massachusetts
parks for kids

1. **Minute Man Park**
Get certified as a Junior Ranger! Check out a historical reenactment, take a guided tour, and follow the route of the Minute Men on the Battle Road Trail. Visit the North Bridge and other historic buildings.

2. **Pilgrim Memorial State Park**
Visit the Plymouth Plantation and view Plymouth Rock! Walk the waterfront of Plymouth Harbor and look for *Mayflower II*, a replica of the *Mayflower*.

3. **Mount Holyoke Range State Park**
Stop by the Notch Visitor Center and find the Horse Caves. Go mountain biking on the Serpentine Coaster. Have a picnic with a beautiful view.

4. **Old Sturbridge Village**
Visit a living history museum for a blast from the past during the 1800s! Take a stagecoach or riverboat ride then walk the farm loop.

5. **Wachusett Mountain State Reservation**
Try to spot the city of Boston from the top of Mount Greylock. Explore the largest Old Growth Forest east of the Connecticut River. Test your skills at skiing during the winter!

6. **Cape Cod National Seashore**
Become a Junior Ranger or even a Junior Lifeguard! Complete an outdoor scavenger hunt then go swimming or make a sand castle. Hike the Great Island Trail and keep an eye out for whales!

7. **The Butterfly Place**
Learn about the fascinating butterfly life cycle in the observation area. Enjoy a yummy picnic and view hundreds of butterflies!

8. **Walden Pond State Reservation**
Visit Emerson’s Cliff, then enjoy a walk around the famous Walden Pond. Take a canoe into the water and go fishing! During the winter try your hand at snowshoeing and ice skating.

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**Buddy Bison’s Fact Bites!**

- The Boston Cream Pie was invented at the Omni Parker House in Boston. It is the state’s official dessert!
- The Cape Cod National Seashore was created after the government purchased private- and state-owned land; this was the first time the federal government purchased land to establish a park.
- When you take a stroll on the Boston Common (also known as “The Common,”) you are visiting the nation’s first public park and oldest city park in the United States, established in 1634.

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_all photos courtesy of Hill Art Group._