

FOSSIL RIM WILDLIFE CENTER



**BEGIN YOUR ADVENTURE WITH
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGAGEMENT!**

Join us inside of our “Living Classroom” and explore the science of conservation!

With our programming, there is something for everyone, from those just discovering the beauty of nature to those ready to take a deeper dive and learn something new. We’re sure y’all will have

an amazing time as we **Teach What Affects Nature Globally!**



**1. ENSURE YOUR GROUP
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OUR GROUP
PROGRAMMING**

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THE FOUR PROGRAM
FORMATS OFFERED**

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FOR YOUR PROGRAM**

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FORM FOR YOUR
RESERVATION**

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DOES MY GROUP QUALIFY FOR GROUP RATES?

GROUP POLICY

Is your group a good fit? Qualifying groups must be:

- A school, scout troop, day care, college or university, homeschool group, assisted living facility, extracurricular organization, and/or non-profit organization
- Curious about conservation and willing to explore the outdoors
- Booking for a minimum of 10 people
- Planning at least 2 - 3 weeks in advance

INFORMATION YOU WILL NEED TO PLAN YOUR VISIT

LENGTH OF TIME YOU HAVE TO VISIT

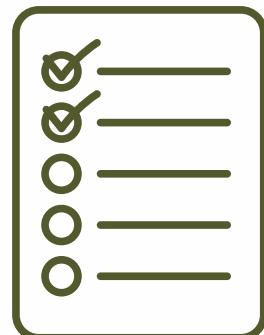
- The longer your group can spend on site the more there is to explore!

WHAT TOPICS YOU WANT TO COVER

- Want to dive deeper into ecology or animal adaptations? Curious about conservation? Knowing what topics you would like to experience will help us match you with a program type.

OTHER LOGISTIC INFORMATION

- When submitting a [program request](#), you will need initial numbers, preferred dates, primary contact information and any accommodations you may need.



NOTE: All group programming requires a deposit 3 weeks before the event and requires full payment 2 weeks before the scheduled program date. Youth programs receive 1 free adult/chaperone included for free for every 10 students/youth.



FOSSIL RIM TRIP OPTIONS

	Self-Guided Trip	Focus Tour	Discovery Tour	Day Program	Overnight
Details	Drive through the park in your organization's vehicle (bus, van, company car).	Guided trip of one pasture (giraffes, cheetahs, and more!) in an open-air vehicle.	Guided trip of the entire park in an open-air vehicle.	Immersive guided trip of the park and learning labs.	Immersive experience with dinner, breakfast, guided trip into the park, lodging and learning labs.
Time Length	Varies	1 hour	~1.5 hrs	~4.5 hrs	24 hrs
Age Requirement	All Ages	5 & Up	7 & Up	8 & Up	10 & Up
Group Size	Min - 10	Min - 10 Max - 150	Min - 10 Max - 150	Min - 10 Max - 100	Min - 10 Max - 56
Price Per Person	Adult - \$19.95 Child (3-11) - \$14.95	\$20	\$30	\$50	\$110

SELECT A THEME FOR YOUR TRIP!

A Sense of Discovery

	Program Type	Recommended Age	Topics Covered
A Sense of Discovery	Focus Tour	5 y/o-8 y/o Kinder - 3 rd	Patterns, Observation Skills, Adaptations, Making Predictions, Cause and Effect
Animal Abilities: Nature's Mighty Superpowers!	Focus Tour Discovery Tour	7 y/o-10 y/o 2 nd - 5 th	Habitats, Adaptations, Behavior
Fossil Rim Fundamentals	Discovery Tour	9 y/o and Up 4 th and Up	Animal Husbandry, Herd Management
World Wide Web	Focus Tour Discovery Tour	7 y/o and Up 2 nd and Up	Food Chains, Food Webs, Natural Resources, Abiotic/Biotic Factors, Trophic Cascades, Keystone Species, Habitats, Cause & Effect
Herd Mentality	Focus Tour Discovery Tour	8 y/o and Up 3 rd and Up	Animal Behavior, Herd Management, Social Structure
Citizen Science Academy	Day Program Overnight	11 y/o-13 y/o 6 th - 8 th	Citizen/Community Science, Scientific Method, Environmental Technology
Scouting with a Texas T.W.A.N.G.	Day Program Overnight	9 y/o-14 y/o 4 th -9 th	Designed for Scout Groups: Citizen/Community Science, Scientific Method, Environmental Technology
Texas Showdown	Day Program	8 y/o-10 y/o 3 rd - 5 th	Habitats, Regions, Adaptations, Native Texas Wildlife
Conservation Conundrum	Day Program Overnight	11 y/o and Up 6 th and Up	Animal Husbandry & Welfare, Diet & Nutrition, Carrying Capacity, Captive Breeding, Veterinary Medicine

