

REDWOOD

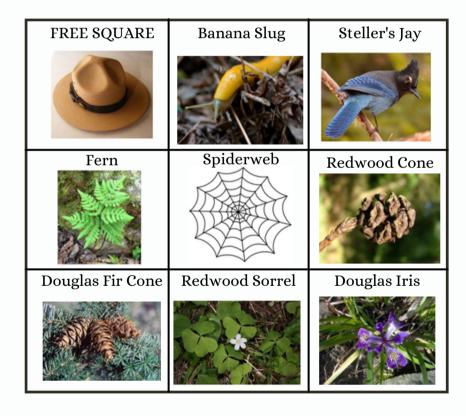
REDWOOD BINGO

Let's play BINGO!

In the cool, moist, dark redwood forest, the plants are abundant but the animals are very good at hiding. Make sure you check where you step to avoid a banana slug! Try to find three in a rowacross, down, or diagonal!

DID YOU KNOW? Coastal redwoods are the tallest (up to 377 feet!) and one of the oldest (over 2,000 years!) trees in the world!







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EXPLORE THE REDWOODS

Find a large redwood tree in the park you visit (at Memorial Park look in the Day Use Area on the Tan Oak Nature Trail, at Huddart Park try the Redwood Nature Trail). Take a picture next to the largest tree with your family, staying on the trail, and answer the following questions about the tree.

Imagine you are the first person to see these tall redwood trees. How would you describe them to your friends?

What might these trees have lived through during the last 1,000 years?

If you were a redwood tree, what would you like to tell people visiting here today? 100 years from now?

Why do you think redwood trees can live so long? What is their secret?

Why do you think the bark is thick?

Does your tree have any fire scars (fire scars are large black areas on the bark)?

What would you name your tree?





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TREE RINGS

This cross-section of a tree shows its growth rings. Each year a growth ring is produced by the tree adding a new layer of wood just under the bark. Count the number of rings on this tree and you will know its age!

Tree rings can also tell us when there were good years and bad years for growth and when a tree was damaged by fire, disease or by other trees falling.

Pretend this tree was cut down yesterday. From the outermost ring, count back to the number of years you've been alive (if you're 10, count back 10 rings!) and mark it. Do the same with a member of your household!

Keep on counting and write down about how old this tree was when it was cut.

Do some math and find out the year it germinated (grew from a seed!)

TRY IT:

Find a redwood tree right next to the trail and thank it for giving us oxygen for hundreds of years!

Look at the Answer Key!

