

# Roscoe's Bandits

## activity book



Name

Age

Name of Park

Campsite #



**DAKOTA EXPLORERS**  
"Come play in our backyard"

**For Ages 7-12**

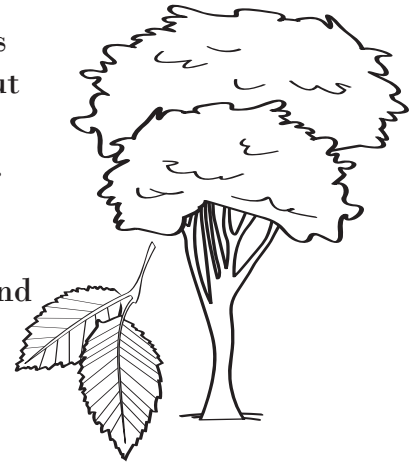
A Dakota Explorers Activity Book  
2011 North Dakota  
Parks & Recreation Department



# Symbols of North Dakota

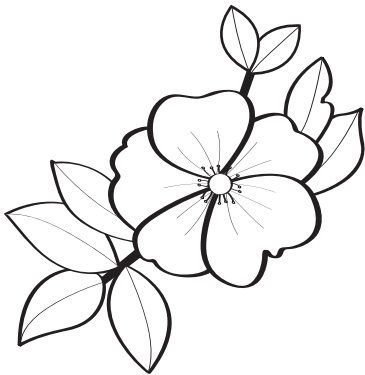
## State Tree: American Elm

Selected as the state tree of North Dakota in 1947, the American elm is considered one of the most beautiful shade trees. It is native throughout the state, especially along streams and lake shores. The large size and rapid growth in moist locations make it an ideal tree for North Dakota. Adulthood is reached in about 150 years and many trees live to be 300 years old. Unfortunately, Dutch elm disease, a fungus spread by a bark beetle, has shortened the life of many elm trees. It is now difficult to find trees over 100 years old.



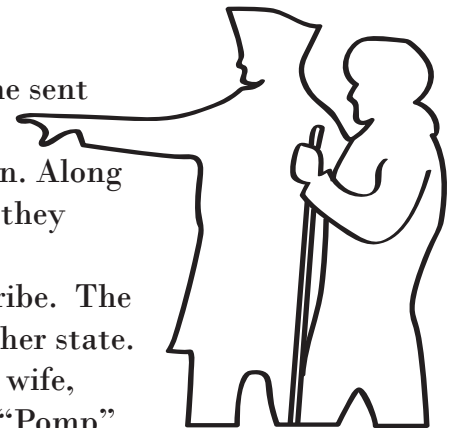
## State Flower: Wild Prairie Rose

The wild prairie rose became the official state flower in 1907. It has five petals, which range from pink to white in color, with yellow stamens in the center. This flower grows wild along roadsides and in pastures all over North Dakota. The first graduating class of the University of North Dakota chose the colors of the wild prairie rose as their school's official colors in 1889, noting that the colors were "suggestive of our green prairies and rosy prospects."



## State Icons: Lewis and Clark

President Jefferson bought the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. In 1804, he sent Lewis and Clark with the Corps of Discovery on a mission to travel up the Missouri River to find the most direct route to the Pacific Ocean. Along the way they collected information about the flora, fauna, and people they encountered. The Corps built Fort Mandan, which is near present-day Washburn, ND and spent the winter of 1804-1805 with the Mandan tribe. The Corps spent more time in what we now call North Dakota than any other state. While at Fort Mandan, the Corps met Toussaint Charbonneau and his wife, Sakakawea. Sakakawea gave birth to a baby, named Jean Baptiste or "Pomp" that winter. She and her husband became guides and interpreters for Lewis and Clark.



There are so many wonderful things to see and do in North Dakota's state parks. I encourage you to make memories and take as many pictures as you like. Please leave all that you see and find in the park for all visitors to enjoy. Hope to see you on the trail!



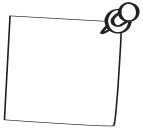
# Identify the Leaves

Over half of the state parks in North Dakota are covered in forest land. Listed below are five common trees found in North Dakota. Go for a walk and see how many of these leaves you can find.

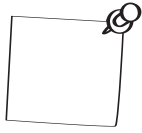
Once you find a leaf, identify the tree and place an "X" in the box below the leaf.



