



# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICE OF GREENWAYS AND TRAILS



# FLORIDA OUTDOOR ACTIVITY BOOK



# Howdy!

With this activity book in your hands, you're already one step closer to protecting and preserving Florida's great outdoors. All around Florida you can find hiking trails, state parks, paddling trails and tons of nature-filled activities. If you're ready to gear up to explore Florida's natural beauty, this activity book is a great place to start. Happy Adventuring!

If you are completing this activity book at home;  
email a picture of a completed page to:

[OfficeofGreenwaysandTrails@FloridaDEP.gov](mailto:OfficeofGreenwaysandTrails@FloridaDEP.gov)

(Make sure to include a name and address for a prize!)

*This Outdoor Recreation  
Activity Book is  
brought to you by the  
Office of Greenways  
and Trails within the  
Florida Department of  
Environmental Protection.*

Visit [FloridaDEP.gov/OGT](http://FloridaDEP.gov/OGT)  
for more information.

## Let's go adventuring!

*If you're ready to help preserve our environment, learn all the ways you can play outside, and explore Florida's true beauty, you've come to the right place!*

**Your Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**What is your favorite outside activity? Draw or write below.**

Can you guess which animal left which tracks?



1. \_\_\_\_\_



2. \_\_\_\_\_



3. \_\_\_\_\_



4. \_\_\_\_\_



5. \_\_\_\_\_



6. \_\_\_\_\_



7. \_\_\_\_\_



8. \_\_\_\_\_



9. \_\_\_\_\_



10. \_\_\_\_\_



11. \_\_\_\_\_



12. \_\_\_\_\_



13. \_\_\_\_\_



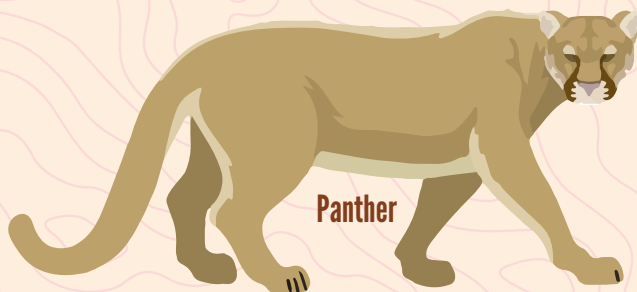
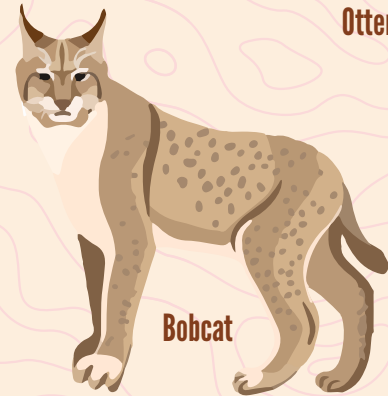
14. \_\_\_\_\_



