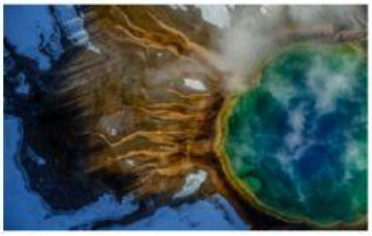
# YELLOWSTONE PARK

**I Watch the National Geographical documentary and tick the geographical features you see.**

valley ☐ hills ☐ bay ☐ mountains ☐ beach ☐ canyon ☐ coast ☐
volcano ☐ geysers ☐ forest ☐ islands ☐

**II Read the text carefully. Label the pictures on the left and below.**



1 .....



2 .....



3 .....



4 .....



5 .....

## Yellowstone: Wild, Beautiful and Fragile

Yellowstone was the first national park in the world and it has 3,468 square miles covering parts of the states of Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho. It is surrounded by mountains and seventeen rivers flow through it. It's much more than just a park. In 1872 we humans decided to give it back to nature and this time we need to respect it.

n the remote past, about 11,000 years ago, the Yellowstone region was inhabited by native American people. So, before the Europeans arrived, many native American tribes hunted and fished here. They collected plants and used the thermal waters for religious and medicinal purposes. Tribes related to Yellowstone were the Shoshone, the Crow, the Blackfeet, the Bannock, among others.

This remote region of the USA is famous for its amazing natural beauty: it has an incredible variety of geographical features like canyons, lakes, 300 geysers, a petrified forest and 290 waterfalls. Every 91 minutes, the most famous geyser, called *Old Faithful*, ejects 14,000 to 32,000 litres of hot water over 100 feet into the air. Another natural wonder is the Grand Prismatic Spring. The colour comes from the microbes that live in the very hot water. The green colour is the chlorophyll they use to absorb the sunlight. Underneath Yellowstone there is a supervolcano: it's one of the largest volcanic areas in the world.

A sanctuary for wildlife, Yellowstone is home to grizzly bears, mountain lions, bisons, coyotes, white pelicans and many others. *Canis Lupus*, the Gray Wolf, is one of the largest of the canine species. They were native to the region but in 1970 there were no more giant wolves in Yellowstone because they were decimated by hunters. It caused a terrible imbalance in the ecosystem with catastrophic consequences. Later, in 1995, scientists reintroduced them to the park, creating a very successful programme.

Yellowstone is a different kind of tourist destination: it's an adventure of a lifetime! You can go hiking, camping, fishing or boating in the middle of the frozen wilderness. Other activities are skiing and horseback riding. Yellowstone park is yours to explore with the guided snowmobile and snowcoach tours. Remember: you can protect and respect nature and have a good time doing so!



6 .....




7 .....

LIVEWORKSHEETS

**III Say if the statements about the text are true (T), false (F) or not stated (NS).**

| | | T | F | NS |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Yellowstone Park is an ancient place with dramatic geographical features. | | | |
| 2 | Native Americans never had a problem with the volcano because they respected nature. | | | |
| 3 | Yellowstone is covered in forest and it is situated close to the sea. | | | |
| 4 | The balance between the native species and the environment is very delicate here. | | | |
| 5 | Humans upset the ecosystem by killing all the canine species. | | | |
| 6 | Tourists may not visit the park in winter because it's not safe. | | | |
| 7 | Because of the extreme cold, visitors may only do indoor activities or go on guided tours. | | | |
| 8 | Humans may not interact with wild animals. | | | |

**IV Complete the text. Choose from the words below. <u>Not all are adequate!</u>**

respectful African in fact scientists diversity human natural park human however
France various destructive native secondly welcome interested Europeans

# YELLOWSTONE

## The first but certainly not the last




Yellowstone is one of the oldest natural parks in the world. It has been the hunting ground for **1** ..... Americans for about 11, 000 years who have known it longer and better than the **2** ..... They were more **3** ..... than the white settlers but still, they were no longer **4** ..... there after it became a park. The size of this **5** ..... is considerable but it isn't the most colossal park in the world. Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, in Alaska, is much more massive than Yellowstone **6** ....., there is one that is larger than **7** ..... It's called Northeast Greenland National Park and it is one hundred times bigger than Yellowstone. It's home to a huge **8** ..... of wildlife, however the permanent **9** ..... population is the tiniest in the world. **10** ....., it's zero.

LIVEWORKSHEETS