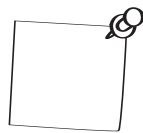
Green Ash



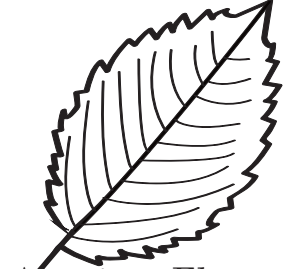
Cottonwood



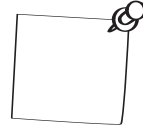
Bur Oak



Basswood



American Elm



# Identify North Dakota Fish

Below are four common fish found in North Dakota. Can you match the right fish to the right fishing pole by drawing a line?

Trout

A thin fish with four fins and a tail.



Northern Pike

Long skinny shape that has two large fins located in front of its tail.



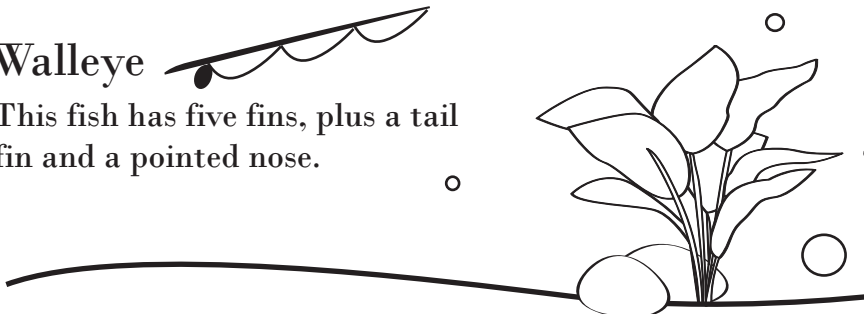
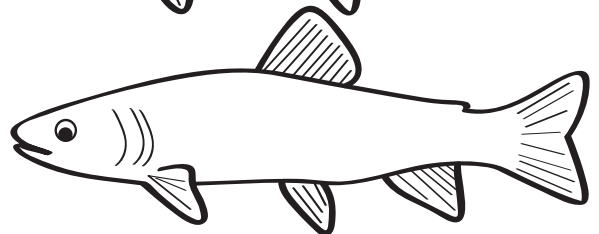
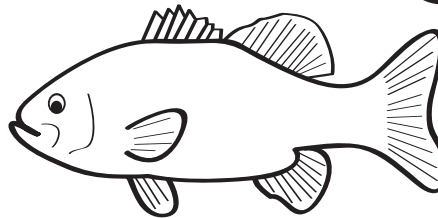
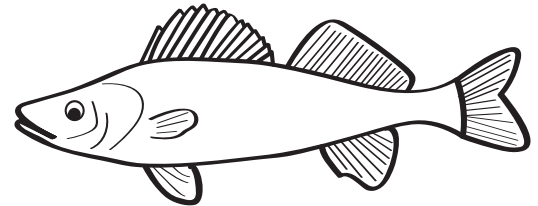
Bass

Has a round shape with two fins located on the top part of its body.