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS: DAY PROGRAMS & OVERNIGHTS



CONSERVATION CONVERSATIONS

It's game on! Get ready to advocate and step into the shoes of our team! Learn what it takes to run a world-renowned conservation center and get the inside scoop about how places like Fossil Rim impact the future of wildlife. Participate in various activities, compete in challenges and have the ultimate conversation to choose a species that best matches our criteria for joining our Fossil Rim herd.

Program Format: Day Program (4.5 hrs) or Overnight Program (24 hrs)

Recommended Age Range: 11 years and up (6th-12th Grade)

Topics Covered: Animal Husbandry, Animal Welfare, Diet & Nutrition, Carrying Capacity, Captive Breeding Programs, Enrichment, Veterinary Science



TEXAS SHOWDOWN

What makes you a Texan? Is it the way you put up with the summer heat? Is it the way you walk and talk? Find out what makes Fossil Rim's animal residents, both native and exotic, model Texans. Do you have what it takes to champion various Texas Native wildlife in a hands-on learning experience to explore the eco-regions of Texas and the adaptations these animals use for survival. Compete to gain tokens by participating in various challenges around the park, which will be used to put those adaptations to the test in our Ultimate Texas Showdown!

Program Format: Day Program (4.5 hrs)

Recommended Age Range: 8 - 10 years (3rd - 5th Grade)

Topics Covered: Habitats, Regions, Adaptations, Native Texas Wildlife



IN THE FIELD: INDUSTRY INSIDERS

Professional and pre-professional organizations in the conservation, animal, education, environmental, and related fields can gain a tailored insight into the operations at Fossil Rim. We can focus on various aspects of Fossil Rim's efforts to create a better future for wildlife, including animal care, conservation breeding, interpretation, animal health, digital media, and more! Choose from one of our prepared timelines, and let's work together to provide you with behind-the-scenes access and insightful professional presentations. Discover how Fossil Rim's dedicated efforts are making an impact, and be inspired to take your own contributions to the next level!

Program Format: Discovery Tour (4.5 hrs), Day Program (4.5 hrs) or Overnight Program (24 hrs)

Recommended Age Range: For ages 18+

Inquire for pricing

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS: DAY PROGRAMS & OVERNIGHTS



CITIZEN SCIENCE ACADEMY

You don't need a white coat and a lab to be a scientist because science is everywhere! Collect data and delve into the scientific method as you help Fossil Rim with one of our park-wide science projects. Learn how to create and participate in projects that benefit the environment of Texas and the world as a whole with our Environmental Engagement Staff!

Program Format: Day Program (4.5 hrs) or Overnight Program (24 hrs)

Recommended Age Range: 11 - 13 years (6th - 8th Grade)

Topics Covered: Citizen/Community Science, Scientific Method Practices, Environmental Technology



SCOUTING WITH A TEXAS T.W.A.N.G.

Scouts are notoriously known for being problem solvers and environmental stewards, making them perfect candidates for Fossil Rim's S.W.A.T.T. Program! Throughout your time at Fossil Rim your troop will participate in a park-wide citizen science project along with immersive activities aimed at creating lifelong environmental stewards and advocates. Includes official T.W.A.N.G. patches upon completion of the Post-program activity.

