

The Fort Bend County Museum Association's

School Programs



2011-2012

Fort Bend Museum
George Ranch Historical Park

All Grade Levels

Students are divided into classes – or groups of 15-25. For three classes, choose three of the activities below. For larger school groups, choose more activities or contact us for alternative schedules.

Each program supports the TEKS social studies curriculum. Teacher packets of pre- and post-visit activities are available on our Web site at www.fortbendmuseum.org.

DAY	TIME	COST
Tues.-Fri.	9:30 a.m. start	\$4 for 3 activities

NOTE: One chaperone is free for every 10 students. Extra adults: \$5/person.



Museum Gallery

This interactive, guided tour focuses on the history of Stephen F. Austin's colony from its settlement in Texas in 1822 through the Battle of Independence in 1836 and beyond. Students are encouraged to participate in the discussion and to handle some artifacts.

Textiles in Texas

Spinners guide students through the process of making cloth by demonstrating the spinning process with cotton and wool, weaving fabrics and making quilts.

The program emphasizes changes in lifestyle and technology. Students practice ginning and carding cotton.

Digging into the Past

Archeology is a study of people through the examination of the things they left behind. The program includes information about Native Americans, time periods and the proper procedure of archeology. Students view artifacts and participate in a simulated dig.

Long Smith Cottage

Tour the historic home of the Thomas Jefferson Smith family, which is furnished to reflect their middle-class lifestyle in the 1860s. A few of the furnishings belonged to Jane Long, the "Mother of Texas."

Students are encouraged to participate in the discussion through the use of artifacts in the home.

One-Room Schoolhouse

Sit up straight, get your slates and listen as a turn-of-the-century teacher begins class. Activities may include playing the state song on pipe chimes, writing on slates, writing with nib pens, math and a spelling bee.

Chore Time

Explanations of period household equipment and the lack of electricity will enlighten your students to the difficulty of children's responsibilities in the home. Activities may include drawing water from the well, washing clothes on a rub board, grinding corn and churning butter.

Victorian Games

Students will find out how children played and passed the time in the 1800s. Lots of physical exercise, cooperation and imagination took place. Students will get a chance to learn and practice the games of hoops and graces; they'll also get to walk on stilts.

Morton Cemetery

Morton Cemetery is one of the oldest cemeteries in Texas, and is the resting place for Mirabeau Lamar, Jane Long and other famous Texans. Students will learn how to discover interesting facts about the past and make a tombstone rubbing.

Richmond Walking Tour

As one of the oldest towns in Texas, Richmond has many historical sites to see. Points of interest on this guided walking tour include the 1883 Moore Home, 1908 Fort Bend County Courthouse, 1882 McFarlane House, monuments to Lamar and Deaf Smith, and Historic Morton Street.

Pre-K & Kindergarten

Students are divided into groups of 15-20 and rotate through two different activities with a snack.

DAYS: Tues.-Fri.

TIME: 9:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.

COST: \$3/student

Note: One chaperone free for every 10 students. Extra adults: \$5/person.

Texas Shapes

- Explore museum and grounds
- Shape games using tangrams
- Snack

Children's Chores

- Interactive tour of 1840s cottage
- Churning butter, washing clothes, and more!
- Snack

Programs at Your School

Docents are available to visit your school and present programs to spark your students' imaginations! Schools may use programs individually or as part of a whole day of "pioneer" events.

Cost

\$100 per half-day

Includes three hours of the docent's time, plus all the supplies needed to conduct the program.

Call for program availability (pioneers, spinning and carding cotton, one-room school activities or games).

Pioneer Traveling Trunk

Give your students a hands-on experience they will not soon forget with the Pioneer Traveling Trunk! Trunk includes artifacts and teaching materials of pioneer times in Texas (1821-1836) that enhance social studies curriculum.

Information about the items is included, as well as suggestions for initiating engaging discussions with your students.

Trunk rental: \$25 per week

December 2011

Holiday Special

Experience "Christmas at the White House" at the 1883 John M. Moore Home! Each room of this historic home will be decorated to reflect a White House Christmas ornament from years past or a tradition celebrated in the White House during the Christmas season.

From December 6-16, you may substitute a tour of the home for one of the programs listed on page two.

Save the Date!

Children's Day Open House Saturday, March 24, 2012

Visit the Fort Bend Museum's gallery and tour the historic Moore Home and Long-Smith Cottage for free at this afternoon family event. Activities, such as face-painting and cotton ginning, will be set up in the front and side yards.

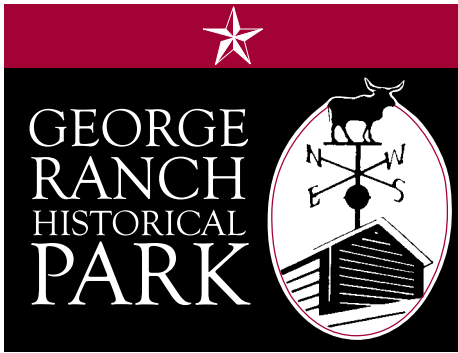
Local groups (including Brazos Bend State Park, the Fort Bend Master Gardeners and the Fort Bend County Farm Bureau) will be on site with hands-on activities like planting seeds, touching a baby alligator, grinding corn and more!

