

# LIFE IN THE SPRAY ZONE

Station Cove Falls is a Spray Cliff ecosystem. Many plants and animals live in the wet environment around the waterfall. Watch carefully from the trail and see how many you can find.

**Salamanders** are often found near water. Like frogs, they are amphibians and lay their eggs in water. Salamanders should not be touched because they have sensitive skin.



**Ferns** are among the oldest plants on Earth and need moisture to reproduce. Instead of seeds, ferns use single cells called spores to reproduce.



**Snails** live in water and on land. Aquatic snails (snails that live in water) have gills for breathing. Land snails have a hole at the top of their shell to allow air through to their lungs.

**Butterflies** drink water and minerals from the damp mud near waterfalls because they cannot drink directly from the open water.



**Mosses**, like ferns, use spores to reproduce. Moss grows in wet areas because water helps it spread across rocks, trees, and soil.

**TRACK** your hike at  
[kidsinparks.com](http://kidsinparks.com)  
and get **FREE** prizes!



Visit our website to find more TRACK Trail™ adventures near you!

Thanks for joining us today!



## Follow us!

 @KidsInParks

 @KidsInParksBRPF



Kids in Parks is a program of the



Welcome to  
**OCONEE  
STATION**



Welcome to Oconee Station, the best place to trade for all your frontier living needs! Living in the 1790s isn't easy, but this Oconee Station guide will help you find everything you need for life on the frontier.

# OCONEE STATION

In the early 1700s, the Oconee Station property was known as the Cherokee Lower Town of Oconee Town. As South Carolinians pushed settlement westward, the people living in the Lower Towns moved North and West. Eventually Blockhouses were constructed along this western border to prevent conflicts between South Carolinian, Cherokee, and Creek communities.

## A PLACE FOR TRADE

This site became a major trading hub, connecting the northwestern point of South Carolina to the port of Charles Towne. Common trade goods included medicinal plants, fabrics, firearms, and animal skins. **What would you trade for these items?**

Skins



Clothing



Woven Belt



Beads



This exchange meant that Native and settler communities used many of the same items.

What similarities do you see?



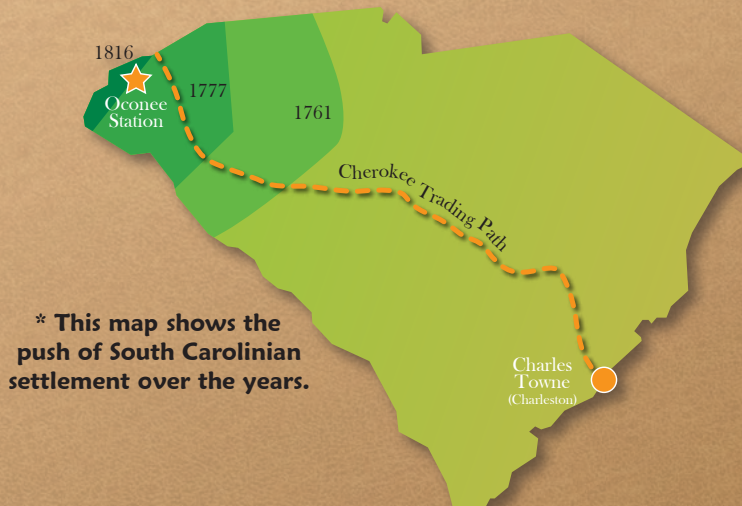


SETTLER



CHEROKEE

## TRADING ON THE TRAIL



\* This map shows the push of South Carolinian settlement over the years.

Similar to the trading path across the state, the trail you're taking today connects Oconee Station to Sumter National Forest to arrive at Station Cove Falls. Wayfinding is the process of using your surroundings to find your way in unfamiliar areas. Wayfinding skills were essential in connecting communities and completing trade.

**Test your wayfinding skills in the challenge below.**

### WAYFINDING CHALLENGE

Record 3 recognizable features along the trail. On your way back, look for those same features and check them off to verify you are still on the right trail.

Feature 1

What feature did you find?

Found again?

Feature 2

What feature did you find?

Found again?

Feature 3

What feature did you find?

Found again?

## "LAND BESIDE THE WATER"

"Oconee" is said to be an English approximation of a Cherokee language word meaning "land beside the water", coming from early explorers in the region. Make some observations about the water you have encountered along this hike.

**How fast is the river?**

Barely Moving            Very Fast

**How wide is the river?**

Narrow           Wide

**What type of environment is the river in?**

Rocky           Marshy

**Circle any of these river features you see!**

- waterfall
- lake
- cliffs
- river bend (meander)
- streams
- islands
- rapids
- marsh
- rocky riverbed

**Why do you think that water was important to early inhabitants of this land, Cherokee, and settlers?**

**Why is water still important today?**

**What can you do to protect waterways?**