

<b>Your Name:</b>	B. Bockhahn	<b>Park:</b>	DPR.everyone
<b>Program title:</b>	“From the mountains to the sea, state parks are for wildlife <b>AND</b> for me”		

**Theme Statement:** (complete sentence to summarize program and why it is important)

The 40 state parks in North Carolina allow the wildlife and the citizens of our state to live together now and for the future.

**Audience:** All ages

**Goal(s):** (why you are doing the program)

Teach about the different state parks in North Carolina and how both humans and wildlife need the protected land.

**Introduction:** (grabs attention, states theme, explains how program is organized)

Early explorers of North Carolina used to say that a squirrel could go from the mountains to the sea without touching the ground. Do you think that is still true today? We're going to play a game where you will travel from the mountains to the sea using our **North Carolina State Parks** (using tree cookies). We'll see if you can make it across our state without touching the ground!

**Body:** (your main points or subthemes – 4 or fewer recommended)

- 1) PAST: NC State Parks: It all started in 1916 with Mount Mitchell, citizens made it!
- 2) PRESENT: Wildlife and human needs in North Carolina, how we use it
- 3) FUTURE: Living together now and for the future

**Conclusion:** (reinforce the theme and encourage future participation)

Both wildlife and humans need state parks and other protected land in order to survive. How do you use your state parks? What wildlife uses state parks? Explore one of these state parks and see how both you and the wildlife can enjoy their beauty.

**Audiovisuals:** (make sure everyone can see and experience the props)

Tree cookies with park names, or hula hoops for larger groups, markers, cones, etc. Rope to make outline of North Carolina. Squirrel masks or tails for balance.

**Audience Participation:** Hop from cookie to cookie (mountains to the sea).

## **Follow up activity**

**With an outline of the state on the ground and tree cookies or other park symbols on the ground, first have the kids move to where they live in the state and then ask them the following questions to get them moving around our state!**

Go to a park that has a Mountain – MOMI, GRMO, ELKN, MOJE, GORG, STMO, SOMO, CHRO...etc

Go to a park that is a River – NERI, MARI, HARI, ENRI, CLNE, RARO, LURI

Go to a park in the Piedmont – MOMO, WIUM, MEMO

Go to a park that is a Bay Lake (and natural lakes) – JONE, SILA, LAWA, PETT

Go to a park that is a Reservoirs – LAJA, LANO, JORD, FALA, KELA

Go to a park that is a Monadnock – CRMO, PIMO, HARO, OCMO

Go to a park that is a Swamp – GOCR, MEMI, DISW

Go to a park in the Sandhills – WEWO, CACR

Go to a park that is Coastal – JORI, FOMA, HABE, CABE, FOFI

Now go to your favorite park and stay there for the next **100 years....**

## **Where do I live questions?**

Go to a park where a Brown Pelican might live – JORI, FOMA, CABE, FOFI

Go to a park where an Appalachian Cottontail may live – MOMI, GORG, MOJE, GRMO

Go to a park where our state reptile the BOX TURTLE may live – all parks

Go to a park where one of the rarest plants in the world live, the venus fly trap – CABE, LAWA, SILA

Go to a park where our state mammal, the Gray Squirrel may live – all parks

Go to a park where a Dolphin may live – coastal and estuaries

Go to a park where a Black Bear may live – mountains and coastal plain parks

Go to a park where our state salamander lives, the Marbled Salamander – all parks

## **Additional questions**

Go to our very first state park – MOMI

Go to our second state park – FOMA

Go to our most recent state park – CACR

Go to our park with Highest elevation – MOMI

Go to a park with the Most Waterfalls – GORG

Go to the Highest sand dune on east coast – JORI

Go to the Largest man made lake in NC – LANO

Go to the Second largest natural lake in NC – PETT

Rough Sketch

