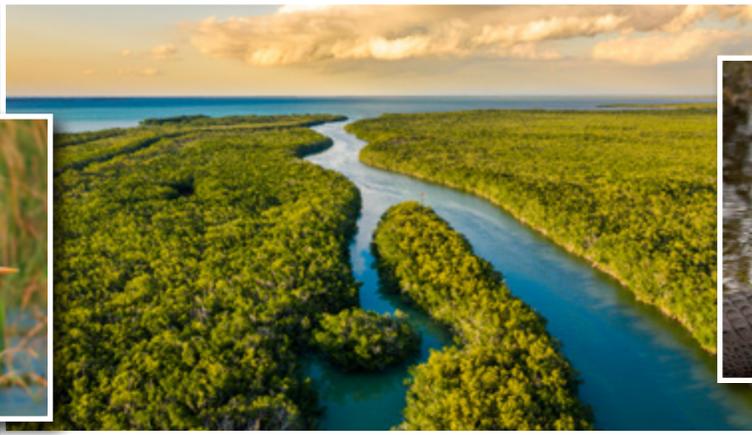


SUMMER ADVENTURES
ON THE ROAD

Where Are We Going?



EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

DID YOU KNOW?

Everglades National Park spans about 1.5 million acres across central and South Florida. To the north is a stretch of road called Alligator Alley, beside which animals roam in prairies and marshes. To the south, the park's border dips into the Gulf of Mexico. In the park exist different ecosystems, including freshwater sloughs, prairies, tropical hammocks, pinelands, cypress, mangroves, coastal lowlands, marine, and estuarine.

Everglades National Park was established in 1947 to conserve the region's landscape and wildlife and prevent further degradation of its land, plants, and animals. The Everglades also has a rich human history dating back centuries, with a series of Indigenous peoples having made a home for themselves among the region's marshes and mangroves. Native Americans were the first to live there and thrived in its rich ecosystem through the centuries.

When you visit the park, you may see two of its most famous reptiles, alligators and crocodiles. Other inhabitants include the [Florida panther](#), the [West Indian manatee](#), and the [bottlenose dolphin](#).

PG 3

[Speaking of the Everglades...](#)
Ages 4-8

PG 4

[Speaking of the Everglades...](#)
Ages 9+

[Book List](#)

READY TO EXPLORE?



SPEAKING OF THE EVERGLADES

ACTIVITY 1 Ages 4-8

TO DO

When you make your virtual (or real) visit to the [Everglades](#), you may hear and see these words. In this activity, draw a line from a word to its definition. Use a dictionary or computer search to help you if needed.

KEY	a dense grove of hardwood trees
BAY	a type of raised house developed by the Seminole
MARSH	a body of water partially surrounded by land
CHIKEE	a wetland ecosystem with grasses and sedges
POINT	a large sea or ocean inlet
SOUND	a piece of land projecting into a body of water
BOG	an acidic ecosystem often containing peat
HAMMOCK	a low-lying island or reef

Look at this image and decide which of the words above best describes it.



SPEAKING OF THE EVERGLADES

ACTIVITY | Ages 9+

TO DO

To better understand what you will see during your virtual (or real) visit to the Everglades, research these questions. The italicized words will help you describe the rich and varied **ecosystems** in the park. Use a dictionary or online resources, some of which are listed below, to help you.

[Nature in Everglades National Park](#)

[How Wetlands Work](#)

[Types of Wetlands | Swamp-Marsh-Bog-Fen](#)

[The Everglades | The National Wildlife Federation](#)

[Ecosystems: Freshwater Marl Prairie](#)

- What are **keys**, **bays**, and **sounds**, and how are they alike and different?
- What is a **slough** (and how is it pronounced)?
- Is a **bight** a good place to fish?
- What kinds of plants do you find in a **hammock**? (Not the kind you nap in!)
- What is the difference between a **bog**, a **fen**, and a **marsh**?
- What is a **marl prairie** and what grows in it?

Which of the words above best describes this image?

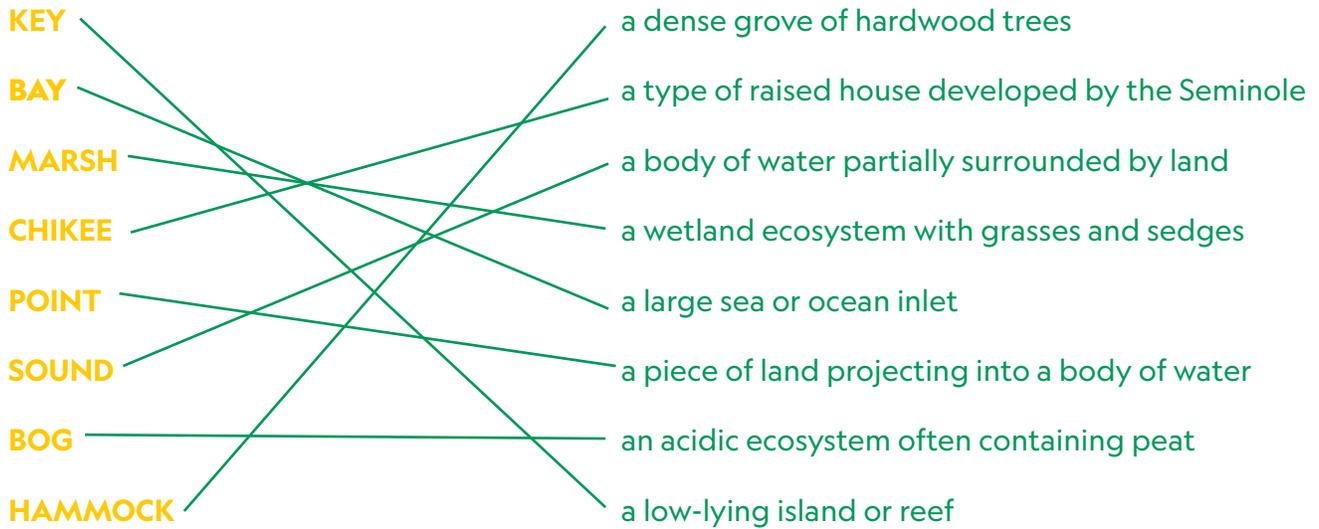


BLANK PAGE TO CAPTURE YOUR NOTES



ANSWERS

PG 3



FULL LINKS

PG 2

Florida panther

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/photo-ark-florida-panther/>

West Indian manatee

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/manatees/>

Bottlenose dolphin

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/facts/bottlenose-dolphin>

PG 3

Everglades

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/nature/article/everglades>

PG 4

Ecosystem

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/ecosystem/>

Nature in Everglades National Park

<https://www.nps.gov/ever/learn/nature/index.htm>

How Wetlands Work

<https://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/green-science/wetland2.htm>

Types of Wetlands | Swamp-Marsh-Bog-Fen

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KluWVxd49Bg>

The Everglades | The National Wildlife Federation

<https://www.nwf.org/Educational-Resources/Wildlife-Guide/Wild-Places/Everglades>

Ecosystems: Freshwater Marl Prairie

<https://www.nps.gov/ever/learn/nature/marlprairie.htm>