



KIDS on TRAILS



A guide to the Ecology Trail
Presidio of San Francisco

GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL PARKS

This guide belongs to



Today's date is



Today's weather is (circle one)



Welcome!

Hello, my name is
Anna the Hummingbird.



Welcome to the Presidio,
my home.

This is called the **ECOLOGY** trail.

Ecology comes from *oikos*, the
Greek word for **house**. Ecology is
knowing how all living things in the
world—trees, plants, insects, birds,
animals and people—live together.

Bring a pencil or crayon,
and a sense of wonder! 

Have fun and stay on the trail.

INTO THE WOODS

Going into the forest
What will I see?
How will I feel?
What will there be?

Are there tigers or
butterflies?
Bears or fish?
What is inside?
What do I wish?

Going into the forest
Looks like a new land,
This will be fun!
Come take my hand.



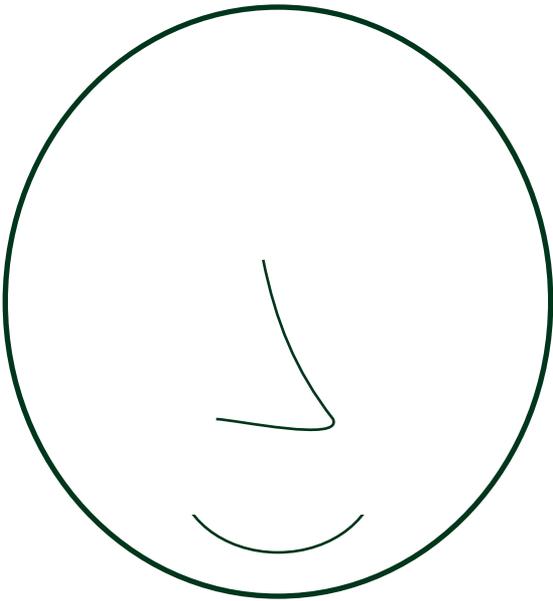
The tall trees in this forest were planted by the U.S. Army over 100 years ago. Before that time there were no tall forests in the Presidio.

GET READY TO LOOK AND LISTEN!

There are many things to hear and see in the park if you take the time.



Draw eyes and ears to complete the face



Make coyote ears by cupping your hands behind your ears and listening.



What do you hear?
I hear with my coyote ears



What do you see?
I spy with my eagle eye

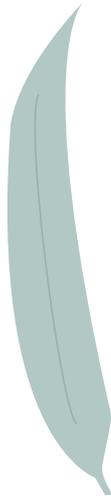
SHAPES, SIZES & COLORS



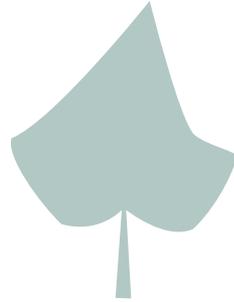
Circle the different leaves
you see along the trail



Pine



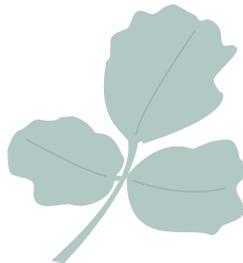
Eucalyptus



Ivy



Redwood



Poison Oak



French Broom

BEWARE—DO NOT TOUCH



Birds use leaves for nesting.
It's okay to pick a leaf off
the ground to trace as long as
you put it back.



Draw a leaf



What color is your leaf?

My leaf is

color

like

_____.

name something the same color

LISTEN, LET'S COUNT SOUNDS!



Shhhh, be very quiet. Close your eyes and silently count on your fingers each new sound you hear. Do you hear my bird friends?



Draw or write down the different things you hear

1

2

4

3

5

6



Which of these sounds are from wildlife? Which are from people?

WHO LIVES HERE?

The Presidio is home to many different living things.



Circle what you see today



Bee



Banana Slug



Wildflower



Mushroom



Fox



Blackberry



Hawk



Owl



Draw other things you see



Many animals hide from people or come out only at night like the owl.

A SPECIAL HOME

a
habitat
is a home
for wild plants
and animals



People are helping rebuild this home by planting plants and taking care of things that have lived here for years.

Can you find the wildflower carvings on the fence post? (HINT: look for the owl sign) This flower has lived in the Presidio for hundreds of years and almost disappeared.

