

## The image displays two official logos side-by-side. On the left is the logo for the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management. It is a triangular shield shape with a blue border. The top section is blue with the text "U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR" and "BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT" in white. The bottom section is a stylized landscape with green hills, a blue river, and a green evergreen tree. On the right is the National Park Service logo, which is an arrowhead shape with a brown border. It features a brown background with a white silhouette of a bison at the bottom, a green evergreen tree on the left, and a white mountain range in the background. The text "NATIONAL PARK SERVICE" is written in white on the right side.



Figure 1. Map of the Gold Belt Byway. Each location has its own unique icon used throughout the book

7) Skyline Drive was built in 1909 by prison labor along the hogback of the Dakota Group, and offers a wonderful view of local stratigraphy and the Cañon City Basin. More recently, an extensive dinosaur trackway was discovered at the top of the hogback preserving the prints of at least two different species.



Geologic time is a recurring theme throughout the book. A time scale of all eras and periods of the Phanerozoic is presented with a description of how it is used. Each site in the book is discussed with a graphic representation of the geologic age of that site and a unique symbol to illustrate its geologic importance (Figure 1). The final activity in the book asks the reader to use that information to put the sites in stratigraphic order. In this way, readers begin to learn how geologists correlate widespread outcrops (Figure 2).

Eon	Era	Period
Phanerozoic	Cenozoic	
		Paleogene
	Mesozoic	Cretaceous
		Jurassic
	Paleozoic	
		Pennsylvanian
Ordovician		
Precambrian		



Figure 2. Geologic Time in the Gold Belt Byway. Readers discover the relative ages of each location by matching colors to the correct geologic age.

Through the geology of each site, readers learn to recognize common types of rock and how to interpret them. Readers are presented with the definition and significance of several rock types both in the text and in an illustrated chart. This chart is used in two activities that ask readers to make an interpretation based on lithology, and to match depositional environments to their corresponding rock types (Figure 3).

Although the primary age group targeted in the book is 9-12, activities for all ages are included so younger children can participate. Additionally, activities were designed to meet Colorado Academic Standards for Science, and fulfill standards specific to 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th grades. Readers are encouraged to read this book with family, friends, or teachers who can help them to get the most out of the material.

