

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Skill: Cultural Landmarks

Essential Element 2: Standard

# A Cultural Landmark: Yellowstone National Park

Map Skills #24

## Introducing the Map

Tell students that places, buildings, structures, and statues have come to represent or symbolize a region. Give students the example of Washington, D.C. When people think of the nation's capital, famous buildings such as the White House, Washington Memorial, or the Lincoln Memorial come to mind. Ask students to name some other cultural symbols in the United States. They may come up with such symbols as the Statue of Liberty, Mount Rushmore, or the Gateway Arch in St. Louis.

Share with students that cultural landmarks can also include places such as national parks. National parks serve important purposes such as appreciation of nature, recreational use, tourism, education, and the preservation of cultural and historical heritage.

Show students the map of Yellowstone National Park. Students will notice that Yellowstone covers the northwest corner of Wyoming and spreads into Idaho and Montana. Share with students the following facts about the park: Yellowstone is the oldest national park in the world. It was established in 1872. The park was named for the yellow rocks that lie along the Yellowstone River, which is north of the park. The park covers 2,200,000 acres (898,000 ha). The park is one of the world's largest wildlife refuges. Bears, elk, and bison roam freely. For these reasons and others, Yellowstone is considered one of America's national treasures, and the preservation of this park is very important.

Then read the other fun facts about some of the points of interest in the park on the map page. Please note that not all points of interest have been included.

28 pts

## Introducing Vocabulary

**basin** land drained by a river

**canyon** a deep, narrow river valley with steep sides

**cultural landmark** a place selected and pointed out as important to a group of people

**elevation** height of the land above sea level

**geyser** a hot spring that intermittently shoots up a jet of hot water or steam into the air

**hot spring** a spring of water that is hotter than the temperature of the human body (98.6°F)

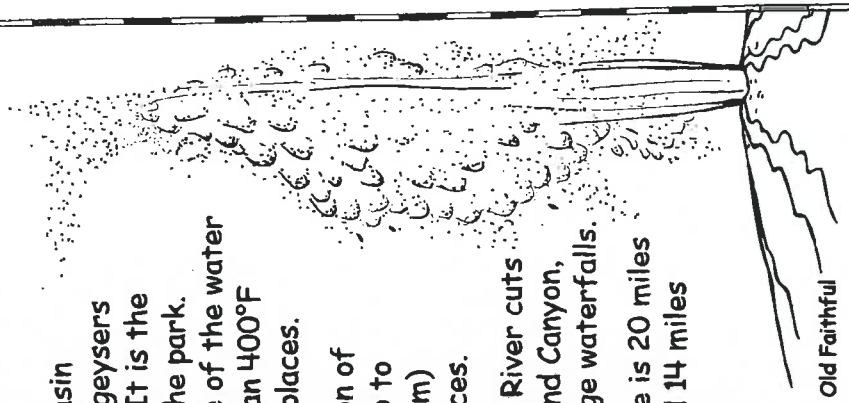
**national park** an area set aside by a nation's government to protect natural beauty, wildlife, or other remarkable features

