

Natural Stone Bridge and Caves Park



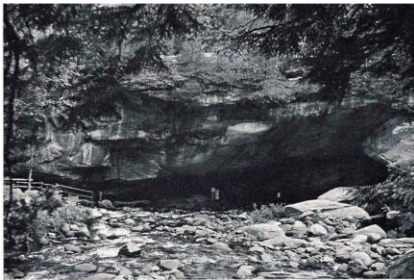
Earth Science,
Geology and Regional
History Lab

Use **Bold** Titles to follow along- Listen to Employee Talks and Read Descriptive Signs Boxes to answer all questions.



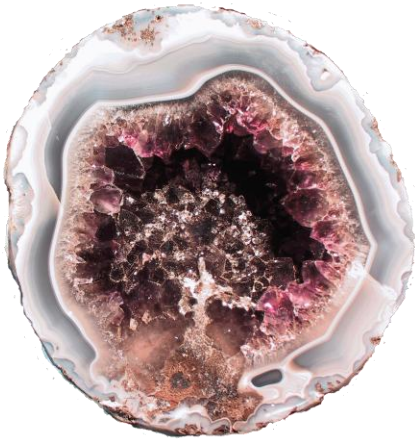
IntroTalk & Sign Box #1:

1. What type of mineral is the Stone Bridge made of and is also exposed in the parking lot?
2. How were the caves of Natural Stone Bridge and Caves formed, how old are they?



Rock Shop Talk:

1. What is the "Mystery Rock" that is passed around in the Rock Shop?
2. What information about the past can we discover from it?
3. What is a Geode and how is it created?
4. Choose one rock from the Rock Shop and describe it in detail, include color, shape, texture and size.



Petrified Wood Display: Sign Box #2

1. How is Petrified Wood created, what causes the different colors?
2. Describe the feel of Petrified Wood compared to regular wood.



Trout Brook: Sign Box # 4

1. What type of creatures inhabit Trout Brook?
2. How did the shape of Trout Brook change over time?



Sawmill Site: Sign Box # 5

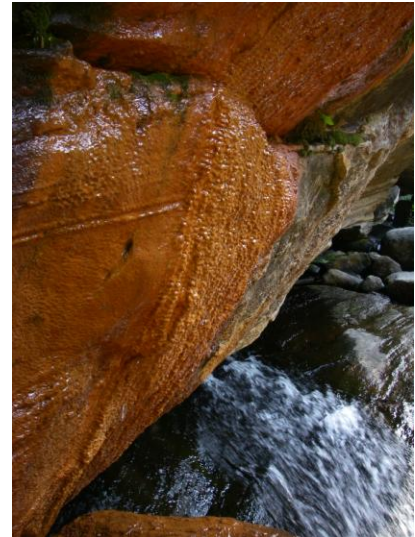
1. What was one of the main industries in the Adirondacks in the 1800's?
2. How did this business use the waterways in their favor?
3. How did the Caves cause a problem for this transportation?



(On your way to Sign 6, observe the rock layers on the far side of the brook, are they horizontal, angled or vertical)

Meditation Isle: Sign Box # 6

1. The Natural Stone Bridge is the largest cave opening in the East, how big is it?
2. Why don't our caves have many examples of mineral deposits such as flowstone and stalactites?



Lookout Point: Sign Box # 7

1. How old are the oldest rocks we have here at Stone Bridge?
2. What are a few of the differences between the location of Stone Bridge now from billions of years ago?





The Giant's Slide: Sign Box # 8

1. Who helps us with our cave surveying and when did we officially start mapping our caves?
2. Which cave contains some formations due to its location above the spring flood line?



The Natural Stone Bridge: Sign Box # 9

1. When did the large piece of the Stone Bridge fall? How much does it weigh?
2. Any ideas about what could have caused such a huge section to fall off?
3. Does the water go under the Stone Bridge, when did cavers first start to explore these caves?



Noisy Cave: Sign Box # 10

1. Is Noisy Cave connected to the Stone Bridge cave system?
2. Observe the rocks to the left of Noisy Cave, why do you think they are wet all the time?
3. What makes Noisy Cave so noisy, in terms of types of energy?



Peter Pan's Peephole: Sign Box # 11

1. Do you know which cave you're looking down into? Listen carefully to the difference of the water flow from here.
2. Are there any critters that live here?



Photo Spot: Sign Box # 12

1. There are two primary minerals that make up the cave systems at Stone Bridge, what are they?
2. Describe the differences between these minerals, texture, color and density.
3. How are these minerals connected, in what type of layout?
4. Find the deposit of Iron-rich minerals, did they deposit in this position? Explain.



Serenity Point: Sign Box # 13

1. What types and how many kinds of unique plant life have been discovered so far at the Caves?
2. Which kind has a special feature that is reflective, what is it's trick?



Upper Nature Trail: Sign Box # 14

1. What happens below this area every year in the spring and during times of extreme rainfall?
2. Explain how the water levels change as caves are flooded to their maximum, where does the water go?
3. What are some of the effects of flooding, natural and manmade?



Inspiration Point: Sign Box # 15



1. Maybe you can't tell from here, but across the river is Kelly's Slide, what do you think could be hidden within that cave?
2. Notice the exposed roots you're standing on, why do you think they look this way?



Indian Maiden's Kettle: Sign Box # 16

1. Which caves connect to Indian Maidens Kettle to make up this cave system?
2. Notice the potholes here, we have one of the largest in NY at 20ft. across. How do you think the potholes are formed?



Oyster Shell: Sign Box # 17

1. Can you find all the formations in the Marble across the Gorge from you?
2. What emerges from under the Oyster Shell, why is it unique?
3. How did we discover this information?



High Water Mark: Sign Box # 18

1. It's hard to picture the water roaring through here way above where you are standing now, look up for the high water marks.
2. Where do you think the water goes to when it leaves Trout Brook, what about after that?



The Potholes: Sign Box # 19

1. Are the deposits in the potholes the original ones?
2. Can you see anything swimming around in the potholes, what do you think they are, what other types of animals might make this home?



Lost Pool Cave: Sign Box # 20

1. What types of crystals can be found at Stone Bridge and Caves?
2. What is special about Garnet, especially to NY?
3. What can Garnet be used for? Where nearby can this be found?
4. Look down the stairs to Lost Pool Cave, how do you think the foam that collects here is formed?
5. Do you think this cave is home to any animals?



History in the Pavilion

1. Look for the big fish fossil in the Adirondack Memories Pavilion, It is the Granddaddy of what well-know fish?
2. Find the picture of a young guide popping out of Arch Rock. She is one of the first establishments of Stone Bridge and Caves. Who is she?