Visit www.fortbendmuseum.org for more details.



Questions?

For more information about the educational programs offered at the Fort Bend Museum, please call (281) 342-6478 or e-mail Danielle Jennings at djennings@fortbendmuseum.org.



Structured Programs

Select your program theme from those listed below. Different hands-on activities are designated for all grade levels and are aligned with appropriate social studies TEKS. Please note that some programs are offered exclusively for higher grades.

Day	Start Times	Cost
Tues.- Thurs. (Sept.- April)	9 a.m. OR 11 a.m.	\$7 per student

Note: One chaperone free for every 10 students. Extra adults: \$8/person.

Pioneers in Texas

- Agriculture/Farming
- Log Cabin Life
- Pioneer Skills

1860s Old Prairie Home

- Civil War/A Soldier's Life
- Let's Learn/One-Room School
- Growing Up/Social Graces

Victorian Life

- Learning a Trade
- Child's Life
- At Play

The Ryon Farm & Pasture Co.

- Agriculture/Farming
- Saddle up at the Cowboy Camp
- Rest and Relaxation

Ranching in the 1930s

- Working the Ranch
- Cowboy Tools
- Rest and Relaxation

Self-Guided Park Tours

Self-guided Park tours are available. Those choosing the self-guided option (pricing at right) should be aware that historic home tours are given by trained interpreters approximately every half-hour. If a tour is in progress, the self-guided group must wait for the next tour.

Tram service is available but not guaranteed to seat every child.

Day	Time	Cost
Sept.-Apr. FRIDAYS ONLY ----- May 2012: Tues-Fri	Park Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.	\$5 per student

Note: Large groups should split into groups of 30 or fewer. One chaperone free for every 10 students. Extra adults: \$8 per person.

High School Programs

Day	Start Times	Cost
Tues.- Thurs. (Sept.- April)	9 a.m. OR 11 a.m.	\$11 per student

Note: One chaperone free for every 10 students. Extra adults: \$8/person.

Architectural Tour

• Students will go on an architectural tour of the Park; students will be expected to design their own structure using elements they see on the Park's grounds. They will be able to sketch these design elements in their pad, which they will receive upon arrival, as they travel through the Park and use them as references in their final drawing. Students will use basic math, art, geometry and science skills.

• Observed buildings will include a log structure, a Victorian-era home and an Arts and Crafts-style home. This program will also allow students to visit areas normally off-limits to guests.

• Students will have the opportunity to visit the carpenter shop and try their hands at using wood planes, scribes and other tools used by the builders and craftsman of the age.



Ask about the
Title 1 discount!

Role-Playing Programs

Role-playing programs are suitable for children in grades 5-12.

Day	Start Times	Cost
Tues.-Thurs. (Sept.-April)	9 a.m. OR 11 a.m.	\$11 per student

Note: One chaperone free for every 10 students. Extra adults: \$8/person.

Done to Texas

1830s Jones Stock Farm

- Innovative role-playing program allows students to experience pioneer life in Stephen F. Austin's colonial Texas.
- Students are assigned to pioneer families with specific tasks and must work together to create a sense of community.
- Student leaders make critical decisions and problem-solve on behalf of their families.
- Lots of hands-on and immersion elements reinforce learning.

Trail Boss Trials: 1890s Complex Ryon Farm & Pasture Company

- Students take on roles such as trail boss, cook, cowboys and cattle in an attempt to complete an over-land cattle drive.
- Challenges include loading cattle for the drive, assigning duties to cowboys, avoiding cattle rustlers, weathering storms and selling cattle at market for a premium price.

Pre-K & Kindergarten

Best of the West

Students will visit the 1830s Jones Stock Farm and the 1930s George Ranch house.

Day	Start Times	Cost
Tues.-Thurs. (Sept.-April)	9 a.m. OR 11 a.m.	\$5 per student

Farm Animal Fun

- Celebrate farm animals with stories and meet Eliza Jane and Clara Belle, the Stock Farm hogs.
- Learn about caring for farm animals and cows—and how they help us.
- See a working cattle demonstration.
- Hands-on activities related to cows.

What to Expect:

Please plan to arrive at least 15 minutes before your scheduled program time and allow at least 90 minutes for your classes to complete a program. Encourage children to dress comfortably for the outdoors and wear closed-toed shoes if possible. Tram service is available but not guaranteed; the walking loop around the Park is just under 1 mile. To help everyone stay hydrated, bottled water is allowed into the Park.



Questions?

For more information about educational programs offered at the George Ranch Historical Park, call (281) 343-0218 ext. 220 or send an e-mail to: education@georgeranch.org.

Home [School] on the Ranch
Friday, May 4, 2012
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The **George Ranch Historical Park** is excited to present **Home [School] on the Ranch**, a day program specifically designed for homeschoolers.

