

Skills:

Comparing, computing, and analyzing data from a table

Amazing National Parks: Data Sheet

The National Park Service (NPS) is a government agency. It cares for about 400 sites across the United States. The NPS manages parks in every state except Delaware. It oversees more than just parks. It also protects rivers, monuments, historical sites, seashores, recreation areas, and trails. Even the White House is an NPS site! Hundreds of millions of visitors enjoy our national parks every year.



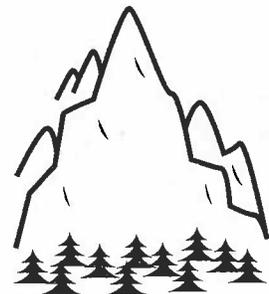
Yellowstone was the first national park. It was established in 1872. The table below lists some other spectacular national parks.

It shows their location, year of authorization, and size in acres.

Notable National Parks

Park Name	State	Authorized	Size, in Acres*
Acadia	Maine	1916	47,390
Arches	Utah	1929	76,519
Big Bend	Texas	1935	801,163
Cuyahoga Valley	Ohio	1974	32,861
Denali	Alaska	1917	4,740,912
Everglades	Florida	1934	1,508,539
Grand Teton	Wyoming	1929	309,995
Kings Canyon	California	1890	461,901
Mammoth Cave	Kentucky	1926	52,830
Mesa Verde	Colorado	1906	52,122
Petrified Forest	Arizona	1906	221,540
Shenandoah	Virginia	1926	199,074

* 1 acre = 4,840 square yards, about the size of a soccer field



● Amazing National Parks: Activity Sheet

Use the Data Solve each problem.

- Which two parks were authorized 39 years after Kings Canyon National Park was?

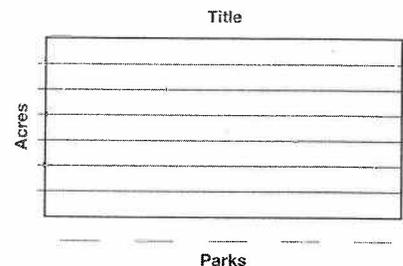
- Which park is 23,689 acres smaller than Arches? _____
- What is the difference in size between the largest and smallest parks listed? _____
- Which two parks have a combined size of about 1 million acres? _____

- Which two parks differ in size by about 240,000 acres? _____

- Which park is about one-tenth the size of Denali? _____
Which park is about one-hundredth the size of Denali? _____

Make a Graph

A bar graph shows comparisons. On graph paper, make a vertical bar graph. Compare the sizes in acres of the five smallest parks in the table on the Data Sheet. Follow these steps:



- Round the number of acres of each park to the nearest thousand.
- Draw vertical and horizontal axes.
- Label the vertical axis **Acres**. Label the horizontal axis **Parks**. Give your graph a title.
- Choose a scale for the vertical axis that fits the data. Start with 0. Label equal intervals.
- List the parks in alphabetical order along the horizontal axis.
- Draw bars to represent the data.

Compare your graph with a classmate's. Check one another's work. Explain to each other why you chose the scale and intervals you did.

Write About It

The table on the Data Sheet gives only three facts about each national park listed. Suppose you could add three new columns to the table. What kinds of data would you add? Make a list.