



MC TRAILS
Madison County Transit



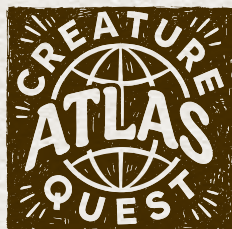
CREATURE
ATLAS
QUEST

Celebrating 100 years of Route 66

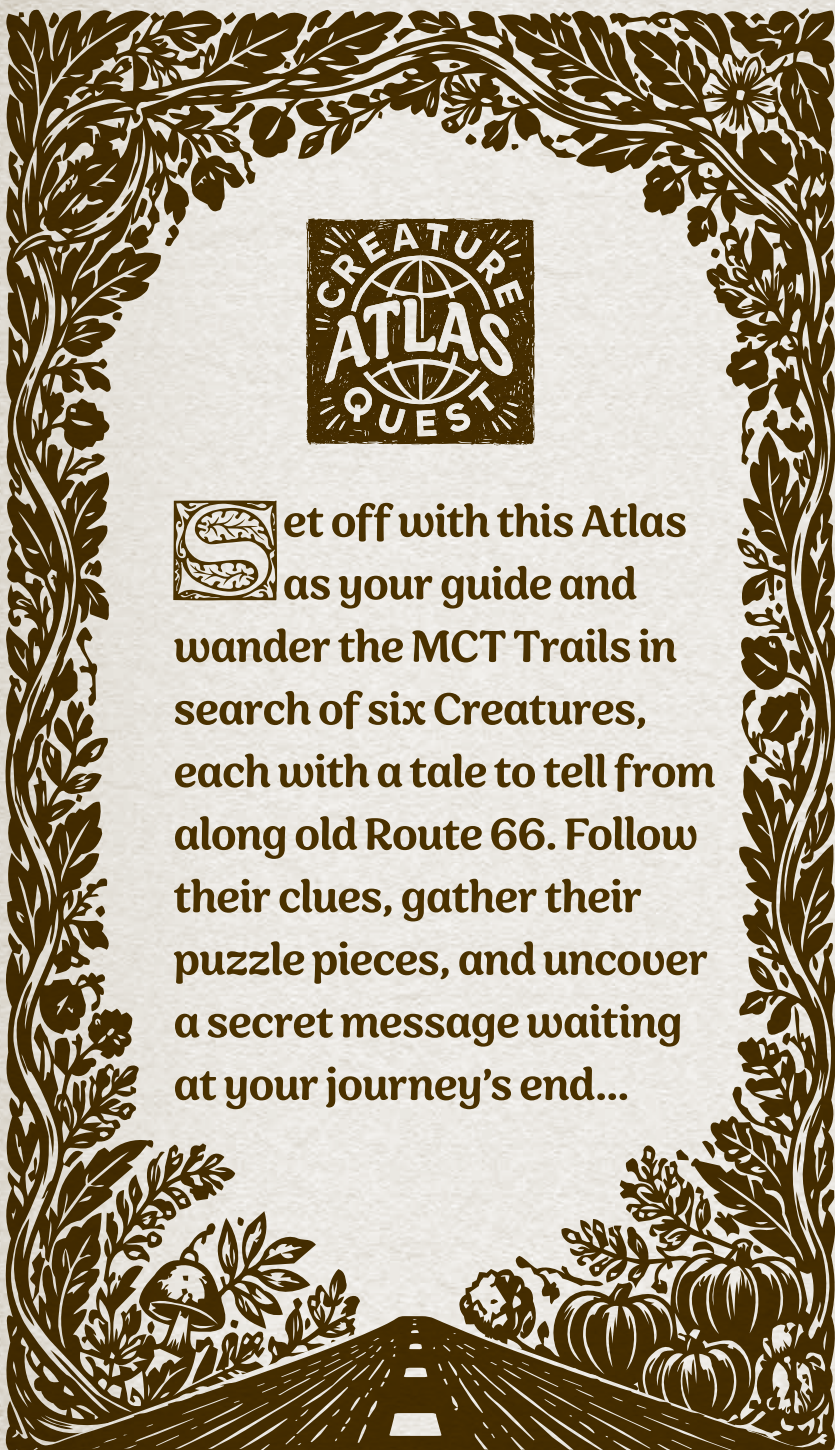
Creature Quest was made possible through the generous support of the Agency for Community Transit Board of Directors, Great Rivers & Routes Tourism Bureau, and Enjoy Illinois. Their contributions helped turn this vision into a reality, bringing art, imagination, and a sense of discovery to the MCT Trails.

