BE A HISTORY EXPLORER!

Junior Ranger Activity Book

Ages 11 to 13

Hampton National Historic Site

(Your Name)
What is a Junior Ranger?

Junior Rangers are special people who help National Park Service Staff and volunteers take care of our national parks.

As a Junior Ranger you will be expected to set an example for your family and other people who visit the park. You will help park rangers protect the park so that it looks the same when you leave as when you arrived.

Here’s how to become a Junior Ranger

• Visit the Mansion and the Lower Farm
• Complete five activities in this book
• Ask lots of questions!

When you are done, bring your booklet to the Visitor’s Center by 4 p.m. and get an official Junior Ranger badge.
Getting To Know Hampton...

1. Hampton Mansion was the home of the ___________family for over 150 years.

2. Hampton had ___ owners, or masters, who lived in the mansion from ________ to ___________ (years).

3. How many were named Charles?___________

4. How many were named John?___________

5. The Ridgely family ran Northampton ____________, which provided camp kettles, round shot, and _____________.

6. Indentured servants, paid workers, and African American ___________ worked at Hampton.

7. At its height in the 1820’s Hampton’s slave population numbered more than _________.

8. Name 4 jobs at Hampton that may have been performed by slaves.
   ____________________________   ____________________________
   ____________________________   ____________________________

9. In 1829, Governor Charles Carnan Ridgely manumitted, or ________, all enslaved females ages 25 to 45 and enslaved males ages 28 to 45.

10. Slavery at Hampton ended during the _____________ War, when Maryland passed a law against it in ___________.

11. The grounds are extensively landscaped including patterned formal gardens, called _____________.

12. The ice house in front of the mansion goes down ____ feet into the ground. With the ice, the Ridgelys could have ______________.
Hampton National Historic Site has six terraced gardens. They are called parterres (say “par – TAYR”), which is French for “on the ground.” The gardens were not designed to be mazes but to slow people down so that they could enjoy nature.

Find your way through these terraced gardens without crossing any solid lines. If you get stuck, go take a look at the parterres of Hampton, on the South side of the Mansion!
Symmetry
Lost & Found

The Ridgely’s mansion is a Georgian style, which means that it has symmetry. When a building has symmetry it means that if you folded a picture of it in half the doors, windows, and other parts would all match up.

This image of the mansion is correct.

In this image, 10 pieces have been removed, messing up the symmetry. Circle the changes.
Inside the mansion, pictures of the Ridgely family, called portraits, hang on many of the walls. They capture the faces of these people, preserving them in history.

The portrait of Eliza E. Ridgely is especially important. When it was sold to the National Art Gallery in Washington, D.C., the director, David Finlay, saw the problems with Hampton Mansion.
He went to the Mellon family who purchased John Jr.’s estate. The sale of Eliza’s portrait saved the mansion and the history it tells.

In the mansion, a smaller portrait of Eliza hangs. It was another artist, Rembrant Peele’s version of the original, called a “study” because he was studying the style of the first artist, Thomas Sully. Do your own “study” of Eliza Ridgely’s portrait in this frame.
For this activity you will need to go to the Hampton cemetery. You can learn many things about the past from cemeteries; the headstones can give you clues. Many deaths within one year may indicate a dangerous illness or natural disaster like a flood or tornado. Inscriptions, or writings on the headstones, may give you clues about a person’s life. For example, most of the headstones have the name Ridgely on them, however some do not. Some names belong to relatives of the Ridgelys, while others belong to people who are not related.

There are two servants buried in the cemetery. Can you find them? ___________  ___________

One woman opened a school for girls in Liberia, West Africa. Write her name here. ______________

You can also tell how old a person lived to be by subtracting the year they were born from the year in which they died. Find out the ages of the people listed below.

Helen Stewart Ridgely, daughter of John and Helen Stewart Ridgely. __________
John Ridgely, Jr. of Hampton.__________
John Ridgely, son of E.R. White and J.R. White.___________
What animal is on his headstone to show he was a child?_______

In the 18th century, cemeteries were not only used to house the dead but also some of the first “parks” and people would stroll through and even picnic in cemeteries. What object in the cemetery hints at this use? ______________
Searching the Grounds

To find the answers to these questions, walk the grounds around the mansion.

