



Youth Visions & Voices of the Outdoors

South Dakota State Parks

ESSAY CONTEST

Share Your South Dakota State Park Memories!

Open to SD Students in Grades 6th-8th

Celebrate With Us:

South Dakota state parks have been places where memories are made — camping under the stars, hiking scenic trails, fishing with family, and sharing stories around the campfire.

To help us celebrate SD Parks & Wildlife Foundation's 40th anniversary, students are invited to write an essay about a memorable experience they've had in a South Dakota state park — or one they hope to have someday — and why these places matter for families, communities, and future generations.

Awesome Prizes!

Overall Winner Receives:

- Outdoor Gear Package from Scheels
- \$100 Go Outdoors SD Gift Card

Plus...

All Teachers & Finalists get State Park Passes & More!



Enter by March 17, 2026



Finalists recognized at a Showcase & Awards Ceremony, May 8, 2026!



Visit www.parkswildlifeoundation.org/essay for details



or email: assistance@parkswildlifeoundation.org