15. \_\_\_\_\_

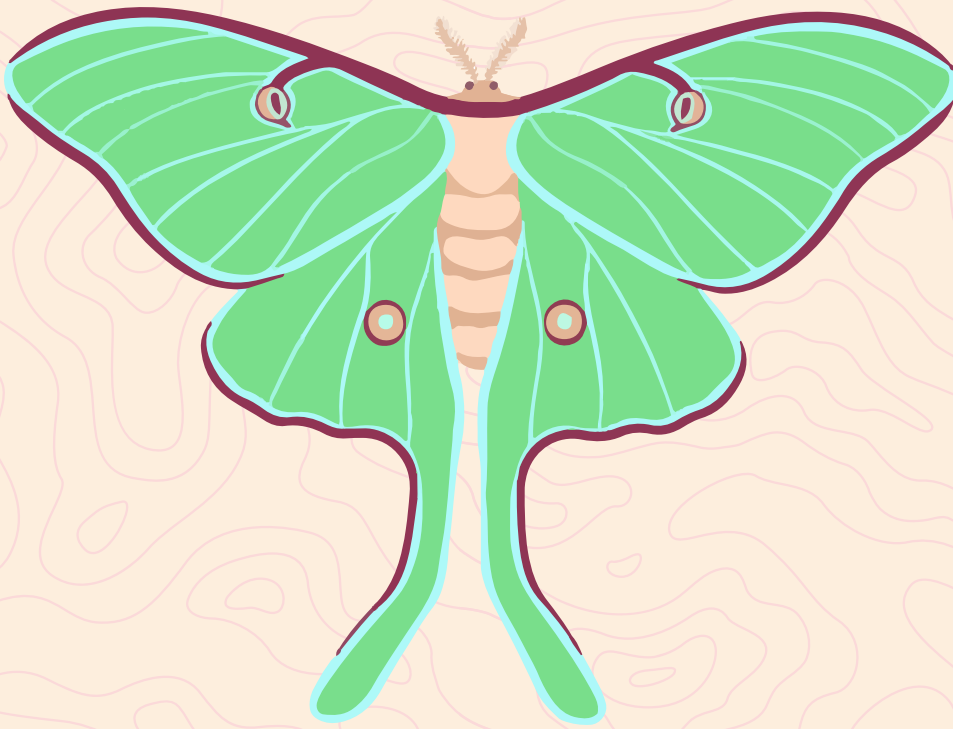






Florida's wildlife includes mammals like armadillos, black bears and panthers; reptiles such as alligators, turtles and snakes. Can you identify these wildlife tracks? Who knows, you might even find these tracks in the wild!

Head outdoors and look for these insects! Check them off as you find them.



The luna moth, which is unique to North America, begins its life as an extremely hungry caterpillar. This caterpillar feeds on the leaves of paper birch, walnut, hickory and sweet gum trees after hatching. The caterpillar constructs a cocoon after eating for almost a month. After spending three weeks inside the cocoon, the luna moth will emerge.

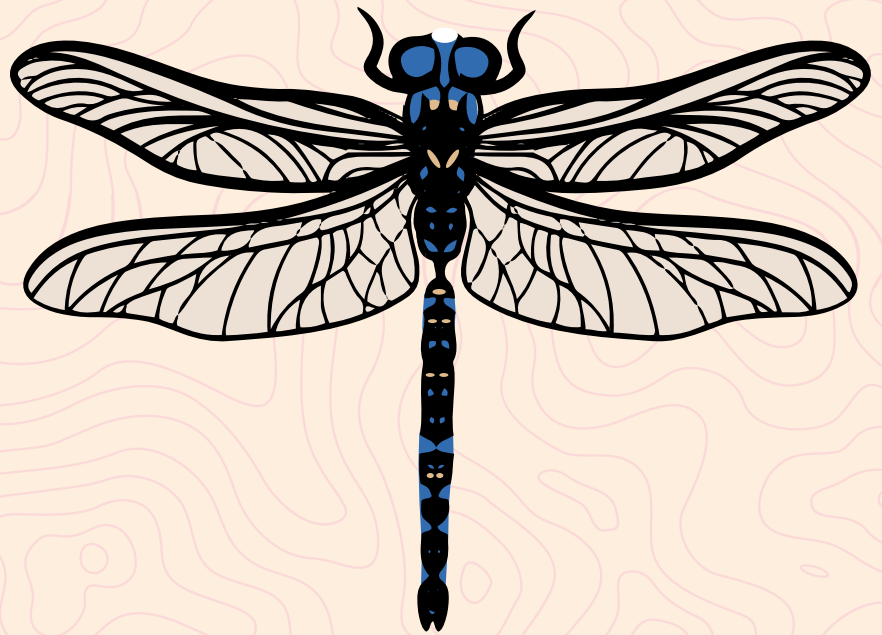


Luna Moth

Great blue skimmers prefer shady, shallow and still water rather than open sunny wetlands. They are not as aggressive as other skimmers, and you can usually spot them in a puddle after a summer rain. Both male and female skimmers have a white face and blue eyes yet differ in body color.



