

**COME EXPLORE**  
*The North Platte River*  
**IN CASPER, WYOMING**



**RIVER NATURE**  
**BIRDS AND ANIMALS**  
**OBSERVATION**  
**COLORING**  
**READING & WRITING**  
**HISTORY**



**RIVER TRAIL**  
*Activity Book*





LET'S  
GET READY

## FOR OUR ADVENTURE ON THE RIVER TRAIL

Before we head out on the trail to learn and observe, there are a few things we need to do and bring to make this adventure safe and fun. The trail is a super place but it can be full of surprises, so be prepared, pay attention and most of all have fun!

Wear appropriate clothing for the conditions such as good shoes, a hat and a jacket if it's chilly or windy. Check the weather conditions before you head out so you'll know what to expect.



-  Bring a pencil and crayons to use with your Explorer Kit.
-  Wear sunglasses and apply sunscreen all year round to protect against our bright Wyoming sunshine.
-  Bring a backpack to store the things you'll need on your outdoor adventure like bandaids.
-  Bring a bottle of water to stay hydrated so you can have fun on the trail for as long as you want.



REMEMBER, IF YOU GET LOST, STAY WHERE YOU ARE!

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# YOUR RIVER TRAIL ADVENTURE

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**LEARNING IN NATURE IS FUN!** These art, science, wellness, environmental and history activities will make exploring the Platte River Trail in Casper, Wyoming a great adventure. We invite you to step out on the River Trail and look around and use this Outdoor Explorer Kit as your guide. Chock-full of fun ideas and information, this kit is designed to make learning about our region's history as well as what you can see and do as you walk along the North Platte River corridor fun for all!

