Bald Mountain Nature Detectives Map

Feel free to write or draw on your map!

Who Lives Here?
Look for dead trees near the trail as you hike. There is a photo of a dead tree on the map. This kind of tree is called a "snag." It is important to many animals that live here. Look closely at snag trees. Can you think of any animals that might make it their home? Draw a picture of an animal at home in a snag!

What's in a Name?
Hike to the bench overlook at the summit. Look at the landscape around you. Based on your observations, why do you think this park is named Bald Mountain?

Let Your Nose Do the Walking
Nature is full of different smells. As you hike, let your nose guide you! Get close to the ground to smell the flowers, grasses, and rocks. What do the trees smell like? How many different smells can you find? Use the box below to count each time you find a new smell.

Why do you think it is helpful for plants to smell so good?
Mystery Guide

Take this Mystery Guide and a pen or pencil with you as you explore. To complete your Nature Detective training at this park, complete at least 3 of the 6 activities.

Inside you will find a map of the park, which will serve as a guide. Some activities correspond to locations on the map, and some activities can be done anywhere.

Feel free to get help from grown-ups on this, but remember, these activities are for you! You can write or draw anywhere in this mystery guide. The more thoughtful and artistic, the better!

Your Case: Bald Mountain

Walk among the ponderosa pine trees. You may see tuft-eared Abert’s squirrels, chipmunks, bluebirds, chickadees, deer, and perhaps even a mountain lion. You can also see evidence on the surrounding land of the Fourmile Canyon Wildfire that burned for 11 days in September of 2010.

Bald Mountain Scenic Area

A mystery awaits in this county park full of clues!

Your mission is to become a young Nature Detective, collecting clues from the world around you, and solving mysteries of the forest, prairie, wetlands, and mountains.

After completing a mystery guide we will send you a useful tool for your future outdoor adventures.

All right detective, let’s go!

(Intended for ages 4-11)