

Horseshoe Bend



Junior Ranger Booklet



Horseshoe Bend
National Military Park
Daviston, Alabama

Join Us!

What an excellent first step you've taken by requesting this booklet. As a Junior Ranger, you will have the opportunity to explore the park, have some fun, and learn about Horseshoe Bend National Military Park. When you've completed our program, you're invited to participate in another program at any of the other 380+ national parks across the United States, the Caribbean, and the South Pacific!



To become a Junior Ranger at Horseshoe Bend National Military Park, you must:

- ◆View the film *The Battle of Horseshoe Bend* available at the Visitor Center (20 minutes)
- ◆Complete the *Exhibit Exploration, Menawa's Escape, Battlefield Tour, and Animal Matching*
- ◆Read the last page of this book and make sure you are prepared to accept the terms of the promise you make to our National Parks
- ◆Come to the information desk at the Visitor Center and turn in this booklet to the ranger on duty for review

What Makes Us Special:

Maybe you didn't know you were coming to a National Park when you visited Horseshoe Bend National Military Park. The people of Alabama asked Congress to set this place aside in 1959 so that people from all over the world could come to Horseshoe Bend and see the place where a battle was fought and people gave their lives for their friends, families, and future.

Sometimes people come here today and want to play games on the battlefield or do other fun things on the land where the battle happened. This is not allowed for a simple reason: The battlefield is a place of the past and a place where nearly 1000 people died. It's not a place for fun. When you walk to the outdoor exhibits or explore the trails or Tour Road, be quiet and listen carefully. Imagine the sounds of cannon explosions and gunfire. When we watch war on television or in the movies, it is exciting - a real adventure. Remember it is also terrible - loud, smelly, and dangerous.

When you need to relax and run, use the area near the Visitor Center and Picnic Area to play games and be rowdy. We have special activities in this area in March and August when people demonstrate Creek crafts and culture or fire muskets and cannon like during the Battle. Sometimes we have other special programs here - children's camps, school visits, and more. Come back and see us again and again. That's what National Parks are for.

