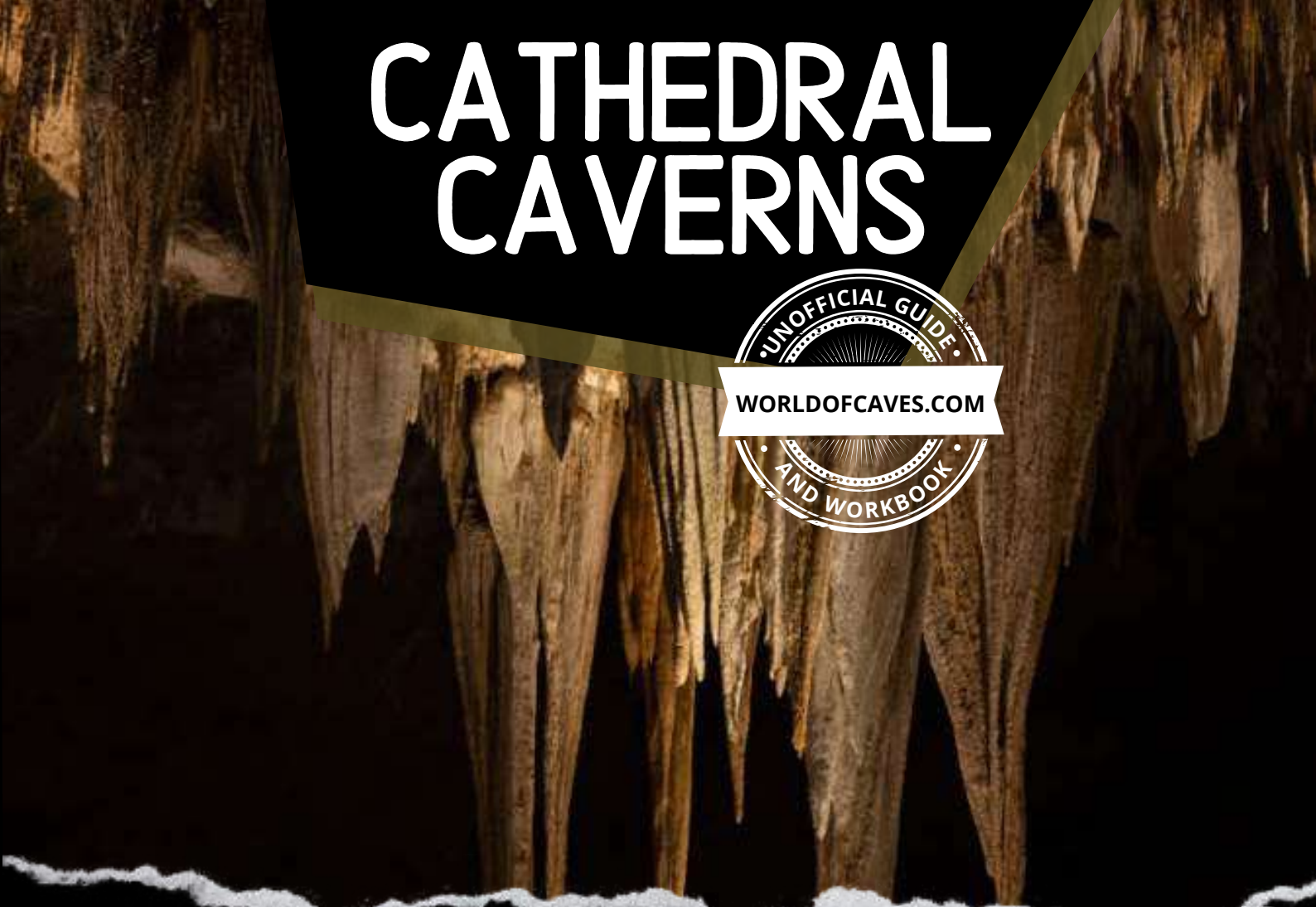
CATHEDRAL CAVERNS



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THIS CAVERN BOOK BELONGS TO:

