

National Park Service





Did You Know...

Last year more than **307 million people** visited national parks.

The National Park Service is a part of the **U.S. Department of the Interior.** There are **410 national parks** and there is at least **one park in every state.**

This year the National Park Service (NPS) is 100 years old! On August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the act creating the NPS. The act states that the fundamental purpose of the NPS "is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve in Alaska is the **largest national park** with 13.2 million acres. That makes this park larger than the country of Switzerland!

> Yellowstone National Park was established on March 1, 1872, by Congress as the nation's (and the world's) **first** national park.

FINDYOURPARK.COM





We study about it in the classroom; we come here to experience it.

-Elementary School Student

National parks give us places to enjoy and learn. Whether at home, in schools, or on vacation, our national parks provide you America's greatest university and places for civic engagement.

We invite you to take a **learning and education quest** with us. You may begin your quest at a local park talking to rangers, exploring our on-line programs or apps, or you can begin at the National Park Service iTunes University collection or education portal. There is so much the National Park Service offers that we invite you on a **learning quest** to become familiar with opportunities to learn and teach about our nation's heritage.

Visit <u>http://www.nps.gov/interp/learningquest.cfm</u> to find a learning quest.



Celebrate the Centennial!>

Guess who's having a birthday?! The National Park Service turns 100 years old in 2016, and we are inviting everyone to "Find Your Park."

Visit <u>www.findyourpark.com</u> to find your park.



Every Kid in a Park>

To help reach our next generation of park visitors and supporters, NPS and other federal agencies want all 4th grade students to visit their public lands and waters! Find out how to get your free 4th grader pass.

Visit <u>www.everykidinapark.gov</u> for your 4th grade pass.

Teachers! Visit <u>http://www.nps.gov/teachers/index.htm</u> to learn about our education programs.