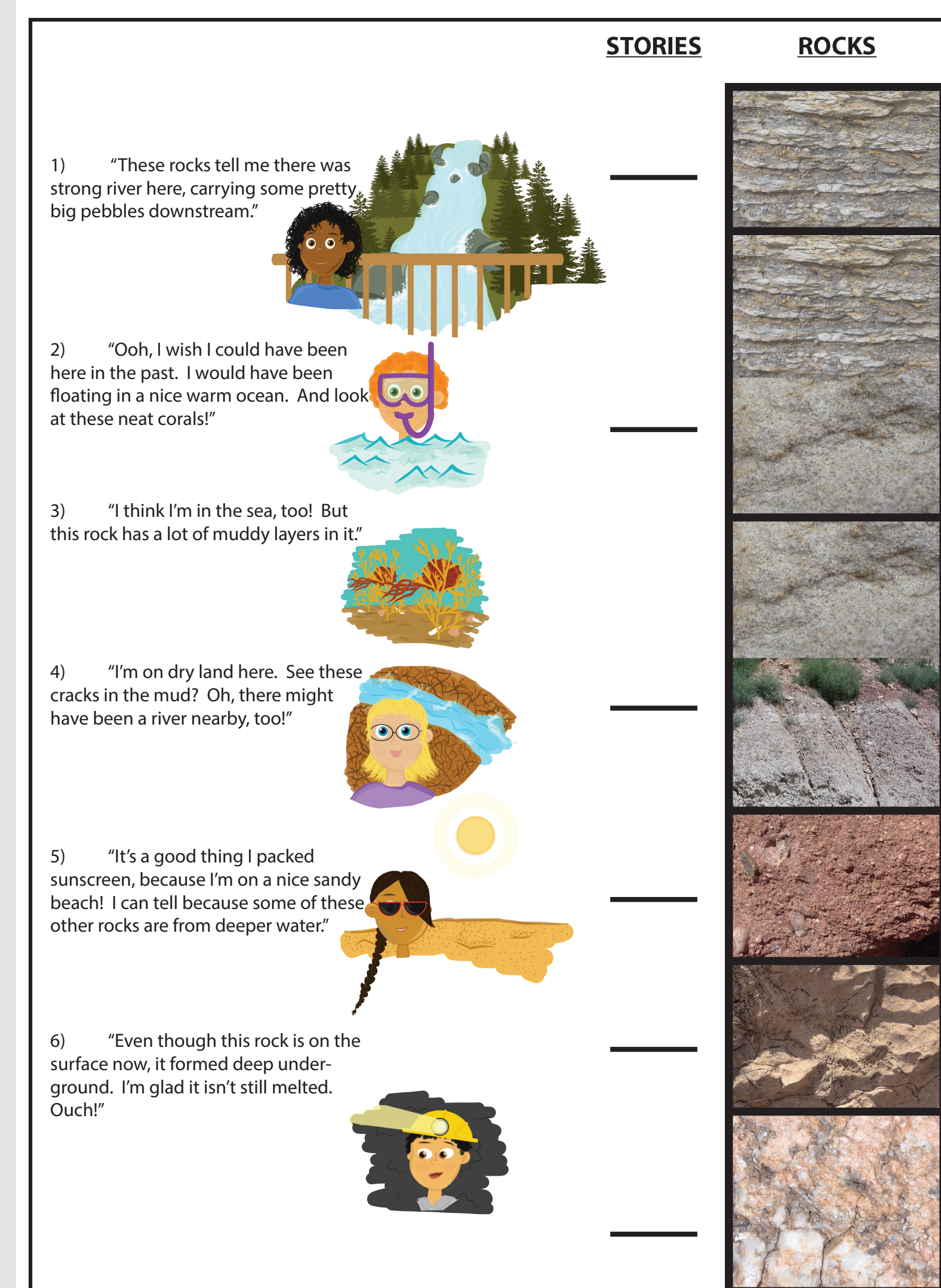


Figure 3. The Story of Colorado. Readers understand how depositional environments are reflected in the rock record by matching descriptions to corresponding rock types.

An essential theme for this activity booklet is encouraging diversity in STEM fields. The illustrations used throughout depict a multicultural view of who can be a Junior Explorer. Readers are accompanied through the activities by characters from a variety of backgrounds to demonstrate that science is not the specialty of any one demographic (Figure 4).

The book is being disseminated in hardcopy from several locations along the Gold Belt Byway including the Visitor Center at Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument, museums in Cripple Creek and Victor, and the BLM Royal Gorge Field Office in Cañon City. Additionally, the book is available as a PDF file from the Gold Belt Byway Association website and the BLM Junior Explorer website.



Figure 4. The Junior Explorers represent a variety of backgrounds, and accompany readers through activities and text.

Children who read *The Geology of the Gold Belt Byway* Junior Explorer Book will:

- 1) Know where to find several points of geologic and historic interest along the Gold Belt Byway.
- 2) Understand how geologists and paleontologists interpret the past based on rocks and fossils.
- 3) Be able to identify several common types of rock found in the Gold Belt area.
- 4) Understand the Geologic Time Scale and how it is used.
- 5) Be able to describe how Colorado's geologic past has shaped the present.
- 6) Be able to make good choices for the conservation and stewardship of public lands (Figure 5).