# A Cultural Landmark

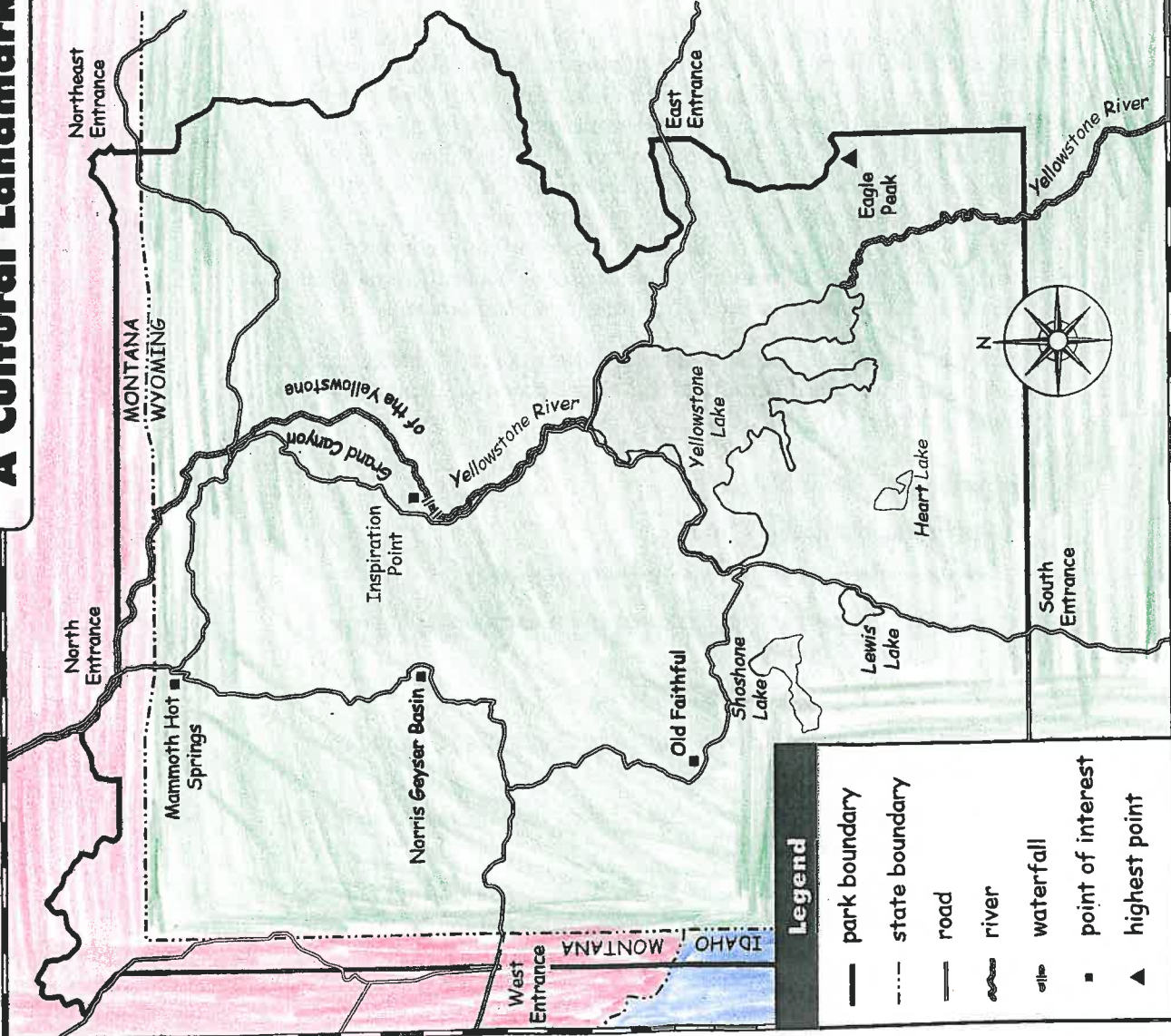
Name

## Yellowstone National Park

- Eagle Peak, at 11,358 feet (3,462 m) is the highest point in the park.
- The park has more than 200 active geysers.
- The most famous geyser is Old Faithful, which erupts about every 90 minutes.
- Norris Geyser Basin has hundreds of geysers and hot springs. It is the hottest area in the park. The temperature of the water reaches more than 400°F (200°C) in some places.
- The Grand Canyon of Yellowstone is up to 1,200 feet (366 m) deep in some places.
- The Yellowstone River cuts through the Grand Canyon, creating two large waterfalls.
- Yellowstone Lake is 20 miles (32 km) long and 14 miles (23 km) wide.



Old Faithful



**Legend**

- park boundary
- - - state boundary
- road
- ~ river
- ||| waterfall
- point of interest
- ▲ highest point



## A Cultural Landmark: Yellowstone National Park

### Monday

1. Yellowstone National Park is located in which three states? The park is mostly in which one of these states?

① Idaho

② Montana

③ Wyoming

④ Wyoming

2. How many entrances are there to the park? Which entrance is closest to Old Faithful?

① 5

② West Entrance

### Tuesday

1. Which labeled river flows through the national park?

① Yellowstone River

2. Name the labeled lakes in Yellowstone National Park. Which lake is the largest?

① Heart Lake

② Lewis Lake

③ Shoshone Lake

④ Yellowstone Lake

⑤ Yellowstone Lake

### Wednesday

1. Which point of interest is closest to the North Entrance to the park?

① Mammoth Hot Springs

2. Inspiration Point is located due east of which labeled feature?

① Norris Geyser Basin



# A Cultural Landmark: Yellowstone National Park

## Thursday

1. What is the name and elevation of the highest point in Yellowstone National Park?

① Eagle Peak      ② 11,358 ft / 3,462 m

2. What is the most famous geyser in the park? How often does it erupt?

① Old Faithful      ② about every 90 minutes

## Friday

1. Where is the hottest area in the national park? How hot can the water reach in this area?

① Norris Geyser Basin  
② More than 400° F (200° C)

2. Where are the two large waterfalls located?

On what River? Yellowstone River

What Part of this river? Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone

## Challenge

8 pts

Yellowstone National Park is considered a national symbol, a cultural landmark, and a national treasure. On the back of the map, write a paragraph telling people why Yellowstone National Park should be preserved and protected.

color: Wyoming Green  
Montana Red  
Idaho Blue

6 pts