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## PLACES TO EXPLORE



### Our Trails

Pioneer Route to Community Pathway



### Our History

Oil Capital to Activity Hub



### Our River

Water Route West to Recreation Corridor



### Shared Spaces

Non-motorized corridor to activity central

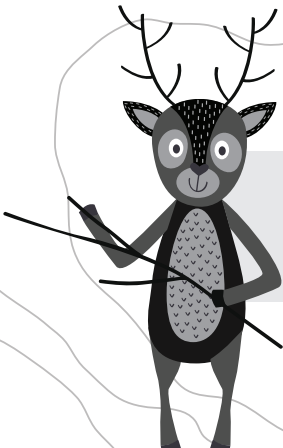


### DOWNTOWN

Art 321 to The Nicolaysen Art Museum

### HEADED TO THE MOUNTAIN

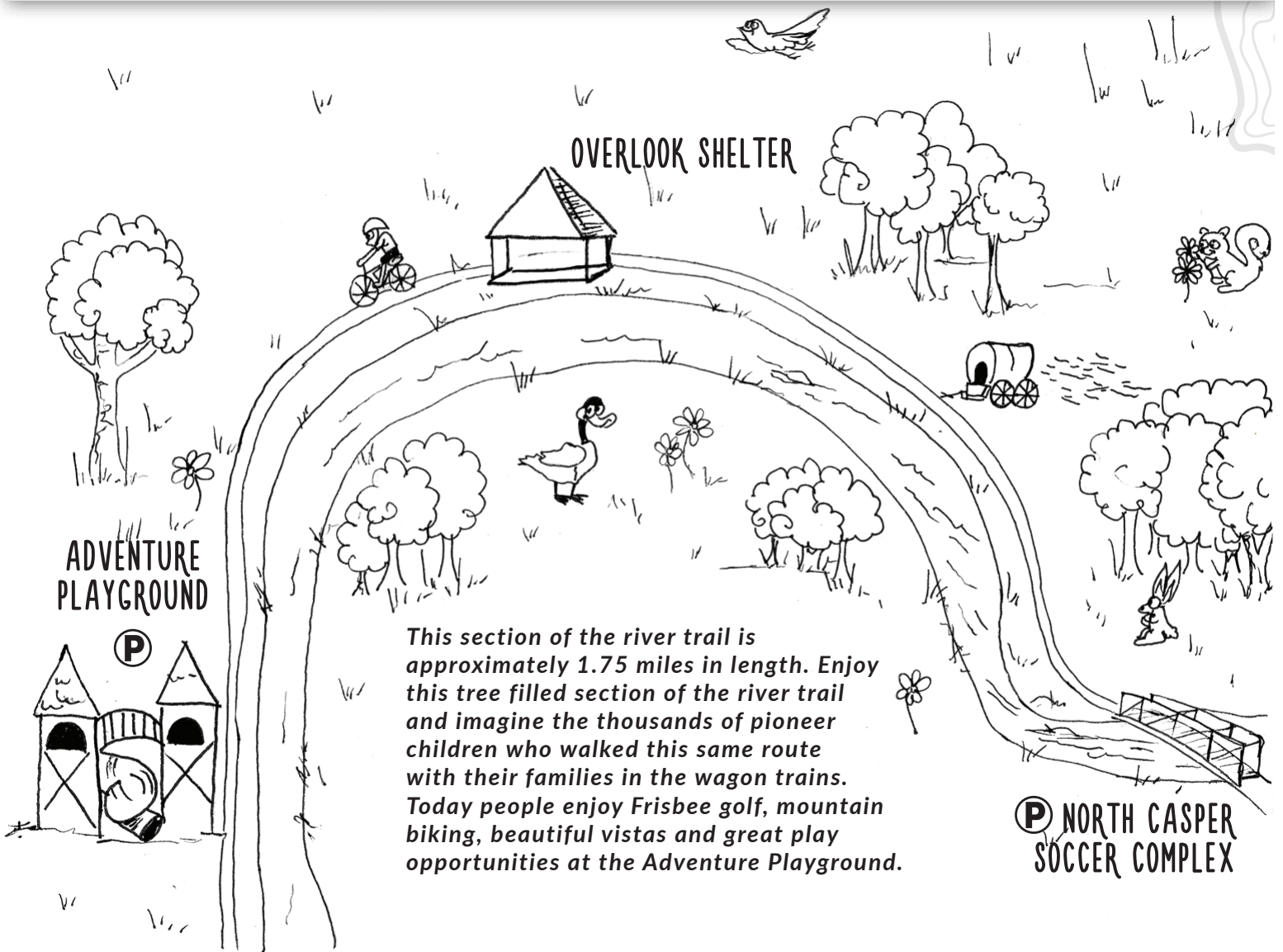
Leading The Way





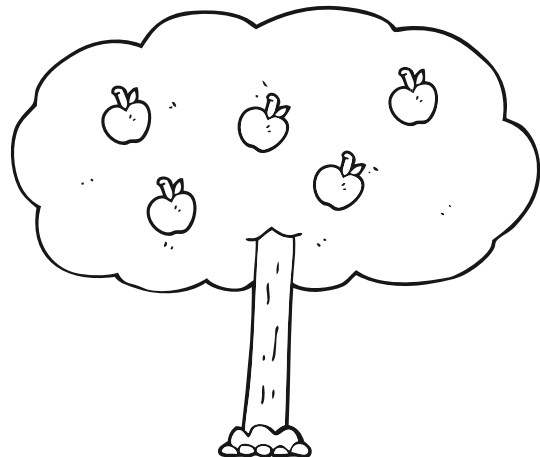
# Our Trails:

## PIONEER ROUTE TO COMMUNITY PATHWAY



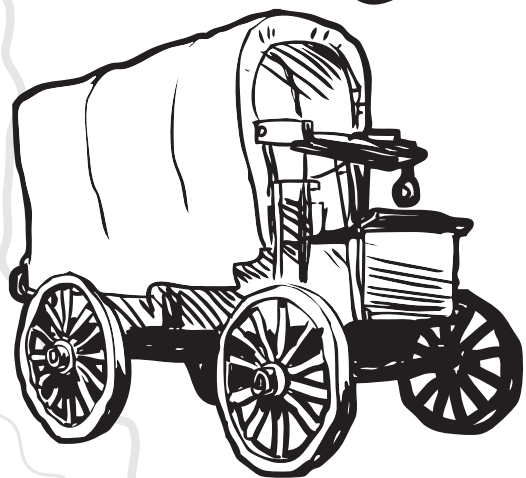
### COLOR THE APPLE TREE

You might see one on this section of the trail!

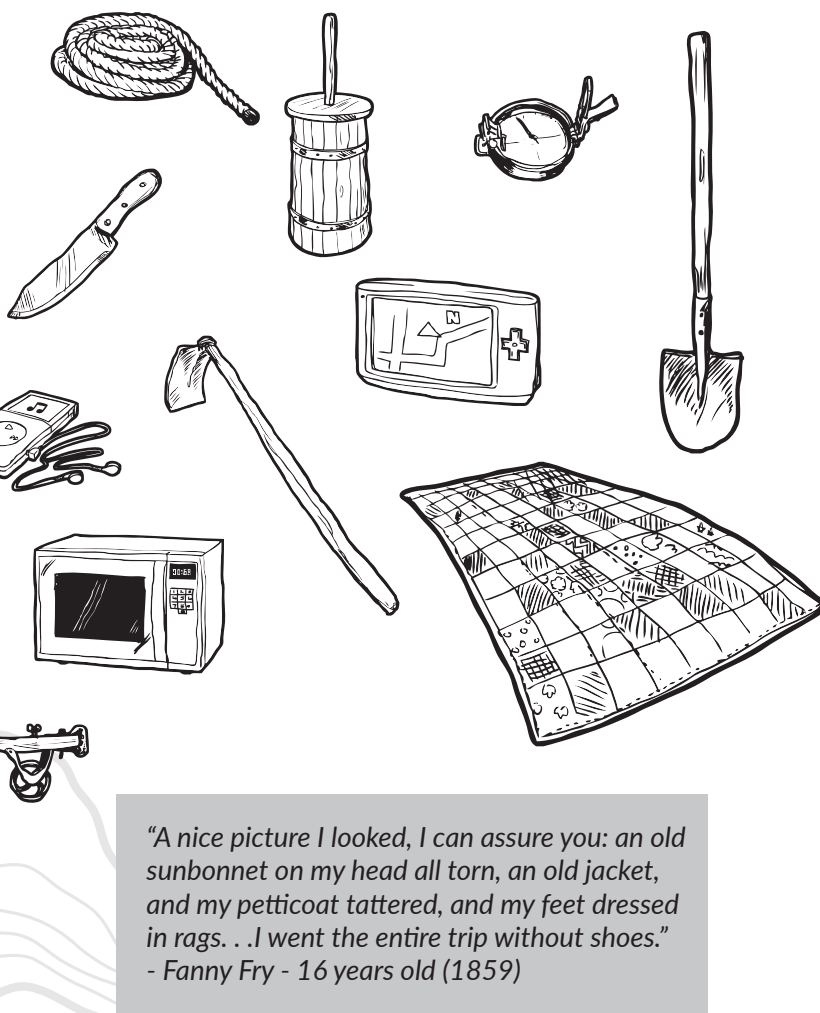


# A Day's TRAVEL WALKING WEST Along a Pioneer trail

*How would it feel to walk all day -- every day -- for four to six months? Even with oxen doing the heavy pulling, an average family covered only twelve miles daily -- that's about 27,600 steps for an adult and 31,700 for children.*



