

Search the St. Joe: Nature Bingo along the River



Many kinds of ducks and geese use the river year-round, or during spring and fall migration, feeding on plants, fish and insects.

The St. Joseph River is teeming with life, in and around the water. How many of these plants and animals can you find on a hike near the river? Visit the river on different days, or different times of day, and try to find them all!



Turtles rest on logs or rocks to warm up. Painted Turtles are common in the river and are the state reptile of Michigan.



Animals visit the river, often at night, to find food and water.



Thanks to laws that protect the water and wildlife living in it, we now have 86 kinds of fish living in the St. Joseph River!



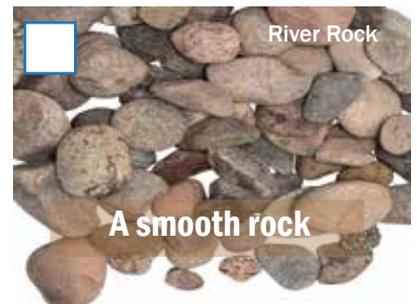
Some trees like Sycamores and Cottonwoods grow well when their roots are near water along the river banks.



On the surface or underwater, plants provide food and oxygen to the animals living around them.



Many kinds of birds live only near wet places like the river, and couldn't survive anywhere else.



Rocks by the river may have been moved here from Canada 16,000 years ago by a glacier, and are older than the dinosaurs!

Ages: 6 and up. Fun for families!

Location: Anywhere along the river, at a park or hiking path.

Materials Needed: A pencil and a copy of this sheet. OR write out a list of the animals and plants to look for.

Instructions: Visit the St. Joseph River and check off the things you find!



Beavers live in bank dens along the river and use their teeth to cut down trees, then eat the twigs and inner bark.



Once nearly extinct, Bald Eagles now nest in many places along the St. Joseph River where they can also hunt for fish.

These plants, animals, and signs of animals can be found at parks in St. Joseph County, Indiana, such as Howard Park, St. Patrick's County Park and Beutter Park, but almost anyplace along the St. Joseph River is a good place to look!

Activity provided by:



Share a pic on social media when you do this activity!
#CelebrateTheStJoe