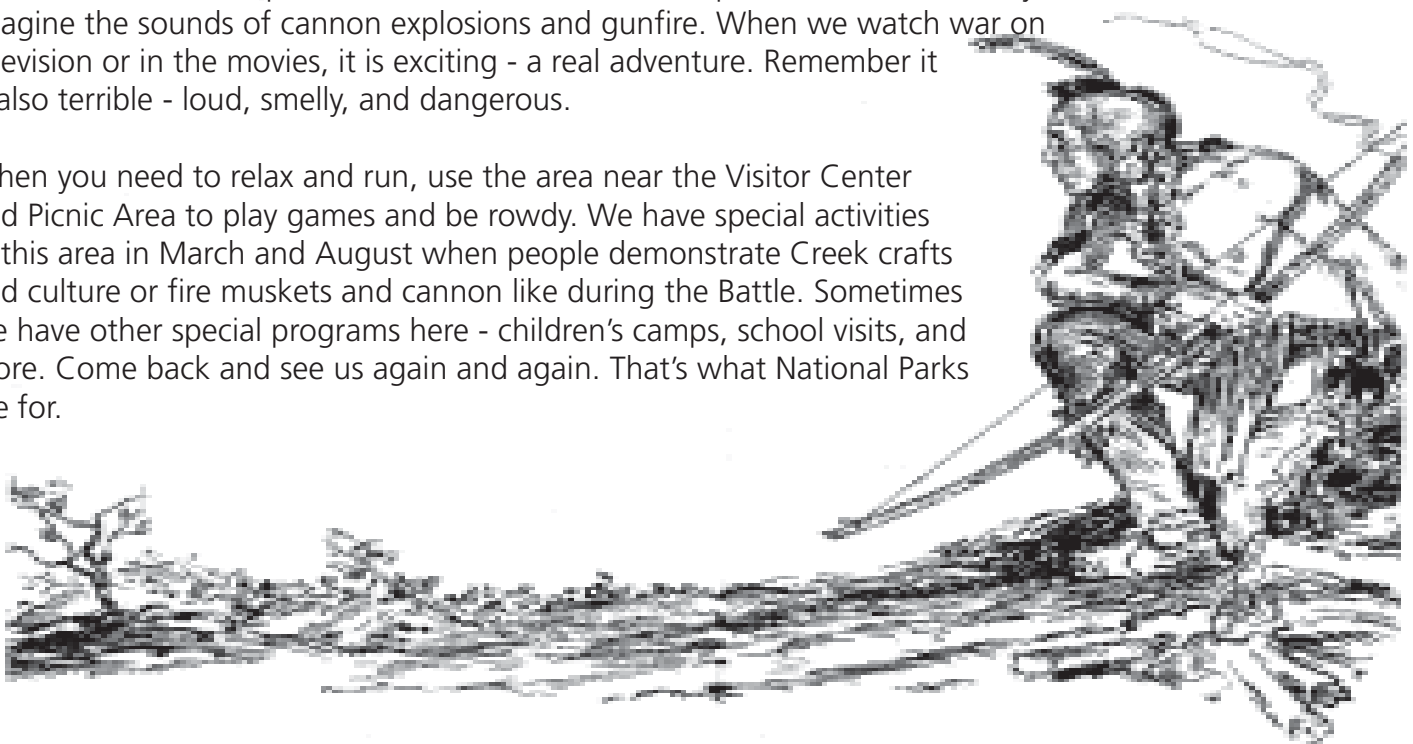


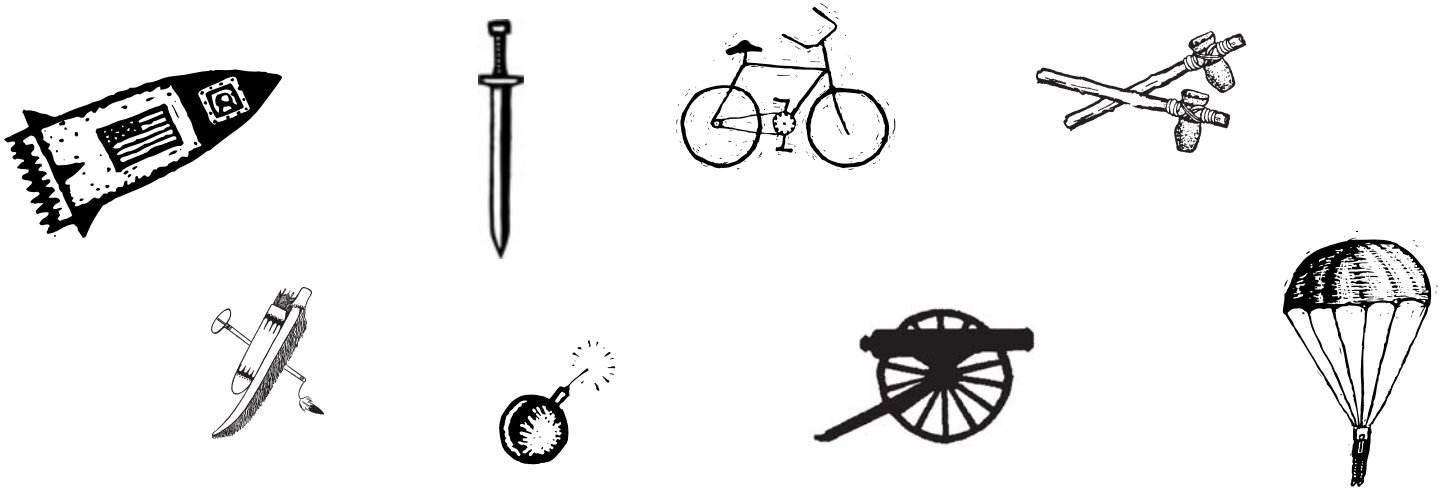
Exhibit Exploration

Visit the exhibits in the visitor center. Go slowly and examine the objects in the cases and read the words carefully.