What will you pack  
in the covered  
wagon for your trip  
**WEST?**



*"A nice picture I looked, I can assure you: an old sunbonnet on my head all torn, an old jacket, and my petticoat tattered, and my feet dressed in rags. . . I went the entire trip without shoes."  
- Fanny Fry - 16 years old (1859)*

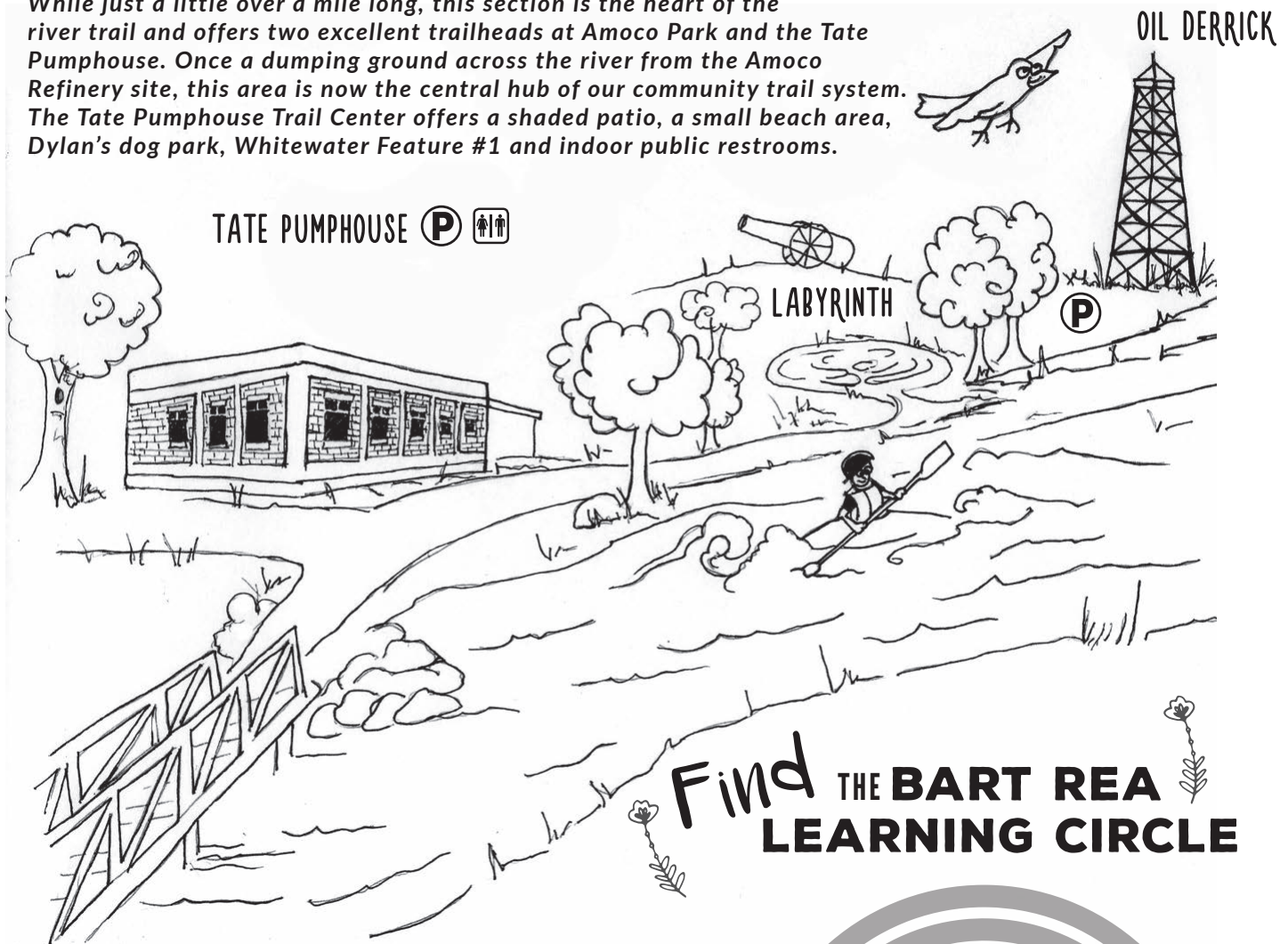
To learn more about the importance of the four National Historic pioneer trails and experience a virtual wagon ride, visit the National Historic Trails Interpretive Center  
1501 N. Poplar, Casper, WY - 307.261.7700





# Our History: OIL CAPITAL TO ACTIVITY HUB

While just a little over a mile long, this section is the heart of the river trail and offers two excellent trailheads at Amoco Park and the Tate Pumphouse. Once a dumping ground across the river from the Amoco Refinery site, this area is now the central hub of our community trail system. The Tate Pumphouse Trail Center offers a shaded patio, a small beach area, Dylan's dog park, Whitewater Feature #1 and indoor public restrooms.



**Did you know if you walk the whole labyrinth path it is almost 3 football fields?**

**A hidden find.** Did you come across tree stumps with miniature labyrinths carved in them in the park in the north, south, east, and west directions? On these, trace the path with your finger. There's only one way in, and one way out. Enjoy the journey in nature.



