National Park of American Samoa
Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa

Junior Ranger Activity Book

O le Tusi Lenei a
(This Book Belongs to)

Tausaga (Age)

Become a Junior Ranger

Talofa! (Hello!)

This **Junior Ranger Activity Book** is a great way to have fun and learn about the National Park of American Samoa and the National Park Service. It's also a way that you can help park rangers take care of this very special place.

Ages 5 and under:	Complete **3** Activities
Ages 6 to 9:	Complete **6** Activities
Ages 10 and up:	Complete **8** Activities

When you finish, take your activity book to the visitor center in the park to get your certificate and badge. If you don't finish your book while you're here, you can mail it to us. We'll check it and send your book back to you along with your certificate and badge.

Mail it to:
Junior Ranger Program
National Park of American Samoa
Pago Pago, AS 96799

Don't forget to include your return address!

Ia manuia ma fiafia e fai! (Have fun and enjoy it!)

The Arrowhead

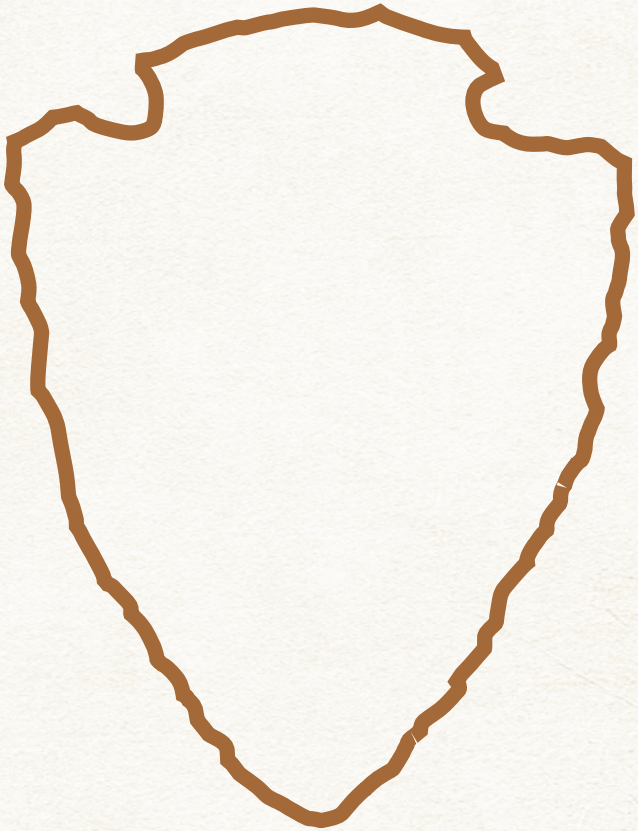
Here is the National Park Service arrowhead symbol. Each item in the arrowhead represents a feature protected within national park sites. The **sequoia tree** represents all plants; the **bison** represents all animals; the **mountain** represents all land forms; the **lake** represents all waters; and the **arrowhead outline** represents culture and history.

The National Park of American Samoa protects the fruit bats (flying foxes), coral reefs, tropical rainforests, and the Samoan culture.

Did You Know
There are over 390 areas in the United States that the National Park Service preserves and protects.

ACTIVITY

If you were going to design your own patch just for the National Park of American Samoa, what would it look like? Use the blank arrowhead to design yours.



Where is American Samoa?

The National Park of American Samoa is the only United States national park south of the Equator. There are seven islands: Tutuila, Aunu'u, Ofu, Olosega, Ta'u, and Swain and Rose Atoll. Most of these islands have steep mountains with tropical rainforests and coral reefs along their shores with colorful fish and other sea life.

Distance to American Samoa from

- Hawaii .....2,600 mi / 4,184 km
- California .....4,700 mi / 7,564 km
- New York.....7,200 mi / 11,587 km
- Japan.....4,700 mi / 7,564 km
- Europe..... 10,000 mi / 16,093 km
- Asia.....6,700 mi / 10,783 km
- South America ....6,300 mi / 10139 km
- Africa..... 10,000 mi / 16,093 km
- Australia.....2,500 mi / 4,023 km

ACTIVITY

1) Where do you live?

City/State or Village

_____

Country

_____

2) Mark an **X** on the map near where you live.