We are sincerely grateful for their investment in this project and for their continued support of experiences that celebrate our communities and encourage people to explore the trails in a new way.





Set off with this Atlas
as your guide and
wander the MCT Trails in
search of six Creatures,
each with a tale to tell from
along old Route 66. Follow
their clues, gather their
puzzle pieces, and uncover
a secret message waiting
at your journey's end...



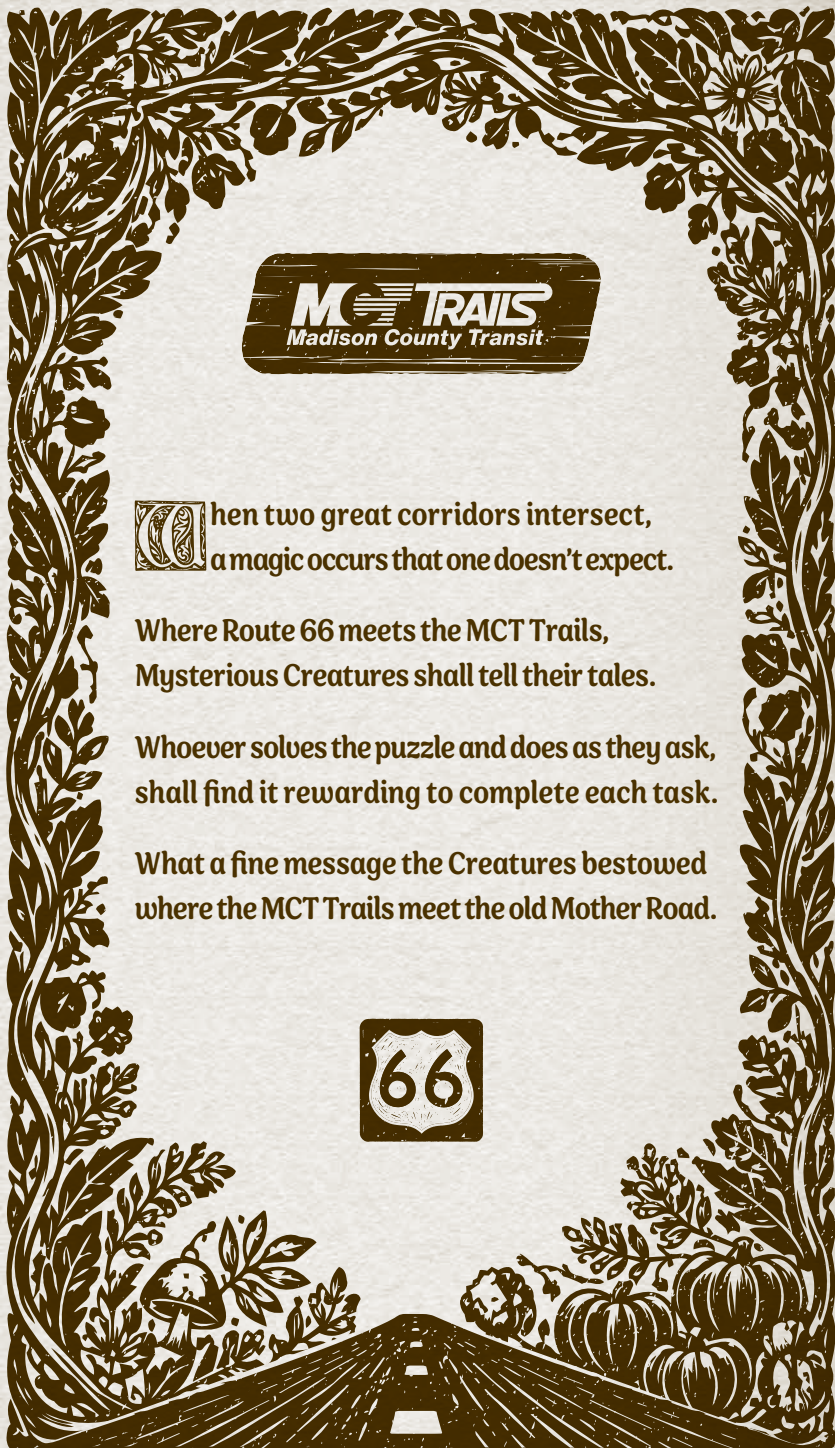


When two great corridors intersect,
a magic occurs that one doesn't expect.

Where Route 66 meets the MCT Trails,
Mysterious Creatures shall tell their tales.

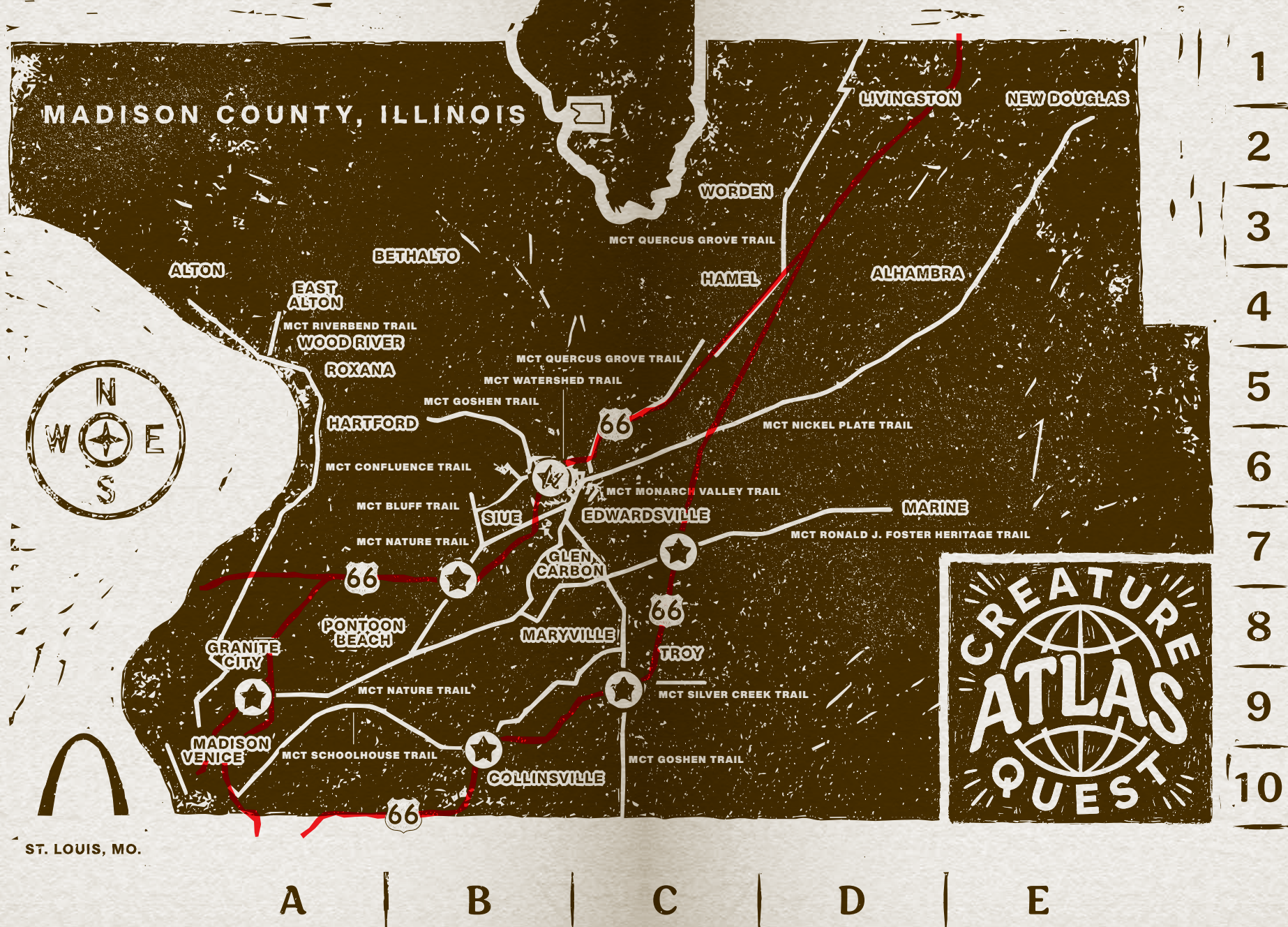
Whoever solves the puzzle and does as they ask,
shall find it rewarding to complete each task.

