



RACCOON

Brazos Bend Junior Naturalist



Funded by the Brazos Bend State Park Volunteer Organization

First Name - _____ Age - _____ Date - _____

Grab a park trail map from the Nature Center or Park Entrance. Take a moment to read "Trail Etiquette" on the back of your trail map (lower right). In your own words, what do the first 3 describe?

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

At your parks, it's important to stay on marked paths...we like to say "Stay, don't stray". What are some reasons why you think that is so important?

Write 2 reasons below

(hint: if you need, using only your eyes, look off the sides of the trail to see what's there. What could happen if you walked out there?)



Scavenger Hunt! - find these answers inside the Nature Center

Invaders!

- What are the three non-native animals mentioned here? 1) _____
 - 2) _____ 3) _____
 - How are they harmful to the area? ... _____
- _____

Floods of Renewal

When the Brazos River overflows, it floods Brazos Bend State Park.

- How are floods good for the land? _____
- _____

What's a wetland?

As you walk around the park, you will encounter large wetlands. What's the difference between the different wetlands:

- What is a swamp? _____
- What is a marsh? _____
- What is a lake? _____
- What is a river? _____

Let's learn about Alligators!

- Did you touch a hatchling alligator at the Nature Center? _____
- How did it feel? _____

Take a closer look

- How many toes do alligators have on their front feet? _____
- How many toes do alligators have on their back feet? _____

Visit the exhibit with the alligator skeleton and read the information panel:

- How many teeth do alligators have? _____
- How many sets of eyelids? _____
- How long can they hold their breath? _____



Wildlife is known by the types of food they eat; **herbivores** eat plants, **carnivores** eat meat and **omnivores** eat both plants and meat. Which do you think the alligator is? _____

Which are you? _____

Places like Brazos Bend are important to protect and conserve nature. Plants, animals, habitats, etc., all depend on these places to continue to thrive!

What is something you're going to do to help or protect Brazos Bend State Park and other natural places?

What was your favorite thing to see at Brazos Bend today? _____

Try drawing it here!

You did it, congratulations, you are a Jr. Naturalist!

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Return your completed form to the Nature Center or Park Entrance Headquarters to pick up your patch! We're excited to have you on our team of Jr. Naturalists!