Habitat Hike

Girl Scouts ❤ State Parks 2026

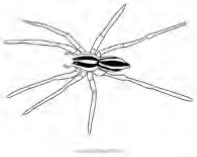
Imagine you are a **roadrunner**. Government Canyon is your habitat (home). You need to find shelter, food, and water to survive. Here is your checklist...can you find everything you need? What might happen to you if you *can't*?

SHELTER: You are looking for a thickly wooded area with patches of thorny brush to nest & hide in. Draw a picture of the spot you found here.

FOOD: How many of these can you find? Circle the ones you see on your hike. If you can't find all of them, don't worry...you'll just eat more of the ones you DO find.

Snakes

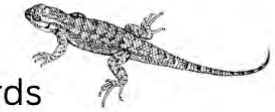
Spiders



Bird Eggs

Grasshoppers

Lizards



WATER: You'll drink water if you can find some, but Government Canyon is in the Recharge Zone for the Edwards Aquifer. When it rains, water quickly finds its way underground to the ***aquifer*** (water stored in limestone). So you actually get most of your water from the foods that you eat...remember animals (like lizards and snakes) are 50-75% water.

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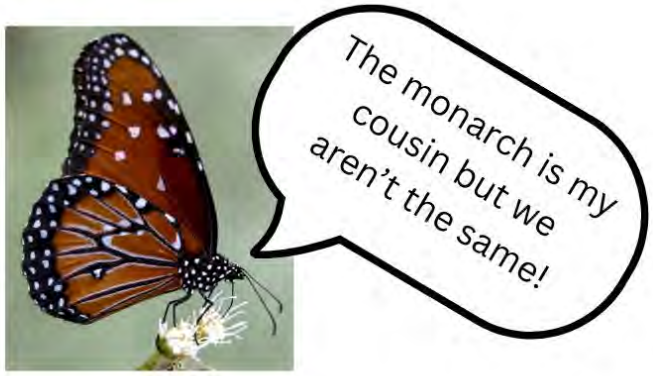
Imagine you are a **Queen butterfly**. Government Canyon is your habitat (home). You need to find shelter, food, and water to survive. Here is your checklist…can you find everything you need? What might happen to you if you *can't*?



SHELTER: You are looking for a plant with large leaves that you can hide under if it rains. Draw a picture here when you find one.

FOOD: Remember butterflies need different foods during their caterpillar and adult stages. Queen caterpillars eat milkweed leaves. The adults drink nectar from flowers.

It might be hard to find milkweed, and there's more than one kind. Here's Pearl Milkweed:

Flowers…find as many kinds as you can!

# of kinds of flowers I saw: _____

WATER: You'll sip water if you can find some, but Government Canyon is in the Recharge Zone for the Edwards Aquifer. When it rains, water quickly finds its way underground to the ***aquifer*** (water stored in limestone). So it's a good thing you get all your water either from eating leaves (caterpillars) or drinking flower nectar (butterflies)!

Queen caterpillar

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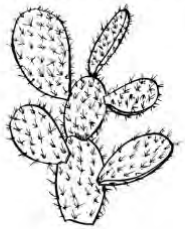
Imagine you are a **javelina** (a.k.a. a collared peccary). Government Canyon is your habitat (home). You need to find shelter, food, and water to survive. Here is your checklist...can you find everything you need? What might happen to you if you *can't*?

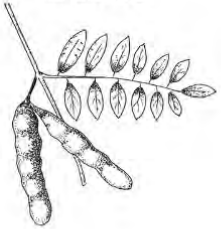
SHELTER: You are looking for a thick growth of thorny shrubs to hide under. Draw a picture of the spot you found here.

FOOD: How many of these can you find? Circle the ones you see on your hike.

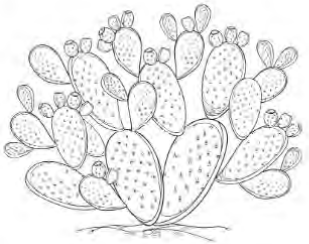
Prickly pear cactus



Mesquite beans



Acorns

Grasshoppers

WATER: You'll drink water if you can find some, but Government Canyon is in the Recharge Zone for the Edwards Aquifer. When it rains, water quickly finds its way underground to the ***aquifer*** (water stored in limestone). So you actually get most of your water from the foods that you eat! Especially juicy things like cactus...can you find a prickly pear cactus?