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Rodney, a child who wants to be outside, is awed by a majestic national park.

**Ages:** 5 to 9 years

**ATOS Reading Level:**  
2.9

**Lexile:** AD580L

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# Where's Rodney?

*What do you think is majestic?*

**What is STEAM?** Learning through Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics. Through STEAM, children problem solve, innovate, create, and collaborate.

**STEAM Topics in this Book:** comparisons, environment, nature, state and national parks, exploration, observation

## Activities To Do Together:

It's important to connect with nature. Our minds and bodies benefit from time spent outdoors.

Before reading the book:

- Look at the book cover together. Ask your child to tell you where they think Rodney is standing and how he feels.
- Have you been to a state or national park? If so, how is it different from the place where you live. What does your child think they would see, hear, or do at a state or national park?

While reading the book:

- Ask your child how they know Rodney has great observation skills. What types of things does he notice? What senses does he use to make his observations?
- Notice how the landscape changes from city, to farm, to park.

When you have finished reading the book:

- Take a nature walk. What living things did you notice that Rodney noticed? What did you find that Rodney didn't?
- Find your closest state and national parks online. What would you explore there?
- Part of visiting a park includes being properly prepared with a map, sunscreen, food and water, and the right clothes and shoes. Think about what you should take on your park adventure to have a safe and comfortable time.
- A biome is a region that has a particular climate and certain types of living things. Coastlines, deserts, forests, and wetlands are types of biomes. Do you want to see tall trees, hear the ocean, experience a desert in bloom? Plan an adventure to a biome that you'd like to visit.

**Questions for STEAM Thinking:**

1. Do you think Rodney really didn't care if he couldn't go on the field trip? Why or why not?
2. How was the park different from school?
3. What do you think the author meant when she said that Rodney was bigger and Rodney was smaller? How are both of these possible?
4. How do you know that Rodney is changed by his experience at the park?
5. Rodney thinks that the park is "majestic." What do you think that means? What other words would you use to describe the park?
6. What do you think may have surprised Rodney about the park?

**Early Math Project Resources:**

Visit [Where's Rodney?](http://countplayexplore.org/book/wheres-rodney) (countplayexplore.org/book/wheres-rodney) to find activities and related Learning Foundations and California Mathematics Standards for this book.

**Vocabulary**

**STEAM words found in the story:** beside, bigger, farther, faster, higher, inside, longer, louder, lower, middle, million, outside, park, quieter, slower, smaller, tiny, triangle

**Related STEAM**

**words:** biome, canyon, environment, habitat, nature

**Words to build reading**

**comprehension:** eagle, flamingo, gazed, grand, majestic, rumbled, soar

**Related Books:** *Tasha's Voice* by Carmen Bogan; *Fatima's Great Outdoors* by Ambreen Tariq; *Hiking Day* by Anne Rockwell

Click this link to the [World Catalog](http://WorldCatalog) or enter bit.ly/3ZcwWdx to find *Where's Rodney?* in the public library.