Great Blue Skimmer



This hoverfly likes flowers and looks like a bee, but can't sting! It mimics bees and wasps to avoid being eaten. Most have yellow and black stripes.



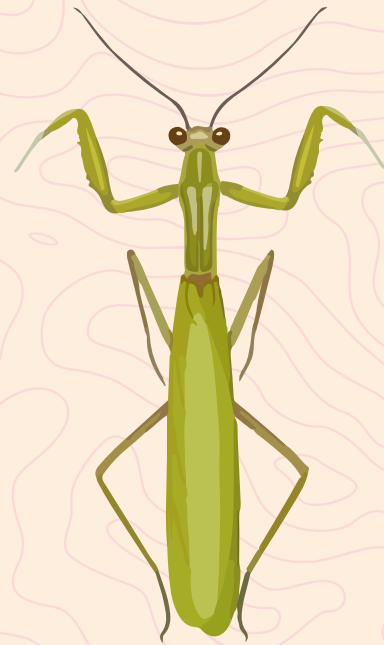
Hoverfly



As carnivores, a praying mantis' diet consists of insects and other small animals, like frogs and lizards. The praying mantis will blend in with its environment to catch its prey off guard. They are great hunters and are helpful in keeping pests away.



**Praying Mantis**



These are eating machines, can grow up to 1.5 inches. When in danger, the caterpillar raises its orange horn-like gland, releasing a stinky smell. They molt, or shed their skin, five times. Their colors change as they grow. Many spend the winter season as pupae, before finishing their transformation into butterflies in the spring.



**Black Swallowtail  
Butterfly Caterpillar**



All tiger beetles are predators. They are known for their aggression and running speed. The fastest species of tiger beetle can run at a speed of 5.6 mph. They have powerful jaws, called mandibles, which they use to hold and crush their prey. They have long legs, big eyes and a wide head. All are colorful.



**Tiger Beetle**





**Did you know Florida's state bird is a northern mockingbird? Florida also has a state flower, which is an orange blossom. Color it in!**



## Outdoor Recreation Word Search

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

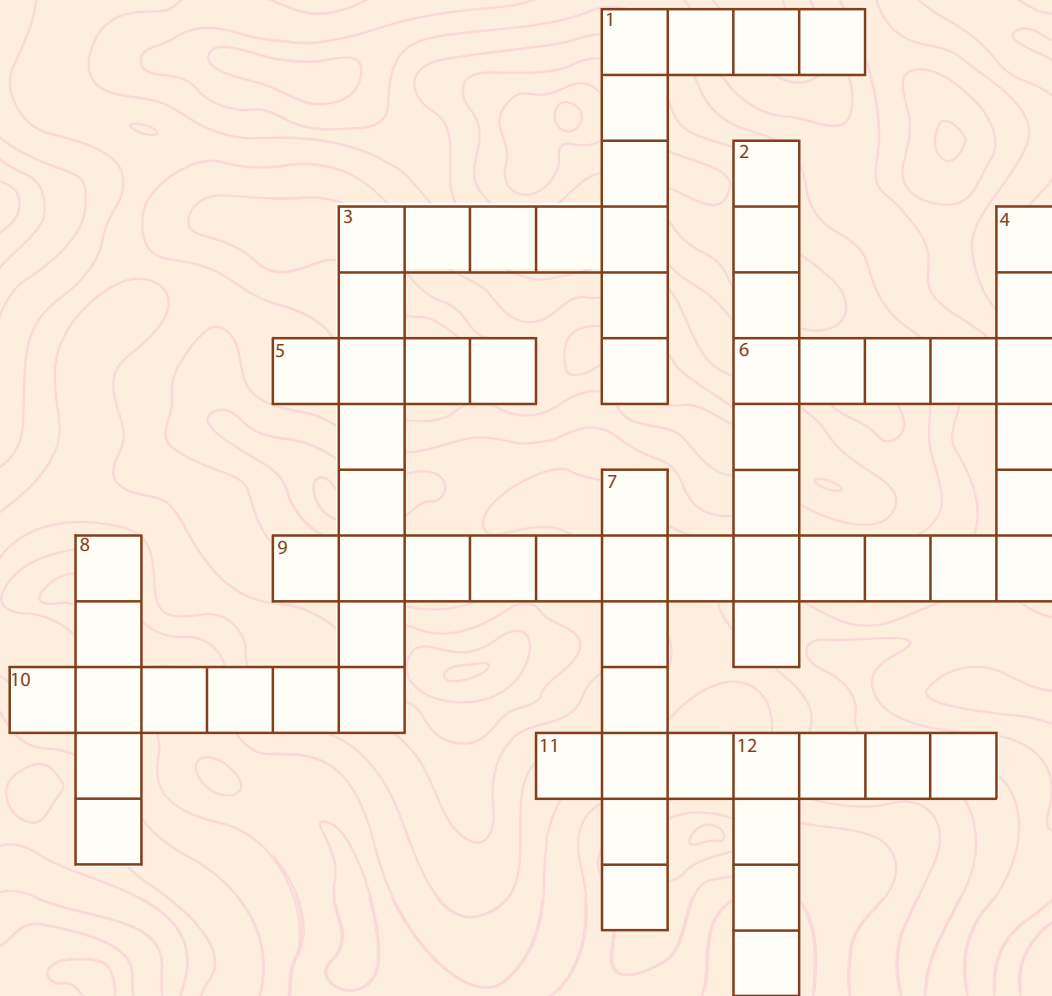
TREE  
TRAIL  
INSECTS  
BEACH  
WATER  
CAMPING

