



The Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation is excited to introduce the **Outdoor Adventure Challenge**. The program is open to **all school-age children and their families**. Each month, participants are encouraged to take on new challenges that promote outdoor recreation, nature exploration, and skill-building, all while fostering a love for the outdoors.

Adaptive Access: We partner with organizations that provide resources for people with disabilities, and the Adventure Challenge Eventbrite pages prompt participants to sign up for specialized equipment. Utah-based organizations like the [National Ability Center](#), [Ogden Valley Adaptive Sports](#), [Wasatch Adaptive Sports](#), and [TRAILS Adaptive](#) offer adaptive equipment and scholarships to ensure that cost is never a barrier to recreation.

Note to Parents/Guardians: Feel free to modify the challenges to match your child's age, interests, and needs. Whether you shorten the time spent on each activity or simplify tasks, the most important thing is spending quality time together and exploring our backyard wonders at your own pace.

Choose Your Own Adventure: Start by picking up your challenge stickers at a [partnering location](#) then choose at least one of the activities listed below. Be sure to have someone take a photo of you while doing the activity then [register here using this survey](#). We will send another survey quarterly to check-in on your progress and to enter you into giveaways.



CURRENT HIGHLIGHT | UTAH'S WILD PLACES CHALLENGE

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Safety Tip: Remember to tell a trusted adult if you plan to camp or hike on your own. You can check out more safety tips [here!](#)

Zion National Park – Zion, known as Mukuntuweap or "straight canyon" in Southern Paiute, was the first national park formed in Utah. As you plan a trip to Zion, try wading through the Narrows, a popular slot canyon carved by the Virgin River. Check out the Emerald Pools or venture high into the canyon and drive through the Mount Carmel tunnel.

Bryce National Park – Although Bryce is the smallest national park in Utah, it still provides incredible views, recreational opportunities and unique events! Because of its high elevation, Bryce also sees quite a bit of snow during the winter months, so if you're visiting when the snow is falling, try ice skating in town or cross country skiing on the rim of the canyon!



Starry Skies Adventure Challenge: Designated as an International Dark Sky Park, this park has some of the best views of our night skies.

Arches National Park – Arches is a landscape filled with incredible sandstone rock formations carved from years and years of erosion. The Delicate Arch that you see on license plates and billboards is located in Arches National Park! As you hike or drive through this park, think about how long these formations have been around and what changes the land has seen over thousands of years.

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CURRENT EVENTS

Monthly events and event details are being finalized, check back for updates!

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES



Bring a Friend to Nature
– Choose any activity to participate in and invite a friend to come along.

Fourth graders get a [FREE National Parks Pass](#).

[Ski Utah Passport](#) for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders.



Viewing a physical flyer?
Scan code for all info on your mobile device!



OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Canyonlands National Park – Canyonlands is one of the more remote national parks in Utah, and is also the largest. Canyonlands is divided into four unique districts, each offering a unique experience. [Island in the Sky](#) provides large views of the river-carved canyons, [the Needles](#) has tall, colorful spires, [the Maze](#) is one of the most remote and least accessible areas in the country and [the Rivers](#) showcases some world-class whitewater rafting opportunities on the Colorado and Green Rivers.

Capitol Reef National Park – If you're looking for a national park that might not have as many crowds as some of our others, Capitol Reef is a great choice. Capitol Reef has unique landscapes including white domes, red sandstone cliffs and green river valleys. Step back in time and see if you can find petroglyphs from the early Fremont people throughout the park. Popular hikes in the area are the Hickman Bridge Trail, Grand Wash, and Capitol Gorge.

Bears Ears National Monument – Bears Ears got its name from two sandstone formations that jut out of the landscape, looking like the two ears of a bear. Bears Ears, located in San Juan County contains over 100,000 archaeological sites, including ancient cliff dwellings, kivas (meeting places) and rock art. This area was and still is very significant to many Native American tribes including the Navajo, Hopi, Ute and Zuni. As you are looking for activities to do in the area, and to learn more about this amazing place, visit [Bears Ears Partnership's website](#).

Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge – This location is a unique wild space because it is located so close to the town of Box Elder but hosts thousands of migratory wild birds each year!



This is a great location to visit if you're thinking of earning your [Observe Wildlife challenge](#) as well!

Bonneville Salt Flats – The Bonneville Salt Flats are located west of the Great Salt Lake and stretch for 30,000 acres. The unique, flat and vast landscape make this a beautiful spot to practice nature photography.

Little Sahara Recreation Area – Located in Juab County, this recreation area, which

sits on Bureau of Land Management property, is 60,000 acres big and is a popular location for OHV users. Sand Mountain, Black Mountain and White Sand Dune bowls are popular features of these free moving sand dunes. Camping is also a popular activity in Little Sahara.

The San Rafael Swell – Commonly referred to as 'The Swell', this area of Utah is home to places worthy to visit. [Goblin Valley State Park](#), [The Wedge Overlook](#) and the [Jurassic National Monument](#) are just a few of the incredible sites you'll be able to see here. Along with fossils, petroglyphs and pictographs can be found all through The Swell, so be sure to look up at the canyon walls as you explore!

Jordan River Parkway – Located in the heart of many of our cities in northern Utah, the Jordan River is a truly wild place right in the middle of a neighborhood. The Jordan river flows south to north, bringing water into the Great Salt Lake from Utah Lake. Known as Pia Okwai or 'big flow' in Shoshoni, the Jordan is a vital habitat for species like cranes, deer, trout and catfish!

Utah's Ski Resorts – During the winter months Utah's 14 ski resorts are a fantastic way to connect with the wild. If you're looking for a way to earn your Wild Places Challenge during the winter time, remember to sign up for your [Ski Utah Passport if you're in 4th, 5th or 6th grade!](#)

Strawberry Reservoir – Strawberry Reservoir is one of Utah's many man-made lakes located near the border of Utah County. Strawberry is known for its world-class fishing, camping, hiking and boating. Any of Utah's reservoirs, lakes and streams are great places to visit for the Wild Places Challenge sticker, find one that is closest to you and spend the day on the water!

Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest – This national forest covers northern Utah as well as southern Idaho and is divided in three regions: Uinta, Wasatch and Cache. This forest is home to ski resorts, the highest peak in Utah, lakes, wild animals, bike trails, OHV trails and more. If you live along the Wasatch Front, look to this forest to spend time in wild places!

Weber River – The Weber River starts in the Uinta Mountains, and flows out of the Weber River Drainage. Some of the best places to access the Weber River are up Ogden Canyon in towns like Henefer and Taggart. Floating down the river on inner tubes is a very popular activity to cool off in the summer!

