STATEHOUSE EDUCATION CENTER



CAMP INDIANA SPRING 2021

BROWN COUNTY STATE PARK

Brown County State Park is the largest of Indiana's 24 state parks. Opening in 1929, the park has been home to some of the best fall colors in the state. The park has the nickname "Little Smokies" because people compare it to the Great Smoky Mountains.

The park was created as a part of a 1927 legislation by the Indiana General Assembly that allowed county commissioners to donate land to establish state parks. The Brown County commissioners donated 1,129 acres of land to become a park. The park grew in 1941 with the unification of the Brown County Game Preserve and the state park. The whole area was designated as a nature preserve.

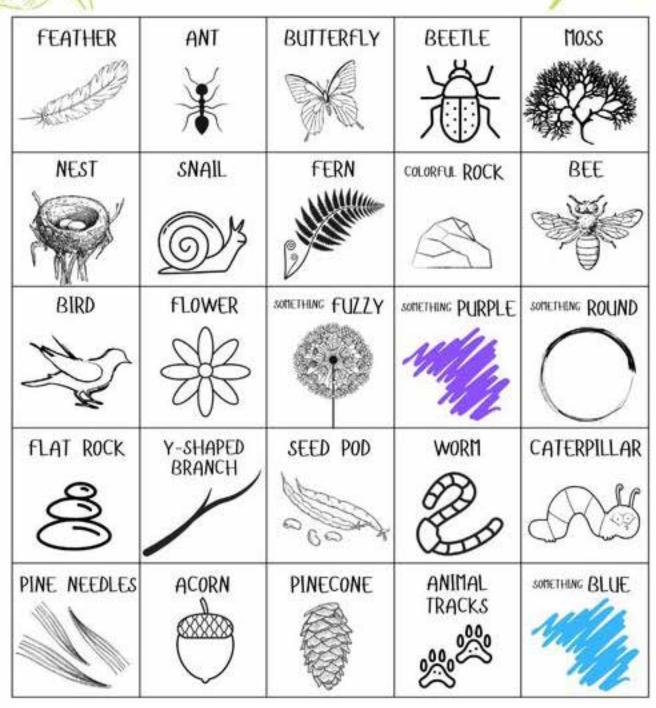
Much like some of the other state parks in Indiana, the Civillian Conservation Corps (CCC) were important in developing the area into what we know today. The CCC was a program created by president FDR to provide jobs to the American people suffering from the Great Depression. In 1933, eleven CCC groups were sent to the park.



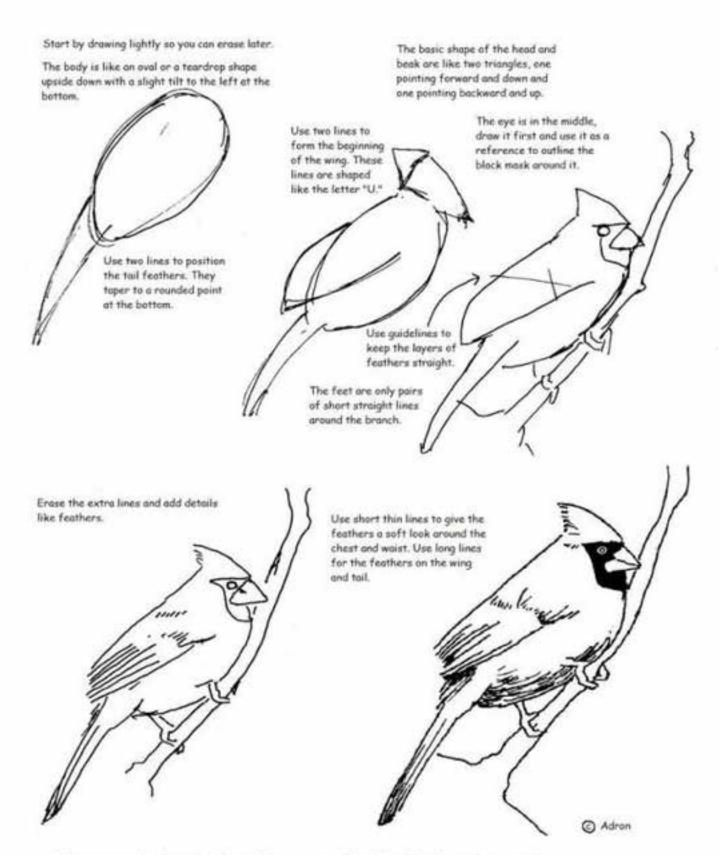
Each group had 200 members, so that was 2,200 people working on various things around the park. Workers created trails, bridges, roads, water supplies, and worked on the construction of shelters and other park buildings. One major thing CCC members worked on was prevent erosion by planting more trees such as walnut, pine, and spruce.

In 1932, the lodge at the park was dedicated to Frank McKinney Hubbard. Hubbard was a resident of Indianapolis, but that didn't stop him from visiting the park any chance he got. He was a well known cartoonist and humorist who created cartoons to be in the Indianapolis News. The Abe Martin Lodge was named after one of Hubbard's most popular characters, and is the main loddging at the park. The main lodge has 30 guest rooms, a restaurant, and an indoor waterpark was recently added.

DNATURE SCAVENGER HUNT



HOW TO Draw A Cardinal Bird Worksheet



If you work in color this can be a beautiful picture; use red for the bird. Put blues and greens in the background.