Coral Reef Fishes

There are over 900 reef fish species in American Samoa's reefs. The colors and patterns of reef fish help keep them safe. Red colors appear black under water, helping a fish to go unseen. Stripes allow a fish to camouflage itself against the coral. Spotted patterns can confuse a would-be predator.

Did You Know
Fish breath oxygen. As water passes over their gills, fish absorb the water's oxygen content.

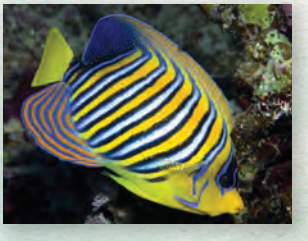
Picasso Triggerfish
(Sumu uo'uo)

ACTIVITY

Color these reef fish.

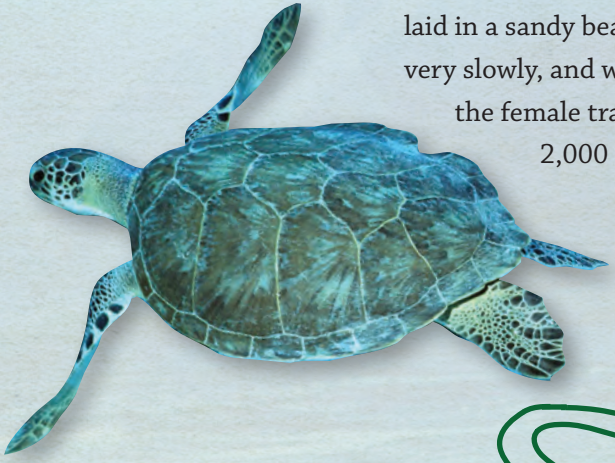
Raccoon Butterflyfish
(Tifitifi laumea)

Regal Angelfish
(Tu'u'u moana)



Sea Turtles

Sea turtles are air-breathing reptiles. Hawksbill turtles only come to shore to lay their eggs. Green turtles come to shore to lay their eggs and also to rest. Their eggs are laid in a sandy beach nest and typically take about seven weeks to hatch. They grow very slowly, and won't breed until they are 30 to 50 years old. When they're ready, the female travels back to the beach where she was born on (which could be up to 2,000 miles / 3,219 km away) and lays up to 150 ping-pong ball sized eggs.



ACTIVITY

Sometimes sea turtles mistake trash in the water as food. Plastic bags look like jellyfish, sea turtles' favorite food. If swallowed, debris can block digestion or remain in the turtle's stomach, causing the turtle to feel "full" and eat less than it needs to survive. **Help this turtle swim away from the trash.**

Help all ocean life—put your trash in bins.

Word Search

ACTIVITY

Find and circle the words (forward, backward, or diagonal) that are important about the National Park of American Samoa.

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

ISLANDS / PLACES

Tutuila
Ofu
Olosega
Tau
Mount Alava
Tumu Mountain
Siu Point
Lata Mountain

CULTURE

Talofa *(hello)*
Fale *(house)*
Siapo
Samoans
Fishing
Breadfruit
Taro
Coconut
Fine Mat

OCEAN

Coral Reef
South Pacific
Sea Turtles
Butterflyfish
Surgeonfish
Parrotfish
Whales
Sharks

RAINFOREST

Tropical Rainforest
Honeyeater
Fruit Bat
Pacific Pigeon
Fruit Dove
Starling
Blue Crowned Lory
Frigatebird
Reef Heron

TREES

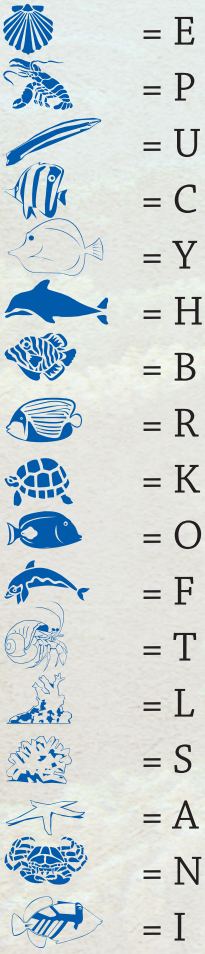
Pandanus
Tava
Asi
Maali
Matalafi
Talafalu
Tavai
Mamalava

Coral Reefs

Coral grows in warm tropical oceans. Many coral colonies grow together to form reefs that provide homes for many different animals and plants. If you visit a coral reef, you'll see a lot of colorful fishes, sea cucumbers, and other animals living there. Coral reefs also protect the coast from big waves and storms.