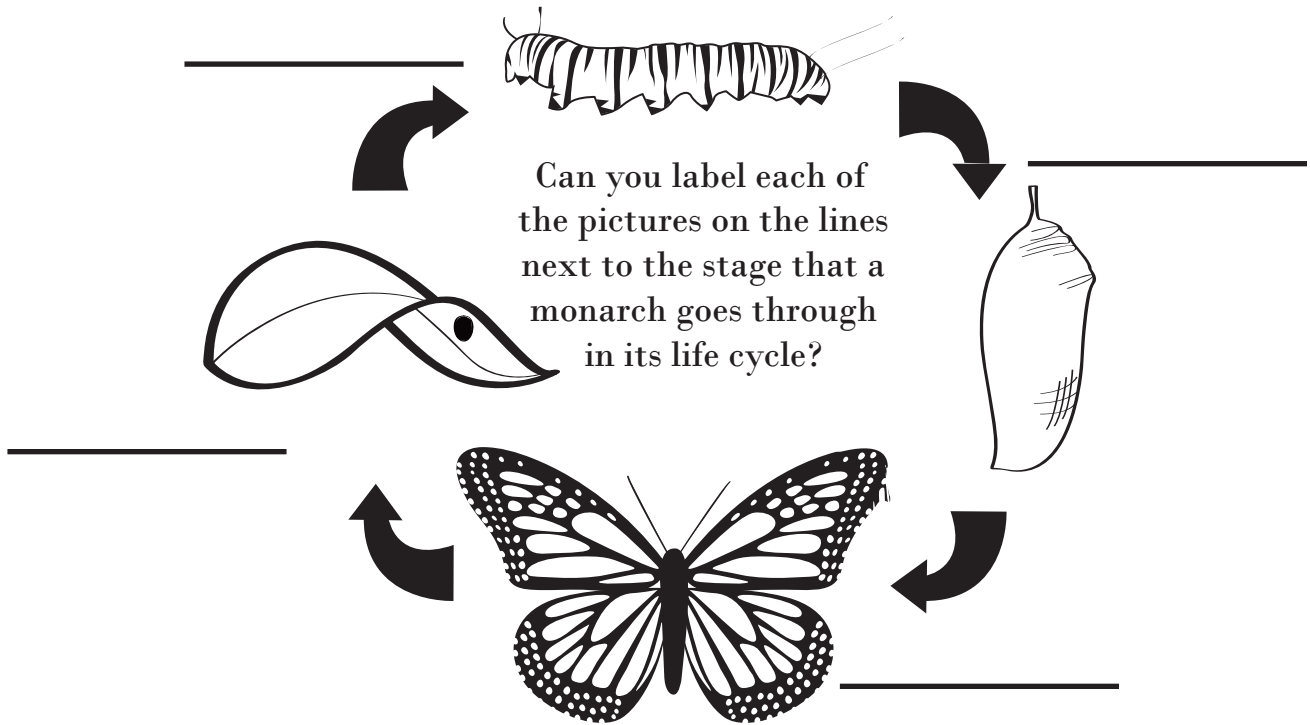
Walleye

This fish has five fins, plus a tail fin and a pointed nose.



# Butterfly Life Cycle

Did you know that all butterflies and moths go through metamorphosis with 4 distinct life changes? Also, monarch butterflies go through 4 generations (each generation is a complete life cycle) each year. The first 3 generations hatch from their cocoon state and live for up to 6 weeks. The 4th generation continues to live for 6 to 8 months so they can migrate to a warmer climate, hibernate and then start a new 1st generation in the spring.



## Egg

Female monarchs usually lay a single egg on a milkweed plant. Often it is located on the bottom of a leaf, near the tip. The egg is no larger than the tip of a pen. The monarch egg will hatch in approximately 4 days.

## Caterpillar (or Larva)

Once the egg hatches the monarch larva is really small. For the next 2 weeks, it will eat so it can grow 2,000 times bigger before it transforms to the next stage.

### Caterpillar or larva?

Both are correct. Larva is the scientific word for caterpillar.

## Chrysalis (or Pupa)

The grown larva will create a hard protective shell (called a chrysalis) around them as they enter the pupa stage. They remain in the shell for 8-15 days. On the 10th day the chrysalis darkens and the familiar orange, black and white pattern of the monarch becomes visible.

## Adult

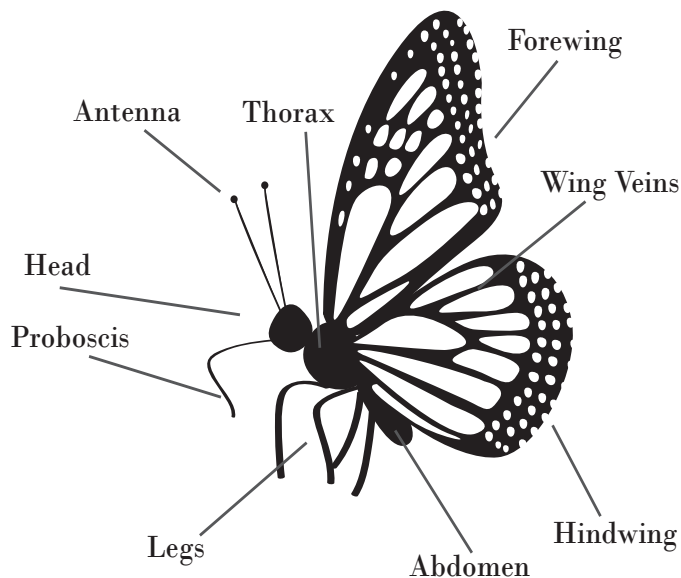
Once the adult butterfly emerges, it is ready to fly within hours of hatching. Adults feed on the nectar from a variety of flowers. The 4th generation adults sometimes fly over 3,000 miles during migration.