What is its name? Presidio _____



Draw this flower or use the woodblock to make a rubbing



I like this area because it has lots of wildflowers in the springtime.

CALIFORNIA'S STATE ROCK



Serpentinite
(SIR-PEN-TIN-ITE)
is the California state rock.



Touch the rock on the trail
(under the tree).
Circle how it feels.

ROUGH

SMOOTH

SLICK

OILY

SOFT

HARD

WARM

COLD

DRY

WET



Look closely at the rock.
Circle the colors you see.

RED

ORANGE

BROWN

GRAY

WHITE

BLUE

BLACK

YELLOW

GREEN

Serpentinite is found throughout the Bay Area but is rarely found most places in the world! Please touch it and put it back right where you found it.



SEE THE BAY

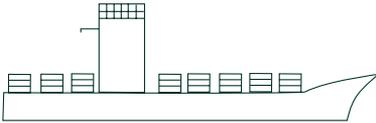


At the top of the stairs is Inspiration Point, the end of our hike. Let's count the stairs to the top.

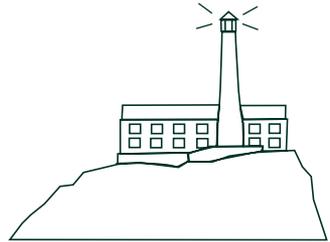
How many stairs did you count?



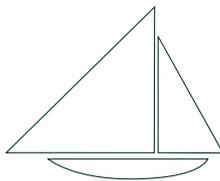
Looking out across the bay, what do you see today? (circle below)



Ship



Alcatraz



Sailboat

MY FAVORITE THING on this hike was....



Draw or write about
something you enjoyed

SEE HOW EVERYTHING FITS TOGETHER, THAT'S ECOLOGY!



Can you help me finish this puzzle?
Fill in the squares with these words:

- EARTH
- ROCK
- OWL
- SKY
- GRASS
- INSECT

			T		
			R		
			A		
			I		
E	C	O	L	O	G

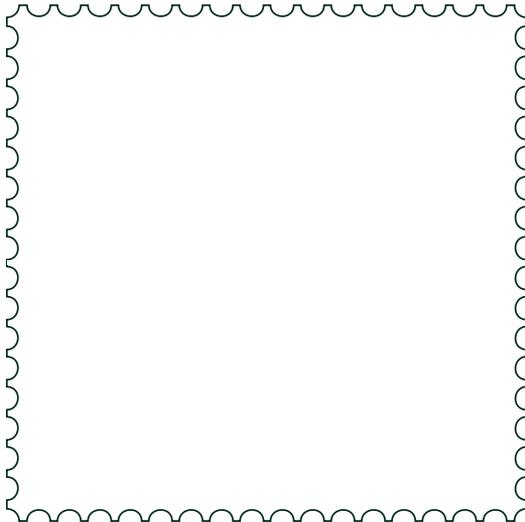
CONGRATULATIONS, YOU DID IT!