CATHEDRAL CAVERNS

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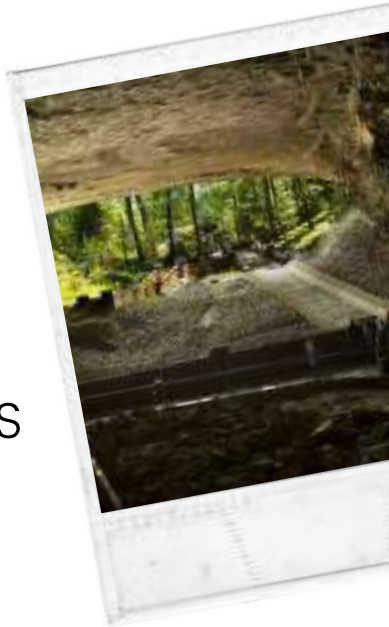
DID YOU KNOW...?



CATHERDERAL CAVERNS IS A NATURAL WONDER THAT HAS BEEN AROUND FOR OVER 300 MILLION YEARS.

THE NAME “CATHEDRAL” COMES FROM ITS MAJESTIC BEAUTY, WHILE OTHERS SAY THIS PLACE RESEMBLES AN UNDERGROUND ROMAN CATHEDRAL WITH COLUMNS AND ARCHES ALL THROUGHOUT.

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The history is unclear as to when Cathedral Caverns was first discovered, but it has been around for thousands of years.

The caverns were originally occupied by native Americans.

Archaeologists found pieces of pottery and arrowheads from their Archaeological excavations at the mouth of Cathedral Caverns.

Archaeologists

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Speleothems

Speleothems are cave formations caused by deposition of dissolved minerals. Stalactites and stalagmites are examples of speleothems found in Mammoth Cave.

Stalactites are speleothems that hang from the cave ceiling. They form when water containing dissolved calcium bicarbonate from the limestone rock drips from the ceiling of a cave. As the water comes into contact with the air, some of the calcium bicarbonate precipitates back into limestone to form a tiny ring, which gradually elongates to form a stalactite.

Stalactites

Limestone stalactites form less than 10cm every thousand years!

Stalagmites are speleothems that rise from the floor using a similar process. Sometimes they grow together to form a pillar or column.

One way to remember is that stalactite has a “c” in it, as in “ceiling,” and stalagmite has a “g” in it, as in “ground.”

Stalagmites

Source: https://science.howstuffworks.com

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FUN FACTS!

- The Cave maintains an average 62-degree weather condition all year round.
- The cavern's entrance measures an average of 128 feet wide and 25 feet high – imagine the earth taking a quick yawn!
- Cathedral Cavern has one of the world's largest stalagmites – a column connected between a stalagmite and stalactite. The column measures 45 feet tall and 243 feet in circumference. It is nicknamed "Goliath."
- American Indians could be the first inhabitants of the cavern dating back to 2000 years ago.
- It was formerly known as Bat Cave.
- There is a "frozen waterfall" in the cave – yeah, it looks exactly like you imagine it. It measures an interesting 32 feet tall and over 134 feet long.

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SCAVENGER HUNT

BEST PART OF MY TRIP:

I SAW A

- ☐ GEMSTONE
- ☐ STALACTITE
- ☐ STALAGMITE
- ☐ ROCK
- ☐ SNAIL
- ☐ LADDER
- ☐ AMERICAN FLAG
- ☐ BAT
- ☐ FROZEN WATERFALL
- ☐ TREE
- ☐ CAVE
- ☐ COLUMN

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DEFINE THE WORDS

STALACTITES

STALAGMITES

GEMSTONE

FROZEN WATERFALL

COLUMN

CAVERN

ARCHAEOLOGISTS

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WHAT DID I LEARN

NAME THREE THINGS YOU LEARNED ABOUT CATHEDRAL CAVERNS:

1

2

3

Where does the name 'Cathedral' come from?