Program Format: Day Program (4.5 hrs) or Overnight Program (24 hrs)

Recommended Age Range: Juniors & Cadettes (Girl Scouts); Bears & Webelos (Scouts BSA)

Topics Covered: Citizen/Community Science, Environmental Ethics, Environmental Technology

Completion of the Become a Citizen Scientist! Post-Program also qualifies for:

Girl Scouts of America

- Completes the Think Like a Citizen Scientist Journey
- Parts of Animal Habitats for Juniors
- Parts of Eco-Camper for Juniors

Cub Scouts

- Bears: requirement 3 of 'Paws for Action' Adventure
- Bears: requirement 5 & 8 of the 'Bear Habitat' Adventure
- Webelos: Requirement 6 for 'Champions for Nature' Adventure
- Arrow of Light: Requirement 1 and Requirement 5 of the 'Into the Wild' Adventure

Scouts BSA

- Ecology for the Environmental Science Merit Badge
- Exploration in Lab and Field for the Exploration Merit Badge
- Part 4 of the Mammal Study Merit Badge

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS: DISCOVERY & FOCUS TOURS



SENSE OF DISCOVERY

This isn't just a drive; it's a thrilling expedition where you'll use your senses and sharpen your observation skills. Along the way we will observe the captivating patterns, unique shapes, and intriguing behaviors of the animals that call Fossil Rim home. Join us on this fun-filled adventure where we'll not only marvel at the beauty of these creatures, but also discover the similarities and differences in their lives here versus in the wild. From the power pattern on a zebra to the majestic stride of a giraffe, there's so much to uncover! Let your curiosity lead the way as we explore, learn, and create unforgettable memories together!

Program Format: Focus Tour (1 hr)

Recommended Age Range: 5 - 8 years (K - 3rd Grade)

Topics Covered: Patterns, Observation Skills, Adaptations



ANIMAL ABILITIES: NATURE'S MIGHTY SUPERPOWERS!

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? It's an amazing world of animal adaptations! Adaptations are the awesome animal abilities' that are tailored to help them combat and thrive in even the most outrageous environments. From the enhanced hearing of the cone-like ears of the Rhino to the super sight of the Ostrich. Every animal has its very own 'superpower' worthy to be a part of any league! Join us as we 'marvel' at the super animals of Fossil Rim and their 'fantastic' abilities! Take a closer look at how these adaptations influence our efforts in captive care and the world of conservation, these wildlife heroes may not wear capes or have secret identities, but they all have a special role to play.

Program Format: Focus Tour (1 hr) or Discovery Tour (1.5 - 2 hrs) - Focus tour recommended for 2nd grade and younger

Recommended Age Range: 7 - 10 years (2nd- 5th Grade)

