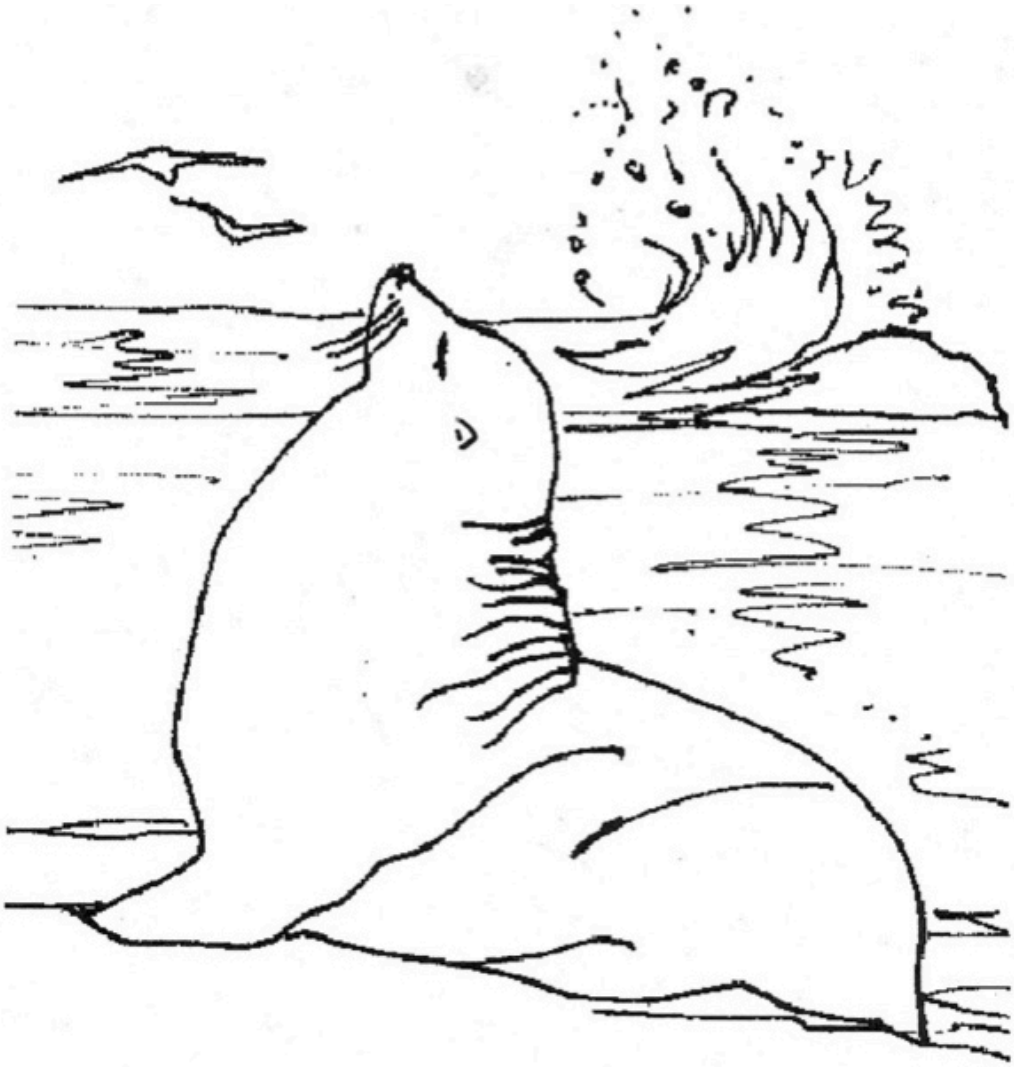
WHALES
LEASH
HIKE
SWALLOWS
SEALS
RESPECT
STRETCH
DIARRHEA
SMILES
SPARROWS
DUMP
BACTERIA
VISITORS
SWIM

Thanks for keeping the water that I live in clean!

PACK IT IN, PACK IT OUT!

SEA LIONS

Sea lions are highly social and can be seen at different haul-out sites around the San Juan Islands, sun-bathing and barking at each other.
Color the image below & enjoy reading the trivia!