Circle the pictures below of things the American Indians might have used here.

Draw a box around the pictures below of things the soldiers might have used here.

Make an X across the pictures below of things that neither Indians or soldiers would have used here in 1814.

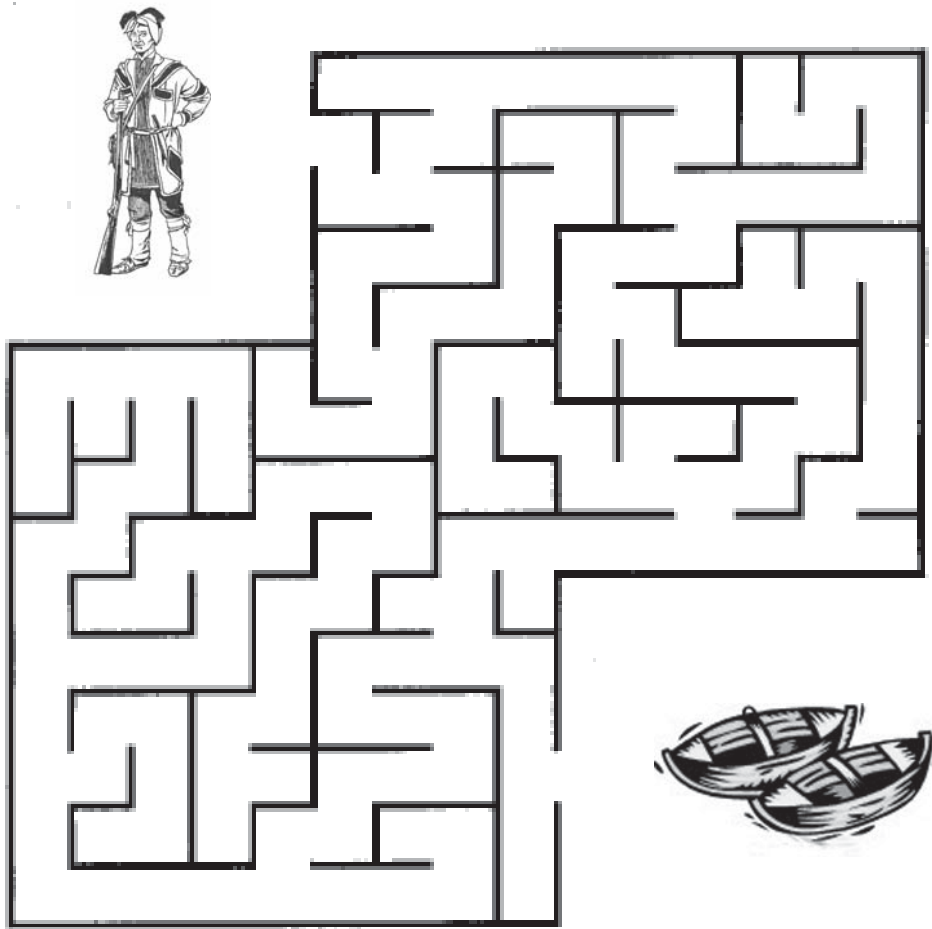


Now It's Your Turn

Using ideas from the exhibits, draw a picture of a weapon you might use to protect yourself and your family if you were in danger. Use your imagination to make up a new tool for safety.

Menawa's Escape

It's up to you to help Menawa make a safe escape down the Tallapoosa River. A brave leader of the Red Stick warriors of the Creek Nation, Menawa led 1000 men into battle here at Horseshoe Bend on March 27, 1814. He was wounded seven times during the fighting and made his escape in a canoe through icy cold waters. Help him find his way through the turns and rapids of this maze to get to his canoe.



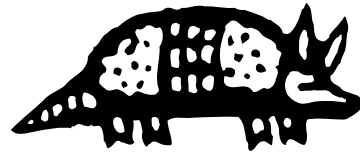
Your Trip to Safety

What is something you can do to stay safe when you are visiting Horseshoe Bend? Write or draw one thing you can do to be safe today.

