

**Instructions:** In the text below, circle the letters that should be capitalized because they begin proper nouns. Then, underline the proper nouns that name places.

Muir took off on september 1, 1867, hiking about 1,000 miles to florida along the "wildest, leafiest, and least trodden way," he recalled in his writings. He covered at least 20 miles a day and took detailed botanical notes during the trip. Muir reached the gulf coast in just over seven weeks but fell seriously ill just days later. He had contracted malaria while crossing florida's swampland.

The following january, partially recovered but still in poor health, muir boarded a ship to cuba. He hoped to eventually travel to the amazon to study the native plants but instead went to san francisco. Arriving on march 28, 1868, he asked someone to show him the closest way out of town. When the man asked where he wanted to go, muir replied, "To any place that is wild."

Traveling on foot, muir headed for california's sierra nevada mountains. The natural beauty of the area filled him with awe. Although muir was lonely without human connection, he was ecstatic to be in a wilderness area. When he faced a choice between people and nature, the call of nature generally won out.

Muir's first trip to the high sierra was short, but he returned the following year. He worked briefly as a shepherd and then took a job running a sawmill near yosemite falls. Muir spent his free time exploring the land and celebrating nature. He drew inspiration from ralph waldo emerson, a famous writer and lecturer who often wrote about the importance of connecting with nature.