SAIL  
RECREATION  
HEALTH  
RUN  
FISHING  
LAKE

FITNESS  
BIKE  
SWIM  
RIVER  
WILDLIFE  
HIKE



## Outdoor Recreation Crossword



### Across

- 1** Act like a bass and go for a \_\_\_\_
- 3** Bring a bottle of this to stay hydrated on a hike
- 5** What you do at recess
- 6** A boat with a paddle but not a sail
- 9** Activity of watching blue jays in their natural habitat with binoculars
- 10** A camping trip is a good way to experience \_\_\_\_
- 11** Activity needing a rod and reel

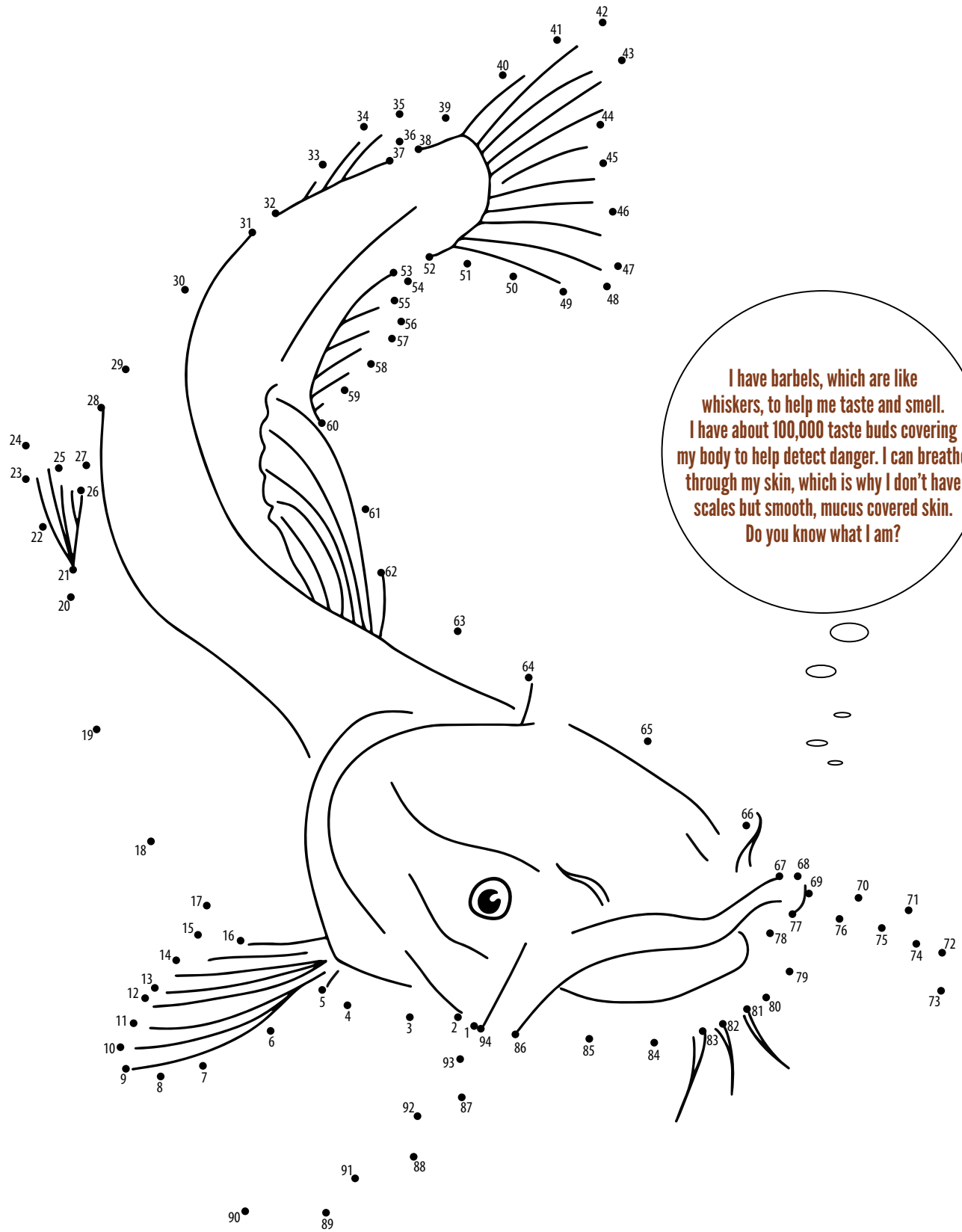
### Down

- 1** Basketball, soccer and tennis are all considered \_\_\_\_
- 2** You or an adult carry this on a hike
- 3** What do you call wild animals
- 4** Make sure you wear a helmet when you are \_\_\_\_
- 7** Sleeping out in a tent
- 8** Paved or dirt pathway
- 12** Walk on a trail or in a forest

There are 10 things that do not belong in a Florida State Park. Can you spot them?



## Connect the Dots: Take a Look at What you Hooked



Can you spot these 20 things in this nature scene?