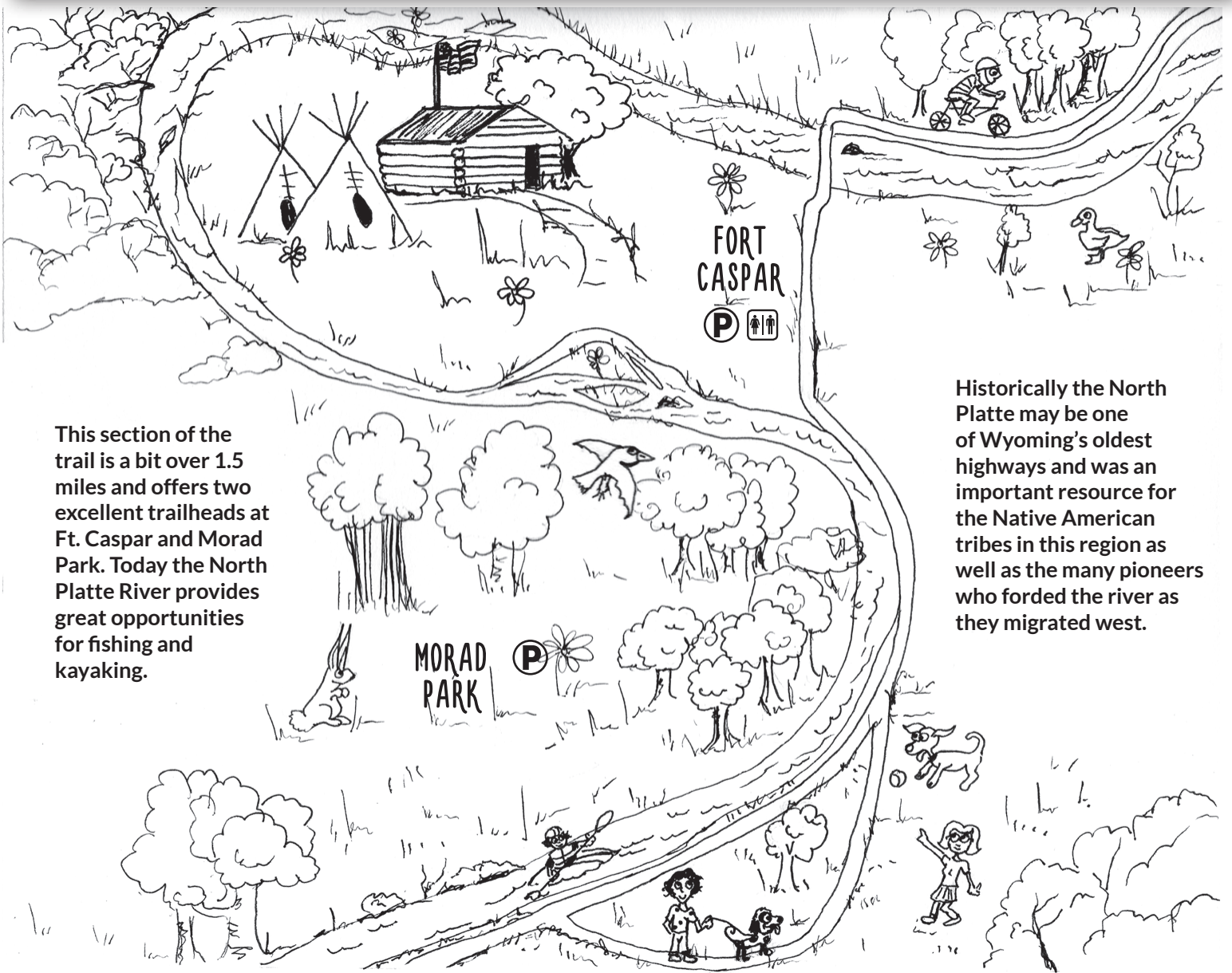
# LOCAL ARTIST Zachary Pullen

HAS CREATED THIS FUN DRAWING FOR YOU TO COLOR.





# Our River: RIVER HIGHWAY TO RECREATION CORRIDOR



This section of the trail is a bit over 1.5 miles and offers two excellent trailheads at Ft. Caspar and Morad Park. Today the North Platte River provides great opportunities for fishing and kayaking.

Historically the North Platte may be one of Wyoming's oldest highways and was an important resource for the Native American tribes in this region as well as the many pioneers who forded the river as they migrated west.

**HOW MANY DIFFERENT BIRDS CAN YOU SEE?**

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# Water Safety Tips

- ALWAYS WEAR A LIFE JACKET
- NEVER GO ALONE
- DON'T STAND UP IN MOVING WATER
- REACH OR THROW, DON'T GO
- RETURN YOUR LIFE JACKET

**RESPECT  
OUR RIVER**



## HOW TO SAFELY APPROACH A DOG

### ASK FIRST, APPROACH SLOWLY

Don't just reach out and pet someone's dog without asking first. Ask the owner if the dog is friendly and if they like to be petted.

### READ DOGGIE BODY LANGUAGE

Keep an eye on the dog's body language. A dog with a loose body and wagging tail is happy and open to human interaction. A dog with a stiff body and tail that is tucked under just wants to be left alone.

### BE RESPECTFUL

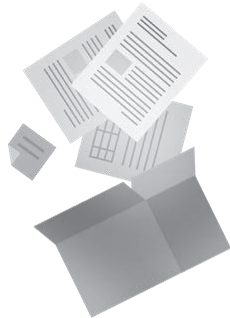
If an owner says not to pet their dog, don't take it personally or if the dog pulls away from you or shows other signs that they don't want to interact, it's not your fault.



