



EXPLORE OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM. LEARN INSIDE OUR STATE.

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## **Lathrop State Park**

### **Extra Credit Activity**

Interested in an outdoor treasure hunt? Before heading out of Lathrop State Park, try your hand at geocaching.

**Background:** Geocaching is an outdoor treasure hunt found throughout the world, with locations designated by Global Positioning System (GPS). Players download the [free Geocache app](#) and then look to see the geocaches nearby. There are five geocaches in Lathrop State Park.

Download the Geocache app and create a profile, if you don't already have it.

### **Questions to Ask:**

1. What is a cache? *a hidden collection of things*
2. What does GPS stand for? *Global Positioning System*
3. What are longitude and latitude? *Longitude is east and west geographic coordinates. Latitude is north and south geographic coordinates.*
4. Why are these important? *These determine the exact location of a place anywhere on earth.*

**Activity:** After you download the app on your phone, find as many of the five geocaches as you can. Sometimes they have some history with them or interesting facts about the place. Sometimes there are little "treasures" for the finder. Then you will want to log it and/or record any problems with it. You can comment and/or post a picture. Caution! This is highly addictive, and most kids will be looking for them EVERYWHERE!

After the geocache is found, you can either use the app or you can complete the following for your own records:

<b>Cache</b>	<b>Longitude and latitude Coordinates</b>	<b>Comments:</b>