Junior Ranger
Arkansas Post National Memorial

Activity Book
National Park Service
To earn your Badge

Complete the three steps below:

1. Watch the movie and tour the visitor center

2. Take a self-guided tour of the historic town site or Nature Trail

3. Complete five activities in this Junior Ranger book.

When you are finished, bring your Junior Ranger book to the visitor center so a ranger can review it with you.

For online users:
Not all of the activities contained in this booklet can be completed online; however, many can be completed by using the information contained on the pages of the park website.
Flags Over Arkansas Post

Which was the first flag to fly over Arkansas Post, the second, etc. Write the order number in the first blank and the country the flag belonged to in the second blank.

1. Republican France
2. United States
3. Spain
4. United States (territorial)
5. “Colonial” France
6. Confederate States of America
Nature Hunt
Arkansas Post is home to a large variety of animals, birds and plants. How many of these did you see while walking in the park?

Draw a picture of your favorite animal found at Arkansas Post.

- Alligator
- Deer
- Armadillo
- Nutria
- Snake
- Poison Ivy
- Eagle
- Woodpecker
- Squirrel
- Osage orange
- Sassafras
- Ducks
Hernando De Soto was exploring for Spain. He passed through this land, but made no claim. LaSalle was the first to take a chance, On the Arkansas River, he claimed it for France. Henri de Tonti built the first Post. At the village of Kappa, with the Quapaw as host. Trappers and traders all passed this way. They traveled the river, but few would stay. They battled the floods and Indian crisis, Most trappers still left because of fur prices. They built a town where steamboats could stop. Their town had a tavern, a bank and a gin. Their story was told when the Gazette came in. As the first Capitol, the Post made it’s mark. Without a railroad close by, their future was dark. Most folks just left, for a city they wished. The few that stayed just hunted and fished.
Watch the Movie: Echoes of the Past

Now you be the movie critic, tell us what you think

What was your favorite part of the movie?

Tell us something you learned that you didn’t know before watching the movie.

If you were acting in this movie, which part would you want to play?

If you were the director of this movie, what would you change?
Date Detective

When did this happen? When you discover the answer, write it beside the events listed below:

A Revolutionary War battle was fought at Arkansas Post ______

The first issue of the Arkansas Gazette was printed ______

Arkansas Post became a National Memorial ______

A Civil War battle was fought at Arkansas Post ______

The Chickasaw Indians raided the Village at Arkansas Post ______

Arkansas Post became the first capitol of Arkansas ______

Hint:
To find a clue, investigate the time-line under the “History and Culture” tab.
You’re a reporter for the Arkansas Gazette, write your story about Arkansas Post.

If you need more space continue your story on the next page.
Exhibit Explorer

River Room:

What is the difference between a keel boat and flat boat?

What was the first steamboat to come to Arkansas Post?

If you were traveling to Arkansas Post by boat, which of the boats in the River room would you want to travel in?

Fur Room:

Look at the different types of furs in the fur room. What do you think they were used for?

What are some other items the early settlers traded to the Indians?

What kind of tools were used to trap and process the furs?
Let’s go to town!

You have a busy day ahead of you at the village of Arkansas Post. Read the signs and maps to determine where to go. Stand on the spot where you would accomplish your errands.

1. **You need money.** Go to the bank.

2. **The stores are all on Main Street.** Go to Main Street.

3. **Stop at the cotton gin** and make a deal on your crop.

4. **There’s an auction at Montgomery’s Tavern.** See what you can find and have lunch while you’re there.

5. **Visit the Notrebes.** Find out about their family.
In 1819 a young printer from New York named William Woodruff came to Arkansas Post to start a newspaper. He brought his printing press and equipment upriver on a small raft made by lashing two wooden dugout canoes together. This type of raft was called a bateau. He worked and lived in a two room log cabin.

On November 20, 1819 the first issue of the Arkansas Gazette was printed.
Quapaw Word Hunt

Find the words that are underlined in the story below. The words can be found across, down or diagonally.

The Quapaw Indians lived along the banks of the Arkansas River long before the French explorers founded Arkansas Post in 1686. They built homes of long cane poles that were covered with cane mats and cypress bark. They lived in four main villages along the Arkansas and Mississippi Rivers. The Quapaw hunted animals such as bear, beaver, and deer for food and clothing. They made canoes called dugouts from cypress and pine longs with stone tools. Their clothing was made from animal skins and they often wore beads and feathers in their hair. The Quapaw had many special dances like the calumet dance given to welcome visitors into the tribe. A calumet is a two-foot long pipe made of a hollow reed attached to a red clay bowl. Like many other Indian tribes, the Quapaw were forced to move from the Arkansas to the Indian Territory in what is now Oklahoma.
Indian Pow-Wow

Let’s talk about the Indians. There were three main tribes at Arkansas Post: the Quapaw, the Chickasaw and the Osage. Write the name of the tribe that fits the description below:

The French and Spanish were our friends. They made their home close to our village and we protected them. ________

We attacked the French village at Arkansas Post and killed 6 men. But we didn’t kill the women and children, we took them captive. ________

We never attacked the Post, but we killed hunters and trappers along the northern part of the Arkansas River – that’s our territory. ________

The British were our friends. We helped them attack the Spanish fort at Arkansas Post. ________

Our name means downstream people. ________
Great Cross Crossword
Across
1. Visitors may gather nuts from ____ trees in the historic town site.
2. ___________ published the Arkansas Gazette.
3. Arkansas Post is on the banks of the ________ River.
4. Fur _____ were traded at Arkansas Post.
5. _____ flags have flown over Arkansas Post.
7. The first Arkansas Legislature met at ________ tavern.
8. Dugout ________ were made from cypress trees.

Down
9. Arkansas Post National _____________.
10. Arkansas Post served as the Territorial ________ from 1819-1821.
11. The Quapaw ________ lived along the Arkansas River.
12. During the Civil War, the Confederate Fort was named _________.
13. Cannon ________ are shot from a cannon.
14. In the early morning and late afternoon ____ can be seen browsing in the park.
15. Wild turkeys eat acorns from ____ trees.