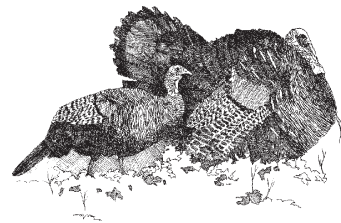
Animal Matching

The forests of Horseshoe are home to many different animals. The Creek Indians had a rich source of food, skins, and supplies to survive here. Match the name of some Horseshoe Bend wildlife to their pictures below by connecting them with a line. Then circle the pictures of animals that you have seen in the park.

Coyote



Deer



Armadillo



River Otter



Wild Turkey



Beaver



My Battlefield Tour

Finally! You can get outside and see where the Battle of Horseshoe Bend took place. As you travel the Tour Road, make sure to stop at each Tour Stop. Read each of the exhibits and examine the pictures on them. Look around you and image the scene on the exhibit happening - right there where you are standing. Now use your skills to either draw a picture or write some words that describe things at Tour Stops 1 through 4.



Your Choice: Draw a picture of the Tallapoosa River or write three words that describe the River today.



Your Choice: Draw a picture of the cannon used here or write three words that describe sounds and smells when a cannon is fired.

Your Choice: Draw a picture of a canoe used here or write three words that describe how it must feel to be in a boat on the water.



Your Choice: Draw a picture of the home of a Creek child in 1814 here at Horseshoe Bend or write three words that describe YOUR house.



And When You Get Home

Did you know you can visit all 380+ National Parks from your home? Better yet, you can plan a visit to the national park closest to your home by just going on the Internet. If you don't have a computer, get permission to use a computer at school or a public library to start your exploration of America's best.

To get starting on your exploration of National Parks:

- ◆Go online to ***<http://www.nps.gov>*** and become a WebRanger by clicking on *For Kids and Teachers*. Click on the link *To Become a WebRanger*
- ◆Return to ***<http://nps.gov>*** and find the national parks in your state
- ◆Find the national park closest to your house and visit it virtually at its website
- ◆Talk to your parents about visiting at least two parks within 50 miles of your house and participating in their Junior Ranger programs



Make It Your Own

Draw a picture of what you would like in your own National Park and give it a name.

Send us your picture at *Junior Rangers; Horseshoe Bend National Military Park; 11288 Horseshoe Bend Road; Daviston, Alabama 36256*. We'll post it on our website, along with your name and age. We'll return it to you with a special treat!

The Junior Ranger Promise

Congratulations! You have completed the requirements to become a Junior Ranger at Horseshoe Bend National Military Park. Please read over the Official Junior Ranger Promise. If you are prepared to accept the responsibility of serving as a Junior Ranger in the U.S. National Park Service, sign your name on the line below.



The final step: Take this booklet to the ranger on duty at the Visitor Center desk for review. You will receive a badge and certificate. Take this booklet home with you as a reminder of the importance of National Parks and your duty to all these special places as a National Park Service Junior Ranger.

I understand as a Junior Ranger, I must work to protect America's National Parks by:

1. Learning all I can about this and other National Parks so that I can tell others about them. I can learn about all units online at <http://www.nps.gov>
2. Putting litter in its place - even if it's not my litter.
3. Protecting plants and animals by not feeding, keeping, removing or stepping on them.
4. Protecting park artifacts such as arrowheads and pottery by leaving them where I found them.
5. Exploring and enjoying National Parks whenever I can.

(Signature)

(Year)

Make This National Park Your Own

Please visit us often. We are open every day of the year except Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. Keep in mind:

- ♦If you bring your pet, they must be on a leash while in the park.
- ♦You are welcome to bring your bicycle and ride the 3-mile Loop Road. Remember to wear a helmet and brightly colored clothing. Stay to the right side of the road. Bicycles are not allowed on the Nature Trail.
- ♦Stop by the information desk to see if we have anything you can do for us while in the park.