ACTIVITY

Decode the message below for a secret message.



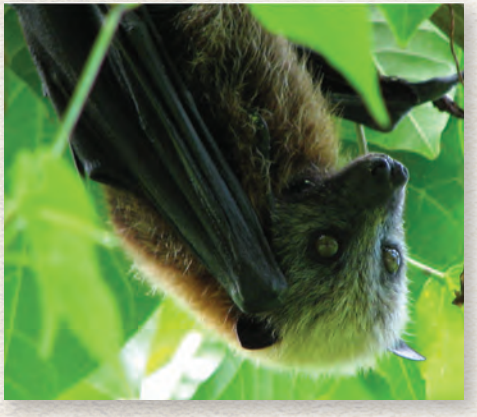
Did You Know

Many of the world's coral reefs are disappearing because of global warming, pollution, and overfishing.

Fruit Bats

Fruit bats (also known as flying foxes) are common in the rainforests of the National Park of American Samoa and throughout American Samoa. They are very large with up to 3 ft / .91 m wing spans.

They are very important seed spreaders. They may fly 31 mi / 50 km each night, visiting tree tops in search of fruit. The fruit passes quickly through their gut. Their droppings are full of seeds. The bats spread them when they poop, allowing more fruit trees to grow.



ACTIVITY

Connect the dots to see the fruit bat in flight.

Did You Know

Fruit bats are the only native mammals in American Samoa.

Bingo

ACTIVITY

Mark off each park feature or creature that you see in the National Park of American Samoa or on the park's website at **www.nps.gov/npsa**. When you get 4 across, up and down, or diagonally, then you've got BINGO! If you look very carefully and have a little luck, maybe you can get them all.

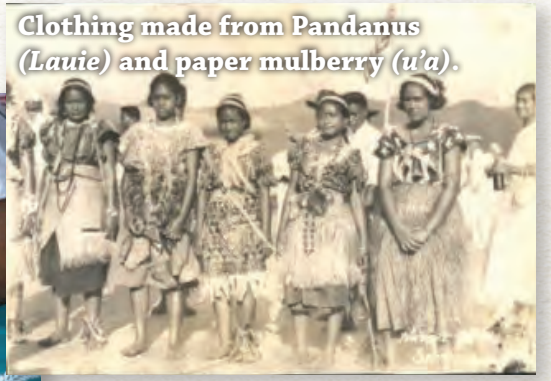
Mountains	Flying Fox	Fale	Sea Star
Ava Bowl	Free Space	Hiking Trail	Samoan Dance
Fish	Park Entrance Sign	Kingfisher	Coconut Tree
Tropical Rainforest	White-tailed Tropicbird	Pola Island	Hermit Crab

All of these features and creatures on the bingo card are protected in the National Park of American Samoa. They are just some of what makes this place so special.

Pandanus *(Lauie)* Tree

The Pandanus *(Lauie)* tree is very important to Samoans. For thousands of years, Pandanus has been used to make fine mats and clothing. Today, fine mats are still made and are valuable like money in a savings account. They are passed between families during special occasions such as weddings and funerals *(fa'alavelave)*.