What a fine message the Creatures bestowed
where the MCT Trails meet the old Mother Road.



Where the MCT Trails and old Route 66 meet, a curious adventure begins.

Use this map to track down each Creature and uncover the secret left behind.

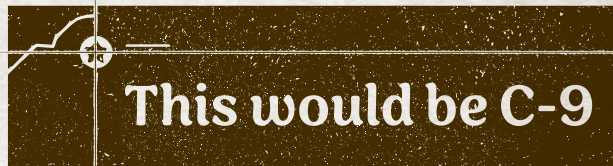


Before You Begin Your Creature Quest...



ake a few minutes to look through each Creature Encounter page in this Atlas. Each stop may include a suggested item or material to bring along, so checking ahead will ready you for the adventure!

Unfold this map to locate the creatures where historic Route 66, marked in red, crosses or runs alongside the MCT Trails! Stars  on the map show the creature's locations. Each Creature Encounter page includes its map-coordinates and will help you find where each one lives.



C

D

E

8

9

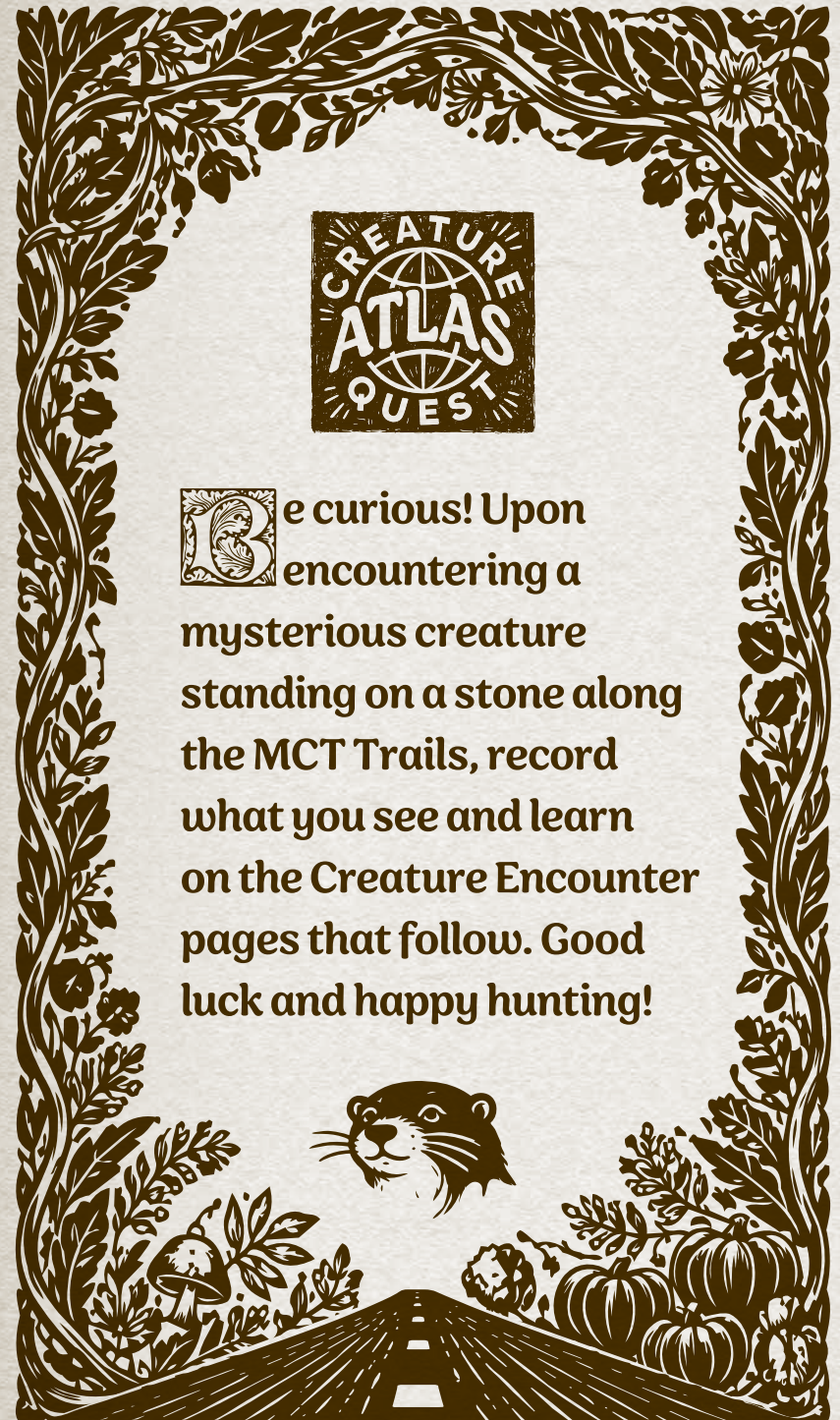
10

As you follow the map and encounter these mysterious creatures, you'll discover a poetic message and a special puzzle piece to collect. Bring a pencil or crayon! On the Puzzle Piece Transfer Area page for each creature found at the back of this Atlas you can make a rubbing of each puzzle piece you find.

Collect every puzzle piece, carefully cut them out, and complete the puzzle to reveal the secret message from the MCT Trails and the Mother Road!



Be curious! Upon encountering a mysterious creature standing on a stone along the MCT Trails, record what you see and learn on the Creature Encounter pages that follow. Good luck and happy hunting!