# Butterfly Anatomy

## Can you find the monarch egg?

Female monarch butterflies lay their eggs only on milkweed plants. When the eggs hatch, milkweed is the only food monarch caterpillars eat. Milkweed plants are everywhere in North Dakota's state parks. Explore the park where you are and see if you can find a monarch egg on the underside of a milkweed leaf.



**Fun Fact:**  
You can raise your own monarch butterfly by planting milkweed in your garden.



Find and circle 10 monarch butterflies hidden throughout this prairie.



# Food Web

Draw lines to match the animal to its correct diet.

## Carnivores



These animals are meat eaters and generally require living foods. They have a large mouth with sharp, pointed teeth that allow them to grasp their prey and tear off large chunks of flesh, which is swallowed whole rather than ground or chewed first.

## Herbivores

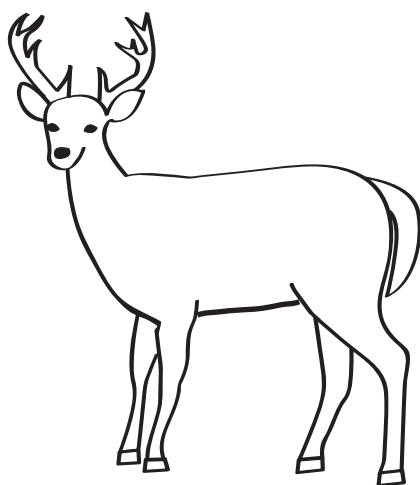
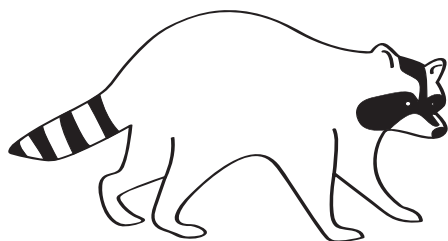


These animals are on the opposite end of the dietary food chain from carnivores. The proper diet for an herbivore consists of plants, algae, and fruits.

## Omnivores

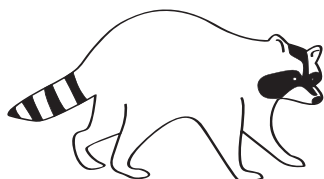
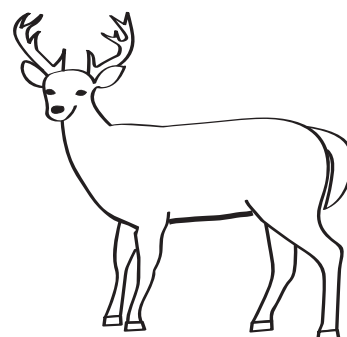
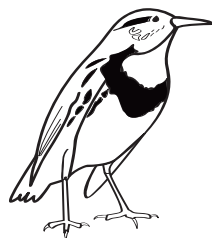
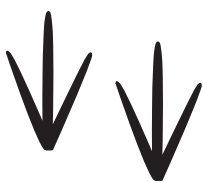


These animals eat a variety of meat and plant matter. Although omnivores can and will eat plant matter, they cannot digest some types of grains and plants. Their teeth and digestive tract possess some traits of both carnivores and herbivores.



# Animal Tracks

Draw a line from the tracks to the animal they belong to.





# State Park Word Search

Search for the names of North Dakota state parks.

G R A H A M S I S L A N D O  
 F L F B E A V E R L A K E L  
 O O O S S T M F W B L A E A  
 R R R S T E I Y R N A S Q K  
 T C T T U R G L E R K I L E  
 A R S S R H E M S E E Y I M  
 B O T W T A M D A V S L T E  
 R S E E L V N A C N A M T T  
 A S V W E E R S T I K N L I  
 H R E A R K D I O R A T E G  
 A A N V I E W C B M K S M O  
 M N S D V E G E Y N A O I S  
 L C O V E R M L Q U W P S H  
 I H N G R C W A K H E S S E  
 N X E Z A Y H N E T A E O M  
 C K E J F L R D Y D O W U I  
 O R D L H L B I K G C H R E  
 L C I A I U T C X S L A I N  
 N L E W I S A N D C L A R K

BEAVER LAKE  
 FORT ABRAHAM LINCOLN  
 FORT RANSOM  
 LAKE METIGOSHE  
 GRAHAMS ISLAND  
 TURTLE RIVER  
 LAKE SAKAKAWEA  
 CROSS RANCH  
 SULLY CREEK  
 FORT STEVENSON  
 LITTLE MISSOURI  
 ICELANDIC  
 LEWIS AND CLARK



## Plot the Points

Plot the way to find a North Dakota insect. Locate and plot the points in each set below. For each pair of numbers  $(-1, 7)$ , plot the X axis first, then plot the Y axis. Connect the points as you plot each set. Repeat the process with the remaining sets to reveal one of North Dakota's many species of insects.

