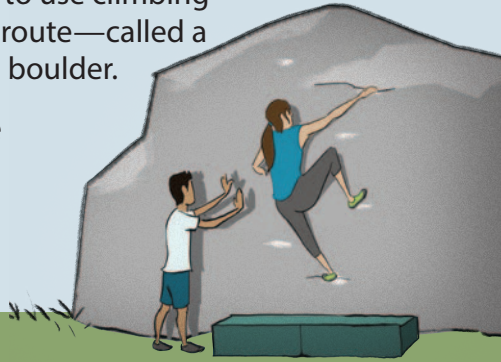


FUN WITH ROCKS

The rocks in Hickory Nut Gorge bring rock climbers from all over the world. They come to explore 'problems' in the boulder fields and scale the steep walls.

The goal of bouldering is to use climbing techniques to navigate a route—called a problem—to the top of a boulder.

No ropes or hardware are needed for bouldering, just climbing shoes, a crashpad, and a partner.



As you explore the boulder fields you may find some climbers. Can you find this bouldering gear?

CLIMBING SHOES
Special shoes made with high-grip rubber.



CRASHPAD
Sturdy foam pad to protect climbers when they fall.



CHALK ON ROCKS
Keeps sweaty hands from slipping on slick rock.



Climbing is inherently dangerous. Enjoy watching the experienced climbers and stay safe on the ground.

TRACK your hike at

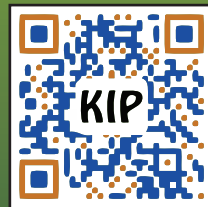
kidsinparks.com

and get **FREE** prizes!



Visit our website to find more TRACK Trail™ adventures near you!

Thanks for joining us on the trail today!



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Kids in Parks Founding Partners



HICKORY NUT GORGE GEOLOGY ROCKS

Geology is the science of the rocks. By looking carefully, geologists can look millions of years into the past. Use this brochure to discover clues about the history of Hickory Nut Gorge and how people play here today.



GEOLOGY OF HICKORY NUT GORGE

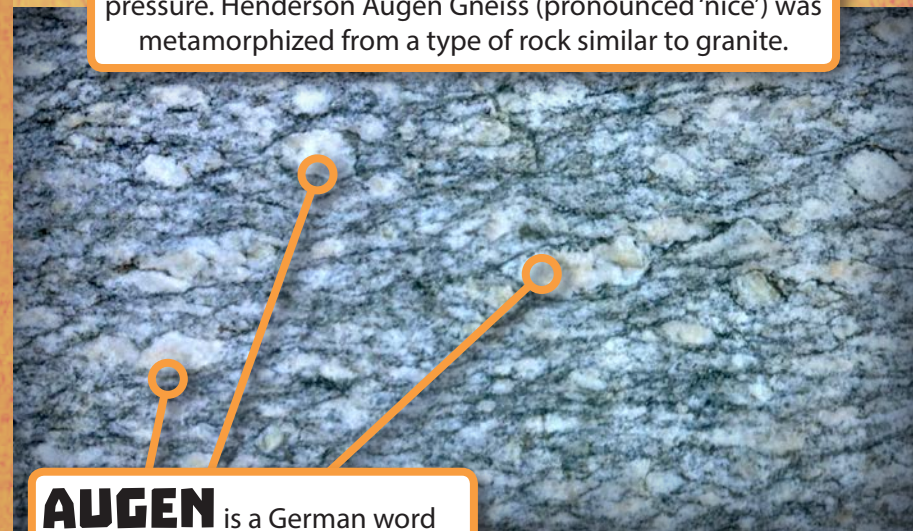
This gorge is a showcase of the forces that build and destroy mountains. If we look closely we can see how the crashing of continents created the foundations of the mountain. We can also see how water, temperature, wind, and time have carved through solid rock.



CRASHING CONTINENTS! Millions of years ago, the continent that is now Africa crashed into North America. Just like the hood of a car in a crash, the land crumpled and folded, pushing up the Appalachian Mountains, the oldest mountain range in the world.

The Hickory Nut Gorge is primarily composed of a type of metamorphic rock called **HENDERSON AUGEN GNEISS**

A metamorphic rock is a type of rock that has been transformed from any type of rock by extreme heat and pressure. Henderson Augen Gneiss (pronounced 'nice') was metamorphized from a type of rock similar to granite.



AUGEN is a German word meaning 'eyes'. These 'eyes' are bits of the mineral **Alkali Feldspar**.

Touch the rock. How do the Augens feel compared to the rest of the rock?

- Rougher**
- Smoother**
- Sharper**
- Rounder**

Daily News

RUMBLING ON BALD MOUNTAIN!



In 1874, the people living around Rumbling Bald found the ground shaking beneath their feet and loud noises coming from the mountain. Quickly, word spread that the mountain was a volcano about to erupt.

People panicked, thinking they were in danger. Some farmers even let their live stock loose so they could run to safety.

...story continues below


But no volcano ever erupted. Though the cause of the rumbling has never been confirmed, it was likely a massive rock-fall in caves hidden below the mountain. The most lasting impact of the 1874 event is that the mountain earned the name 'Rumbling Bald'.

What would you name the mountain if you could?

Look at the rock. You can see where the force of the crash folded, cracked, and twisted the stone.

Check off the formations you find in the rocks!


FAULTS
are formations that look like cracks in the rock.



FOLDS
look like wavy lines in the rock.



PORPHYROCLASTS
are bigger mineral pieces embedded in the rock. The direction of the tail shows the direction of the shearing force.



EROSION EXPLORERS

The gorge was carved by erosive forces like water, wind, and ice. Those forces continue to shape the landscape! Use your senses to discover evidence of erosion!

Circle things you find.

LOOK FOR

- Rock Piles**
- Exposed Roots**
- Fractures**

LISTEN FOR

- Running Water**
- Wind**
- Ice Cracking**