

Vocabulary List 2

Discovery in Great Sand Dunes

National Park

by Aaron Johnson

<https://nationalparkmysteryseries.com>

Many of these words have multiple meanings, so the definitions below explain how the words are used in the context of this book.

Alcove

n. - A nook. I often use this to describe an overhang of rock, like a shallow cave.

Anagram

n. - A word or phrase made by rearranging letters.

Apprehend

v. - To run after and capture.

Aquifer

n. - An underground layer that holds water.

Artifact

n. - An object made by a human. Often, artifacts have historical significance.

Beacon

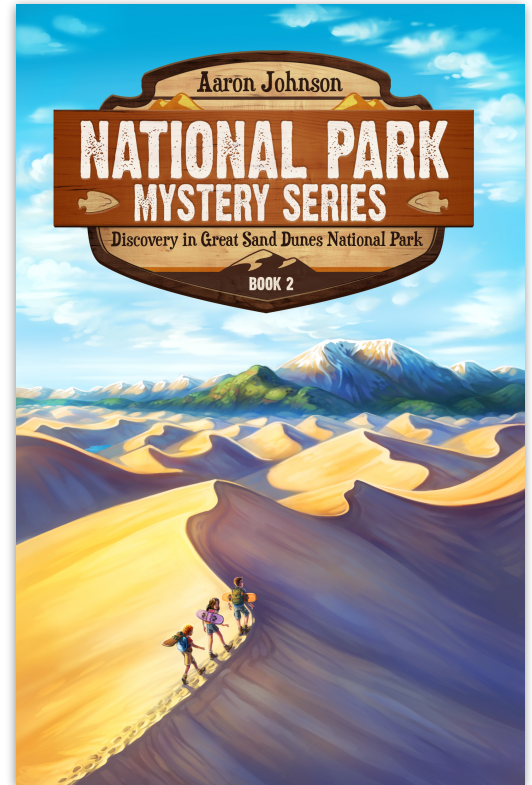
n. - A device used to signal your location and alert others to an emergency.

Cinch

v. - To tighten something down.

Clamber

v. - To climb with effort, like scrambling.



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Coax

v. - To gently persuade or encourage.

Captivated

adj. - Completely fascinated and interested.

Careen

v. - To move fast and out of control.

Chasm

n. - A deep gap in the earth.

Dilapidated

adj. - In really bad shape and falling apart.

Discern

v. - To see and understand clearly.

Dispatch

n. - A message.

v. - To kill something.

Exasperation

n. - The feeling of being very annoyed.

Fauna

n. - All the animals in a particular place.

Flora

n. - All the plants in a particular place.

Furtive

adj. - Sneaky and secretive.

Gulch

n. - A narrow valley with steep sides.

Gully

n. - A narrow ditch made by water.

Homestead

n. - A family's house, outbuildings, and the land around it.

Incorrigible

adj. - Someone who can't be easily corrected or changed.

Itinerary

n. - A written plan for a route for a trip.

Leverage

n. - Advantage gained by using a tool, method, or information.

Looter

n. - Someone who steals, especially during chaos.

Mesa

n. - A flat-topped hill with steep sides.

Muse

v. - To think deeply and reflect.

Panorama

n. - A big, wide view of an area.

Pinion Pine

n. - An evergreen tree that grows in the southwestern U.S. and bears edible nuts.

Placid

adj. - Very calm and peaceful.

Precarious

adj. - Unstable and not safe.

Quaint

adj. - Attractively old-fashioned or charming.

Rappel

v. - To descend using a rope.

Revel

v. - To really enjoy something.

Resin

n. - A sticky substance from a plant than can be used as a glue or way to patch things.

Rivulet

n. - A tiny stream of water.

Rousing

adj. - Exciting and stirring enthusiasm.

Serendipity

n. - Good luck in finding unexpected things.

Sheer

adj. - Extremely thin or steep.

Sinewy

adj. - Strong and muscular, like a tendon.

Slope

n. - Ground that is at an angle or incline.

Spelunker

n. - Someone who explores caves.

Stifled

adj. - Held back or suppressed.

Taut

adj. - Pulled or stretched tightly.

Thicket

n. - A dense group of bushes or plants.

Unrelenting

adj. - Not giving up or becoming less intense.

Unsavory

adj. - Disagreeable or unpleasant.

Venture

n. - An uncertain and risky adventure.

Vista

n. - A broad and impressive view.

Note: In the spirit of my wonderful English teacher, Mrs. Barber, I've tried my best to keep the definitions in this list as succinct as possible.