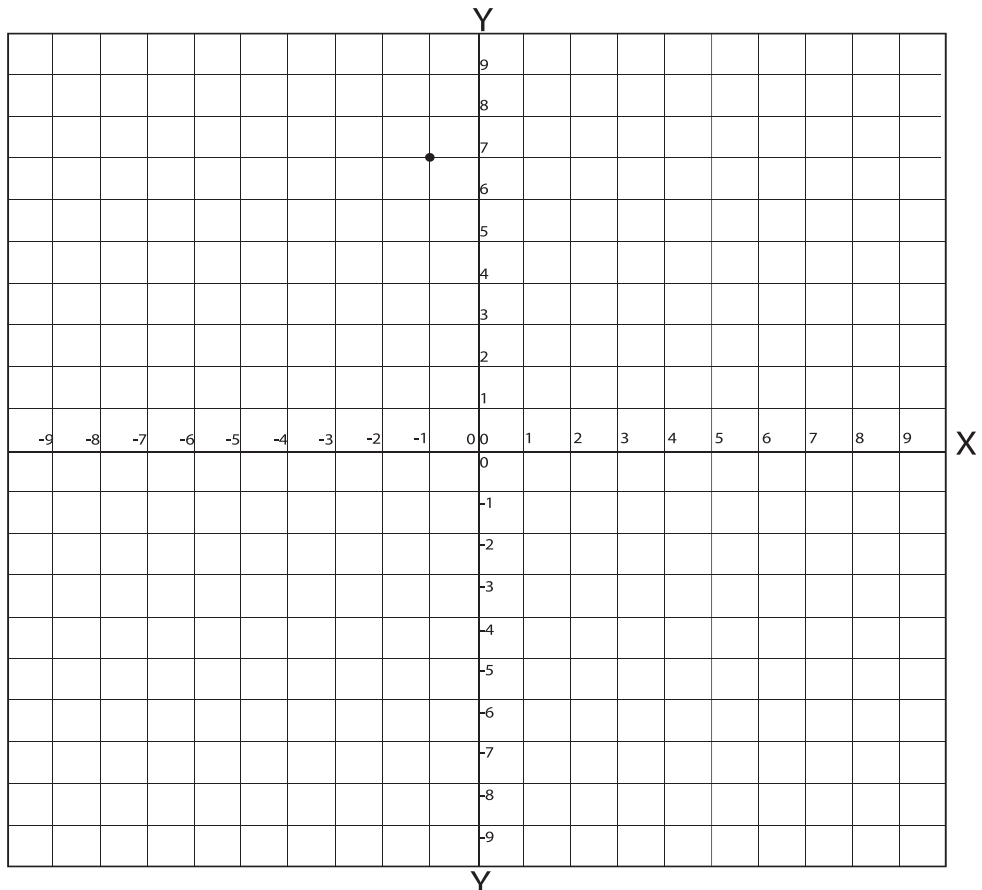
Set A:  $(-1, 7)$ ,  $(-1, -7)$ ,  $(1, -7)$ ,  $(1, 7)$ ,  $(-1, 7)$

Set B:  $(-1, 5)$ ,  $(-3, 8)$ ,  $(-5, 8)$ ,  $(-7, 5)$ ,  $(-7, 2)$ ,  $(-6, 1)$ ,  $(-7, 0)$ ,  $(-7, -5)$ ,  $(-5, -7)$ ,  $(-3, -7)$ ,  $(-1, -5)$

Set C:  $(1, 5)$ ,  $(3, 8)$ ,  $(5, 8)$ ,  $(7, 5)$ ,  $(7, 2)$ ,  $(6, 1)$ ,  $(7, 0)$ ,  $(7, -5)$ ,  $(5, -7)$ ,  $(3, -7)$ ,  $(1, -5)$

Set D:  $(-1, 7)$ ,  $(-2, 9)$

Set E:  $(1, 7)$ ,  $(2, 9)$



# Dakota Explorer Certificate

This is to certify that

\_\_\_\_\_ has completed the required Dakota Explorer's activities and has proven that he/she has learned more about the North Dakota state parks and the responsibility we all share in conserving our natural resources.



\_\_\_\_\_ Park Official

\_\_\_\_\_ Date





