Mass Audubon Quests

# Broad Meadow Brook Quest ||

Worcester



Head out onto the deck behind the Visitor Center and down the steps onto the trail. Feel free to head through the Nature Play Area as a shortcut. This Quest won't start until further down the trail, so continue walking until you get to the boardwalk. Keep right onto Holdredge Trail which has the orange circle trail markings. Walk until you reach the intersection of Holdredge Trail and Enchanted Forest Trail.

### Now let's get busy questing!

 Enchanted Forest Trail goes off to the left, but we'll keep going straight on Holdredge. A marker pole stands where the paths meet.

### What number is on its top?\_\_\_\_\_

2. Continue on the trail until you reach a big rock to your left. A rock of this size is often called a boulder and can weigh many tons. How could a boulder this big get here on the trail?

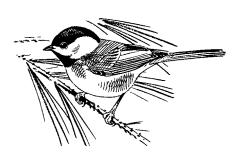
#### Who or what brought it? Broad Meadow Brook Glacier Farmers Write response here

3. If you hike further, you will reach the intersection of Holdredge and Lady Slipper Trails. Turn right onto Lady Slipper. There are two trail markers painted on a tree at the intersection.

#### What shape is on bottom? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Eventually you will come to a small stream with a stone ford. A number of short plants with broad, triangular fronds subdivided into smaller parts surround the water.

These plants are called: \_\_\_\_\_\_



5. As you continue walking, you will come to a second ford. Once you cross, look to your right at the plants. Not the big ones, the smaller, 3-leafed plants.

### Can you identify what they are? Don't get too close!

- 6. Forge ahead 50 paces.
- 7. When you reach a fork in the trail, head straight toward Blue Well Trail. Stop ahead at the junction with Blue Well Trail. At this 4-way intersection, you can head to almost any part of the sanctuary! Many trails meet and overlap here.

## How many Broad Meadow Brook signs can you see from here? \_\_\_\_\_

8. Turn left on Blue Well Trail. Through the trees to your right, you can see power lines running parallel to the trail. These run North-South through the sanctuary. On your left you can see a number of tree hollows, rotted out

or dug-out spaces in trees perfect for animals to live in.



- 1. Which of the following animals like to live in trees?

  - □ Raccoons
  - Write response here
- 2. Enjoy a long, pleasant walk on Blue Well Trail. Eventually, the trail will curve left away from the power lines and head downhill.

### If you don't want to walk through mud, you'll have to walk on one of these wooden structures:

3. After you cross a 2nd (answer to question #9), you will reach Holdredge Trail again. Take a right and hike until you reach Sprague Trail. On your left you will see a tree lying by the path.

### Did this tree fall or get cut down?

- □ fall □ cut
- 4. Head left down Sprague Trail until you reach a sign pointing towards the Visitor Center. Wow, it's been quite the walk so far!

If your legs start to get tired, feel free to take a break on this object which is positioned next to the trail:

 5. Continue until you reach the junction between Enchanted Forest and Sprague Trails. New England soil can be incredibly rocky! Often farmers dug rocks out of the ground to build one of these.

One is running alongside Sprague Trail right now!

- 6. Continue down the hill on Sprague Trail back towards the Visitor Center, but not before discovering the treasure's secret location!
- 7. Walk to the bottom of the hill and stop at the

#8,I	#5,2	#2,4	#9,9
#4,I	#9,2	#4,3	#9,5

Take (#7x3 + #1) steps forward

Turn right 90°

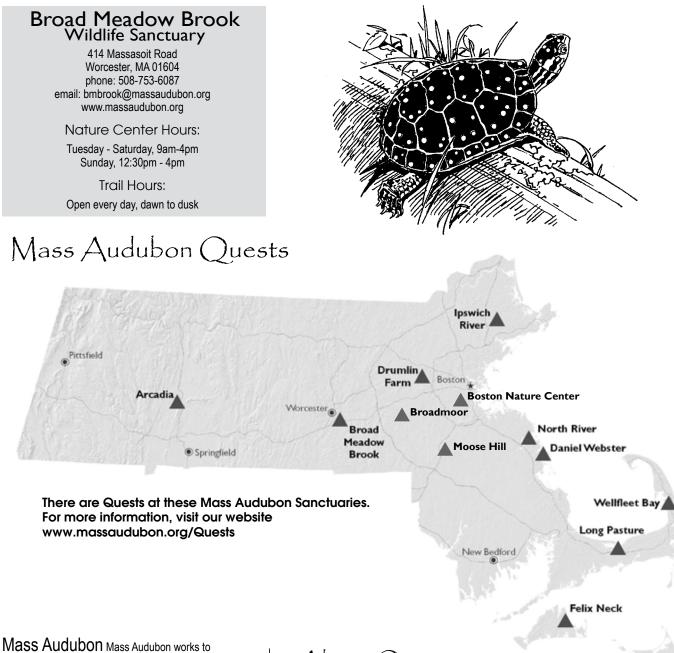
Then take (#7x2 - #1) steps forward

To find the treasure, look

#3,3	 #11,3	#9,5	 #12,5	#2,7	#8,7	 #11,2	 #12,7	 #12,2	 #11,5
#I2,2	#11,5	#2,6							
#9,I	#8,5	#3,3	#2,2	#9,5	#4,2	#2,7			



Thanks for Questing!



protect the nature of Massachusetts for people and wildlife. Together with more than 100,000 members, we care for 35,000 acres of conservation land, provide school, camp, and other educational programs for 225,000 children and adults annually, and advocate for sound environmental policies at local, state, and federal levels. Founded in 1896 by two inspirational women who were committed to the protection of birds, Mass Audubon has grown to become a powerful force for conservation in New England. Today we are respected for our science, successful advocacy and innovative approaches to connecting people and nature. Each year, our statewide network of wildlife sanctuaries welcomes nearly half a million visitors of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds and serves as the base for our work. To support these important efforts, call 800-AUDUBON (283-8266) or visit www.massaudubon.org.



### About Questing

Questing was born out of a 150-year old tradition in the region surrounding Dartmoor National Park in southwest England. "Letterboxing," as this tradition is called, is a popular past time, with thousands of boxes hidden in both natural and cultural locations.Vital Communities, a regional non-profit organization based in Vermont, built on this tradition in the United States by developing the Valley Quest program. In the early 1990s,Vital Communities was concerned about the future of the Upper Valley region of New Hampshire and Vermont, and was hoping to develop a program that would foster sense of place, strengthen relationships between schools and communities, and build bridges across the generations. The result was Valley Quest, with "Valley" referring to the place and "Quest" referring to a treasure hunt—made by children and adults working together—leading to the community's special places. Over time, the Valley Quest program has grown. More than 2,000 children, adults, families, scouts, students and historical society members have contributed to the creation of the 200+Quests found in the Valley Quest's success.

Quest is a trade name of the Valley Quest program, and is used with permission.For more information, visit www.valleyquest.org