Topics Covered: Habitats, Adaptations, Animal Needs



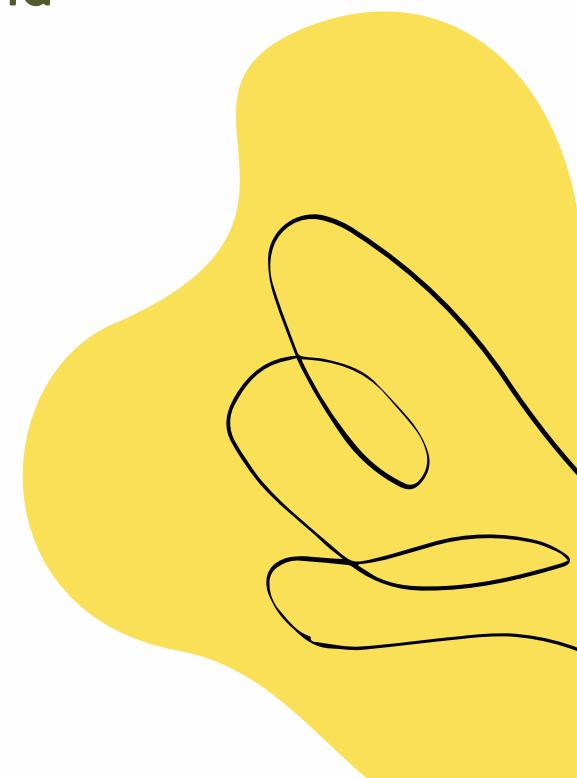
WORLD WILD WEB

Can wildebeest build homes for elephants? What do giraffes have to do with trees? Our world is one big wild web that connects people, plants and animals. Untangle the mysteries of nature and learn about the ways this web impacts conservation efforts in the wild and here at Fossil Rim.

Program Format: Focus Tour (1 hr) or Discovery Tour (1.5 - 2 hrs) - Focus tour recommended for 2nd grade

Recommended Age Range: 7+ (2nd Grade and up)

Topics Covered: Food Webs, Natural Resources, Ecology, Habitats



PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS: DISCOVERY & FOCUS TOURS



HERD MENTALITY

Zebras dazzle in the sun and giraffes tower over the savannah, but what really is needed to live in a herd? Explore the fascinating lives of animals, where we will study animal behavior and learn about some of the unique interactions we see in the herds at Fossil Rim. Join us to explore the captivating lives of animals at Fossil Rim, where we'll examine their unique social structures and parenting styles. For those looking to dive deeper we will look into the fascinating impacts of herd behavior on human care strategies. Join our herd and see firsthand how these social dynamics play a crucial role in conservation efforts.

Program Format: Focus Tour (1 hr) or Discovery Tour (1.5 - 2 hrs)

Recommended Age Range: 8+ (3rd and up)

Topics Covered: Animal behavior, Herd Management



FOSSIL RIM FUNDAMENTALS

Are you ready for an adventure into the heart of Fossil Rim? Want to learn what it takes to raise herds of endangered species? Join us on an exciting journey where you'll not only discover the daily lives of our amazing animals but also witness the incredible teamwork that goes into their care. While learning about veterinary care procedures, husbandry practices, and release programs, you'll hear inspiring success stories about the real challenges conservationists face every day.

Program Format: Discovery Tour (1.5 - 2 hrs)

Recommended Age Range: 9+ (4th Grade +)

Topics Covered: Animal Husbandry, Herd Management

CAN'T DECIDE WHAT WHICH PROGRAM BEST SUITS YOUR GROUP?

Please reach out and we will help match you to one of our current programs!

You can find our contact information on page 14.



IMPORTANT POLICIES

WEATHER POLICY

Fossil Rim will notify groups of severe weather forecasts at least 24 hours prior to the program and a decision will be made at that time to cancel or reschedule.

Weather caused rescheduled programs will not be charged additional fees and canceled programs will receive a full refund if they are canceled by Fossil Rim.

GROUP SUPERVISION POLICY

Adults and chaperones are responsible for monitoring the behavior and safety of the group at all times. Adults and chaperones should be engaged with their group and are not permitted to leave their group unsupervised even if Fossil Rim Staff is present.

Fossil Rim reserves the right to ask for the removal of youth/children or adults/chaperones from a program. Any participant removed in this manner will not be permitted to return and their cost of attendance will not be refunded.

LATE ARRIVAL/CANCELLATION POLICY

If your group arrives late to the scheduled program, the end time will not be extended. Late arrivals are at risk for subtracting time away from program/tour times.

If you must cancel or reschedule your program before the start date:

- 21 days or more = Full refund
- 14-20 days = Partial refund excluding the deposit
- Less than 14 days = No guaranteed refund

DAMAGES/ CLEANING FEES

Groups agree to pay replacement or repair costs for all damages, breakage, loss, vandalism, and/or defacing that may occur from any member of the group that attends a Fossil Rim program.

In addition, Fossil Rim reserves the right to charge a \$100 cleaning fee per facility and \$200 for grounds that are left unclean.



