Lab 5

1. When someone unfamiliar with the VC region looks at my map, they should be automatically hit with the family friendly activities the reserve has to offer. I tried to uniquely represent each activity with an accurate symbology yet unique enough to stand out from it’s surroundings and other activities available. This was not always easy; given more time or know-how, the trails could have been further symbolized with more accurate lines to denote their purpose further than just the legend. However, due to the need to differentiate the various lines that represent each activity or road to activity, some lines were symbolized a little more abstractly so as not to be confused with a neighboring line which denoted a different activity.

* Trailheads

1. This data is a bit of a composite between both. It helps people find the trailheads to embark on hiking, one of the main activities, however it in and of itself just denotes the beginning of the trail, adding context and further information. It is in the middle of the intellectual hierarchy.
2. This is one of the most visually striking of the symbols, counterintuitively from the above, due to hiking being one of the main activities people would be coming to participate in, and the need to clearly denote the trailhead so that people would not get confused by the winding roads throughout the map. The large blue square sign of people hiking clearly leads those looking for the trails to their start.

* Cabins

1. This data is absolutely a part of the main topic. One of the main activities people are coming to the reserve to participate in is camping/staying in the cabins. It is not the only or main reason people may come, but it is a large part.
2. The combination of the above reason with the need to be able to easily locate a cabin in the case of emergency or crime at night and day makes this layer the largest and highest on visual hierarchy throughout the map. I chose a large brown cabin so there would be maximum contrast and ease of finding them.

* Equestrian Trails

1. The equestrian trails are also a main reason people would come to enjoy the reserve. Along with hiking and camping, it is one of the most popular reserve activities there are. It is certainly a piece of the main topic of the map.
2. Due to it’s prevalence, and the need for visual contrast, I chose a dotted red map to denote this trail. The hiking trails already had the third most striking feature representing it’s head, so I made sure equestrian trails were above it in visual hierarchy, with the dotted line also alluding to the footprints of horses.

* Fishing Areas

1. The Fishing Trails are also up there in the intellectual hierarchy, visualizing another great attraction to the reserve. It is a part of the main topic of activities the park has to offer, and therefore right near the top with other activities.
2. The fishing is symbolized by a large blue polygon, both functionally accurate in representing the water to fish in, and setting it apart from the other features. However, due to it being passed over by trails and the fact that it is a large polygon, it gets pushed down in the visual hierarchy, for mostly logistical reasons.

* Hiking Trails

1. Hiking trails is another main topic component in the map. It is one of the more important activities and therefore very high intellectually in the hierarchy, with other activities.
2. Visually, the purple line with alternating hashes helps the trail stand out from the background and other line-features around it. However, due to the presence of trailheads and how visually striking they are for people to find the entrance to the hiking activity, I found it this feature less important in the visual hierarchy despite it being a main topic in the intellectual hierarchy.

* Open Roads

1. Open roads is a contextual component of the map. It is not an activity or component of one, however it is important for visitors to know their location and how to use them to get where they are going.
2. Because of it’s low intellectual importance, I chose to represent the roads simply with a single line. They are only there to allow the map reader to see how to get to their desired activity, and therefore shouldn’t stand out in ways a reserve activity needs to.

* Preserve Boundary

1. The preserve boundary is the least important on the intellectual hierarchy. Its necessary to show outer park boundary but not for the topic of the map. It merely adds context.
2. This is the least important in the visual hierarchy due to it’s purely contextual nature. It is symbolized just by a solid, light green polygon with all of the activities on top of it, necessitating its low place in the list.