You'll travel back in time through four different sites — the 1830s Jones Stock Farm, the 1860s Ryon Prairie Home, the 1890s Davis Victorian Mansion and the 1930s George Ranch Home — and focus on what home life was like in each of those time periods. Since public schools were not widespread in the early days, the Jones and Ryon families were some of the first homeschoolers in the area! Bring the whole family for a day of fun and learning. Call (281) 343-0218 ext. 220 to book your family's spot!

Advance Registration

(Closes on April 27):

\$4 per child / \$9 per adult

Registration at the Door:

\$5 per child / \$10 per adult



Book a 'Tales of Texas'
field trip for your school's
elementary-aged students

February 24, 2012

at the George Ranch Historical Park

In February, join us for a special one-day celebration of Texas history. Geared specifically for grades 2-5, programs focus on Texas colonization and independence, the stories behind many Texas heroes and what it means to be a great Texas citizen. Capacity will be limited, so book early to make sure your students are part of this exciting event. Cost is \$5/student.

Tales of Texas is a cooperative program between the Fort Bend Museum, the George Ranch Historical Park and the Texian Time Machine.

Homeschooling Programs
at the Fort Bend Museum

Homeschool groups of 15 or more may sign up for any regular program at the **Fort Bend Museum**. (See pages 2 and 3 for more info.) Individual families wanting to do the hands-on programs should plan to sign up for the summer history programs.

Call (281) 342-6478 or visit www.fortbendmuseum.org for more information!



The Texian Time Machine offers students the unique opportunity to experience colonial life in Austin's capital during the 1820s and 1830s through immersive role-playing and hands-on activities provided by experienced costumed presenters.

Students receive a compelling field trip experience right on their own campus as the stories of Austin's Colony are brought to life. Teachers are convinced that the Texian Time Machine provides an outstanding living history experience that enriches classroom instruction.

Program Lessons Include:

Frontier Survival

Frontier survival will go beyond the basics of building fires and hunting as students learn how the colonists not only survived but thrived in their new land. There may be a demonstration of a variety of replica period weapons.

Print Shop

Students can try their hands at the print-making process, the earliest form of communication and journalism in Texas.

Cooking

Students learn about the distribution of labor on the frontier. In the outdoor kitchen, they may grind corn, mix up a batch of corn bread in a Dutch oven, and make butter.

One-Room School

Students will discuss the duties of both teachers and students in a pioneer school as well as the disciplinary measures used. They will complete a variety of lessons such as penmanship, arithmetic, spelling and geography.

Games

"Recess time" allows for games from the past, such as Hoops and Sticks, Graces, and Stilts among others.

Cabin Building

Using actual logs, the students will build a cabin or rail fence. As they learn about pioneer tools, they will also learn about the many jobs that young people took on around the homestead.

Textiles

Students will gin and card cotton while learning how this basic fiber was planted and harvested then turned into thread and cloth.

Militia

Students will "enlist" in the militia and practice a typical militia drill. They will learn the basics of protection on the Texas frontier.

Enrichment Stations

(Based upon availability)

- **Blacksmith** – Watch a master of this historic craft at work. Lessons in techniques are displayed.
- **Native Americans** – Students learn the customs of Plains Native Americans with artifacts, including a variety of animal skins.
- **Music & Dance** – The sounds of the frontier come alive with help from students.
- **Surveying** – Students will learn to measure and mark a land grant using the tools of the day: compass and chains.
- **Land Grants** – Students will role-play as they apply for citizenship and receive a land grant just like early Texians did when they settled in the Republic of Mexico in the 1820s and 1830s. They may sign with a quill or nib pen and may run for mayor.

Program Logistics

The Texian Time Machine is set up on the grounds of your campus – the coordinator will make a site visit to work out the details of the event well in advance.

Cost: \$12 per student.

NOTE: Schools with fewer than 60 students are charged a \$720 flat fee.

Students will rotate through stations, experiencing the different aspects of colonial life.

The number and type of rotations will vary depending on number of students, teacher's selections and availability of specific presenters.

The program can be scheduled for a full- or half-day – depending on the number of students. Schools with more than 250 students may need a two-day program.

Questions?

For more information about the Texian Time Machine, please call (281) 342-6478 or e-mail Danielle Jennings at djennings@fortbendmuseum.org.

Texian Market Days: Top field trip of the year!

Friday, October 21, 2011
at the George Ranch Historical Park

Join us on a special schools-only day at our biggest festival of the year! All grade levels are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Activities include:

Historical Re-enactments • Hands-On Activities
 Cooking Demonstrations • Old-Fashioned Games
 Musical Entertainment • Historic House Tours

Cost: \$7 per student

Reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Texian Market Days is open to the general public on Saturday, October 22. Bring the whole family for a day of historical fun!



Call (281) 343-0218 x. 220 or E-mail education@georgeranch.org to book a special event!



Richmond, Texas

Permit No. 34

PAID

U.S. Postage

Organization

Non-Profit

Richmond, Texas 77406

P.O. Box 460

Fort Bend County Museum Association