



2015-2016

SCHOOL PROGRAMS & FIELD TRIPS

Bringing Texas History to Life



10215 FM 762 | Richmond, TX
www.georgeranch.org | 281-343-0218





STRUCTURED PROGRAMS

For grades 2-5

Structured programs at the George Ranch Historical Park bring students back in time with hands-on activities and period demonstrations led by experienced interpreters. Different hands-on activities are designated for all grade levels and are aligned with appropriate TEKS content.

DAYS: Tuesday – Thursday
(Sept 2- May 15)

START: 9 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

COST: \$7 per student

PIONEERS IN TEXAS

Journey back to the days of Stephen F. Austin's 1830s settlement in southeast Texas. For older students, topics can include the politics of the Texas Revolution and the social history of pioneers on the frontier. Students will:

- Learn about agriculture and farming in the 1830s through experiences in fieldwork, early ranch management and demonstrations such as open-hearth cooking.

- Explore log cabin life through spinning and weaving demonstrations and activities such as hand-ginning cotton.

- Additional rotations may include activities involving early cattle ranching and Native American sign language.



OLD PRAIRIE HOME

Experience life in 1860s post-Civil' Texas with a visit to the home of P Ryon and her husband. Learn about the different types of people who helped operate a working ranch in era. Students will:

- Experience life as the ranch o ers. Learn about gender roles in th era and how these roles were moc fied for the Ryon family.

- Learn about life as a ranch chi Students will experience a one-roc schoolhouse, participate in chores and/or play games appropriate to t time period.

- Discover domestic service life at a large ranch and participate in t daily chores necessary to keep the ranch running smoothly. Hands-on activities may include laundry, cook and/or other daily chores.

Note: For all programs, one adu is free for every 10 students. Extra adults are \$8/person.

WHAT TO EXPECT

For any trip that you plan here at the Park, please plan to arrive at least fifteen 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 one mile. To help everyone stay hydrated, bottled water is allowed into the Park. We also have picnic tables available for lunch.

VICTORIAN LIFE

Explore the intricacies of Victorian life in this immersive program about the waning days of the 19th century. Demonstrations and hands-on opportunities abound as students explore the lives of both the idle and working classes in Victorian Texas.

Students will:

- Create a calling card and learn about Victorian etiquette, which was critical to the wealthier citizens. They will also take a short tour through the first floor of the Davis Victorian Mansion and discover the visiting rules common to the day.

- Visit the blacksmith and get hands-on with this difficult trade. Please note that wooden hammers and clay are used to simulate the forge experience for the children.

- Additional rotations may include activities involving Victorian parlor games and/or 19th century wages and purchasing.



RANCH LIFE IN THE 1930s

Delve into the world of the 1930s George Ranch with this program set at the George Home site. Students are encouraged to get their hands dirty as they are transported back to the heyday of the George Ranch. Students will:

- Visit the Bach House and experience life as a 1930s cowboy.
- Get a taste of 1930s domestic life by helping out Mrs. Mamie and Josephine, the housekeeper, with the daily chores.

- Additional rotations may include children's leisure activities and/or Great Depression programs depending on the age of the group.

ROLE-PLAYING PROGRAMS

Recommended for grades 6-8

Role-playing programs are fully-immersive, student-led experiences that encourage participants to take on period roles, reliving a historic scenario.

DAYS: Tuesday – Thursday
(Sept 2- May 15)
START: 9 a.m. OR 11 a.m.
COST: \$11 per student

GONE TO TEXAS 1830s JONES STOCK FARM

Journey back to Stephen F. Austin's colonial Texas where pioneers struggle to colonize unsettled land. Participants will be placed in the role of the pioneers in this hands-on introduction to pioneer life. Can the pioneers survive and successfully colonize their new land? Students will:

- Be assigned to pioneer families who will have to take on specific tasks to ensure the cooperation and survival of the family and whole community.
- Make critical decisions and problem-solve on behalf of their families.
- Face multiple challenges and succeed through strategic planning, resourcefulness and sheer will.



TRAIL BOSS TRIALS 1860s Chuckwagon Ryon Farm & Pasture Co.

Plunge your students into the world of an 1860s cattle drive. Participants will travel out on the range and take on roles such as the trail boss, cook, cowboys and cattle in this fully-immersive and hands-on overland cattle drive. Will the cattle drive make it to New Orleans intact with a profitable stock? Students will:

- Face challenges including herding the cattle for the drive, assigning duties to the cowboys, avoiding cattle rustlers, weathering storms and selling cattle at market for a premium price.
- Work together cooperatively to ensure a successful cattle drive.
- Evaluate success at the end of the drive and reflect on what choices affected the overall outcome.

Note: For all programs, one adult is free for every 10 students. Extra adults are \$8/person.



HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Recommended for grades 9-12

DAYS: Tuesday – Thursday

(Sept 2- May 15)

START: 9 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

COST: \$11 per student

LITTLE FARMERS

Pre-K - 1st grade

DAYS: Tuesday – Thursday

(Sept 2- May 15)

START: 9 a.m. OR 11 a.m.

COST: \$5 per student

ARCHITECTURAL TOUR

View 100 years of architecture in this multi-site tour, which will result in student designs inspired by the distinct styles they encounter. Students will:

- Observe period buildings including an 1830s Dog Run log cabin, an 1850s Greek Revival home, an 1890s Queen Anne style mansion and a 1930s Arts and Crafts-inspired home.

- Explore areas such as attics and basements that are normally off-limits to the general public.

- Visit an 1890s carpenter shop and use traditional architectural and building tools such as a wood plane and a scribe.

1890s SHARECROPPER FARM

Bring the little ones out and learn about farming at our Sharecropper's site. This program will include live animal encounters. Students will:

- Listen to a story about the life of a farmer and his very busy days.

- Learn how crops grow with our Sharecropper and get their hands dirty with a growing experience.

- Meet some of the Park's animals and learn how to care for and feed our farm animal friends.

Note: For all programs, one adult is free for every 10 students. Extra adults are \$8/person.

SELF-GUIDED PARK TOURS

Self-guided Park tours are available. Those choosing the self-guided option 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.

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

DAYS: Sept. 2 – May 15: FRIDAYS ONLY | May 19-30: TUESDAY – FRIDAY

COST: \$5 per student

TEXIAN Market Days

A Festival of Living History

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2015

at the **GEORGE RANCH HISTORICAL PARK**

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. Book early! For more info, call (281) 343-0218 ext. 220 or e-mail education@georgeranch.org.

*Texian Market Days is open to the general public on Saturday, October 24.
Bring the whole family for a day of historical fun! Texian Market Days benefits
the educational programs of the Fort Bend County Museum Association.*

www.TexianMarketDays.com



CAPTURE THE INDEPENDENT TEXAS SPIRIT

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.

FEBRUARY 25
HOMESCHOOL DAY

FEBRUARY 26
SCHOOL DAY

Activities include:

First-Person Tales of Historical Figures
Hands-On Activities • Historical Vignettes
Historic Home Tours • and more!

Cost: \$5 per student

Capacity will be limited, so book early to make sure your students are part of this exciting event. For more info, call (281) 343-0218 ext.220 or e-mail education@georgeranch.org.

