**The Great Computer Challenge, 2023**

***Desktop Presentations, Level 4***

# **Background**

Hiking trails are an important resource for anyone who enjoys spending time in nature and wants to do so in a safe and responsible way. Hiking trails are important for several reasons:

- Navigation: Hiking trails provide a clear and defined path for hikers to follow, ensuring that they stay on track and do not get lost in the wilderness.

- Safety: Hiking trails are often marked with signs, warnings, and other safety measures that help hikers avoid potential hazards and navigate difficult terrain.

- Preservation: By designating specific hiking trails, authorities can limit the impact of foot traffic on sensitive ecosystems and wildlife habitats.

- Enjoyment: Hiking trails provide an opportunity for people to connect with nature and enjoy the outdoors in a safe and controlled environment.

- Accessibility: Well-maintained hiking trails can be accessible to a wider range of people, including those with mobility issues or disabilities.

# **Guidelines & Requirements**

1. The presentation must contain a *minimum of five (12) slides*.
2. At least one slide must provide *general information* about hiking trails in Virginia.
3. At least one slide must identify *in list format* the usefulness of hiking trails.
4. At least one slide must include *a picture or drawing*.
5. At least one slide must include a *graph, chart or table* with numerical information about hiking trails in Virginia.
6. Use the 5/5/5 rule: no more than 5 words per line of text, five lines of text per slide, or five text-heavy slides in a row.

When creating the slides, try to use the program to its fullest, utilizing as many of the key features of the software as possible. You may use clip art, drawings, audio or video clips on any of the slides.  The design and flow of the slides will count more than special effects or transitions from one slide to another.

Remember that your job is to create a visually appealing and informative presentation. Text layout, font size, and color schemes should be chosen to clearly display information. Pictures, charts, and lists should be created for purposes of effectively communicating your points to the reader.

Accessibility is important:

- Add alt+text to all your graphics and images.

- Check reading order means the sequential presentation of content in a PPT to be used by screen readers and other assistive technology. Ideally the screen reader will read the content in a manner that is logical and closely, if not exactly, matching the document visual appearance. To check the reading order on your presentation slides for accessibility: when your presentation is open, select Review>Check Accessibility.

# **Challenge**

Virginia is known for its beautiful natural scenery, and there are many great hiking trails throughout the state.

Your team has been asked to create a slide presentation to excite students to go hiking in the great Virginia trails with peers, family and/or community. To help you with your presentation, information about some trails is included on the following pages. You may also conduct and organize your own research.

# **Judging Criteria**

* The presentation meets all 5 requirements.
* Information is organized and clearly displayed.
* Pictures, charts, drawings and lists provide effective communication.
* Slides layouts are visually appealing.

# **Some Data**

Great hiking trails in Virginia:

- Old Rag Mountain: Located in the Shenandoah National Park, this challenging 9-mile hike offers stunning views of the surrounding mountains and valleys.

- McAfee Knob: This 8.8-mile hike in the Roanoke Valley is known for its iconic rock outcropping, which offers panoramic views of the surrounding countryside.

- Crabtree Falls: This 3-mile hike near Charlottesville leads to one of the tallest waterfalls east of the Mississippi River, with a series of cascading falls that are a sight to behold.

- Great Falls Park: Located just outside of Washington D.C., this park offers several hiking trails that lead to overlooks with views of the Potomac River and the park's impressive waterfalls.

- Shenandoah National Park: With over 500 miles of hiking trails, Shenandoah National Park has something for everyone, from easy nature walks to challenging multi-day backpacking trips.

- Damascus trails

- Virginia Creeper trail

***Have fun and thanks for participating in the   
Great Computer Challenge, 2023!***