Find me at: Map Coordinate C-9

Consider Bringing: Rock or Stone

Date of Encounter: _____

What did you learn? _____

Sketch of the Creature

What did you see? _____

What task did you complete? _____



MC TRAILS
Madison County Transit



Creature Encounter Rabbit

Find me at: Map Coordinate A-9

Consider Bringing: Chalk and a Friend

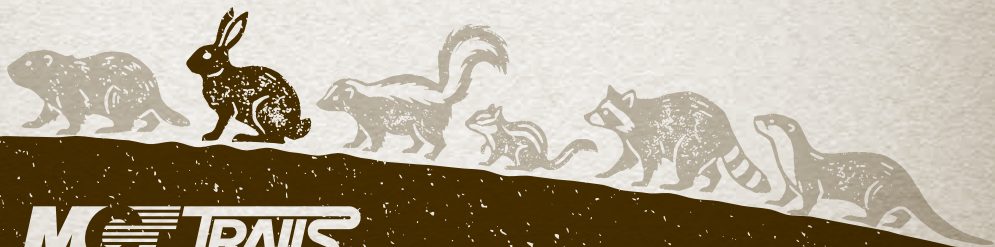
Date of Encounter: _____

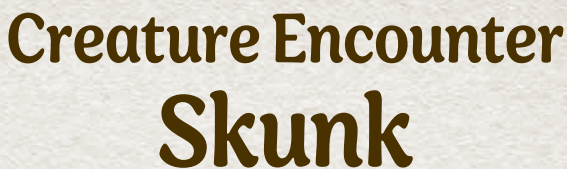
What did you learn? _____

Sketch of the Creature

What did you see? _____

What task did you complete? _____





Find me at: Map Coordinate C-7

Consider Bringing: Chalk

Date of Encounter: _____

What did you learn? _____

Sketch of the Creature

What did you see? _____

What task did you complete? _____





Find me at: Map Coordinate B-10

Consider Bringing: Flowers

Date of Encounter: _____

What did you learn? _____

Sketch of the Creature

What did you see? _____

What task did you complete? _____





Find me at: Map Coordinate B-6

Consider Bringing: Trash Bag and Gloves

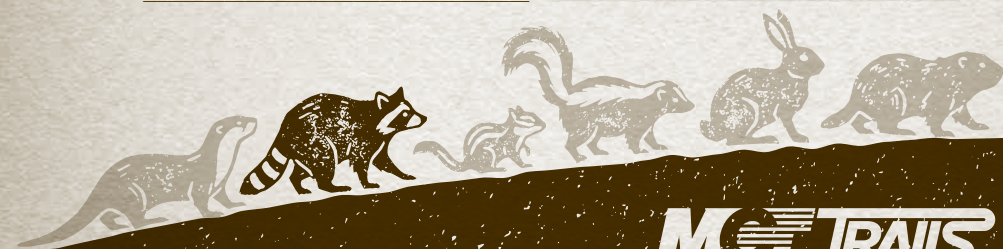
Date of Encounter: _____

What did you learn? _____

Sketch of the Creature

What did you see? _____

What task did you complete? _____





Find me at: Map Coordinate B-7

Consider Bringing: Water for the Journey

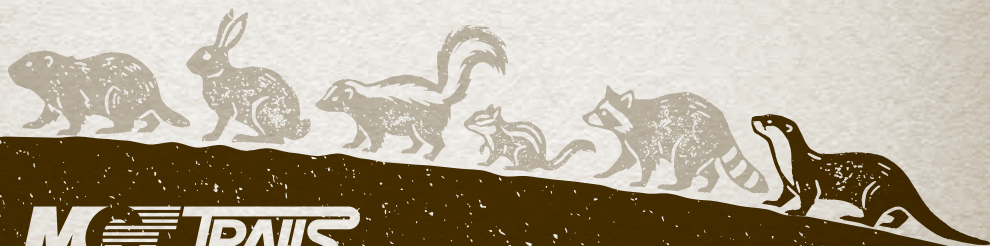
Date of Encounter: _____

What did you learn? _____

Sketch of the Creature

What did you see? _____

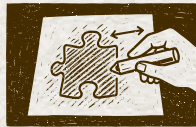
What task did you complete? _____