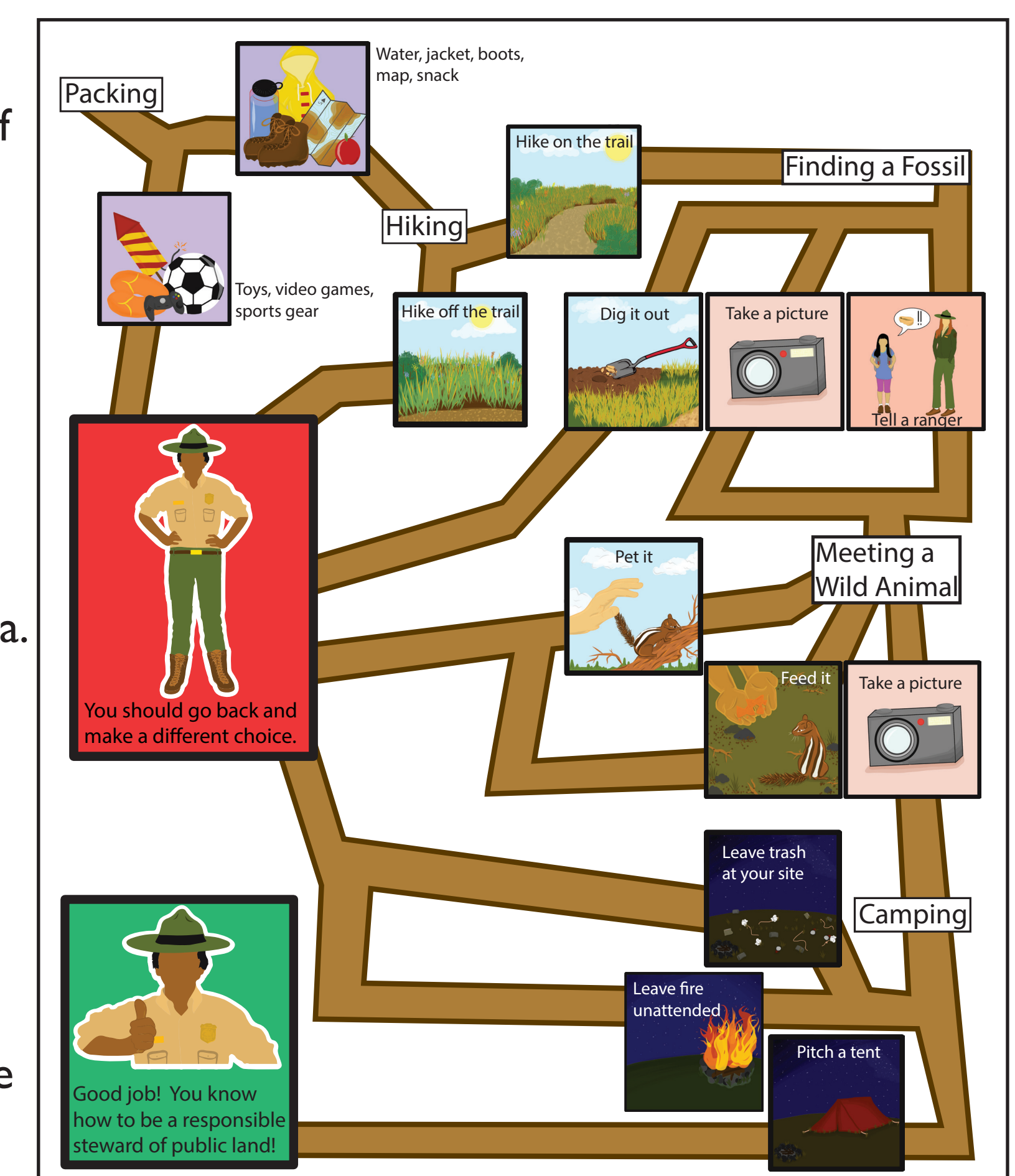


Figure 5. Stewardship. Readers learn how to make responsible use of public lands by navigating this maze of choices. Good decisions allow the reader to progress, whereas poor choices require the reader to rethink their behavior before proceeding.

We thank GeoCorps America and the Geological Society of America for sponsoring this project through internships at the Bureau of Land Management Royal Gorge Field Office and at Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. We thank Herb Meyer and the staff at Florissant, the staff at the Royal Gorge Field Office, Renee Garfias, and our fellow GeoCorps interns.