STELLAR (NORTHERN) SEA LION

Did you know the Stellar Sea Lion is the largest of the eared seals? Females grow to 660 pounds, males to as much as 2500 pounds. These sea lions are usually pale yellow in color. The Stellar Sea Lion is a threatened species.

How much do you weigh?_____ How many of your friends would it take to weigh 660 pounds?_____ 2500 pounds?_____

LOOKING AT THE PAST

Coast Salish peoples have traveled through, lived and camped in the San Juan Islands for thousands of years. Archaeological research shows there were Native Americans at Watmough Bay on Lopez Island as early as 550 BC.

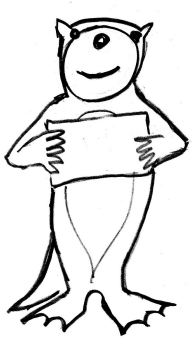
Below are some island plants & animals and descriptions of how native tribes used them.
Choose 3 of the items listed below and write how they have been a part of ***your*** life.

CEDAR TREE: MANY USES
Wood used to make houses, totem poles, canoes; roots used to make baskets; bark used for clothing and baby diapers

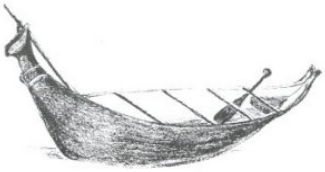
SURF SCOTER: FOOD
Other food sources:
butter clams, double-crested cormorants, salmon, herring, halibut, yampa plant, salmonberries, Hooker's onion, Great camas

YARROW: MEDICINE
Other plants with medicinal value:
Indian consumption plant, stinging nettle, juniper tree, skunk cabbage

1)_____
_____
2)_____
_____
3)_____
_____



What would your role or job be if you were a member of a Coast Salish family?_____
_____
_____



COAST SALISH CANOE

TIDEPOOLS

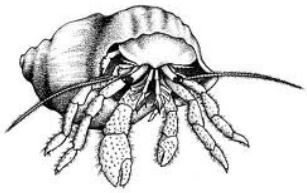
At low tide, you can see some amazing creatures that are usually hidden under water.

Draw an arrow from the marine animals in column A to the food they eat in column B. You might need to draw more than one arrow for some animals.

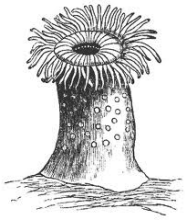
Oooh, look!

Column A

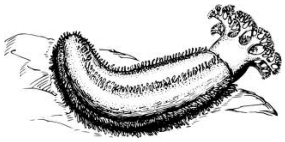
ochre sea star



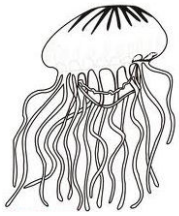
hermit crab



sea anemone



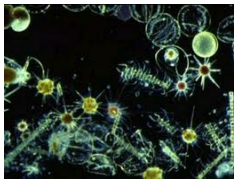
sea cucumber



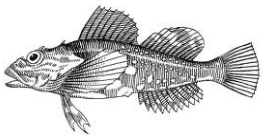
jellyfish

Column B

shrimp



plankton



sculpin

mussel

algae

When tide-pooling, remember you are an alien visitor glimpsing the ocean's wonders! If you must touch, wet your hands, be gentle, and always replace rocks and creatures just as you found them.

USING YOUR SENSES

Look around you and find an object you like or that you want to investigate further. Draw a picture of your object in the circle.

Use your other senses to find out more about it (but no need to taste it). How does it feel? Sound? Smell?

In the final box, write something that you wonder about regarding your object.

FEEL

SOUND

SEE

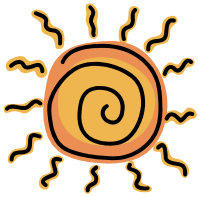
SMELL

I WONDER ABOUT...

LEAVE NO TRACE

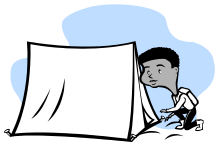
Following are "Leave No Trace" ideas that share ways to be kind to nature & some related questions to get you thinking!