1. What is the name for the two knotted trees behind the Orangery? They began growing in about 1774, the year before the United States was created. __________  __________

2. What year did the Orangery burn down? __________ 

3. What is the mound out in front of the mansion? __

4. What three names are carved in the window to the right on the front porch?

   ___________  ___________  ___________

5. The herb garden is planted in the foundation of what building? ________________

6. What tree is this?
Visit the Home Farm across Hampton Lane to answer the crossword puzzle.

The enslaved African Americans who worked for the Ridgelys were mistreated and many escaped. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (1D) slave ads were used by the Ridgelys to find and recapture those who escaped. _ _ _ _ (2D) Jackson escaped from the Ridgelys and, after slavery ended, hired a lawyer to write to the Ridgelys asking for her belongings.

Jackson escaped from the Ridgelys and, after slavery ended, hired a lawyer to write to the Ridgelys asking for her belongings.

The _ _ _ _ (5D) at the top of the Lower House was used by the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (7D) to call enslaved workers from the slave _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (6D), where they lived, to the fields to work or to help in case of emergency. After slavery ended, _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (4D) farmers worked out in the fields and Charles Bud, the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (3D) lived in the log building.

On their farm, the Ridgelys grew _ _ _ _ _ (2A) and corn and trained _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (4A), such as Postboy, who won several trophies. They raised cows for milk and used the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (6A) building, which has a spring running through it, to cool the milk to churn into _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (1A). The Ridgelys also raised chickens and sold the _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (7A) in Towsontown, now called Towson. Captain Jack Ridgely did not like modern technology, like cars, and was not happy when his sons bought _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (5A) for the farm. He thought _ _ _ _ _ _ _ (3A) and plows worked the fields just fine.
Slavery, especially here in Maryland, was different under each master, or slave owner. The life of an enslaved African American depended on chance, on which master owned them and if they could escape; it was not a game. For this activity you need dice. Ask at the Visitor Hyphen desk for a die.

Roll the die one time. Did you get a “2”? YES NO
African Americans had a 12% chance of not being enslaved, less likely than you rolling a “2.”

Roll the die again. Did you get a “6”? YES NO
In 1860, Marylanders owned 12% of the enslaved African Americans in the country, a little less likely than you rolling a “6.”

Roll the die twice. Add the numbers. Is the sum greater than “3”? YES NO
Ninety percent of enslaved African Americans worked on farms or plantations, the same chance as you rolling a combined number greater than “3.”

Roll the die twice. Add the numbers. Is the sum greater than “4”? YES NO
Eighty-four percent of enslaved African Americans were sold during their lifetime, a little greater chance than your chance to roll a combined sum greater than “4.”

Roll the die twice. Add the numbers. Is the sum less than “4”? YES NO
When enslaved African Americans were sold, sometimes their families were split apart. Your chance of rolling less than a “4” is 8%, about the same as the chance of an enslaved child being sold away from their parents or an enslaved adult being sold without their spouse and any children.

Roll the die twice. Add the numbers. Is the sum “4” or “5”? YES NO
If an enslaved African American ran away, trying to find freedom, they had a 20% chance of getting away, the same as your chance of rolling a combined sum of “4” or “5.” The other 80% were recaptured and often beaten for trying to escape.

Roll the die twice. Add the numbers. Is the sum greater than “12”? YES NO
You cannot roll higher than a “12” with two rolls, a 0% chance. African Americans, Native Americans, and Mulattos (people of mixed race) had no legal rights whether they were enslaved or free. In fact, the law stated that they could be punished for raising a hand to a white person even in self defense. The recommended punishment was cropping, or cutting off the top half of the ear.
Congratulations! This certifies that

________________________

is an official Junior Ranger at

Hampton National Historic Site
Towson, Maryland

As a Hampton National Historic Site Junior Ranger, I promise to learn as much as I can about our National Parks, to help the Rangers protect the cultural and natural resources of our parks, and to obey regulations so that the parks will be here for future generations to enjoy.

________________________      ___________________

(Date)        (Park Ranger)

Thank you for visiting Hampton National Historic Site. We hope that you enjoyed learning about the estate, how it worked, and the many people, slave and free, that lived here. We also hope that you understand the need to preserve original objects, buildings, and landscapes to use as clues when exploring the past.

Hampton National Historic Site is one of almost 400 parks in our National Park system. Please look for the Junior Ranger program at some of the other National Park sites that you visit.

The National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.