## KEEP OUR RIVER CLEAN

**THROW IT IN THE TRASH CAN!**

**WHAT DOESN'T BELONG IN THE RIVER?**

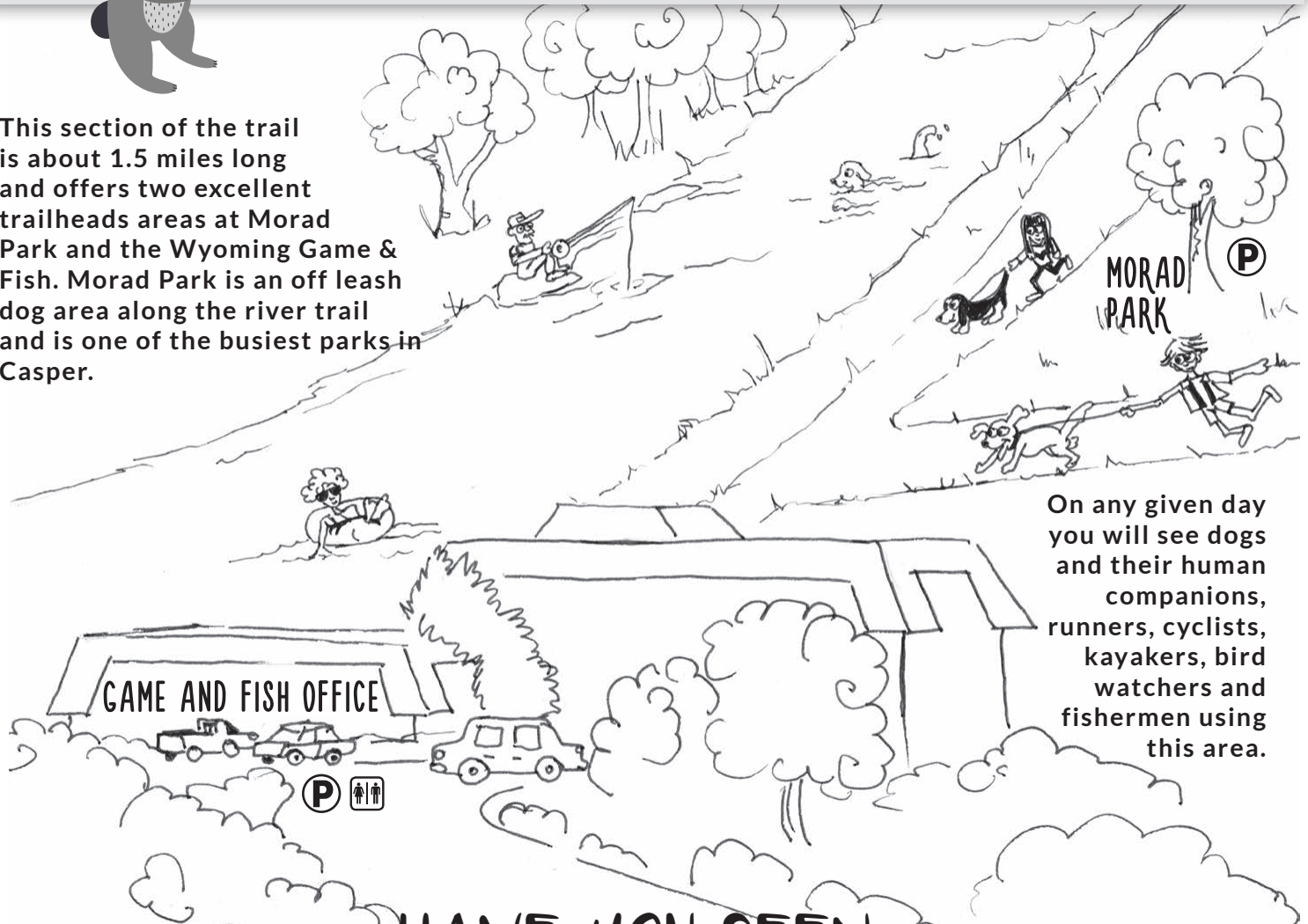


Take it with you  
if you can't find  
a trash can!  
Recycle when  
possible.



# Shared Spaces: NON-MOTORIZED CORRIDOR TO ACTIVITY CENTRAL

This section of the trail is about 1.5 miles long and offers two excellent trailheads areas at Morad Park and the Wyoming Game & Fish. Morad Park is an off leash dog area along the river trail and is one of the busiest parks in Casper.



On any given day you will see dogs and their human companions, runners, cyclists, kayakers, bird watchers and fishermen using this area.

