**Cataloochee Valley: From Mountain Town to National Park**

In this program, students will discover that the creation of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park uprooted local communities in the 1930s. Through hands-on time-line and census activities, students will learn why the national parks were created and the accompanying costs of their formation. The lesson will specifically focus on the historic Cataloochee Valley Township in Haywood County.

Order of Program

1. Prior to the educator’s visit: view the first episode of Ken Burn’s documentary set “The National Parks: America’s Best Idea.” This program is entitle “This is America” and is at:

<http://www.pbs.org/nationalparks/for-educators/lesson-plans/>.

1. At the beginning of the program, show Clip # 6 under the “People Behind the Parks” sections on the same website, <http://www.pbs.org/nationalparks/for-educators/lesson-plans/>.
2. Introductory questions about National Parks and the GSMNP in their own backyard.
3. Show a regional map with the GSMNP and a map of the GSMNP in comparison to the US or Southeast.
4. Time-line Activity with a partner.
5. Cataloochee Powerpoint showing past and present images.
6. Census chart, questions, and magnifying glass. Work with a partner to answer questions.
7. Post visit essay assignment.

55 min program from the Mountain Heritage Center

All supplies such as tape, sharpies, magnifying glasses, census charts, images, and timelines supplied by Mountain Heritage Center.

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