FAQS

WHICH PROGRAMS INCLUDE A GUIDED DRIVE THROUGH THE PARK?

All of them! Every program we offer includes at least one guided visit through the park, and many of our overnight programs include multiple trips.

DOES THE PRICE INCLUDE ANIMAL FEED?

Yes! All guided experiences include feed for the animals in the park.

DOES THE PROGRAM INCLUDE LUNCH?

None of the programs includes lunch; however, you are welcome to bring packed lunches to enjoy at our Overlook picnic area. For Overnight and Day programs, we do schedule a break time for lunch.

WILL WE HAVE TIME FOR THE GIFT SHOP OR TO EXPLORE ANIMAL DISCOVERIES?

While a break to visit our Nature Store and Animal Discoveries Center at the Overlook is not included in all of our program scheduling, most programs begin/end at our Overlook area, which is open to the public free of charge during business hours. We advise planning some additional time if you want to offer your group to explore the Overlook!

AM I REQUIRED TO PAY THE DEPOSIT?

We require a deposit at least 3 weeks prior to the program, though we can accept payment in full instead. If this poses an issue for your group, please note it in your reservation request, and we can work with you to find an alternative payment plan.

WHAT TIME DO THE PROGRAMS START?

Depending on your program, our standard start time is set between 9 AM and 12 PM. This depends on the program type and your preferred end time for your group. Arrival time and the start of your program will be confirmed two weeks prior to your program. Note that any late arrival may result in your program being cut short.



READY TO REQUEST A PROGRAM?! HERE IS THE INFORMATION YOU WILL NEED:

CONTACT INFORMATION

Organization name, contact person's name, email, & phone number

WHAT FORMAT TYPE ARE YOU INTERESTED IN?

Focus Tour, Discovery Tour, Day Program, or Overnight Program

WHAT PROGRAM THEME ARE YOU INTERESTED IN?

EX: Herd Mentality, Texas Showdown, etc.

HOW MANY ADULTS AND HOW MANY STUDENTS?

This does not need to be exact number, but a rough estimate.

GENERAL AGE OF STUDENTS/PRIMARY PARTICIPANTS

WHAT DATES ARE YOU INTERESTED IN VISITING?

We will ask for you preferred date and an alternate date.

**When you are ready submit a program, make your request here:
fossilrim.org/education-reservation/**

PLANNING CALENDAR



3 WEEKS BEFORE YOUR TRIP

- Submit initial deposit



2 WEEKS BEFORE YOUR TRIP

- Confirm the total amount of participants
- Submit full/final payment**



1 WEEK BEFORE YOUR TRIP

- Share the Fossil Rim Photo Release and Waiver Form with all participants, adults/chaperones included*
- Ensure the Fossil Rim Environmental Engagement Policy Agreement has been signed and returned to us
- Begin the pre-program activity for your program (if applicable)



2 DAYS BEFORE YOUR TRIP

- Check weather to ensure participants are prepared with jackets, rain coats, and/or water bottles (we will reach out to you in extreme cases)
- Prepare rosters for group(s) along with copies of the Fossil Rim Chaperone Guide Worksheet



DAY OF YOUR PROGRAM

- Ensure all participants have turned in a Photo Release and Waiver form and the Policy Agreement*
- Double check arrival location
- Aim to arrive at least 15-30 minutes earlier than your programs scheduled start time

* NOTE: Only Day programs & Overnight programs are required to submit both the Agreement and Release/Waiver Form. All other programs just need a signed Agreement from the group leader.

**We do not provide refunds for cancellations or changes in numbers once full payment is received.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT OUR
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGAGEMENT DEPARTMENT!**

EDUCATION@FOSSILRIM.ORG

KARRINGTON WRIGHT
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL ENGAGEMENT
SPECIALIST
254-898-4215

MADDY HERRON
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGAGEMENT MANAGER
254-898-4249

ANNA LOBNER
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST
254-898-4287

Request a program here: fossilrim.org/education-reservation/