- |                                   |                                     |                                       |                                       |                                    |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tadpoles | <input type="checkbox"/> Luna Moth  | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Marker | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbit       | <input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Turtle   | <input type="checkbox"/> Squirrel   | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Sign   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mushroom     | <input type="checkbox"/> Alligator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Egret    | <input type="checkbox"/> Woodpecker | <input type="checkbox"/> Oak Tree     | <input type="checkbox"/> Field Mouse  | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Owl      | <input type="checkbox"/> Fox        | <input type="checkbox"/> Cardinal     | <input type="checkbox"/> Lotus Flower | <input type="checkbox"/> Lily Pads |

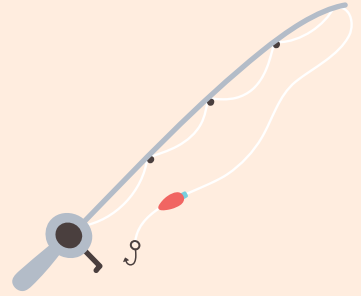
# Follow the Trail to the Picnic





## Match Each Activity with the Correct Equipment

Camping



Kayaking



Basketball



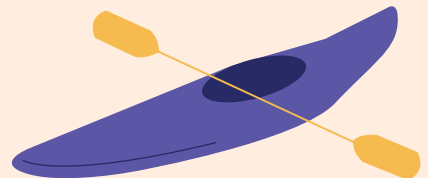
Biking



Fishing



Frisbee





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