3 Things to do at Cathedral Caverns:

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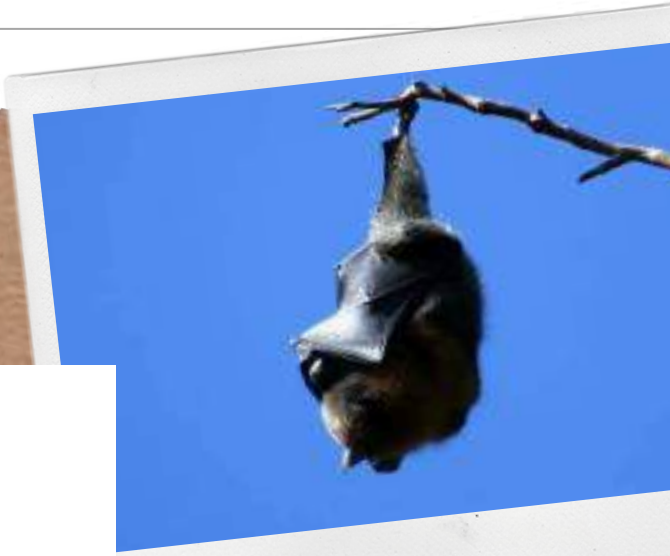
WHY DO WE NEED BATS?



DRAW A COLONY OF BATS!

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HOMEWORK TIME

Test your cave knowledge by answering the questions in the boxes below.

What's the difference between stalactites and stalagmites?

List 2 species of bats found in Cathedral Caverns:

What is the temperature inside Cathedral Caverns?

Which cavern tour would you like to take?

How was Cathedral Caverns formerly known as?

What did the Archaeologists found?