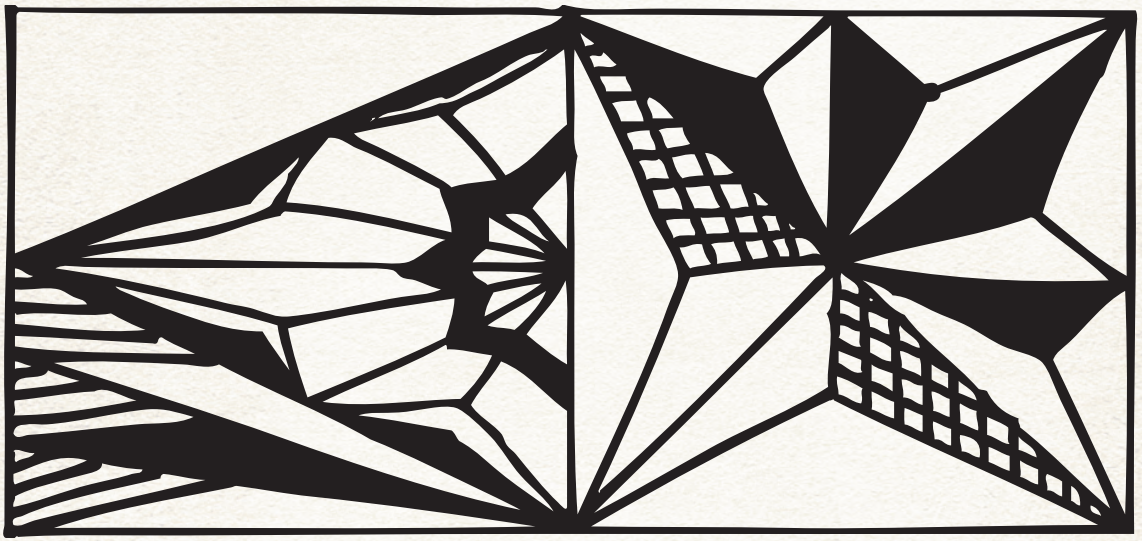
Weaving a mat.



Clothing made from Pandanus *(Lauie)* and paper mulberry *(u'a)*.

ACTIVITY

Color this Samoan design *(tapa)* of a Pandanus *(Lauie)* leaf.



Siapo and *Tapa*

Siapo is the bark cloth used by Samoans to make clothing and for ceremonial exchanges *(fa'alavelave)*. It is made from the paper mulberry *(u'a)* tree. Many pieces of bark are separated from 1 inch / 2.54 cm stems and pounded using a small wooden club or mallet (i'e). Slowly the bark is stretched. The *siapo* is then dried before the design *(tapa)* is added. Then the siapo is placed on a wood pattern and a rubbing is made. Finally, it is then painted with natural dyes using brushes made from local plant material.

***Siapo* (bark cloth) without a *tapa* (design).**

Pounding mulberry (*u'a*) bark.

***Tapa* (design) example.**

ACTIVITY

Create your own design *(tapa)*.

Coconut *(Niu)* Tree

In Samoan culture, the coconut *(niu)* tree is known as "the tree of life." Every part of the tree is important and used in everyday life.

ACTIVITY

Match the part of the coconut tree with its use by Samoans. *Hint: Some have multiple uses.*

White Fruit
(Aano)

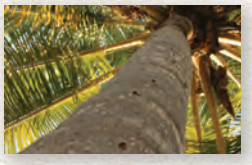
Leaves
(Launiu)

Milk
(Suaniu)

Shells
(Atigi Popo)

Husk
(Pulu)

Trunk
(Oganiu)



