

# FIND YOUR PATH!



Planning is an important part of having a fun and safe hike on a trail. Answer the questions below to help plan your hike!

**ABOUT YOUR TRAIL:** Using a park map or online at [ncparks.gov](http://ncparks.gov), pick a trail to hike and answer the questions about it below.

1. What park is your trail located in? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the name of your trail? \_\_\_\_\_
3. What type of trail is it? Check one:  Loop trail  One-way trail
4. How long is the trail? \_\_\_\_\_ miles
5. What is the difficulty of the trail? Check one:  
 easy  moderate  difficult

**TRAIL BLAZE:** A trail blaze is a symbol that can come in different colors and shapes. They mark a trail to let the hiker know they are following the correct trail. Each trail has a unique blaze. Blazes are located along the right side of the trail on trees or posts. The blaze for your selected trail can be found in the legend on the park map. Which blaze shape and color is assigned to your trail? Circle one and write the color:



Other (draw it):

Color: \_\_\_\_\_

**WEATHER:** Before you leave for your hike, it is always a good idea to check the weather forecast. What is the weather like? Circle one and write the temperature:



\_\_\_\_\_ °F

**BEFORE YOUR HIKE:** Go through the checklist to ensure you're ready for your hike!

- Use the bathroom
- Pack water
- Pack a snack
- Wear comfortable shoes
- Apply sunscreen and bug spray
- Dress for the weather
- Check that the trail is open



Acorns cached on this activity: \_\_\_\_\_



As you're hiking, answer the following questions to record what you observe.

**i NOTICE...** \_\_\_\_\_

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**i WONDER...** \_\_\_\_\_

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**IT REMINDS ME OF ...** \_\_\_\_\_

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**AFTER YOUR HIKE:** After your hike, go through the checklist below:

- Pack out everything you brought in (trash, personal belongings)
- Leave behind any natural objects you found (plants, animals, rocks, etc.)
- Check yourself for ticks
- Count the acorns you earned for the miles you hiked! (1 mile = 3 acorns)



Acorns cached on this activity: \_\_\_\_\_