

## Progress Monitoring Probe 12

### Big Bend National Park

Big Bend National Park is a meeting place. It is where the United States and Mexico meet. The mountains meet the desert there. Visitors meet new and interesting plants and animals. In Big Bend, north meets south and east meets west.	12	22	32	41
The Rio Grande is the river that forms the border between Mexico and Texas. South of El Paso, the river makes a sharp turn. Big Bend is the area bordered by this turn. It gets its name from its place on a big bend in the Rio Grande.	52	64	78	89
There are many things to do at Big Bend National Park. Young people can join the Junior Ranger Program. They complete activities in the Junior Ranger Activity Booklet. This helps them learn a lot about the park. They also earn a badge. It identifies them as an official Junior Ranger!	100	109	118	132
Of course, the river is a popular activity spot. Visitors can float down the river in rafts. During some times of the year, the river is high. The water rushes through narrow canyons. This can make for wild rides. Any time of year, though, the scenery is awesome.	139	150	163	174
Many park visitors enjoy hiking. It lets them see up close what the park has to offer. More than four hundred kinds of birds live in or visit Big Bend. Along the trail, they might see a falcon diving to catch a kangaroo rat. Deer and jackrabbits run and hide from hikers. Some hikers might see mountain lions, bears, or even wild pigs. Rangers tell them to keep away from these animals. Hikers also enjoy the many types of desert plants on the trails. After a rain, the park bursts into colorful blooms. Flowering cacti and wildflowers compete for hikers' attention.	187	198	211	225
	237	247	258	270
	280	288		

### Big Bend National Park (Continued)

Rangers protect the plants and animals at Big Bend National Park. They also protect sites where scientists study the early people who lived there. They warn park guests to be careful not to change the place. That is why there are signs that say, "Take nothing but photographs. Leave nothing but footprints."	298	308	320	333	340
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Total words: \_\_\_\_\_ – errors: \_\_\_\_\_ = words correct: \_\_\_\_\_

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