## HAVE YOU SEEN THESE ANIMAL TRACKS?

GOOSE



SQUIRREL



BEAVER



MULE  
DEER



RACCOON



WILD TURKEY



MINK



MUSKRAT



RAINBOW  
TROUT



WATERFOWL

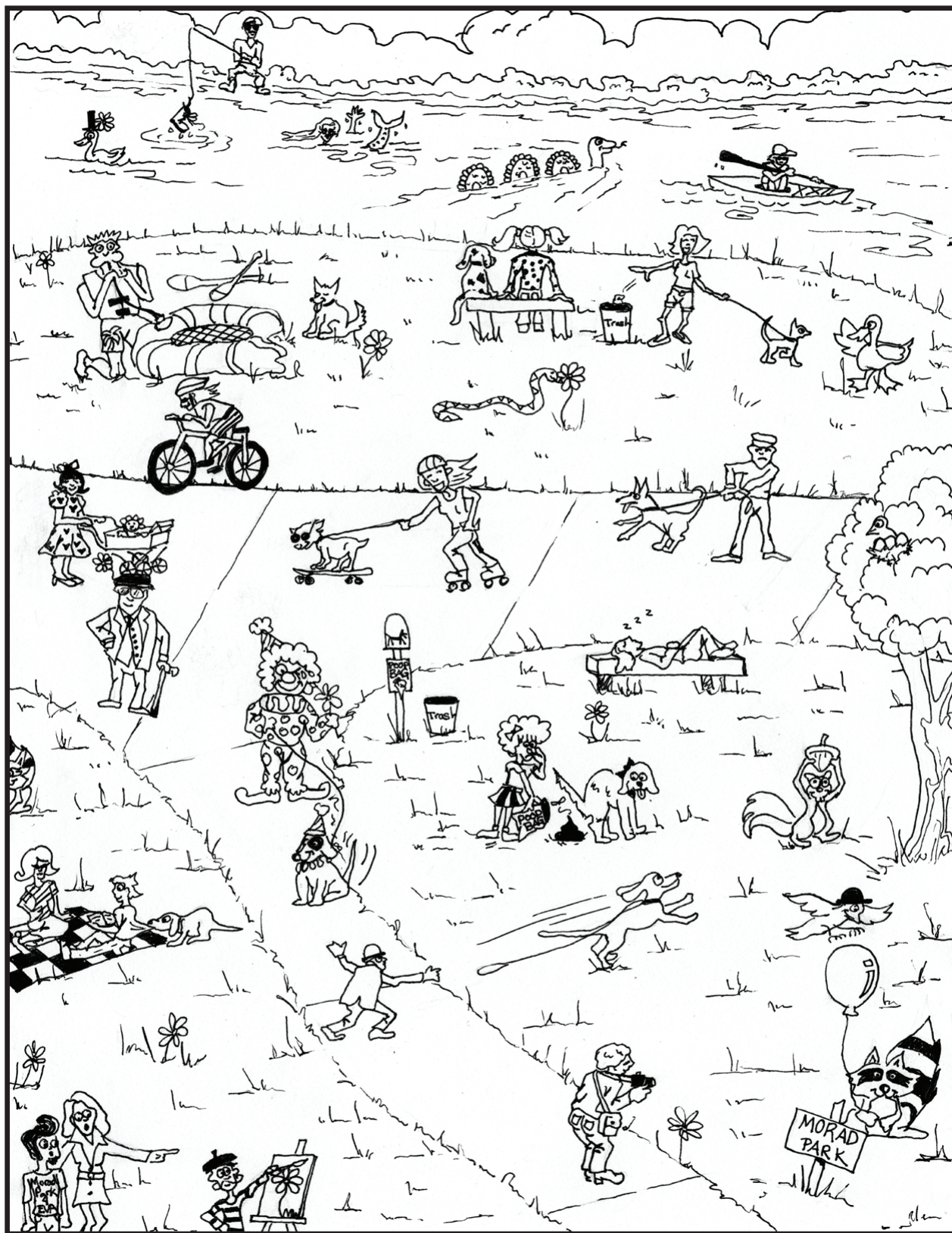




# Morad Park

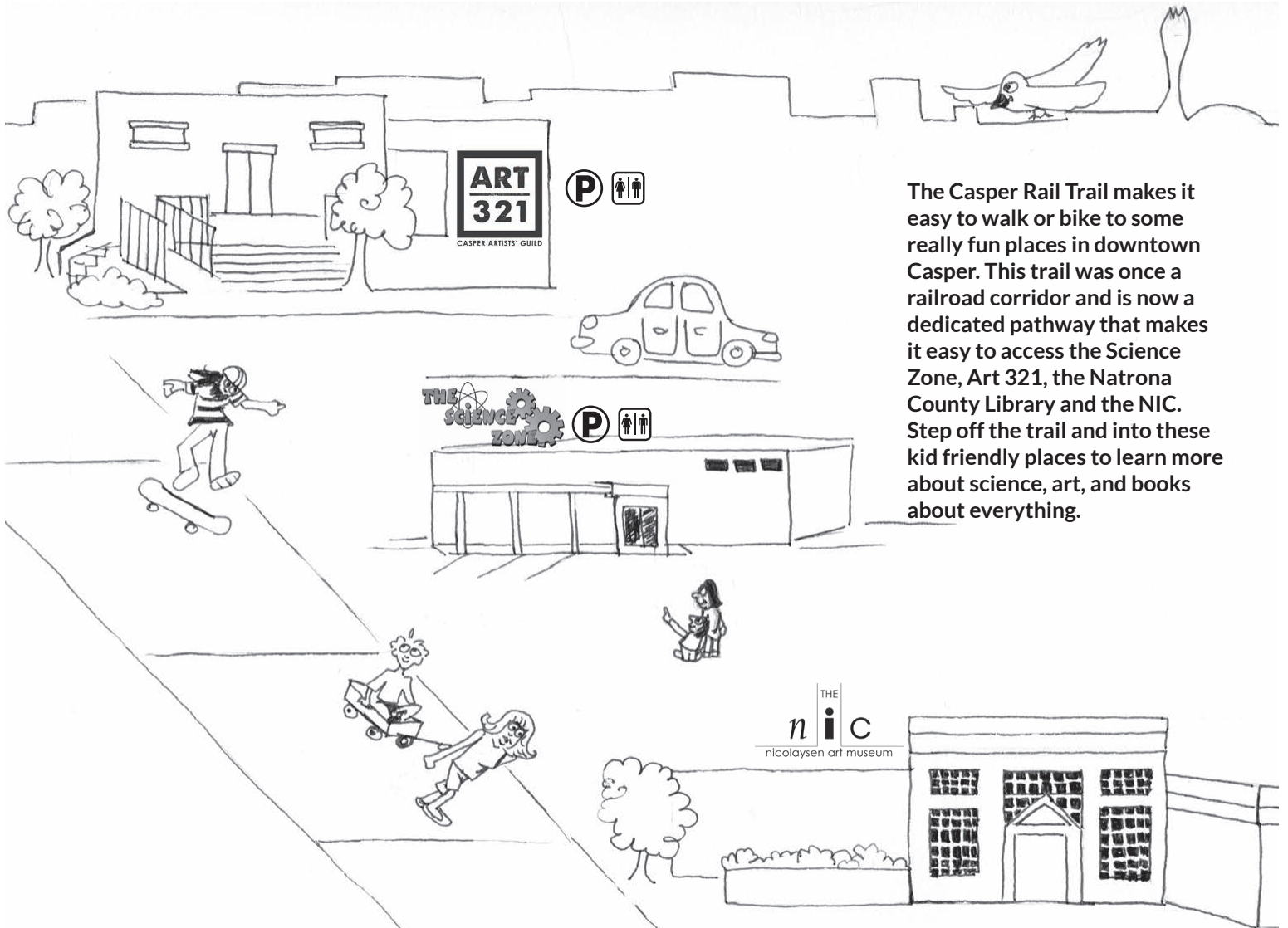
## COLOR THIS BUSY AREA

**FIND:** A mermaid, Loch Ness Monster, a snake, a dog on a skate board, a raccoon with a balloon, and a bird with a hat. Then count the active people, flowers, and birds!





# DOWNTOWN ART 321 TO THE NICOLAYSEN



The Casper Rail Trail makes it easy to walk or bike to some really fun places in downtown Casper. This trail was once a railroad corridor and is now a dedicated pathway that makes it easy to access the Science Zone, Art 321, the Natrona County Library and the NIC. Step off the trail and into these kid friendly places to learn more about science, art, and books about everything.

## SOUNDS AROUND YOU!

Pay attention to the sounds around you. How do the sounds in the city compare to the sounds along the river?

