

Hidden Wildlife

Beavers aren't the only creatures that live in and around Price Lake. What other wildlife can you find?



Eastern Box Turtle

Turtle

Turtles are cold-blooded and need to sit in the sun to warm their body temperature. Can you find a turtle sunning itself?

Bird

Price Lake is home to many types of birds. Ducks swim on the water, swallows and osprey soar overhead, and herons and kingfishers hunt at the water's edge. How many different birds can you find? _____



Great Blue Heron



Northern Water Snake

Snake

The most commonly observed snake at Price Lake is the northern water snake. Their color ranges from solid black to highly patterned. They can be seen swimming across the lake and sunning near the lake shore.

American Bullfrog

Frog

The most common frog here is the American bullfrog. They can be seen sitting along the edge of the lake, and when startled they will hop into the water. You may also be able to spot tadpoles or frog eggs in shallow water.



Tadpole

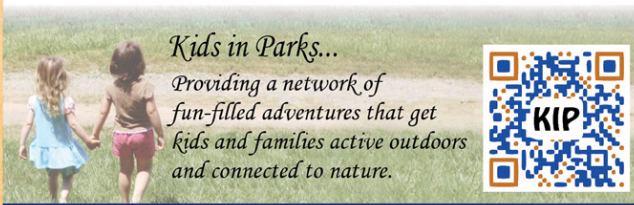
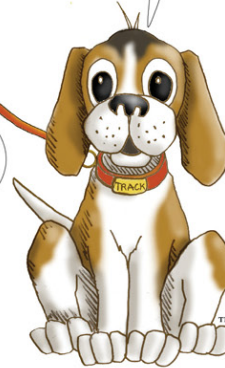
Designed by Elise A. Kahl

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The next generation of stewards will help preserve the world's plants, animals, natural lands and our heritage. What will you do to make a difference?



Kids in Parks...

Providing a network of fun-filled adventures that get kids and families active outdoors and connected to nature.



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Price Lake's

Hiking Scavenger Hunt

Hey TRACK, let's go on a scavenger hunt.

Sounds fun, KIP! We can go on an adventure on the Price Lake Trail.

Explore the trail along Price Lake and see what treasures you can find hiding here!



Discover Treasures around Price Lake

Hike along a portion of the Price Lake Trail and visit these colored zones to discover just a few of the stories the park has to tell.

Funky Tree Trunks

Shelf Mushroom

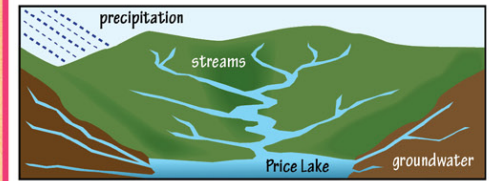
When you find a mushroom in the woods, you are seeing only a small part of the fungus. The mushroom is the "fruit" of the fungus. Mushrooms come in many different shapes. Can you find any shelf mushrooms on the trunks of trees?



Lichen

Have you ever seen a tree trunk that looks like it was painted? It may be covered in lichen! Lichen is an organism formed by algae and fungus combined. How many different colors of lichen can you find?

Water Directions



Rain and snow from the surrounding peaks flow into Boone Fork and other small creeks, draining into Price Lake. From the lake, water continues north into Boone Fork and then flows into the Watauga River and eventually the Mississippi River. How many other creeks can you find flowing into Price Lake?

Boone Fork



Active Beavers

Beavers here at the lake are always busy gnawing and cutting down trees. The wetland on the south end of the lake was created by beavers. They used logs and mud to block the stream and raise the water level so they could build their dome-like homes, called lodges, in the water.



Wetland



Chewed Trunk



Lodge

North American Beaver



Prehistoric Plants

Ferns and clubmosses are among the oldest types of plants on Earth and were one of the dominant plants when dinosaurs lived.



Leaflet with sori

Ferns

Ferns reproduce with spores instead of seeds. The spores are produced in bundles called sori, which usually grow on the underside of the fern's leaflets.



Clubmosses

Clubmosses are a group of plants that are closely related to ferns. Like ferns, clubmosses reproduce through spores.

Running-cedar

Look for a small plant with evergreen leaves that spread out like a fan.

Evergreen Shrubs

Rhododendron and mountain laurel are understory (lower level) plants. Their leathery oval leaves stay green through all four seasons.

Mountain Laurel

Look for five-sided flowers with pink stamens. The leaves are the length of an adult finger. The twisted crooked branches have a scratched appearance.



Rhododendron

Rhododendron have bright pink, purple, or white flowers. Leaves are about the length of an adult hand.



viewing platform



Price Lake

Boone Fork

boat house

kiosk