Know before you go: Why is it important to do some research before you take a hiking or camping trip?



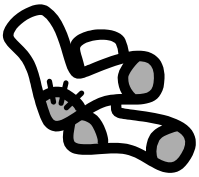
_____
_____
_____
_____

Choose the right path: How does it help surrounding plants and wildlife when you stick to established routes and camp in established campsites?



_____
_____
_____
_____

Pack it in, pack it out: Why is it important to take all trash, leftover food, and litter with you?



_____
_____
_____
_____

Leave what you find: Why is it best to look at and photograph, but not remove, artifacts, plants, feathers, or other natural objects that you find?

_____
_____
_____
_____

RIVER OTTERS

River otters can live in both freshwater and ocean environments. Color the image below & enjoy drawing & reading the trivia!

River otters like me, Sammy, enjoy sliding into water on our bellies, swimming, and diving! Draw a picture of yourself enjoying one of your favorite water games or activities below:

RIVER OTTER

Did you know river otters are in the weasel family? River otters are the smallest marine mammals on Earth, averaging between 3 and 4 feet long. River otters have fur that is 2.5 inches thick, which insulates them and maintains warmth since they do not have blubber like other marine mammals. How thick is your hair? _____

FAVORITE TREE

Following are descriptions of some common trees on BLM land in the San Juan Islands. Find your favorite tree while you're outdoors. Draw your favorite tree & fill in the information about it.

DOUGLAS FIR: Common evergreen tree, leaves are flat, soft & completely encircle the branches; cones have funny shapes called "mouse-tails" hanging down between the scales

PACIFIC MADRONE: Broadleaf evergreen with orange-red bark that peels

WESTERN RED CEDAR: Evergreen tree with flat, scale-like leaves; branches droop; bark grows in long, thin fibers

RED ALDER: Deciduous broad-leaf tree; bark is mottled ashy-gray and smooth, often with moss growing on it; leaves have serrated edges & a point at the end

My favorite tree looks like this...	I think my tree is _____feet tall. I think my tree is _____ years old. If I hug my tree, my hands DO/DO NOT reach each other. I think these animals & insects live on or near my tree: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ My favorite thing about my tree is: _____ _____

THE ART OF STORYTELLING

Coast Salish Native Americans have told stories for thousands of years as a way to share knowledge, values, and information. Plus, it is fun and entertaining to hear other people's stories!

Use the space below to write a story or poem about your favorite experience in nature.

Thanks for sharing your thoughts!

JUNIOR EXPLORER QUIZ

Take the quiz & see how much you've learned! When you're done, give the booklet & quiz to a BLM worker to get your BLM Junior Explorer Badge.

1) You see some litter on the side of the trail. You:
   a) throw it into the bushes so no one will see it
   b) leave it where it is – someone else will pick it up
   c) wear gloves, pick it up, put it in a spare plastic bag that you always carry with you when you're hiking, and throw it away when you get home

2) While looking in a tide-pool, you see some fish and a sea star. You:
   a) decide not to touch the animals – you know they are fragile
   b) tell your friend to make sure her hands are wet when you see her reaching to pick up the sea star
   c) pick up the sea star, turn it on its back, and watch it squirm
   d) Both a & b
   e) eat the fish

3) It's the first day of summer and you are hiking on your favorite trail. You:
   a) sing loudly and run off the trail, climbing up moss-covered rocks
   b) walk quietly on the trail trying not to disturb wildlife or other visitors while counting how many bird songs you hear
   c) decide to have a snack and sit down in the middle of the trail to eat

4) You and your dog are taking a walk on public land. You always scoop your dog's poop because:
   a) you don't want anyone to step in it – YUCK!
   b) it might have bacteria that is unhealthy for wildlife & humans
   c) HA – you never clean up after your dog – it is too much work
   d) Both a & b

) You are camping with your family & find a beautiful bird feather. You:
   a) take it home and put it in a box
   b) leave it where it is so that other people can enjoy it, too
   c) burn it in the campfire

Nice work, Junior Explorer! I'll see you on the trails!

U.S. Department of the Interior
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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

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

BLM/OR/WA/GI-13/0048+1122.32