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CATHEDRAL CAVERNS TRACING

Cathedral

Archaeologists

Caverns

Alabama

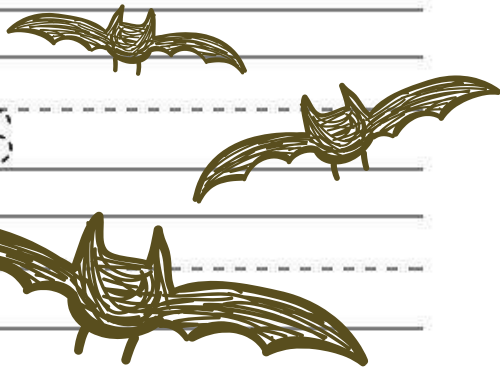
Frozen Waterfall

Bats

Stalactites

Endangered

Stalagmites



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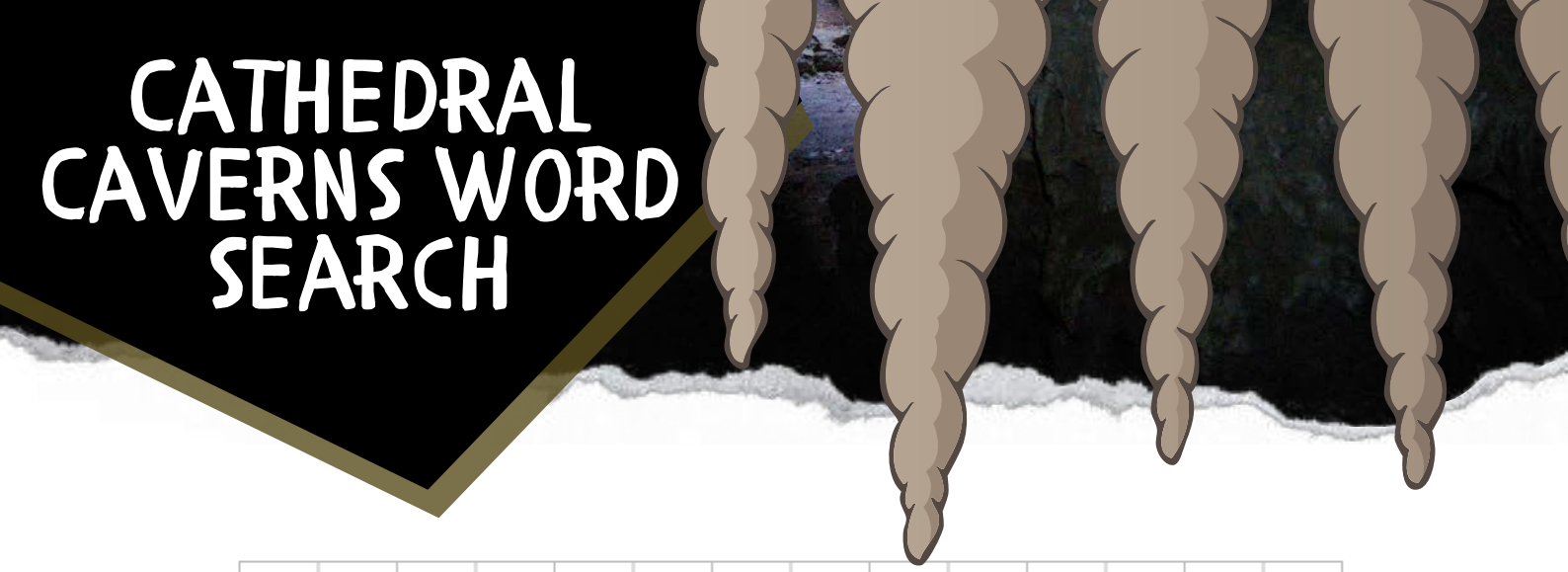
CATHEDRAL CAVERNS WORD SEARCH



A	T	S	D	A	E	H	W	O	R	R	A	S	G
H	R	A	A	A	Z	N	R	A	T	D	B	N	O
A	S	B	A	D	O	R	S	L	N	R	S	N	U
L	S	R	R	O	W	H	R	A	U	O	S	T	Z
A	S	O	E	W	A	T	E	R	F	A	L	L	U
B	L	T	N	N	C	A	A	D	W	L	H	O	B
A	H	N	L	O	S	A	F	E	S	S	E	O	C
M	R	L	L	A	O	S	A	H	T	T	L	R	T
A	N	U	W	A	R	O	E	T	A	A	E	E	T
A	M	O	C	R	R	O	D	A	B	O	A	G	O
N	A	N	C	E	A	A	D	C	O	S	H	R	U
U	F	R	O	Z	E	N	R	L	Z	W	E	O	R
A	R	C	H	A	E	O	L	O	G	I	S	T	S
T	A	U	N	D	E	R	G	R	O	U	N	D	N

ALABAMA

ARCHAEOLOGISTS

ARROWHEADS

CATHEDRAL

BATS

WATERFALL

UNDERGROUND

COLUMN

FROZEN

TOURS

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MATCH THE LIST WITH IMAGES

HAMMER

MATCH

SNAIL

MAP

TORCH HELMET

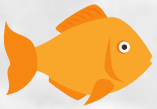
LAKE

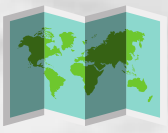
FISH

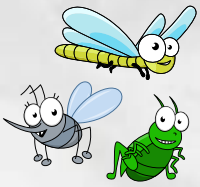
EARTH

BAT

INSECT







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CATHEDRAL CAVERNS UNSCRAMBLE

