



HI I'M SLICK THE SLUG! WELCOME TO GRIZZLY CREEK REDWOODS STATE PARK!

HOW TO QUEST:

You are holding a treasure map! Follow the movement clues (*italicized*) between the stops (numbered) and discover the natural treasures within this forest.

At your final destination you will find your Quest Clue. This is the “key” to your prize (see the “Now that you’ve finished your quest” section for your next step)! Have fun, be safe, and stay on marked trails on your adventure.

MAP



TRAIL INFORMATION:

Start: At the Visitor Center

Contact: Grizzly Creek Visitor Center,
16949 HWY 36, Carlotta, CA 95528
(707) 777-3683
www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=421

Quest Trail Name: Grizzly Creek/
Hiker's Trail/Nature Trail

Total Length: ~1.5 miles/ ~ 1 hour

Difficulty: Moderate; up and down hill,
stairs and 1 big step down (about 24”
drop)

Driving Directions:

Eastbound on Hwy 36 (from HWY 101, just south of Fortuna): drive east to Grizzly Creek Redwoods State Park (about 18.4 miles) and turn right into Park at Visitor's Center.

Westbound on HWY 36: Turn left into Grizzly Creek Redwoods State Park at Visitors Center

BEWARE! Poison Oak is found on the trail's edges year-round.



Spring



Summer



Fall



Winter

WRITE YOUR QUEST CLUE HERE:

NOW THAT YOU'VE FINISHED YOUR QUEST:

Go to the Grizzly Creek Visitor Center to display your Quest Clue and claim your prize. If they are closed, log on to the Redwood EdVentures website (below) and we'll mail your prize to you.

WHERE WILL YOUR NEXT QUEST TAKE YOU?

The journey you've just completed is one of many Redwood EdVentures Quests. Find Quest locations and download free copies at www.redwood-edventures.org. Teachers, students, and families can also explore hundreds of outdoor places and educational opportunities on the beautiful Redwood Coast. Find out why **nature is closer than you think!**



THINGS I SAW ALONG THE WAY...

This quest was created with the help of Cuddeback School's Summer Learning Program Students, California State Parks, and Bureau of Land Management staff through funding by the Save the Redwoods League's Forest Immersion Grant.



REDWOOD EDVENTURES QUEST

GRIZZLY CREEK REDWOODS STATE PARK



**GRIZZLY CREEK
HIKER'S &
NATURE TRAILS**



**EXPLORE THIS BEAUTIFUL GROVE OF
OLD GROWTH REDWOODS, BUT BE
RESPECTFUL, THIS IS WILDLIFE HABITAT.**

Your quest begins at a sign that marks a rock lined path as it goes behind an old stick fence line. Follow the path toward the sounds of the road. Watch your head as you go under the bridge.

Look for a dry creek bed to cross your path and continue on your journey to the fork in the trail, staying to the left. Take 10 giant steps and then look to the left at the big Redwood with gaping hole at its base. This is wildlife habitat, proceed respectfully.

- 1** “Goose pens” are what we call these cave-like holes, Where geese were sheltered from predators bigger than moles. Formed by fires, they are now a home for bats. Take a look inside, but avoid their guano scat!

Along the trail you'll find 6 wooden steps. Walk up and hang to the left. The trail zigs to the left and zags to the right. Can you see the creek down below you? Stop when you see a once-tall giant that now stretches across the creek.

- 2** Did this tree fall by floods, or maybe high winds? It's anybody's guess, but a new story now begins. Small baby salmon called fry need shade and deep pools. Fallen trees can provide both for these ocean-bound schools.

The trail continues uphill. Count the number of wooden steps as you climb. When you reach the 38th step, turn around to look at the large leaning tree that you just walked around.

- 3** Let your eyes lead you half-way up this tree. Notice how one trunk splits into three . If a redwood leans, loses its top, or gets an abrasion, It may sprout these tree-like branches called “reiterations”.

Follow the path until you come to a place where you can sit to take a rest. Spend one minute in complete silence, listening to what the forest has to say.

- 4** What can you hear? A chorus of birds or a trundling creek? So many habitats are here for creatures to seek. You can see Redwoods, Doug fir, tanoaks, and bay from your seat.

Continue along and make sure to keep on the high road. As you zig-zag your way down the path another small wooden bench is to be found. From here, gaze up and out past the nearby trees.

- 5** Its time to look up toward the tops of the trees, Where the high redwood branches create a canopy. Fog condenses on their needles and waters the ground. Wandering salamander, plants, and other critters abound.

The path will take you under a leaning broken tree. Continue on for a while and stop when you go between two fire-scarred trees. A big rock sits in the trail between them.

- 6** Both of these trees have spots charred and dark. Both survived many fires with thick layers of bark. Feel each one: Redwood is spongy and soft to the touch. Douglas fir, on the other hand, is coarser and rough.

Your next stop won't be for a while. As you proceed, the trail gets rockier and covered with roots. How is the forest changing as you continue along? Descend 16 wooden steps. Soon you'll reach the “Nature Trail” sign. Turn left and take a seat on the bench.

- 7** While you rest, look downhill to the forest below. That flat piece of land is where the tallest trees grow. A river's flood can reach them when it rains many inches. Redwoods grow best on these “river benches.”

Keep on this trail, which winds around a pair of “conjoined twins”. Look for 8 more stair steps. You'll pass a bench; rest if you need to. On the right side of the trail you'll find a huge tree with wart-like lumps growing up its trunk. Look with your eyes and not with your hands. By staying on official trails you protect these pristine stands.

- 8** From the bottom to the top is home to flying squirrels. Some redwoods have weird knotty growths, called burls. They cause no harm, and in fact can sprout reiterations. Their deformed grain sparked loggers' imaginations.

Continue your quest in search of the home where a family of trees has now grown.

- 9** From a single tree several small trunks have sprung. But what looks like many is actually one. Can you count the number of trees now growing? It turns out, that redwoods are good at self-cloning!

Downhill you go. Look for the Big Foot-sized step formed by a tree root. When the trail gets flat walk a bit farther till you find a short bench on the left, and keep going, you're getting close to the end. You may have noticed the highway nearby. A bridge along the way will be your next stop.

- 10** Ferns were on the earth before the dinosaurs. They love shady wet places, and reproduce through spores. From this bridge, count the different kinds of ferns you can see. They share this space with trillium, violets, ginger, even a lily!



Keep on the lower trail to the left, and duck under the nurse log where new things have begun to grow. When the trail gets near the Highway, make sure to stay to the RIGHT and avoid crossing the road. Follow the trail until you reach the location where it all started. Turn to your left, go back under the bridge and down the rock lined path and stop at the campfire center.

Your journey has finally come to end
Bringing you back to this campground on Van Duzen's bend
The things that you've learned, please share with your friends!
The clue is the number of different kinds of ferns you saw at Stop 10!

Write the clue in the box on the other side of your Quest!