

south dakota

parks for kids



- **The Mount Rushmore National Memorial, depicting four presidents of the United States, is carved into the Black Hills, the highest mountains east of the Rockies.**
- **Belle Fourche is the geographical center of the USA, including Alaska and Hawaii.**
- **Badlands National Park is the largest undisturbed grass prairie in the United States.**
- **The Homestake Mine is the largest gold mine in the USA.**
- **The largest buffalo herd in the US lives at Standing Butte Ranch.**



1. Wind Cave National Park

Become a Junior Ranger! Explore the prairie then take the Natural Entrance Tour of Wind Cave. Look for bison, burrowing owls and elk. Hike the Rankin Ridge Nature Trail then climb the Fire Tower for a great view.

2. Badlands National Park

Check out the Junior Ranger Program! Visit the Ben Reifel Visitor Center and assemble a virtual skeleton. Hike the Fossil Exhibit Trail to see fossil replicas. Camp overnight.

3. Custer State Park

Hike the Sylvan Lake Shore Trail then tour Badger Hole and find the prairie dog town. Look for bison and burros or go fishing in Sylvan Lake! End the trip Camping.

4. Fort Sisseton State Park

Rent a canoe and paddle on Kettle Lake then learn about American history at the Visitor Center. Enjoy a picnic and keep your eyes peeled for bald eagles!

5. Newton Hills State Park

Hike the Woodland Trail or go fishing and swimming in Lake Lakota. Keep your eyes peeled for wild turkeys. In the winter, cross-country ski.



6. Palisades State Park

Canoe or kayak through Split Rock Creek then cross the footbridge across Jesse James' Outlaw Leap. Go on a hike and end the day camping.

7. Jewel Cave National Monument

Become a Junior Ranger! Look for wildflowers or bird watch. Take a cave tour then hike the A Walk on the Roof Trail.

8. Lewis and Clark Recreation Area

Hike some of the George S. Mickleson Trail then go fishing or swimming! Go for a bike ride then end the trip camping out!

Photos courtesy of Hill Art Group