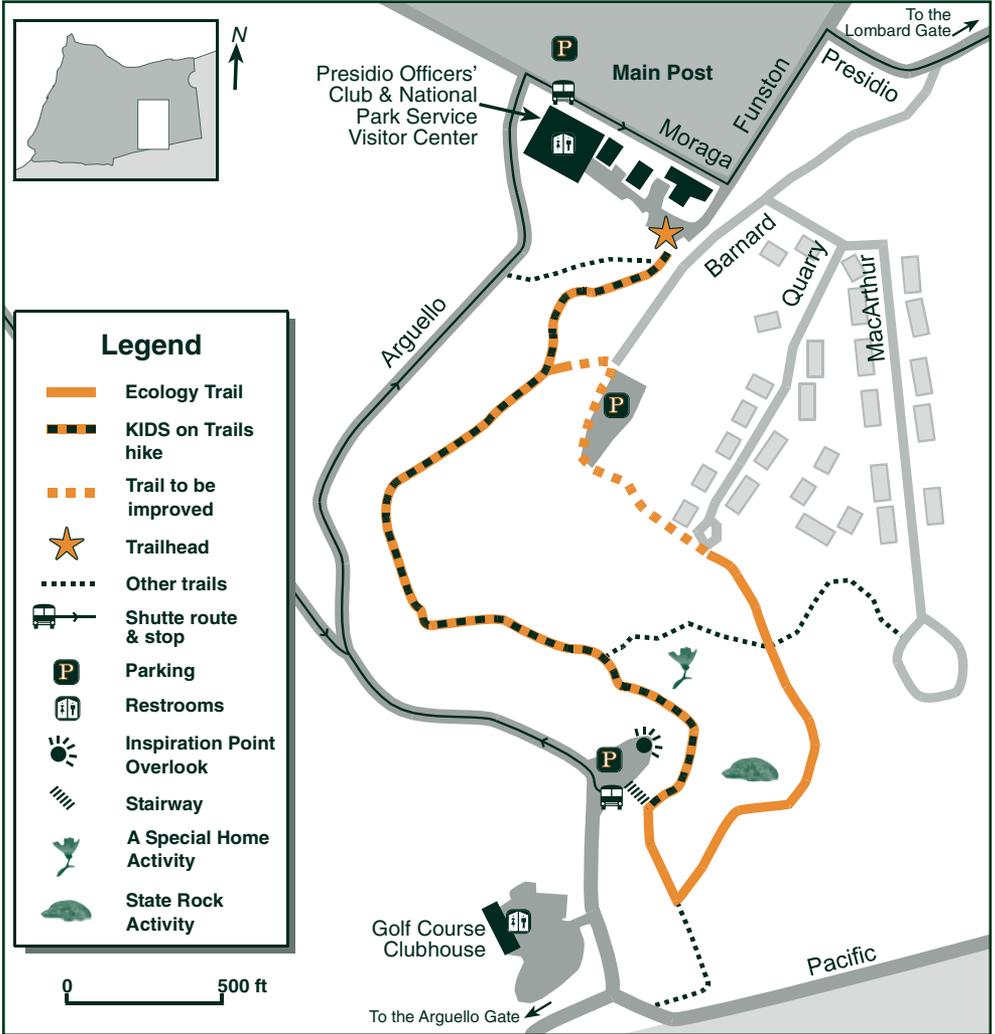
That was fun. Thanks for being my trail buddy and respecting my home. Come back again. Happy Trails!

WHAT NOW?

Walk back down the trail or take the PresidiGo free shuttle back to the National Park Service Visitor Center to get your guide stamped.



OFFICIAL STAMP



Miles: 2/3 mile (one way) with a moderate uphill grade
 Time: 1 hour

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 call (415) 561-4323 for information
www.presidiotrust.gov / www.nps.gov/prsf / www.parksconservancy.org


 KIDS on Trails is a project of Trails Forever, a partnership to preserve the trails of the Golden Gate National Parks

Tips for Adults

KIDS on TRAILS



You'll need a pencil or crayon to use the guide.

- This trail guide is designed for kids ages 5 through 9 accompanied by adults.
- The hike covers 2/3 of a mile and takes about 1 hour to complete with activities. The hike has a moderate uphill climb beginning at the trailhead near the corner of Funston and Moraga Avenue.



You can return to the Visitor Center on the free PresidiGo shuttle. Schedules & routes are posted at each stop (Inspiration Point, Stop #34).



Beware of poison oak. It can cause a rash. Poison oak leaves change color from green to brown to red and fall to the ground in the winter. When in doubt: Leaves of three—Let them be.

- Activities can be done anywhere on the trail, except two (see map):



Special Home (pg. 12) occurs near the restoration site. Near the owl sign there is a rubbing station for kids. Using a crayon or pencil, place the guide over the woodblock to create an image of *Presidio clarkia*, an endangered wildflower that can sometimes be seen here.



State Rock (pg. 14) occurs just past the woodblock rubbing. You will see a rock outcropping on your left. This is serpentinite, California's state rock. Do not cross the fence! You can find some serpentinite rock on the trail beneath the willow tree about 40 feet from the woodblock rubbing.

- Remember not to remove anything from the park (rocks, leaves, flowers, etc.). Take only memories—leave only footprints.
- Please do not feed or chase wildlife. Observe from a distance.



Please stay on the trail at all times. The small colored flags you might see near the trail designate rare and sensitive habitat in the park.

- Inspiration Point Overlook at the end of the trail is a good place to sit and have a snack.



Closest public restrooms (see map):
Presidio Officers' Club, Presidio Golf Course Clubhouse