ACTLREDHA _____

VERSCAN _____

ABAMLAA _____

WAFALRTLE _____

OFZERN _____

ACSHLEOGRTSAIO _____

SABT _____

STRUO _____

WDHESARRAO _____

MUOCLN _____

APM _____

ISECSPE _____

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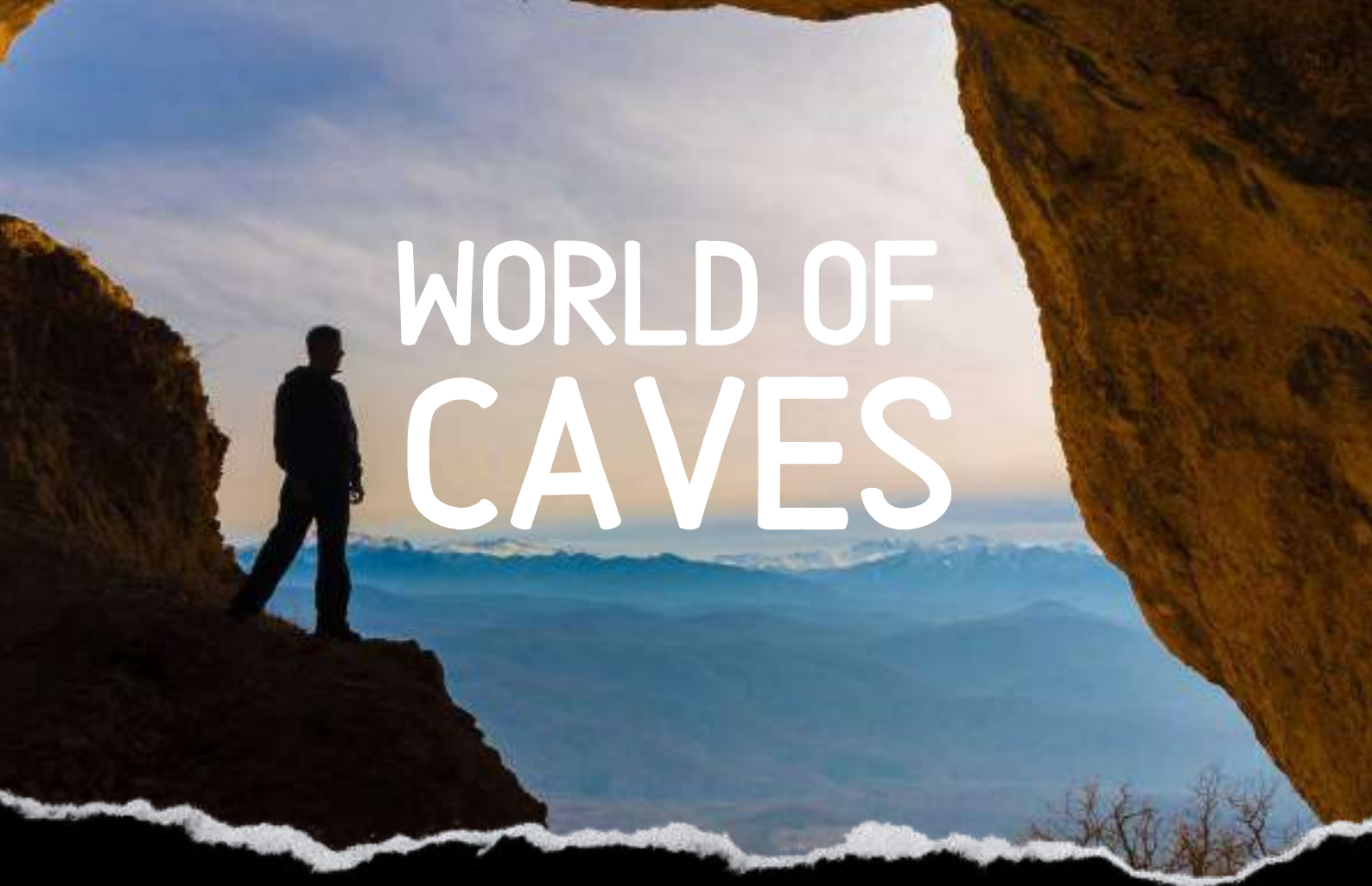

WORLD OF CAVES

World Of Caves has resources for:

- BAT FACTS
- MYTHS ABOUT BATS
- CAVE FACTS
- CAVE GEOLOGY

and many more!

Check back for new cave guides frequently!