Groundhog Plaque Transfer Area

Plaque Rubbing Instructions:

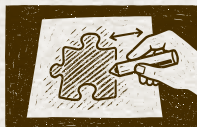


1. Lay this page flat over the puzzle piece on the plaque.
2. Turn your pencil or crayon on its side to help catch raised details.
3. Make gentle even strokes over the surface of the paper until the raised design begins to appear.
4. Once the image is clear and evenly developed, take it home and cut it out.
5. Once you've collected all six puzzle pieces, put them together to read the important message!



Rabbit Plaque Transfer Area

Plaque Rubbing Instructions:

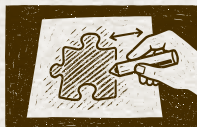


1. Lay this page flat over the puzzle piece on the plaque.
2. Turn your pencil or crayon on its side to help catch raised details.
3. Make gentle even strokes over the surface of the paper until the raised design begins to appear.
4. Once the image is clear and evenly developed, take it home and cut it out.
5. Once you've collected all six puzzle pieces, put them together to read the important message!



Skunk Plaque Transfer Area

Plaque Rubbing Instructions:

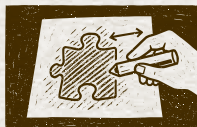


1. Lay this page flat over the puzzle piece on the plaque.
2. Turn your pencil or crayon on its side to help catch raised details.
3. Make gentle even strokes over the surface of the paper until the raised design begins to appear.
4. Once the image is clear and evenly developed, take it home and cut it out.
5. Once you've collected all six puzzle pieces, put them together to read the important message!



