

IDPR – Help Name Our Mascot Competition  
Teacher: Mrs. Nicole DeVries  
School: Midvale School

Many centuries ago, back when the Nez Perce roamed Idaho's Palouse Valley, before the days of the fur trappers and traders, before Lewis & Clark and the Corps of Discovery made their trek through the Idaho wilderness, before the missionaries, miners, and pioneers settled this great state, deep in the vast forest near the pristine Clearwater River, a little red fox kit was born. There was something magical about this special kit. His magic was to love and help those in need. He also had the power to stay alive as long as he did good deeds for others.

This generous kit had a fun and jolly childhood. During his youth, he learned his talents one by one. He started out by doing good deeds for the other forest animals. At first, he did just small acts of kindness. He gathered nuts for squirrels and helped baby birds that fell out of trees. He was a friend to every creature. As he grew older, his deeds became more significant.

One day, in particular, a charitable action of his changed the course of his life forever. While romping through the forest and keeping an eye out for an animal in distress, he suddenly heard, "Somebody, help me, please! I'm scared, cold, and longing for my family!" Lost and alone in the deep dark woods, he discovered a little Nez Perce girl caught in a snare of a wolf trap.

"Oh, you poor thing! Let me help you," exclaimed the fox.

"Oh, thank you. I know I'm safe now," the girl cried with relief.

But then she paused and said, "Wait! My parents are probably worried sick about me. I need to get home to them, but I don't know the way. Can you help me?"

"Of course, I will. That's what I'm meant to do," replied the fox.

He helped her find her way home. When her parents saw her, their eyes were filled with tears of joy. The girl named him "Scout" because of that one scouting trip he made when he saved her life. She and her parents wanted to adopt him and bring him into the tribe, but they knew he must go back to the wilderness to do what he did best – help those in need. The tribe spread the word throughout the land about this very special fox. His story has been told for generations.

Ever since that important day, Scout continues to scout around, looking to lend a hand wherever he can. Because he continues to do kind deeds for others, he lives on as the Idaho Parks and Recreation's most loyal and honored mascot. He travels throughout this great state visiting Idaho's Magnificent State Parks.

If you "stay and play" at any of the twenty-seven parks in the Gem State, you just might spot Scout helping a visitor in need. Who knows? Maybe he could even help you!

Teacher: Mrs. Bruhjell  
School: Farmington-Stidwell  
Address: 1626 Spruce St.  
Sandpoint ID 83844  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

# Name the mascot competition!

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This is my  
story

**HELLO**  
My name is  
Rocky

Adventure is what I love. My mother named me Rocky because when I was a baby, I played with and cuddled with rocks. I had a collection of rocks. My favorite is turquoise. I also like star garnets.

Life was good in the woods. The problem was that I didn't get enough attention. I grew up in a pretty small neighborhood near the Pack River north of Sandpoint, where life is quiet. All you could hear were birds chirping, the wind whistling and an occasional hugh of an elk. I finally decided that it was not the place for me.

So I gathered up my rocks, and put them in a sack. While I was climbing a rocky mountain, schweitzer to be exact I heard a shout that came from the river below.

I climbed down the mountain and headed back to the river. I saw a man holding on to a tree root for dear life. I quickly jumped onto a log that was passing by and got to where the man was.

- 1) One submission per classroom
- 2) Email to: mascot@idpr.idaho.gov
- 3) Submissions due April 25, 2015



Teacher: Brubaker (cont.)  
School: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

# Name the mascot competition!

p. 2 of 2



This is my  
story

**HELLO**  
My name is  
Rocky (cont.)

I tugged on the man's uniform and managed to rescue him from the raging river rapids. As soon as I got him out of the river he smiled at me. I helped him get to his pick up truck that had an Idaho State Parks and Recreation symbol on it.

He told me that he had an important job for me. We drove all the way down to Boise where he introduced me to the crew. "You are one of us now." Later that day my family joined us in Boise and it was officially announced that I would be their new mascot.

Why was I picked? I figure it was because I love the outdoors and I am a hard working dependable, trustworthy red fox who likes to hang out with wildlife and people. I also really like pick-up trucks.

- 1) One submission per classroom
- 2) Email to: [mascot@idpr.idaho.gov](mailto:mascot@idpr.idaho.gov)
- 3) Submissions due April 25, 2015



<http://www.parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/parks/mascot-naming-contest>

Teacher: Mrs. Truxel  
School: Barbara Morgan Ele.  
Address: 125 Samson Trail  
McCall, ID 83638  
Email:

# Name the mascot competition!



This is my  
story

**HELLO**  
My name is

Tod Kajika  
(ca-jee-ka)

Hello my name is Tod Kajika (ca-jee-ka). My first name, Tod, is the name for a male fox and my last name, Kajika, is a Native America word which means, "Walks without sound." As a red fox I walk without sound so this fits me perfectly. My favorite thing to do is chase squirrels. I just can't help myself, but as a Parks and Recreations Mascot, I can't chase squirrels at my new job. Tod can also be an acronym for Thousands of Outstanding Destinations and that fits Parks and Recreation perfectly too.

I was born, a kit, under an abandon barn in Central Idaho and the only family I have is my mom and her name is Sylvia and my Dad's name is Tod too. I was interested in where my name came from so my parents took me to Northern Idaho where I meet some Native Americans that knew my grandparents. My parents gave me a Native American name just as the Native Americans gave names to creatures in the world. Most of these names matched animal characteristics.

When my great grandparent were kits they knew some smart people named Lewis and Clark. They loved doing research, were adventurous, and gathered information about Idaho's forest and animals. They told their kits about watching Lewis and Clark taking Silky Lupine seeds and putting them in their packs. They also watched as Lewis and Clark wrote about it in their journals.

As an animal I have been able to meet lots of wildlife as I get around without making a sound as I am an adventurer too, like Lewis and Clark. At a weir last summer, at the South Fork of the Salmon River, I saw people working hard to make sure that our Chinook salmon never go extinct. Later that year, I came across a small town in the mountains of Idaho, a living ghost town called Warren. My parents told me about a ranger at Ponderosa Park that is teaching kids about invasive plant species and how they get caught in an animal's fur and get spread all over Idaho's parks.

As a ranger and a red fox with lots of experience in the forest, I want to help Parks and Recreation to make sure the animals, plants, and visitors stay happy and safe at all the parks around the state of Idaho. I want to be like Lewis and Clark and investigate our parks for interesting facts and history and share it with everyone.

Tod Kajika is your red fox at your service.



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