



GO BIG 2026 Lightning Challenge

Winter Season: January 1 - March 19



Complete the Lightning Challenge activities and submit to one of the parks' visitor centers. Earn 25 points to receive a Winter sticker. Collect all four seasons to earn the 100-point GO BIG patch.

Snowy Strolls

Points earned for miles must be completed on trails, riverways, or designated use areas at Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area, Obed Wild & Scenic River, and Manhattan Project National Historical Park during the winter season.

- **2 Points** for every mile hiked, pedaled, or paddled in the winter season. _____ :**Total miles**
- **2 Points** for every mile riding equestrian at Big South Fork in the winter season. _____ :**Total miles**

Sleeping Bags and Snowflakes

Camp in the parks this winter to earn a cool 10 points! Reservations may be made by calling 877-444-6777, or online at www.recreation.gov.

- **10 Points per permit:** Obtain a permit and go backcountry camping at Big South Fork or Obed this winter. Permits can be obtained at Bandy Creek Visitor Center, Obed Visitor Center, or online at www.pay.gov. _____ :**Total points**
-  **10 Points per camping trip:** Go camping at one of Big South Fork's campgrounds this winter. _____ :**Total points**
-  **10 Points:** Go camping at Rock Creek Campground at Obed this winter. _____ :**Total points**

**Every Season Gives a Reason to
Go Big in the Parks!**



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Critters in the Cold

- **1 Point each:** See how many wildlife species you can identify while exploring the parks. Wildlife includes any species of bird, invertebrate, fish, mammal, reptile, or amphibian. Give yourself one point for each species you correctly identify--whether by sight, sound, tracks, or other signs. Each species counts only once. Species: _____

_____:Total points

Bearly Awake

-  **3 Points:** During the winter months, black bears enter a state called torpor--a lighter form of hibernation that allows them to conserve energy without entering a deep, continuous sleep. What are two key differences between torpor in black bears and true hibernation seen in other animals?

Answer: _____

Winters Cosmic Chill

-  **10 points:** Winter nights are often clear and crisp, making it a great time for stargazing. Visit the parks on a clear winter night. What visible constellations are most prominent in the sky?

Answer: _____

Snow Safe and Sound

-  **3 points:** List three key items you should pack when hiking in icy or snowy conditions? Answer: _____

-  **2 Points:** List two ways you can stay warm and prevent hypothermia while camping in cold temperatures?

Answer: _____



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WINTER QUEST TOTAL POINTS _____



means location is wheelchair accessible.