Chipmunk Plaque Transfer Area

Plaque Rubbing Instructions:

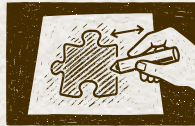


1. Lay this page flat over the puzzle piece on the plaque.
2. Turn your pencil or crayon on its side to help catch raised details.
3. Make gentle even strokes over the surface of the paper until the raised design begins to appear.
4. Once the image is clear and evenly developed, take it home and cut it out.
5. Once you've collected all six puzzle pieces, put them together to read the important message!



Raccoon Plaque Transfer Area

Plaque Rubbing Instructions:

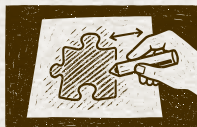


1. Lay this page flat over the puzzle piece on the plaque.
2. Turn your pencil or crayon on its side to help catch raised details.
3. Make gentle even strokes over the surface of the paper until the raised design begins to appear.
4. Once the image is clear and evenly developed, take it home and cut it out.
5. Once you've collected all six puzzle pieces, put them together to read the important message!



Otter Plaque Transfer Area

Plaque Rubbing Instructions:



1. Lay this page flat over the puzzle piece on the plaque.
2. Turn your pencil or crayon on its side to help catch raised details.
3. Make gentle even strokes over the surface of the paper until the raised design begins to appear.
4. Once the image is clear and evenly developed, take it home and cut it out.
5. Once you've collected all six puzzle pieces, put them together to read the important message!

About the Artist

Jackson Williams is a young metal artist whose work brings animals to life through carefully bent and shaped steel rods. Originally from Essex, Massachusetts, Jackson grew up in a creative environment and learned the craft alongside his father, sculptor Chris Williams. Watching metal transformed into art sparked an early appreciation for sculpture and inspired him to develop his own style.

After creating his first sculpture, an elk, Jackson discovered a passion for capturing movement, form, and personality in steel. As he continued experimenting and sharing his work online, his audience quickly grew. A video featuring one of his deer sculptures went viral, helping launch his career and opening the door to even larger and more ambitious creations.

Today, Jackson works full time as a sculptor from his own shop in Asheville, North Carolina. His work reflects both technical skill and a deep love for the natural world, with each piece designed to feel lively, expressive, and full of character.

williamssculpture.com

Instagram @williamssculpture

Facebook.com/williamssculpture

Madison County Transit Board of Trustees

Al Adomite | Chairman

Chris Guy | Vice Chairman

Andy Economy

Mike McCormick

John Williams

Agency for Community Transit Board of Directors

Mark Achenbach | President

Ron Jedda | Vice President

Patrick McRae

Lisa Ciampoli

Chrissy Wiley

Diane Coppens

Angelia Gower

ACT Executive Director

SJ Morrison



Creature Quest Atlas Created by the
ACT Marketing Department

Designed by Kelly Brasel

Puzzle Piece Collection

You've followed the clues, found each Creature,
and gathered each puzzle piece along the way.
Now cut them out, fit them together, and reveal
the secret message.



MC TRAILS
Madison County Transit

Store your puzzle pieces
in this pouch until you've
collected them all!

About the MCT Trails

Beginning in 1993, Madison County Transit (MCT) began acquiring and converting former railroad corridors into scenic bikeways. Today, these bikeways are known as the MCT Trails and form one of the most extensive and interconnected trail systems in the country. Mile after mile, the MCT Trails are enhancing the quality of life, promoting wellness, improving property values, and serving as a tourism magnet in the 20 communities they traverse. Spanning more than 138 miles, and a diverse array of natural surroundings, the MCT Trails have transformed Madison County into a haven for bicyclists, runners, walkers, fitness enthusiasts, and nature lovers.

MCTtrails.org | trails@mct.org



MCT TRAILS
Madison County Transit