

A Special Place

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Grade: Kindergarten

Length: 30 minutes

South Dakota Content Standards

- ◆ Kindergarten Writing: Students will create illustrations which represent information.
- ◆ Kindergarten Writing: Students will use pictures when telling a story.

Objectives

Recall, draw, and describe a special place.

In this lesson, students identify their own special place. Please discuss with your students what makes places “special”. Badlands National park is also a special place. The fossils, plants, and animals make this a special place that people like to visit.

Primary Theme

Studying and restoring the mixed grass prairie ecosystem and humans’ relationship to it will help us understand the changing grassland ecology of the Midwest, and ensure the protection of this fragile and remarkably diverse ecosystem.

Materials

- ◆ Paper
- ◆ Pencil
- ◆ Crayons

Procedure

- 1.** Talk about special places. Special places make us feel good! Everyone has a special place. This place may be where you go to play or have fun. It may be a house of a relative or friend. Usually it is a place where you feel nice and happy.
- 2.** Have the students close their eyes and remember a time when they visited a special place.
- 3.** Pass out paper and crayons. Ask the students to draw their special place.
- 4.** Have each student share his or her picture with the class and describe his or her special place.
- 5.** Badlands National Park is a special place - one that everyone can visit. Talk about some of the things we find at the Badlands. Also discuss some of the things we do not find at the Badlands - it is not a park like a zoo or playground. It is a park that is a natural area.
- 6.** Post the special places around the room so everyone can see them first-hand.