House

Food

Drink

Cup

Canoe

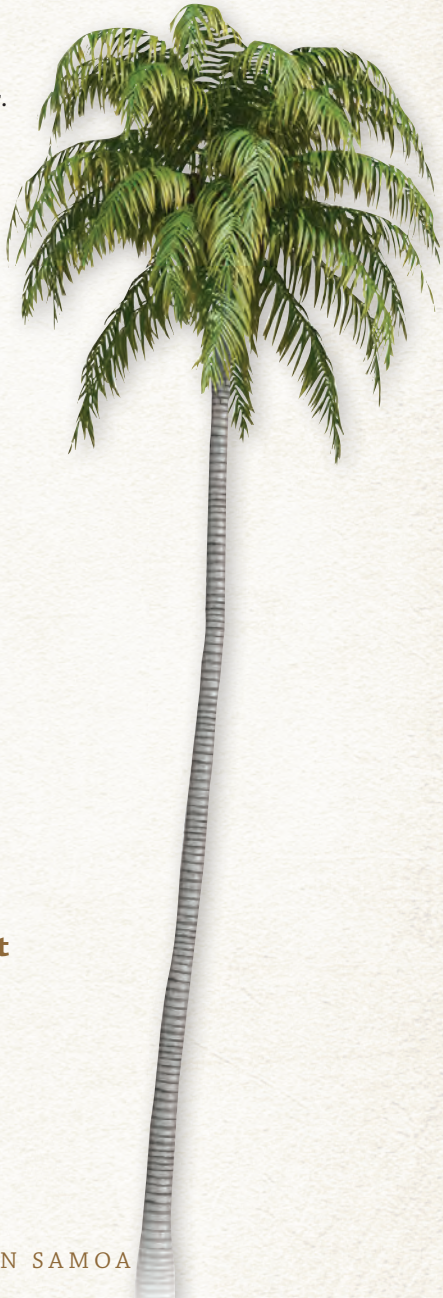
Broom

Rope

Floor Mat

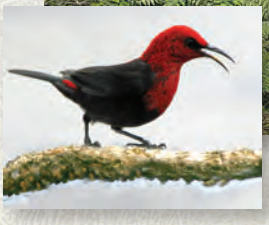
Bowl

Basket



Tropical Rainforest

What is one important part of a tropical rainforest? That's right, **rain**! The National Park of American Samoa receives as much as 300 inches of rain each year. To be a **tropical** rainforest, you also need high temperatures. Average high temperatures in the rainforest are in the upper 70's.



Cardinal Honeyeater

ACTIVITY

Read each sentence and write the correct word in the boxes below.

Word List

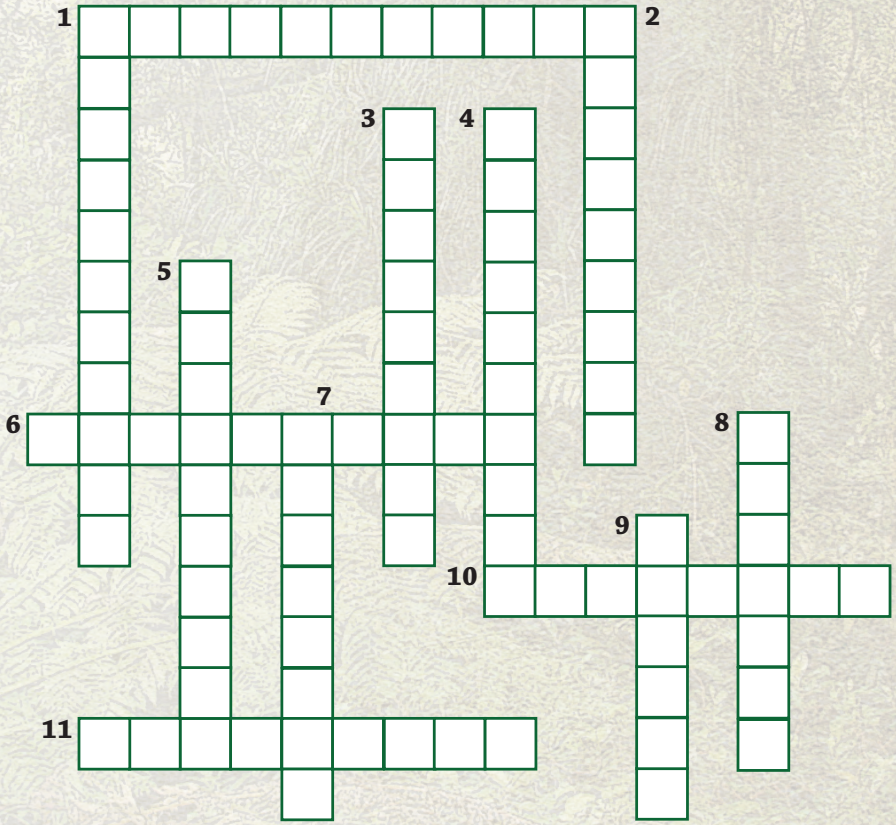
Canopy	Flying Fox	Habitat
Epiphytes	Diversity	Emergent
Tamaligi	Five Hundred	Forest Floor
Honeyeater	Rainforest	Understory

Across

1. About this number of different plants live in American Samoa's rainforest. (2 words)
6. Common bird in American Samoa's rainforest.
10. Tree trying to take over the rainforest in American Samoa.
11. The only native mammal in American Samoa's rainforest. (2 words)

Down

1. The bottom layer of the rainforest made up of tree roots, soil, ferns, shrubs, and decaying material. (2 words)
2. A variety of living things.
3. Plants growing on plants.
4. The largest number of plants and animals in the world live here.
5. Middle layer of the rainforest of trees and shrubs.
7. The uppermost layer of a rainforest, consists of the tops of the tallest trees.
8. A particular place an animal lives.
9. The layer of the rainforest made up of the tops of trees.



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