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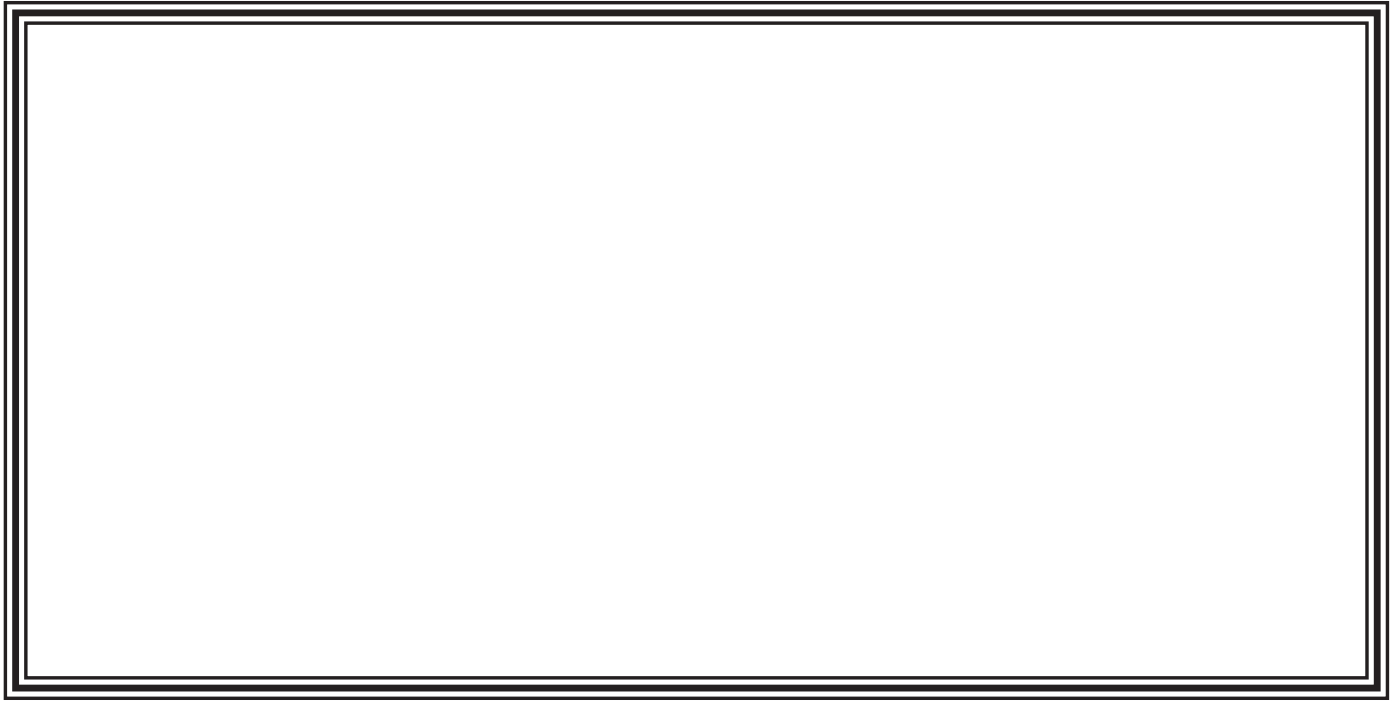
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# DRAW YOUR FAVORITE THING ALONG THE TRAIL.

Like a flower, an animal, a sculpture or a building



## YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE OUTSIDE TO EXPLORE!

The Rail Trail connects you to these kid friendly places. Head inside and check them out!



### Art 321

Exercise your creativity at the home of the Casper Artist's Guild. Enjoy art created by local artists or lounge and explore the extensive art library.



### The Science Zone

Enjoy hands-on science related exhibits about dinosaurs, engineering, design and other interesting science experiments.



### The Nicolaysen Art Museum

Spend some time in The Discovery Center at the NIC and experience this hands-on, interactive art-activity area for visitors of all ages.

