Trailside Eye Spy

Check off each item as you see it along Rock Creek Trail. Good Luck!



A WATCHFUL EYE:

When a beech tree loses a branch, an eye-shaped scar is left behind. As they age, beech trees often become hollow, creating perfect cavities where animals can hide.



TURKEY TAIL: This

colorful fungi comes in many shades of brown, orange, black and even blue. To confirm its identity, look for a bright white underside speckled with tiny holes called pores.



Brushwood Lodge was constructed during the Great Depression by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Take a close look at the stone, likely excavated from Deep Lock Quarry. Can you see evidence of hand-carving?



_ RED SQUIRREL:

These tiny squirrels love to feast on the seeds of pinecones. Rather than bury their food for winter, they store their cones in a large pile called a cache.





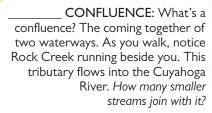
SYCAMORE BARK:

These trees may look "sick," but their naturally shedding bark is no cause for concern. From a distance, their beautiful white branches are a sure sign that water is near.



VIOLET TOOTHED

POLYPORE: This turkey tail lookalike has lavender colored "teeth" on its underside. As they age, their tops may fade to white or begin to turn green from algae.





SCOURING RUSH:

This primitive plant has no leaves, but its tissues are filled with abrasive silica. Pioneers used it to scour and clean their tin pots and pans.







WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH:

These small birds have a distinctive habit of perching on tree trunks facing downward. Listen for their nasally call that sounds like laughter in the trees.