

PARK RANGER

STUDENT NAME:

CLASS:

DATE:

Hello, ranger!

Your mission in life is to protect natural resources so that people in the future may continue enjoying them. That's why you became a park ranger for your state parks. Your daily routine consists of patrolling the parks to make sure recreationists are following the law and not disrupting, polluting, or degrading the natural environment for other recreationists. Recently, you have been informed that a journalist will be writing an article about a family having a shore lunch in the state park. A shore lunch is when a family harvests, cooks, and shares a fish dinner near the shoreline of a lake, river, or waterway. Before writing the article, the journalist would like to know what you suggest the article highlights about this recreational activity. **From your experience, you think that recreationists sometimes get caught up in the fun and forget to respect the natural area where they recreate. That's why you believe the article should focus on how families can sustain their natural resources by following the laws and "leaving no trace".**

To pitch a great article, you should first **research** about the following topics that your family believes to be important:

- Families should remember to follow the law when fishing in the state park. Where can families buy fishing licenses for their trip? _____

- If families harvest too many of the fish in the park, the fish populations may crash and other anglers will not be able to enjoy the sport. What fishing regulations should families follow to limit their harvest of fish and conserve their natural resources? _____

- Your state park asks recreationists to follow the seven principles of "Leave No Trace" to conserve natural areas. Research these seven principles and critically think about how these would change a family's shore lunch.

- To reduce pollution, where should anglers dump their garbage and fish remains? _____

Then share your discoveries with your other team members who also have been invited to pitch ideas to the journalist. As a group, discuss how families could have a fun, healthy, and sustainable shore lunch. Then create a “How To Have a Family Shore Lunch” magazine article on a large poster. When writing the article, consider the following:

- How do families catch the fish?
- What recipe can they use?
- How do they cook it?
- How do they set up the shore lunch?
- What can families experience?

In Session 3, all the groups will pitch their magazine article to the journalist with supporting research and reasons. The class will then debate and select the best ideas from different articles to create the ultimate magazine article. So be creative and spruce your article up with graphics, images, and artwork to create a kick-butt article!