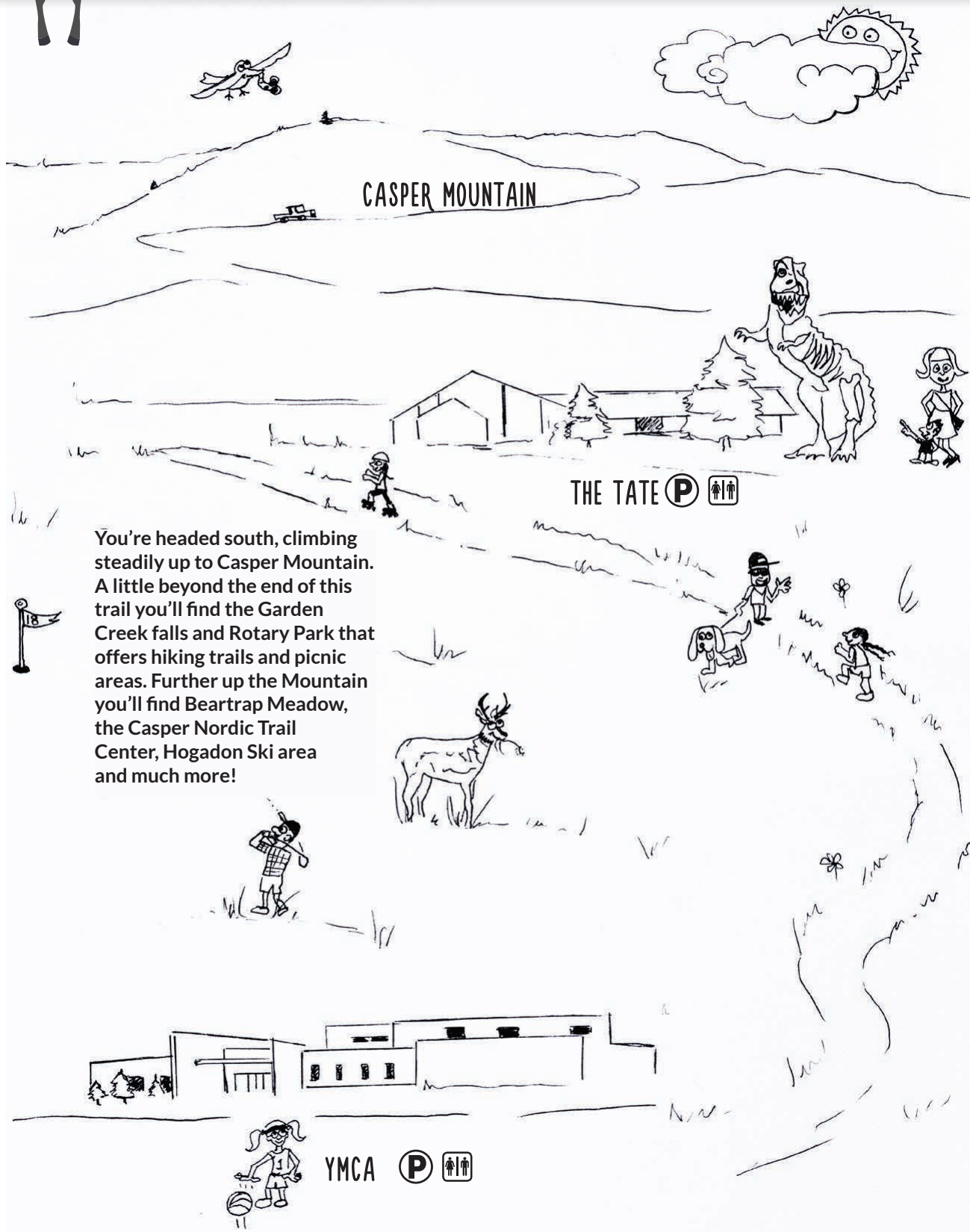


### Natrona County Public Library

Drop into the Library's Kid's Space and find books about a particular subject or enjoy one of the many fun events held at the Library.



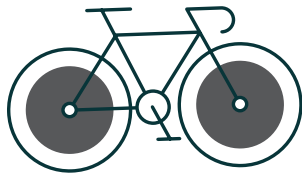
# HEADED TO THE MOUNTAIN OUR NEW TRAIL LEADS THE WAY





# SAFETY ON THE TRAIL!

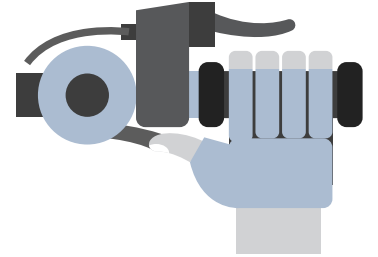
The "Happy Trails" Safety Campaign is a Platte River Trails initiative reminding users of the Casper trail system and the North Platte River to enjoy our trails and river safely! See if you can spot the following signs along the trails!



## SHARE THE TRAIL



## ALWAYS WEAR A HELMET



## ALERT WHEN PASSING RING THE BELL

## KEEP ONE EAR OPEN





FOLLOW US  

**PLATTERIVERTRAILS.COM**

307-577-1206 | [PLATTERIVER@WYOMING.COM](mailto:PLATTERIVER@WYOMING.COM)

PO BOX 1228, CASPER WY 82602

Thank you

FORT CASPAR MUSEUM  
NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS INTERPRETIVE CENTER  
NICOLAYSEN ART MUSEUM  
TATE GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM, CASPER COLLEGE  
THE SCIENCE ZONE  
THE YMCA  
WYOMING GAME & FISH



**JONAH BANK**  
OF WYOMING