

Grundy & Kendall Explore Region 24

Grundy County Edition



Created by PAASSS

Photos by Laney Callahan, Delightful Pearls Photography



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Foreword

Welcome to Kids of Region 24—a joyful journey through the heart of Grundy and Kendall Counties! This special book was created by PAASSS, a local collaboration dedicated to supporting families with young children. We designed Kids of Region 24 as a gift to help families build their home libraries, explore their communities, and spark a love of reading from the very beginning.

In these pages, you'll meet two adventurous squirrels, Grundy and Kendall, as they travel across our region with their families. Together, they visit familiar places and discover new ones, all captured through real photos that bring our towns, parks, and landmarks to life.

We're proud to celebrate the diverse families who call Region 24 home and to highlight the many child- and family-friendly spaces that make our communities so special. Copies of this book will be available in local libraries and handed out at community events—because every child deserves the joy of a story in which they can see themselves.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the talented creative team who brought this book to life: Laney Callahan of Delightful Pearls Photography for her beautiful photography; Karen Childress, Vice President of Early Childhood Education at the Fox Valley Family YMCA; Gabrielle Foster, PAASSS Project Manager; and Taylor Headley, PAASSS Marketing Consultant, for their outstanding design work, engaging content, and meticulous attention to detail. A special thank you also goes to G-Force Printing in Plano, IL, for their invaluable support in bringing this project to print.

Thank you for joining us on this adventure. We hope this book inspires your family to explore, imagine, and read together—right here in Region 24.

With gratitude,
Laurel Mateyka, PAASSS CEO/Founder

Canalport Park's Boat Replica



211-299 W Illinois Ave
Morris, IL 60450



“Dad, you are so silly,” said Grundy. “Are we really going to pet a mule and ride on a boat today, or are you teasing me?” Grundy giggles. Dad replies, “Would I tease you about two cool things? Let’s get going.”

Goold Park



308 Northern Avenue
Morris, IL 60450

"I'm excited to try ice skating today, Dad!" exclaims Grundy.

"Have I ever been to Goold Park before?" he asks.

Dad replies, "Yes, Grundy; we watched your mom and aunt play tennis there last summer."

"Oh, I remember. And we had a picnic that day too." says Grundy.



Dollinger's Farm



7420 E Hansel Road
Channahon, IL 60410



Grundy asks Grandma, "Grandma, this is my favorite season. Did you know that?"

"No, I didn't," replies Grandma. "Why is Fall your favorite season?"

"I get to pick the best pumpkin, get lost in the corn maze, and Halloween candy, of course," Grundy laughs.

Three Rivers Library



25207 W Channon Drive, Channahon, IL 60410 &
109 N Wabena Avenue, Minooka, IL 60447

Mom asks, "Are you ready to go, Grundy? Storytime will be starting soon."

"Oh yes, Mom! I want to say hi to all my friends before it starts," Grundy replies.



Coal City Police Department



545 S Broadway Street
Coal City, IL 60416



Grundy asks, “Grandpa, why are we going to the police station?”

“Well, Grundy, I asked them to give us a tour,” said Grandpa. “It’s important for you to learn how helpful police officers can be.”

Grundy County Fairgrounds



8890 North Illinois Route 47
Morris, IL 60450



“Hurry, Kendall, we have to see everything at the fair this year!” squeals Grundy.

“Slow down,” Kendall yells. “The fireworks won’t even start until dark.”

WELCOME

Gebhard Woods State Park



401 Ottawa Street
Morris, IL 60450



“This is a neat place to fish, Grandpa,” Grundy stated.

“Yes it is,” replies Grandpa. “Maybe we will even see a beaver, muskrat, mink, raccoon or deer if we’re lucky!”

“Oh! That would be cool! I’ll be quiet and keep looking for one of those animals while we fish, Grandpa,” says Grundy.

Channahon Fire Protection District



24929 S Center Street
Channahon, IL 60410



“Auntie, thank you for bringing us to the fire station today,” Kendall says.

“Yeah, Kendall and I want to ask to see the trucks,” Grundy says, excitedly.

Auntie laughs, “You two be patient; we will ask to see everything after we learn about some fire safety first.”

Grundy County Historical Society



510 West Illinois Avenue
Morris, IL 60450



Grundy asks, "What is a historical society, Uncle?"
"Thank you for asking me, Grundy," Uncle replies. "The easiest way to explain it is that history means the past, and a society is when people share an interest in something."
"Ok, so we are going to see some things people have from a long time ago?" Grundy questions.
"Yes, Grundy," Uncle laughs. "Something like that. You will understand more when we get there today."

Morris Hospital YMCA



2200 W. Dupont Avenue
Morris, IL 60450



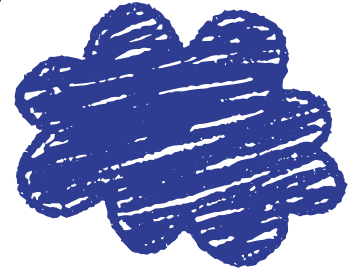
“Thank you for inviting me to go swimming, Grundy,” said Kendall.

“You’re welcome, Kendall. I take lessons here every week,” Grundy replied.

“I have been taking lessons at my YMCA, too. That’s neat!” Kendall exclaimed.



Grundy & Kendall County City Word Search



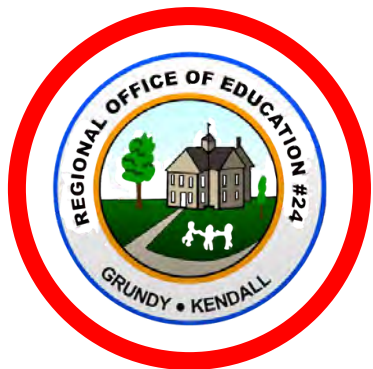
W	C	H	A	N	N	A	H	O	N	M	G
C	O	A	L	C	I	T	Y	Q	N	O	A
A	S	L	I	S	B	O	N	M	W	R	R
I	M	I	L	L	B	R	O	O	K	R	D
I	O	L	K	I	N	S	M	A	N	I	N
Y	O	R	K	V	I	L	L	E	F	S	E
J	G	R	R	L	O	S	W	E	G	O	R
C	A	R	B	O	N	H	I	L	L	W	N

Find the following words in the puzzle.
Words are hidden → and ↓ .

CARBON HILL
CHANNAHON
YORKVILLE
MILLBROOK

COAL CITY
KINSMAN
GARDNER
MORRIS

OSWEGO
LISBON



Grundy & Kendall Cut Outs

🌟 Hey, amazing adventurers! 🐿️🌟 Grab your scissors and get ready for some fun!

We've got two special friends, Grundy and Kendall, who can't wait to explore Region 24 with you!
As you explore the amazing places in this book, don't forget to cut them out and bring them along for the ride!

📷 Snap some fun photos and show us how you're making memories together.

Tag us on Facebook using **#PAASSSFamilyFun** so we can follow your adventures. Let's get exploring! 🌲🏠🎉



