

Memo

To: Fifth Grade Teachers
From: Debbie Traynor
Date: 9/28/01
Re: NISD Outdoor Classroom

The following information will help to make your students' trip to the Outdoor Classroom a positive educational experience. After reviewing the following information, if you have any questions or concerns please call Genet or me at 706-8662.

Times: Unless otherwise agreed upon, one class per scheduled day will attend the field trip. The bus will leave the school at 9 am and return at approximately 2:15 pm. This field trip is ***rain or shine***. Unless your school has been notified of a cancellation before 9 am, you may proceed to the field trip site. In the case of inclement weather, we will meet at the pavilion. Ask the gate guard for directions upon entering the research park.

Permission Slips: All students must return the attached permission slip in order to attend the field trip. Chaperones are welcome!

Student Activities: The students will receive a "Nature Journal" which corresponds to the chosen field trip (Butterfly Watch, Habitats, Endangered Species or guided tour only). This journal will be provided at the Outdoor Classroom site and will contain activities that will be done on the trail and additional activities that can be done in the classroom or at home.

Restrooms: The restrooms are located at the end of the trail. Students will not have the opportunity to use the facilities until approximately noon. Please be sure your students take care of their restroom needs before departing from the school.

Student Supplies:

- In order to provide your students with the best possible experience, have them each bring their own backpack with a **waterbottle**, snack/lunch, and extra pencils/pens. This will leave their hands free to participate fully in the activities. Students may choose to bring a clipboard.
- Students are welcome to bring disposable cameras.
- They are encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather. Sunscreen and bug repellent are recommended during the warmer months. These should be applied **before arrival** to the Outdoor Classroom.
- Students must wear long pants and close-toed shoes and should avoid wearing scented lotions, and perfumes.
- Please have each student wear a **nametag** during the entire field trip.

Teacher Supplies:

- Teachers are also encouraged to bring a backpack with their own lunch and waterbottle.
- Bring the school's field trip first aid kit, available in the nurse's office. It should be carried in the teacher's backpack throughout the field trip.
- Teachers are welcomed to bring the school's digital camera and a disk for future technology projects. Blank slides and ziplock bags may also come in handy for collecting nature samples.

General Park Rules: Please review the following dos and don'ts with your students prior to attending the Outdoor Classroom field trip.

- **Do** dress appropriately and bring listed supplies.
- **Do** keep noise to a minimum; loud noises disturb the wildlife in the area.
- **Do** remain on the marked path.
- **Do** follow the directions given by the field trip instructor and your teacher.
- **Do** stay close to your classmates.
- **Don't** run while on the path.
- **Don't** disturb or remove any of the plants, animals or soil at the Outdoor Classroom.

